



THE MOUNTAINSIDE MESSENGER

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AMAZING STAFF!

From left to right:

Mrs. Jenks, Beechwood Principal, Mrs. Walling, Superintendent, Mrs. Branco, Mrs. Barone, Mrs. Kinney, Mrs. Roy, Mrs. Morrelli & Mrs. Peixoto.



TIME TO
REGISTER
FOR THE
2020/21
SCHOOL
YEAR

The Mountainside School District is proud to announce our Teachers of the Year, Nancy Kinney, 5th grade teacher in Deerfield, and Amanda Roy, 1st grade teacher in Beechwood. Our Educational Service Professionals of the Year are Sonia Branco, Deerfield Nurse and Leila Morrelli, Speech Therapist in Beechwood. Our Support Staff of the Year are Denise Barone, Deerfield Secretary and Amy Peixoto, Beechwood Paraprofessional. Each of these amazing professionals have shown exceptional dedication to the students, staff and families of Mountainside, and we congratulate each of them for their commitment to excellence in education.

Kindergarten
Registration

The Mountainside School District has opened registration for kindergarten. If you or any Mountainside residents you know have a child who will be age five by October 1, 2020, please visit our website for the instructions to register for September at Beechwood School. for the upcoming 2020/2021 school year.

Visit our website: www.mountainsideschools.org



WINTER CONCERTS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON



In December and January, students in Mountainside performed to standing room only crowds. What talented musicians and singers we have in our music program, which is led by Mr. Jared Rosenblum and Mr. Tom Wise. Together they teach and inspire our students to participate in band and chorus, as well as specialized groups such as Jazz

Ensembles, Acapella Singers and Musical Theater to name a few. Students from every grade level brought joy to the audience as they made music that lit up the holiday season. Come see some of these talented students when they perform at the upcoming "School of Rock" musical March 6th & 7th at Deerfield School.

***** COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS *****

Once again, the PTO, Mountainside Education Foundation (MEF) and Watts Foundation continued their generous support of our schools. Recently, the PTO donated \$25,000 for technology & capital improvements, portions of which were used to purchase a Chromebook Cart for Beechwood and to upgrade lighting in the Deerfield gym, which will enhance the many events held there. The PTO is hosting their upcoming "Spring Fling", a tricky tray fundraising event on March 20th. Come out to support our PTO, our schools and win some fabulous prizes!

The MEF generously funded an upcoming author's visit at Deerfield with bestselling author, Victoria Jamieson on March 17th, and our recent "Poet in Residence" workshops. They have also supported excellent class trips to the IMAX theater, Broadway Workshops and the Franklin Institute. The MEF is hosting a "Magic Show" fundraiser on February 28th at Governor Livingston High School, don't miss it!

The Watts Foundation recently granted \$4,000 to be used for Beechwood Media Center books. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Watts Foundation which often provides grants for various projects to enhance the educational programs in Mountainside.

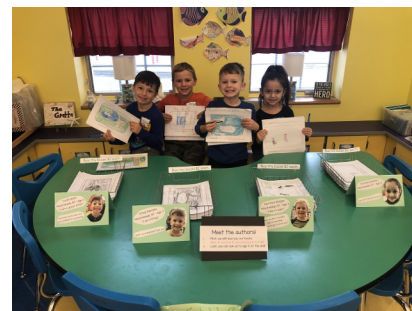
Our schools are committed to sustainability practices so we are partnering with the Mountainside Library's plastic bag recycling program and are proud to be certified by Sustainable Jersey for Schools. This organization recently awarded us a \$2,000 grant to be used to purchase two refillable water stations at Beechwood School.

We encourage everyone to participate and contribute to these fundraisers, as the benefits come right back to our students. Visit our website for information on the events above, under the community tab, in the ELFF folder.





***** BUSY AT BEECHWOOD *****



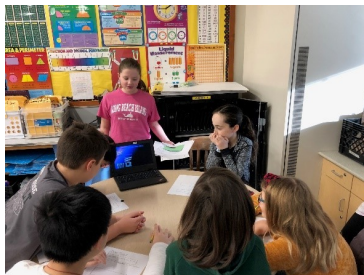
This school year, Beechwood School welcomed a new mascot, Cesel! His name stands for **Character Education Social Emotional Learning**. On Cesel Days, students have explicit instruction on social-emotional learning skills. Last year, the school district adopted Maurice Elias's Social Decision Making/Social Problem Solving curriculum. Cesel was hired as Beechwood's mascot because

he is such a kind and caring bear. You can find Cesel visiting classrooms on Cesel Days and outside greeting students on Spirit Days.

In early January, we had the opening of our first-ever kindergarten book store. As a culminating activity to their Show and Tell writing unit, the students created their own book store complete with a Starbucks,

a "Meet the Author" station, a "Kids' Zone" with activities, and a cash register station. The PEAK, first grade, and second-grade students all visited the kindergarten book stores. Mrs. Jenks, Beechwood School Principal, purchased quite a few books and 5 coffees by the time she reached the last kindergarten classroom. It was absolutely adorable!

DIVING INTO DEERFIELD



Deerfield's annual community tradition continued in January, with Spirit Night. The boys and girls basketball teams played their hearts out in front of a full house.

The event raised over \$5,000 for the athletic program. The night included performances by PAL Cheer, the Deerfield School Pep Band, & the singing of the National Anthem by the Acapella Group. There were foul shooting contests, refreshments sold and our Husky was there to cheer on the teams.

It was great to see everyone's school spirit with a terrific turnout to support our school and our athletes. We can't thank all the parent and staff volunteers and the custodial staff for the set up and clean up.

We are looking forward to next year's Spirit Night!

Deerfield School fifth graders in Ms. Topel & Ms. Delaney's class celebrated the end of their Nonfiction Reading Research unit by creating teaching shares

about self-chosen topics to present to fourth graders.

Working collaboratively in small groups, students investigated topics and ranked the most important main ideas they wanted to teach about their topics.

The fifth graders had a blast thinking like teachers and sharing their expertise with younger students, and the fourth graders expressed that they were very excited to have their turn next year!

MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mrs. Janet Walling - Superintendent
Mr. Raymond Slamb - Business Administrator



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908-301-9104

Deerfield School
302 Central Avenue
908-232-8828

Visit our website at
www.mountainsideschools.org

Employment Opportunities:

Mountainside Schools are looking for substitutes and lunch aides.
Interested candidates can apply by sending your resume to : jobs@mountainsideschools.org