

# PRIDE *in Education*



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## Red Ribbon Week

**T**his week and every day after, Switlik again pledged to keep our dreams alive by staying away from drugs and alcohol. Daily themes and school lessons and activities emphasized the importance of making positive choices and leading a drug and alcohol free life. A highlight of the week was a visit from OMEGAMAN. During his presentation, he challenged students to live a life as a Dream Maker (making good choices), not a Dream Breaker (making poor choices). He performed feats of strength – snapping a baseball bat over his leg, ripping a phone book in half and bending steel with his teeth – feats he would not otherwise be able to do if he had listened to those people (Dream Breakers) growing up who said he couldn't. He helped students to identify, respond and prevent conflict within the school and wherever they go to make sure every individual is a H.E.R.O. – Helping Everyone Respect Others. ■

## Week of Respect

**D**uring this week, schools across New Jersey focused on ways to prevent teasing and bullying. At Switlik, we have been showing RESPECT by being BUCKET FILLERS each and every day in and out of school. As a school community, we pledged to STAND UP and SPEAK UP when uncaring, unkind and disrespectful behavior is being shown. This simple concept, when practiced regularly, can make the change to STOP teasing and bullying for good! We also gathered together at week's end to review and reflect upon the meaning of and our part in being a positive force for change. It's all about R-E-S-P-E-C-T! ■



## Dress Like a Pirate: Read More!

**A**hoy, matey! This October, students at Holman Elementary School participated in a reading challenge to read as many pages as they could during the days of our HOPE-sponsored Scholastic Book Fair. Homeroom classes worked together to read thousands of pages! The class at each grade level that read the most pages during that time won a special story-time with Holman Principal Mr. Karas, who dressed up like a pirate! Winning classes were Mrs. Majors's Fifth Grade class, Mrs. Shilan and Mrs. Macaluso's Fourth Grade class, Ms. Ortiz's Third Grade class, Mrs. Bueide's Second Grade class, Ms. Alexander's First Grade class, and Ms. Langer's Kindergarten class. The students loved seeing Mr. Karas all dressed up like a pirate! ■

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# Cupcake Wars and So Much More!

This summer, a group of students from Jackson Liberty and Jackson Memorial High Schools worked together to successfully complete the Jackson Progressing Into Careers Program. The students, referred to as “employees” by the staff, exited the program with a variety of skills and tools needed to obtain a job in the local workforce.

The program was led by teachers Marcus Villeco, Susan Young, and Jennifer Kasyan. Each teacher brought a unique perspective to the program sharing their knowledge of computer, social, vocational, and life skills. The collaboration amongst teachers from different schools within the district helped better meet the needs of our students.

Throughout the program, students researched career interests in order to develop a short term employment goal. Some of the valuable tools the students created include a cover letter, resume, and a completed job application from a local business in hopes of entering the local work community. These documents are saved in each students’ Jackson Google account as well as organized in a Portfolio as a hard copy. Many students plan on utilizing their portfolio as they begin the interview process when they enter the local workforce.

The occupational skills portion of the program was lead by a certified Family and consumer Science Teacher, Katherine Chillszcyn. Not only did the students learn hands-on culinary skills through cooperatively prepared nutritious meals twice

a week, they also completed an online culinary course. The course was funded by the District and every student passed the ServSafe test becoming certified as a “Foodhandler”. Overall, occupational skills were developed through the integration and teaching of culinary skills, coupled with the ServSafe Certification to make students marketable to the local food service industry.

The students earned awards as incentives that doubled as resume builders, such as Employee of the Week, Chef of the Week, and Perfect Attendance. These incentives boosted student effort, moral, and attendance. The attendance record of the program was above average with half of the students involved earning perfect attendance.

Student progress was monitored through pre and post math, literacy, and culinary tests. In addition, weekly progress reports allowed the students to track their growth and reflect on the progress made towards reaching their personal goals through weekly one to one conferences with teacher supervisors. The Progress Reports doubled as a “timesheet” where students were taught the skill of being responsible “employees” by keeping track of their daily hours by “clocking” in and out of “work”.

Students’ reflections exhibited their sense of pride and positivity towards their experience with the program. Below are a few quotes...

*“This was honestly the best experience I ever had. My relationship with the teachers was amazing. You taught me everything I need to do to become a leader. I will take what I’ve learned here to get a job.” →*





*"I learned how to cooperate with a team and be a team leader."*

*"I'm sad I have to leave. I had a lot of fun."*

*"I learned about finding jobs, resumes, culinary skills and find recipes."*

*"I loved this program very much. I learned how to cook and to get a job. It was a great experience."*

*"The program was fun and helpful and I'm glad I took it".*

*I think I am a good chef. I made 21 cupcakes. Also, the program was awesome and I learned how to cook. I was very fun!"*

It was an amazing program. It taught us so much to be prepared for the future. I wish this program lasted longer because these days were not only very helpful for my future but more importantly extremely memorable in every way.

The culminating activity of the program was a Cupcake War Service Learning Project. The students worked collaboratively to construct a cupcake display using creativity and artistic skills that were fostered throughout the program. The students advertised, setup, and managed the sales of the cupcakes at the bake sale. The Jackson Recreation children were invited to vote on their favorite display and purchase cupcakes baked by our students. All proceeds were donated to the Local Foodbank of Ocean County and the grand total raised this year was \$357. The experience demonstrated the importance of giving back to our community. Freeholder, Virginia Haines, a lifelong resident of Ocean County attended the event. "Your program in such an inspiration for those young people."

Overall, this program was very beneficial to the academic, social, and emotional growth of the students involved in the program as they enter the next stage of their life and prepare to enter the local workforce. ■



**Johnson School** honors the memory of those lost on 9/11. Each student traced their hand to create the mural. ■

## Fall Parent and Student Night at Goetz Middle School

**O**n Tuesday, November 29th, Goetz Middle School hosted a Parent and Student Literacy Event, "Notice and Note Signpost Scavenger Hunt: A Parent's Guide to Reading Comprehension". Mrs. Molitores, Reading Specialist, began the night with a slide presentation on the *Notice and Note* overview. Parents and students were then asked to work in teams to find signposts in children's books and other texts. Together each team, which was comprised of teachers, parents, students and administrators, collaborated to create a poster. Once the poster was complete, they were then asked to present a short skit to the entire audience.

These activities demonstrated their understanding of the signposts and their success in locating the signposts within the different books and text selections. The evening ended with a raffle, where students received books and other prizes. Refreshments, mints and pens were proudly sponsored by the members of the Jackson Education Association! It was a fun-filled event and we appreciated all who attended and participated!

The administrators and teachers who graciously attended and assisted with this event were: Mrs. Licitra, Mrs. DiEugenio, Mr. Perino, Mrs. Molitores, Mrs. Berman, Mrs. Netis, Mrs. Mundie, Mrs. Ribas, Ms. Forrest, Ms. Sciarappa, Mrs. Daton, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Terranova, Ms. Traina, Ms. Hughes, and Ms. Callahan. ■



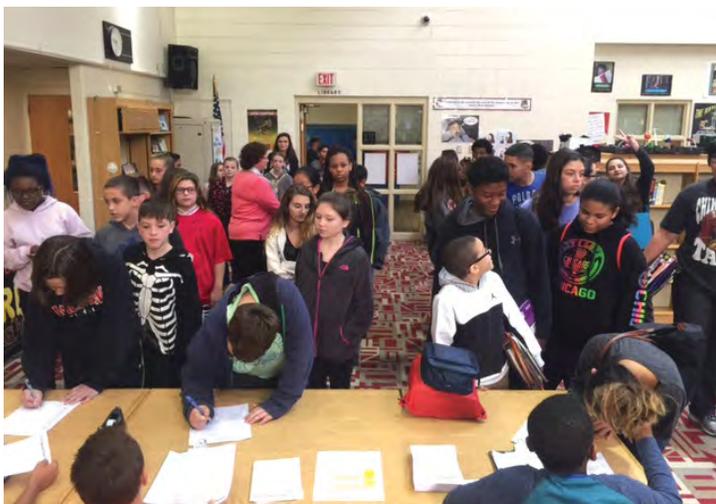
## Holman Students Celebrate the Week of Respect

**T**he Holman School community recognizes the importance of constantly promoting a positive school climate. We strive for a learning environment where all students feel safe and achieve academic success. During the Week of Respect, Safe Schools Week, and Red Ribbon Week, Holman School students participated in special activities in an effort to strengthen character and positive decision making. ■

# McAuliffe School Holds Mock Election for Students and Staff

**O**n Tuesday, November 2nd, McAuliffe students and staff all came together to vote for their candidate for the next President of the United States. In preparation for the election, students studied each of the candidates and ballot questions being presented in their Literacy classes. They also learned about and discussed the Electoral College and its importance in the voting process.

Commercials were created by students that presented information about each of the candidates, the two ballot questions and the history of the Electoral College. All of the commercials were shown on *Wake-Up McAuliffe* each morning during the week prior to the election.



To make the election even more exciting and meaningful, each Literacy class was assigned a state that they would represent for the vote within the Electoral College, that way not only would individual votes be counted, but the Electoral votes would be counted as well. On the day of the election, students came into the library with their classes (states), signed in at the voter registration tables, received their ballots and waited on line to vote for their candidate. The process was exciting for everyone, not only the voters coming in, but the students who were working the voting booths as well!

At the end of the day, the votes were counted and the winners were as follows:

- Ballot Question 1: *Should students be required to attend school year-round?*
  - Yes: 235
  - No: 641
- Ballot Question 2: *Should students be permitted to use their cell phones throughout the day during school?*
  - Yes: 703
  - No: 177
- Presidential Voting Outcome:
  - Hillary Clinton: Popular Vote (335)/Electoral Votes (152)
  - Donald Trump: Popular Vote (426)/Electoral Votes (379)
  - Gary Johnson: Popular Vote (60)/Electoral Votes (8)
  - Jill Stein: Popular Vote (49)/Electoral Votes (0)

This was an amazing learning experience for everyone and all of the information truly came in handy when the actual election took place! Thank you to all of the teachers at McAuliffe for helping to make this such a successful event! ■

# Goetz Students Exercise Their Civic Duty

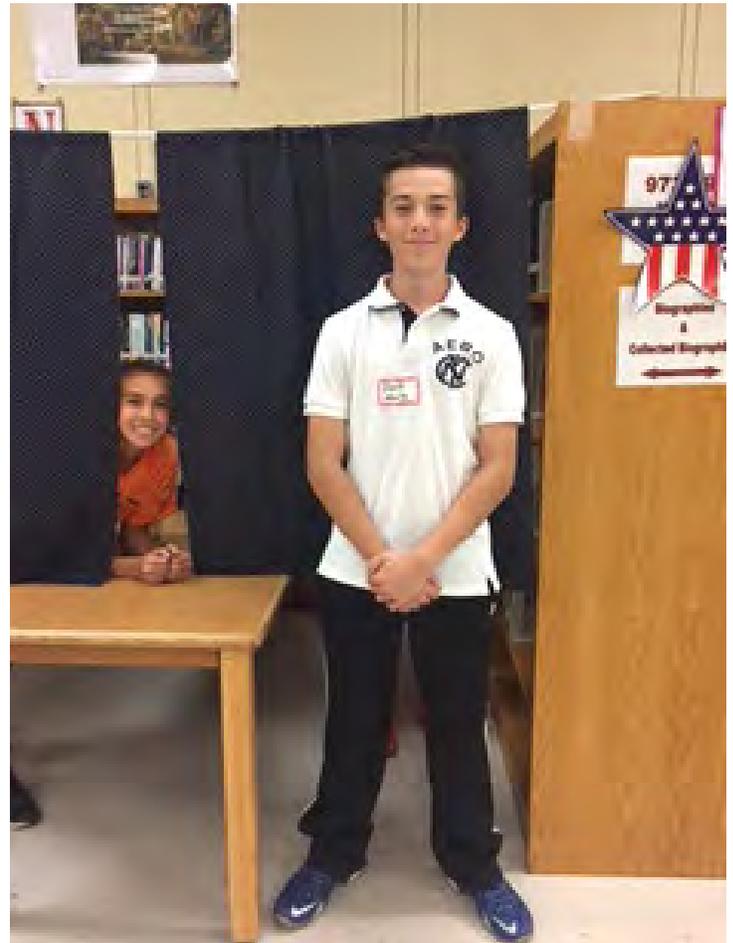
**O**n November 3rd, the entire Goetz Community exhibited good citizenship and participated in a mock presidential election. Students and staff voted for their choice of President of the United States and also responded to the question of whether standardized tests reflect their knowledge.

The results were 722 votes or 55.9% for Donald Trump; 299 votes or 23.2% for Hillary Clinton; 148 votes for Gary Johnson or 11.5%; and 122 votes or 9.5% for Jill Stein.

The result for the question was 556 or 42.9 % felt that standardized tests do reflect their knowledge and 739 or 57.1% felt that they do not reflect their knowledge.

Additionally, students voted for their favorite book series by choosing *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Harry Potter*, *The Hunger Games*, *Divergent*, or *Pretty Little Liars* books. The winner was *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*.

Most importantly, Goetz students felt the excitement and learned the importance of voting. Special thanks to Mrs. Daton and Ms. Holleran's classes for running the election from signing in voters to monitoring the voting booths. ■



# Switlik Holds a Mock Presidential Election for All Students

Switlik conducted a “mock” presidential election and made their voices heard! Polls were open for children in grades kindergarten through fifth. This mock presidential election platform provided children with the true experience of the voting process; registering, presenting a voter ID cards and a printed ballot for casting their vote for president of the United States. Every student wore red, white and blue to support the USA. They presented their voter ID, signed in, and stepped into a real life voting booth created by the PTN! After voting, they received a “I Voted, Kids Vote Too” sticker to proudly wear. Each student truly experienced the full voting experience!

Did you know that student voting is a long-standing tradition? Since Franklin D. Roosevelt and Wendell Willkie went head-to-head in the 40’s, children have voted during every election and the outcomes of the vote have impressively mirrored the outcomes of every election except two:



- In 1948, students selected Thomas E. Dewey over Harry S. Truman
- In 1960, students selected Richard M. Nixon over John F. Kennedy

This election year, children at Switlik decided between Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton or Republican nominee Donald Trump to be selected as the next president of the United States. Our results are in and the winner of the Switlik School Mock Presidential Election is Donald Trump! ■



Sixth Grade Literacy teachers at McAuliffe Middle School dress up as the ‘Literary Sign Posts’ for Halloween. ■

## Olympic Style Kick-Off for the New School Year

Holman Elementary School students kicked off the new school year in Olympic style. Each student was challenged to become an Olympic Reader by reading as many minutes as possible from the beginning of the school year until the end of September. Students could earn either a gold, silver, or bronze medal depending on how many minutes they read. Holman students eagerly took on this challenge and most earned gold medal reader status! An amazing job was done by all of the students. Keep up the great work! ■

# McAuliffe National Junior Art Honor Society Welcomes 2016-2017 Inductees

**M**embership in the National Junior Art Honor Society is one of the highest honors that can be awarded at McAuliffe.

The National Art Honor Society, sponsored by the National Art Education Association, is a prestigious organization represented throughout the United States and thirteen foreign countries with over 2,100 chapters and 49,000 participating students. The organization strives to inspire and recognize students who have shown an outstanding ability and interest in art and to bring art education to the attention of the school and community.

The National Junior Art Honor Society at McAuliffe, advised by art teacher Amy North, is designed specifically for middle school students and focuses on the importance of good grades and the development of outstanding citizenship through community service.

The following eighth grade students were inducted into the National Junior Art Honor Society on October 25th: Kimberly Adolfsen, Shaun Auriemma, Alyssa Bannach, Amber Buckley, Sophia Chan, Mia Collins-Zambor, Chloe Eosso, Greta Guarneri, Emily Hagberg, Jamie Libutti, Morgan Montana, Rebecca Ramirez, Arlene Rodriguez, Kayla Schuler, Alexa Shih, Joeseoph Turner, Mattison Wolf, and Katelyn Xavier.



Each student was recognized with accolades during a candle lighting ceremony where students received membership certificates and a red carnation. The ceremony was followed by a reception with refreshments donated by the Jackson Education Association for the students, friends and family.

Our new NJAHS members have been busy with community service activities in the short time since the induction. They have already face painted at the Sixth Grade Halloween Dance and our Run for Vets fundraiser, and will be painting a mural for the Character Education Committee and another for the lower level faculty room in November!

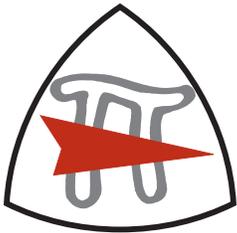
Congratulations to all the new members of National Junior Art Honor Society! ■

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»» — HAPPY NEW YEAR — »»