



RTNJ NEWS

Randolph Township Schools Newsletter

March 28, 2019

Upcoming Events:

March 29-31: RHS Spring Musical "Shrek"

April 2: RHS College Essay Night

5: PTO Council "All In" Fundraiser

8: Ironia Spring Concert

9: Shongum Spring Concert

Board of Education Education Committee Meeting

Board of Education FFT Committee Meeting

Board of Education Work Session

10: Center Grove Spring Concert

11: Fernbrook Spring Concert

15-19: Spring Break/Schools Closed

15-18: Community School Holiday Fun Program

19: Good Friday

19-27: Passover

21: Easter

27: Junior Prom

30: Board of Education Meeting

RMS Selected as 2019 "School to Watch"

Randolph Middle School was recently recognized for academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity and organizational structures and named the 10th "School to Watch" in New Jersey. RMS was the only school recognized this year.

"The Schools to Watch recognition validates the excellent and effective work of the Randolph Middle School teachers and staff," RMS Principal Dr. Dennis Copeland. "The academic programs, support services and extra curricular activities in the arts, academics, and athletics all contribute to the development of the RMS whole child."

The district is also planning a special RMS celebration to recognize the school's success. (On March 15, Board Vice President Joe Faranetta and President Ron Conti, left, along with Superintendent Jennifer A. Fano, right, congratulated RMS Principal Dr. Dennis Copeland.)



RHS Earns College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award

Randolph High School has earned the first College Board AP[®] Computer Science Female Diversity Award for achieving high female representation in AP Computer Science Principles. Schools honored with the AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award have expanded girls' access in AP Computer Science courses. Out of more than 18,000 secondary schools worldwide that offer AP courses, Randolph is one of only 685 to accomplish this.

"We're honored by this recognition and are proud of our female students studying computer science for their achievements and our dedicated teachers who educate and support our students each day," said Randolph Township Schools Superintendent Jennifer A. Fano. "We are excited to continue to provide access to AP Computer Science courses to advance a more diverse workforce in critical STEM fields."

Schools receiving the AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award have either 50 percent or higher female representation in one of the two AP computer science courses or a percentage of the female computer science examinees meeting or exceeding that of the school's female population.

(Pictured right, RHS female students work on a project in an AP Computer Science Principles class.)



Music Education Program Receives National Recognition

The Randolph School District has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from the NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. The district has received this honor for a total of 12 years since 2003 including six consecutive years from 2014-19.



Business Office Welcomes New Assistant BA

Randolph Township Schools Business Administrator/Board Secretary Gerry Eckert welcomed Stephen Frost as the new assistant business administrator/assistant board secretary. (Mr. Eckert, right, and Mr. Frost, left, are pictured below.)

Mr. Frost started in the district on February 15, replacing Eric Burnside who departed in January. Mr. Frost was recently the payroll/benefits supervisor for the Glen Ridge Board of Education. He is an adjunct business professor at County College of Morris.



RMS Volunteer Honored

Randolph Middle School animal lover and eighth grader Tyler Zepp has been honored for his exemplary volunteer service with the President's Volunteer Service Award. The award, which recognizes Americans of all ages who volunteer significant amounts of time to serve their communities and their country, was granted by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program. Tyler

volunteers each week helping animals at the Randolph Animal Shelter. (Dr. Copeland congratulates Tyler for his award, right)



Randolph High School Students Inducted into French and Spanish Honor Societies

The Randolph High School chapters of the French and Spanish honor societies inducted new students into their prestigious societies as part of the World Language Honor Society induction ceremony on February 21. French Honor Society officers spoke about the prestigious organization and then called the 33 new inductees to participate in the candlelit ceremony. The inductees then repeated the society pledge. Afterwards, Spanish Language Honor Society officers called the 39 inductees up to take a candle, light it and participate in the induction ceremony. Each student received a certificate.

(Below left, French Honor Society students take the oath of office. Below right, Spanish Honor Society inductees participate in the ceremony.)



Community School Program Registration

Registration is under way for the Randolph Community School summer day camps for children entering grades K-8 in the fall. The programs include Camp Summer Kids (grades K-1), Camp Summer Stars (Grades 2-5) and Camp Discovery (Grades 5-8). Children enjoy special activities including arts and crafts, science, cooking and athletics as well as special trips. Summer Kids campers take one trip per week, Summer Stars two and Camp Discovery three exciting trips per week. The programs cater to working parents with special hours from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Registration is available online at <https://register.capturepoint.com/RandolphCommunitySchool>. Register early as rates will increase on April 15. The Community School has also opened registration for its Summer Gardening Camp, Black Rocket summer classes, Super Science workshops and the Summer Strings, Piano & Guitar program. Registration for the Community's School's after school spring classes is also under way. Information on all of these programs is available on our website: www.rtnj.org under Community School channel bar. Registration is also under way for spring after school classes including Young Rembrandts drawing classes, Mad Science Brixology (Lego engineering) classes, TGA Premier Golf classes, Yoga for Kids classes, Kidz Kraftz classes at Ironia and new Fuzzy Buddies classes at Center Grove and Fernbrook. Please register at <https://register.capturepoint.com/RandolphCommunitySchool>. The Community School is still accepting registration for childcare for the 2018-19 school year. For information, call (973) 361-0808 ext. 8603 or visit rtnj.org and click on the Community School channel bar. You may also email CommunitySchool@rtnj.org.





Board of Education Celebrates the Arts in March

The Randolph Board of Education presented Visual and Performing Arts Supervisor Frank Perrone with proclamations for Youth Art Month and Music in Our Schools Month in March. (Left, Board Vice President Joe Faranetta and President Ron Conti and right, Superintendent Jennifer A. Fano, present the proclamations to Mr. Perrone)



Center Grove Students Enjoy TREP\$ Marketplace

Sixty Center Grove fifth grade students in Randolph learned to become entrepreneurs through the school's TREP\$ program.

The students met after school once a week for several weeks, coming up with entrepreneurial concepts, then presenting them to teachers, creating everything from bath bombs to Randolph magnets and holiday ornaments to snow globes and bookmarks with bling. The students then sold their creations at the TREP\$ Marketplace on February 21. (Above, Mr. TR Rathjen and Ilya Andrianov display Ilya's finger puppets. Right, Regan Galloway displays her Pom Poms for Pages.)



RHS Students Thank Bus Drivers with Breakfast

Members of Randolph High School's Tomorrow's Leaders honored bus drivers and members of the district's transportation department with a special breakfast. As part of a project, RHS seniors Ross Brenner, Chris Biancone and Jim McConvery brought breakfast and thank you cards to the transportation department to thank bus drivers for all of their hard work driving students to and from school each day. "We wanted to do something for the bus drivers and to say thanks before we graduated," Jim said. "We decided to make cards and get them some food." (Above left to right, RHS seniors Chris Biancone, Jim McConvery and Ross Brenner thank bus drivers Jennifer Patrick, Julia Coppa and Larry Wasdyke.)



RHS Students Enjoy All-State Band

Randolph High School mallet player Andre Hance and clarinet player Dan Spielman performed with the New Jersey All-State Symphonic Band February 23. The musicians, pictured above, said they were excited to perform at NJPAC with some of the best musicians in the state.

Pasta Fun

Shongum staff, right, enjoy the school's pasta dinner and serve pasta to families.





Elementary March Mathness

More than 130 elementary school families enjoyed a fun night of math games at the Elementary Math Mathness Family Game Night on March 14 at Randolph Middle School.

"March MATHness was a night of fun, partnering with teachers from all Randolph elementary schools," said K-5 Elementary Supervisor Katherine Thorn. "Together, students and parents learned strategies and played games that help support math practice at home. The event built a sense of community across all of our elementary schools and further supported excitement around mathematics through a shared learning experience." *(Children enjoy a math game at the event with Mr. Naclerio, above.)*

Reach Across America Celebrations

Sliming the principal, guest readers, student reading challenges, reading trains, special dress up days, decorating contests and a special visit from the Cat in the Hat were just a few of the fun-filled events at Randolph's elementary schools as part of the Read Across America celebration earlier this month. Center Grove students read 86,172 minutes for the opportunity to have teachers and the students of the month pour green, pink, orange and blue slime on Principal Mario Rodas, Vice Principal TR Rathjen and Security Officer David Frisk in a special school assembly. The trio wore scuba gear during the sliming. Shongum Teacher Christine Giosios won a special drawing at the NJEA convention in November to have the infamous Cat in the Hat make a special visit to Shongum School. Principal Cliff Burns began reading the famous Dr. Seuss book when he was surprised when the Cat in the Hat walked in the school's gymnasium to the delight of all of the children.

(Below, the Cat in the Hat visits Shongum. Below right, Center Grove Vice Principal Rathjen, Principal Rodas and security guard Fritsch at the Center Grove sliming.)



RHS Drama Club Presents Shrek the Musical

The Randolph High School Drama Club will present "Shrek the Musical" March 29 at 7 p.m. and March 30 at 1 and 7 p.m. in the RHS auditorium. The Saturday matinee will be following by a charter meet and greet for children. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students, children and seniors. Visit <https://rhs.booktix.com>. *(Cast members are pictured below at a dress rehearsal.)*



RHS Student Film Selected for Film Festival

"What Matters," an experimental film by RHS students Eithan Leinwand and Corey Wichansky was shown at the Bergen County Film Festival March 16.

(RHS teacher Robert Finning congratulates his students above.)





Ironia Lip Sync Fun

More than 350 students, parents and staff enjoyed a fun-filled Ultimate Lip Sync Battle at Randolph Middle School. The event featured performances by Principal David Kricheff and his team and Vice Principal TR Rathjen and his winning team (pictured above). The intermission featured a performance by Superintendent Jennifer A. Fano and several administrators.

RHS Students Selected for All-State Orchestra

Randolph High School violist Kieran Lucas, a freshman and violinists Shoshana Zeiger, a freshman, and Priscilla Peters, a sophomore, have successfully auditioned for the New Jersey All-State Orchestra and will perform with the most talented musicians in New Jersey in the fall. (They are pictured below.)



Kindergarten Zoo

Center Grove kindergarten students created animals out of recyclables and then wrote books about them. The students then invited other students and their families to visit the school kindergarten zoo. (Ms. DePugh is pictured with three of her students and their animals, right.)



MAYO Student of the Month

The Mayo Performing Arts Center recognized RMS percussionist Dan Pinyan (left) as music student of the month. He attended a performance at the center.

Randolph Middle School Geography Bee Winner

Randolph Middle School Principal Dr. Dennis Copeland (pictured below) congratulates Brandon Lakind, who won the middle school geography bee, and has qualified to represent Randolph in the state geography bee on March 29.



Ironia Spelling Bee Winner

In a 33-round almost two-hour spelling bee, Ironia fifth grader Kaitlyn Brown finally won first place in the school spelling bee. The bee took so long that it was stopped briefly so students could be dismissed at the end of the school day. (Kaitlyn is above with Mr. Kricheff.)



Randolph Education Foundation Presents More than \$8,000 in Next Practices Grants to Randolph Educators

The Randolph Education Foundation (REF) awarded more than \$8,800 in *Next Practices Grants* to nine teachers in the Randolph schools. The recipients of the grants that will provide students with innovative, hands-on experiences inside and outside of the classroom are: Laura Healy, Jessica Velez, and Antoinette Compel from Shongum Elementary School; Jenise Janulis and Danielle Miller from Fernbrook Elementary School; Kristin Torres, Linda Cross, and Matt Siegel from the Randolph Middle School (RMS); and Margery Dwyre, from the Randolph High School (RHS). On March 20, Superintendent Jennifer A. Fano and Randolph Education Foundation Co-Presidents Margaret Clark and Paola Heincke, along with REF board members, school principals and district administrators, surprised teachers during school with the grants. *(The grant winners are pictured below: below left, RMS winners teachers Kristen Torres, Matt Siegel and Linda Cross for archery, below that, Shongum media specialist Laura Healy for a 3-D printer grant and bottom left, Shongum teachers Jessica Velez and Antoinette Compel for Breakout EDU kits and below right, Fernbrook teachers Danielle Miller and Jenise Janulis for Food Waste Recycling and bottom right, RHS teacher Margery Dwyre for a new social club called "Circles.")*

