

Mrs. Klemick and Miss Lipko, along with the staff and students of Pine Hill Middle School, offer our congratulations to Mr. Mauriello, our 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year. Mr. Mauriello has taught for 32 years and joined PHMS when the school opened in 2001. His contributions to our staff and students extend beyond the classroom, as he has worked to support his colleagues, mentor his students, always willing to extend his time and generosity to those in need. We are glad to have this opportunity to recognize his invaluable contributions to PHMS.

As the 2017-2018 school year comes to an end, we would like to report on some of the activities that concluded our year. All grade levels participated in field trips that supplemented their curriculum. The sixth grade enjoyed a program at the planetarium at Rowan University and had the opportunity to tour the campus. The seventh grade visited the Renaissance Fair and thoroughly enjoyed the variety of experiences that were included. The eighth grade traveled to Wildwood to participate in leadership and physics activities and enjoyed some time on the amusement rides and the water park. We crossed our fingers that the weather would cooperate during a very rainy spring, but each field trip included perfect weather.

Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Kleiner, our middle school counselors, organized a College and Career Day for the eighth grade. During the morning sessions, many professionals from various careers, including law enforcement, music, medicine, law, and technology shared their experiences and training with the students. For many, the therapy dogs were the highlight of the morning! In the afternoon, a representative from Camden County College and several students from various colleges shared their advice and experiences about college life with the students, stressing that it is never too early to start planning for their future.

The spring also included events that gave us the opportunity to spotlight our students. In early March, we inducted our newest members to the Junior National Honor Society. The current members explained the 5 pillars that are essential to the society and then welcomed the new inductees.

On April 19, PHMS held their annual People's Choice Awards, which is a favorite night for many of our staff. The event gives each teacher the opportunity to honor a student that they feel should be recognized for making a positive difference at PHMS.

Our spring concert was held in early May at Overbrook High School for the first time. The new venue was perfect for showcasing the musical talents of our Jazz and Concert bands.

We have also continued to focus on all aspects of safety as we progress through the year. Mr. Belmonte continues to invite Pine Hill Police officers to take part in lessons concerning internet safety and online communications with our sixth graders. Several police officers also greeted students as they arrived at school on May 9 for National Bike to School Day. During that time, they were able to register bikes, check helmets, and do safety checks. The Pine Hill Police also sponsored a trip for our safeties to Clementon Lake Park to thank them for their work in helping keep the student body safe at school and on the buses.

Grades will be finalized on the last day of school. Report cards will be mailed home by the end of June. We hope that all middle school families enjoy a restful and fun-filled summer and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school in September.