

J. Harvey Rodgers School

BOARD REPORT

April 2026

Principal - Melanie Sweeney



PERSONNEL

- Appointments - N/A
- Resignation/Retirement - N/A
- Staff Evaluations to Date:
 - Tenured: 36
 - Nontenured: 46
 - Non-Certificated Staff: 4

COMMITTEE MEETINGS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Dept/Level
 - Character Champion Team Meeting - April 1st
 - Threat Assessment Team Meeting - April 1st
 - Attendance Team Meeting - April 1st
 - Annual School Plan Meeting - April 1st
 - District Character Council - April 2nd
 - District NJTSS Team Meeting - April 2nd
 - District Literacy Leadership Team Meeting - April 2nd
 - School Leadership Team Meeting - April 13th
 - Staff Meeting - April 15th
 - Multicultural Meeting - April 16th
 - I&RS & PIRT Meetings - April 17th
 - School Based Leadership Team Meeting - April 22nd
 - JHR New Teacher Academy - April 27th
- SciP - N/A
- PD - N/A

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (C&I)

- Eureka Math Marking Period 4 Pacing Guide Review
- Eureka Math2 End of Module 5 Assessment & Module 6 Mid Module Assessment
- Wit & Wisdom Module 4 Pacing Guide Review
- Kindergarten Peer Observations (as per Professional Development Plan)
- Marking Period 3 Ends - April 14th

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Athletics - N/A
- Visual & Performing Arts - N/A
- Community Events
 - District Science Fair - April 20th



OPERATIONS

- Safety & Security Meeting - N/A
- Safety & Security Drills
 - April 14th - Fire Drill
 - April 30th - Bomb Threat Drill

FACILITIES

- Needs Assessment: See Miquel Olivo's Report, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds

PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (Guidance/SAC/CST)

- In April, J. Harvey Rodgers School focused on the character education virtue of Respect, defined as making an effort to understand how others think and feel while treating them with kindness. Students explored this important concept through the visual of a two-way street sign, reinforcing the idea that respect should be given as well as received. Lessons and discussions were connected to the monthly phrase, "Respect is a two-way street. If you want to get it, you've got to give it," helping students understand the importance of empathy, kindness, and positive interactions with others. Preschool students participated in respect-themed videos and activities that encouraged caring behaviors and thoughtful communication, while kindergarten students explored the text *A Little Respectful Spot* by Diane Alber through read-alouds and classroom conversations. Throughout the month, students practiced respectful language, listening skills, and cooperation, supporting the continued development of a positive and caring school community.

BULLDOG PRIDE

- At the April 22nd, during the School Based Leadership (SBL) Meeting, Brad Unick shared information from a workshop focused on inclusive practices in P-3 classrooms. The presentation emphasized that inclusion is both a legal and instructional responsibility, centered on ensuring students with disabilities have access to developmentally appropriate learning opportunities alongside their peers. Discussion focused on the importance of designing environments, instruction, and supports to meet the needs of all learners, rather than viewing challenges as student deficits. Key takeaways included the understanding that special education is a service rather than a place, placement decisions should begin with general education, and all staff members share responsibility for supporting every child. The presentation also highlighted the importance of strengths-based planning, specially designed instruction within general education settings when appropriate, and creating classrooms where all students feel valued, included, and engaged in learning.
- On April 23, J. Harvey Rodgers School welcomed 39 students who participated in Bring Your Child to Work Day. Students had the opportunity to visit classrooms, meet staff members, and experience a day in the life of working in a school environment. The event provided a meaningful opportunity for students to learn more about different roles within the school community while spending the day alongside their parents and family members.
- On April 29, J. Harvey Rodgers School held Class Picture Day. Students and staff participated in annual class photographs to commemorate the school year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Kindergarten Class Trip (Storybook Land) - May 1st
- Teacher Appreciation Week - May 4th to May 8th
- District Character Council - May 5th
- District NJTSS Team Meeting - May 5th
- District Literacy Leadership Team Meeting - May 5th
- Early Childhood Advisory Council - May 5th
- Character Champion Team Meeting - May 6th
- Threat Assessment Team Meeting - May 6th
- Attendance Team Meeting - May 6th
- SciP Team Meeting - May 6th
- School Leadership Team Meeting - May 11th
- School Based Leadership Team Meeting - May 20th
- Staff Meeting - MAY 13th
- I&RS & PIRT Meetings - May 15th
- Grade Level PLC - March 20th
- JHR New Teacher Academy - May 18th
- PreK Parent Workshop #4 - May 28th
- PreK and Kindergarten Spring Concerts



