

# **BOE Briefs** **BERKELEY HEIGHTS** *Public Schools*

The following is a summary of the October 11, 2018, Combined Conference and Regular Meeting of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education:

## **Report of the Student Representatives**

### **Senior Mikayla Sanchez reported on the following GLHS items:**

- Despite the recent bad weather, the Governor Livingston Highlanders have been playing at their best both indoors and out. Girls soccer is having an amazing season with a record of 9-3. After losing to Elizabeth earlier in the season, the girls sought revenge and beat Elizabeth 3-2 in their second round of counties. The girls will advance to play a quarterfinal game against Cranford this Saturday at 11:00 am.
- After a bye week, the football team is looking forward to their game this Saturday at 1:30 on the turf. The team will be recognizing their seniors as they play Scotch Plains-Fanwood at home.
- Girls volleyball had an exciting 2-1 set win against the 3rd ranked team in the County, Union High School. The team is looking forward to playing Benedictine at home on Tuesday in their first round of the Union County Tournament.
- The field hockey team earned an impressive 2-0 win against Livingston this week and have improved their record to 7-4-2.
- Boys soccer had a tough matchup in their county tournament this past Tuesday when they fell to Roselle in the last few minutes of the game. The team is determined to regain their momentum as they play New Providence away on Tuesday.
- The girls tennis team also faced difficult match against Verona yesterday but are looking forward to playing Westfield on Monday. Best of luck to all sports teams in upcoming states and county games!

**Report of the Student Representatives (continued)**

**Junior Alexander Janiak reported on the following GLHS items:**

- Alongside the Week of Respect, there are many club meetings happening during lunch and after school. The Junior Statesmen of America (JSA) has made its official roster of attendees for the Fall State Conference in November.
- The TSA engineering club held its first meeting during lunch October 9<sup>th</sup>, defining its goals for the upcoming month, including fundraising and team building activities.
- Science Olympiad held its first meeting on Friday October 5<sup>th</sup>, where it elected its officers and assigned events for the regional competition later in the year.
- The Robotics club is also starting to assemble, and held a meeting Wednesday and plans to hold a meeting after school tomorrow.
- The Math League is starting to hold its monthly math competitions, the first one being this upcoming Tuesday.
- Non-Stem clubs, such as Interact, are also involved in activities such as the PTO clothing drive.
- Student Auxiliary held a meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> during both halves of lunch, where they discussed upcoming events and activities. They plan to hold meetings monthly.
- In addition to all of the club activities, GLHS hosted a College Fair on Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Many colleges were represented at the fair, and the representatives enjoyed dinner prior to the session sponsored by the GLHS PTO. The Student Ambassador club was essential in the execution of this college night, as they helped guide the college representatives to their designated tables and handed out maps to attending parents and students.
- As the marking period progresses, all clubs plan to continue their meetings and involvement in events.

**Superintendent's Report**

- Mr. Kevin Morra, District Supervisor of Special Education and Anti-Bullying Coordinator, discussed the Report of Incidents of Violence, Vandalism Substance Abuse, Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying in the Berkeley Heights Public Schools during the period of January 1, 2018, through June 30, 2018. Governor Livingston High School Assistant Principals Tara Oliveira and Lawrence Seid, as well as Columbia Middle School Principal Grace Acosta, assisted Mr. Morra during this presentation. Please click [here](#) to learn more about this report.
- Ms. Acosta, Mr. Seid, and Ms. Ann Clifton, District Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, provided a report on student participation in Extra-Curricular Activities and Athletics within the Berkeley Heights Public Schools. To learn more about this presentation, please click [here](#).
- The District is the recipient of the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) federal grant, which provides \$297,673.00 in federal funds for major school security upgrades. The Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence Act of 2018 (STOP School Violence Act of 2018) gave the COPS Office authority to provide awards directly to States, units of local government, or Indian tribes to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the jurisdiction of the grantee through evidence-based school safety programs.
- Carolyn J. Marano, NJ DOE Assistant Commissioner, Division of Learning Supports & Specialized Services, will be visiting the Berkeley Heights Public Schools on October 29, 2018 at 9:30 am. Ms. Marano reached out to us after speaking with Fred Buglione, President and CEO at New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education, who suggested she visit our district, because he believes that we are doing great things with inclusion in our district.
- The College Fair was another huge success at GLHS, with 130 schools participating this year.
- Mrs. Tara Oliveira will be honored at the NJ PSA Conference on Friday, October 19th as Assistant Principal of the Year.

**Superintendent's Report (continued)**

- Remaining Superintendent's Chats are: October 17<sup>th</sup> at Woodruff at 9:00 a.m., October 17<sup>th</sup> at Mountain Park at 4:30 p.m., October 18<sup>th</sup> at MKM ECC at 7:00 p.m.
- Upcoming Events:
  - October 15<sup>th</sup> – Junior College Night at GLHS
  - October 16<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Night at GLHS
  - October 17<sup>th</sup> – *Don't Press Send* at GLHS for parents of elementary students

**Facilities Report**

Mrs. Donna Felezzola, School Business Administrator, delivered the following report:

The window replacement project for Hughes School is moving forward. The architects are preparing shop drawings.

District officials are continuing to evaluate the media centers and develop plans for renovations. The architect has developed plans for the high school media center and meetings were held this past week with the technology/AV contractor. Additionally, there have been meetings with design consultants to get ideas for upgrade proposals that can be made at the elementary schools.

In light of the grant that we received, we are working with the police to develop plans to enhance school security.

**The Board of Education formally voted to approve the following:**

- A Resolution honoring Judith A. Rattner, Superintendent of Schools, for her 18 years of meritorious service to the Berkeley Heights Public Schools.
- The following new and revised District Policies after second reading:  
Disclosure and Review of Applicant’s Employment History 1613 (New)  
Student Suicide Prevention 5350 (Revised)  
Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying 5512.01 (Revised)
- The following extra-curricular activities, assignments and staff members for the 2018-2019 school year, as indicated:

Governor Livingston High School

Activity/Position

Science Team Advisor (51%)  
Assistant Wrestling Coach  
Assistant Wrestling Coach  
Assistant Wrestling Coach  
Assistant Wrestling Coach  
Assistant Basketball Coach (Girls)  
Assistant Basketball Coach (Boys)  
Assistant Basketball Coach (Boys)  
Assistant Ice Hockey Coach  
Assistant Indoor Track Coach  
Assistant Indoor Track Coach  
Assistant Indoor Track Coach  
Assistant Indoor Track Coach  
Assistant Indoor Track Coach  
Assistant Fencing Coach  
Assistant Fencing Coach  
Assistant Fencing Coach  
Assistant Swimming Coach  
Cheerleader Coach (Winter)

Instructor/Supervisor

Dawn Buchan  
Joseph Giaccio  
Daniel Hilt  
Shane Haddad  
Michael Stepien  
Robert Ritter  
Kevin Fontana  
Justin Petino  
Ryan Daly  
Gary Chan  
Lisa Dhaibar  
Dominick Mastroianni, Jr.  
Beryl Roman  
Carmin Scuderi  
Ellen Dahan  
Donald Satchell  
Jhon Orozco Arismendy  
Sharon Leahy  
Emily Stecher

Columbia Middle School

Activity/Position

Basketball Coach (Girls)  
Basketball Coach (Boys)  
Cheerleader Coach

Instructor/Supervisor

Michael Roof  
Christoph Kopal  
Briana Figueiredo

**The Board of Education formally voted to approve the following (continued):**

- The semi-annual District Report of Violence, Vandalism, Substance Abuse, Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying for the period of January 1, 2018, through June 30, 2018, as submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education via the Student Safety Data System (SSDS).
- The Winter Season 2018-2019 schedules for all interscholastic athletics teams representing Governor Livingston High School and Columbia Middle School.
- The reinstatement of the Interscholastic Wrestling Program at Columbia Middle School for the 2018-2019 school year, pending the approval of Agreements with the Berkeley Heights PAL and Mountainside Board of Education. The Agreement with the Berkeley Heights PAL would provide a funding source for the program, while the Agreement with the Mountainside Board of Education would enable middle school-level students from Mountainside to participate as members of the Columbia Middle School Wrestling team.
- The 2018-2019 employment contract of Dr. Richard Noonan, Interim Superintendent of Schools.
- The resignation of Sharon Izzo from her position as Lunchroom/Playground Teacher Aide at Thomas P. Hughes School, effective October 20, 2018.
- The acceptance of a donation from the Governor Livingston High School Class of 1964, in the amount of \$1,378.40, for the purpose of purchasing specialized desks for students at Governor Livingston.

***The Board of Education will conduct a Combined Conference and Regular Meeting on Thursday, November 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of Columbia Middle School. Dr. Ashley Janosko, District Director of Guidance, will provide an update and overview about Guidance programs and services throughout the school district.***