

Superintendent's Report for January 2015

- After school ELA and Math Academies have begun to provide additional instruction and reinforcement to our students in preparation for the upcoming NYS assessments.
- Rhame Avenue and Centre Avenue (to the best of my knowledge) have started a “morning enrichment” program in ELA and Math to provide additional instruction and support for students as well.
- At the Elementary level - January music classes are concentrating on the subject of freedom, equality, and brotherhood in honor of Martin Luther King Day. Songs from folk, pop, rap and spirituals are being studied for social issues, historical settings and the elements of music such as form, melody, rhythm, beat and harmony.
- The Community Service Action Team will be sponsoring an event at Rhame Avenue for students and parents on January 29th at 6:30 pm. Called “Kids Night Out – Story Time and Crafts.” The Rhame Avenue staff will be reading fun stories to the children and then creating a craft or art work inspired by the theme of each story. To participate, students are being asked to donate a new or gently used book to a school-wide collection during the week of January 23rd. The books will be donated to other schools in need across the country that have been recently affected by natural disasters.
- Centre Avenue School is participating in the National Geographic Geography Bee during the month of January with grades 5 and 6 students. The Championship round will

be held on Friday, January 23 in the All Purpose Room.
Good luck to all students.

- Centre Avenue School recognized the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. over the last few weeks. For example grade 3 students produced a Silhouette of Dr. Martin Luther King with a timeline of special events. The projects are displayed outside the grade 3 classrooms.
- Grade 2 students are learning about weathering and erosion by pouring water on skittles and pouring water on soil and recording their observations. Grade 2 students also have state reports and their projects displayed in the main hallway.
- All students grades K-6 are taking the middle of the year NWEA assessments in the computer lab. Shortly, reports will be assembled to gauge how much progress students have made in ELA and Math since the beginning of the year administration.
- Grades 3-6 Enterprise students took a field trip on January 12th to the Cradle of Aviation STEM conference for kids and learned about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.
- Thank you to our HS administrators, guidance counselors, and teachers for coordinating the Curriculum Fair on Wednesday, January 14th. Students and teachers did a wonderful job showcasing our many elective offerings. I was impressed by the knowledge, poise, and articulate manner of our students.

- This past December the General Music students in Ms. Silver's class worked to design and create their own instruments out of recycled materials.
- The Senior Orchestra is currently working in the Mac Lab writing their own songs and recording them in the studio.
- The Senior Band has begun preparing their music for their trip and clinic at Disney.
- Willy Wonka rehearsals are going well. This year the musical has engaged students from all three buildings. The show opens on Feb 6th and tickets can be purchased through the Music Department.
- Vocal and Instrumental students selected to perform in the Nassau Music Educators All County Concert Chorus performed this past weekend at the Tilles Center at CW Post College. We will be honoring those students who were selected to participate at a future board meeting.
- On Sunday, January 18, Mr. Howard and Mr. Cimorelli accompanied 5 East Rockaway students (Michael Reichelson, Marc Morgenbesser, Brian Murphy, Kevin Howard, and Aaron McCurdy) to represent East Rockaway High School at a Robotics Tournament at Vaughn College in Queens, New York. Michael Reichelson advanced to the semi-finals, but was eliminated in the "two out of three" round. Kevin Howard represented East Rockaway in the first round of playoffs.

Two teams at the tournament were having issues with construction and programming their robots. The East

Rockaway boys stepped up and helped out in a tremendous way. One of the teams they assisted, Freeport, wound up winning the entire tournament!

- Thank you Meridyth Hansen and the entire Science Department on the success of the recent Middle School Science Fair which took place on Tuesday, January 13. Over 180 student exhibits were presented throughout the evening. We had a great turnout and students and parents alike seemed to enjoy the evening. The following students will advance to the Long Island Science Congress in March:

7th Grade Life Science:

1st: Caroline Dolan

2nd: Madison Cipriano

3rd: Leanne Wright

7th Grade Life Science Accelerated:

1st: Anthony Prelesnick

2nd: Jake Wooding

3rd: Sharon Oosterwijk (oosterwick)

8th Grade Physical Science:

1st: Brandon Frantzen

2nd: Emily Chelius

3rd: Alec Rovner

8th Grade Earth Science Accelerated:

1st: Michael Arena

2nd: Emma Neary

3rd: Matthew Miller

Spelman Award: Brandon Frantzen (Franzen)

- Detective Stark from the Nassau County Police Department presented an assembly to grades 6, 7 and 8 and then again to grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 on Thursday, January 8. A powerful presentation addressed the dangers of narcotics and addiction to our students. Thank you to the ERHS PTA for sponsoring this assembly.
- **Physical Education** – continues to implement technology into the gymnasium through the use of the polar heart rate monitors, iPad, and smart boards. The Fitnessgram reports will be sent home to the Middle School/High School students the 2nd week in February. This assessment will enable parents to see a snapshot of their child's fitness.
- **Athletics**- The streaming of basketball/JH volleyball games through the use of the HS Cube has been a big success with parents and families. A parent can view the game **live or watch it at a later date!**
- **Family and Consumer Arts**- Mrs. Corapi has been working along with Mrs. Reilly to have a MS event called Chopped Competition in which food dishes will be created by students and live streamed sometime in April.

In 2013, NYS Comptroller DiNapoli implemented a statewide fiscal stress monitoring system to identify local governments and school districts experiencing fiscal stress. Soon the Office of the Comptroller will be issuing this report publically. Mr. Robinson will provide more information on this topic. In addition, he will provide an update on the budget process to date.