The annual review issue of Our Schools provides us with an opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the accomplishments of students, staff and district during the prior year. It demonstrates the commitment of our school community to challenge students to excel in curricular and co-curricular activities, while participating in new and ongoing community service and character education projects.

The 2008-2009 school year began with the successful completion of all of the referendum projects as well as the additional renovations at each school. These projects continued to ensure appropriate facilities for our students’ curricular and co-curricular programs. We also engaged in some green projects while enhancing our school security measures. It should be noted that the Board of Education completed each of these projects on-time and under budget. I would like to once again thank the community for your support in approving the enhancement of our schools.

Over the past year, the New Providence School District continued its commitment to 21st Century learning through professional development for teachers and classroom implementation that aligns rigorous content within a real-world environment. Our initiative, beginning its third year, integrates both the cutting edge technologies and instructional strategies necessary to help students meet the challenges of the world we now live in. Our classrooms combine traditional skills along with critical thinking, problem solving, global themes, technology integration, collaboration, and communication.

The school year culminated with acknowledgements of all of our student successes at multiple venues, including the outstanding achievements of the class of 2009, who continued our tradition of excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and community service. A total of 98.7% of the 2009 graduates will be moving on to post-secondary education. Of particular note, 92.05% of those students will be attending a four-year college. This is the highest percentage of students in a graduating class who will be attending a four-year university or college in New Providence High School history. This statistic is reflective of the ongoing pledge of the district to foster lifelong learners.

Please note that all future editions of the Our Schools will be published on the district’s website for community access. In an effort to be fiscally responsible, we will no longer disseminate hard copies of this publication to households. Only the publication of the Our Schools budget edition will be disseminated in hard copy to the entire community.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Education, administration, staff, students and community for their continued support and dedication to our schools. I look forward to continuing our current initiatives, while embracing the new challenges and expectations of the 21st century.

David M. Miceli, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
The past year brought with it the district’s participation in the New Jersey Department of Education’s new monitoring system entitled The New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC). NJQSAC is designed to be a single, comprehensive accountability system that incorporates the monitoring requirements of applicable state and federal programs. Under NJQSAC, public school districts are evaluated in five key component areas of school district effectiveness—instruction and program, personnel, fiscal management, operations, and governance. They provide a framework to determine the extent to which public school districts are providing a thorough and efficient education. Districts must receive an 80% or better in each of the five categories to be considered high performing.

The monitoring process began with many months of preparation and self-assessment, and culminated with multiple on-site visits from the Executive County Superintendent’s monitoring team. We are pleased to report that final NJQSAC results were received this past spring from the New Jersey Department of Education’s Commissioner, Lucille Davy, and as a result, the district was designated as a high performing district. Our placement on the performance continuum for each of the five component areas were as follows:

- Instruction and Program-100%
- Personnel-100%
- Fiscal Management- 96%
- Operations- 100%
- Governance- 100%.

At our NJQSAC exit interview with the Executive County Superintendent, Dr. Carmen Centuolo recognized us as a “model school district.”

### Assessment

**SAT**
The Scholastic Aptitude Test measures readiness for college in critical reading, mathematics, and writing. The 2008-2009 administration was the fourth year of the “new” SAT, and results indicated that New Providence students scored above the New Jersey and National mean.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mean Scores</th>
<th>Critical Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Totals (2400)</th>
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<td>566</td>
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<td>496</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>1505</td>
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<td>National</td>
<td>501</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

**HSPA**
The High School Proficiency Assessment is administered to grade 11 students in March. The HSPA tests student proficiency in language arts and math. Results indicate that 100% of general education students are proficient in language arts, and 100% are proficient in mathematics.

**NJ ASK 5-7**
The New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge 5-7 was administered this past April. General Education results for grade 5 indicated that 91.4% of students were proficient in language arts and 95.7% were proficient in mathematics. In grade 6, 91.2% of students were proficient in language arts and 96.3% were proficient in mathematics. In grade 7, 96.2% of general education students were proficient in language arts, and 96.8% were proficient in mathematics.

**NJ ASK 3-4**
The New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge 3-4 was administered this past spring. General education scores indicate that 87% of third grade students were proficient in language arts, and 96.7% were proficient in mathematics. In grade 4, 89.2% of tested students were proficient in language arts, 94% were proficient in mathematics, and 98.8% were proficient in science.

**NJ PASS 1-2**
This past spring New Providence administered the New Jersey Proficiency Assessment of State Standards to students in grades 1 and 2. This test assesses student proficiency against the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards, and is similar in format to NJ ASK. Individual student results were received and sent home in August.
• Graduating students will be attending institutions such as Boston College, Cornell, Duke, John Hopkins, Lafayette, Leigh, NYC, North Carolina, Northeastern, Princeton, UVA, University of Pennsylvania, and Yale.
• Fifteen students were named Bloustein Scholars.
• Sixteen students were named National Merit Commended Scholars.
• Four students were named National Merit Finalists and four students National Merit Semi-finalists.
• Thirteen students were named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars, eight students AP Scholars with Honors and six students AP Scholars with Distinction. Four students earned perfect SAT I scores in Math, three in Critical Reading and one in Writing.
• Nine students earned perfect scores in SAT II testing in a variety of subjects ranging from French to Chemistry.
• Forty-eight juniors were inducted into the World Languages National Honor Society.
• Ninety-eight students signed up for 189 AP exams in nineteen different subject areas. 95% scored a 3 or higher.
• 49% of all students taking an AP exam scored the highest possible score of a 5.
• A team of Social Studies students was awarded first place in the Nation in the Social Studies Olympiad.
• In the 2009 Chemistry Olympics at NJIT, New Providence placed second in the Chemical Engineering Event.
• A New Providence student was elected Youth Secretary General, in charge of 1500 delegates, at the Model United Nation conference.
• The Department of World Languages established a new student exchange partnership with Escuela La Hoya in Elche, Spain and received a delegation of students and teachers in April. In addition, New Province accommodated 24 students and two teachers from Istituto Mazzotti in Treviso, Italy and 25 students and two teachers from Lycée Corneille, Rouen, France.
• Twenty NPHS Latin students received recognition for outstanding achievement in the 2009 National Latin Examination sponsored by the American Classical League.
• Twenty-nine tenth grade English students had poems chosen for publication in an anthology called A Celebration of Young Poets. There were thousands of entries in this contest; however, fewer than 50% of the poems submitted were selected for publication.
• 42 HS students competed in the New Jersey Math League Competitions and won 1st place in Union County.
• The HS Math Team earned the 1st place team honor in the 32nd Annual AMTNJ Mathematics Contest, 1st in the 2009 JETS team state competition and 13th place in the national JETS team competition.
• New Providence Middle School was named a Just for the Kids - New Jersey Benchmark School. The Business Coalition for Education Excellence at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce selected NPMS for this distinguished award based on its high achievement rates on standardized tests.
• In the “Goin’ Green” writing contest, sponsored by Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, MS students won 1st place in the essay category, 1st place in the poetry category and honorable mention in the poetry and essay categories.
• Two MS students were chosen as top 10 essay writers in the “Creative Communication Fall Essay Contest.”
Academics (cont.)

Winners were selected from hundreds of entries from 7th through 9th grade students.

• Sixteen MS students had poems published in the fall 2008 copy of “Creative Communication: A Celebration of Young Poets.”

• Two MS students received 2nd and 3rd place awards for “Young Writers of Union County” poetry contest and were honored by Union County Freeholder Chairman Al Mirabella and Freeholder Vice Chairman Dan Sullivan at the Union County Freeholder’s Board meeting in April for their poems.

• An 8th grade student tied for 1st place in Union County in the Grade 8 NJ Math League competition in March 2009.

• Nine 7th and 8th grade MS students created the 2009 Literary Magazine, “Penumbra,” the theme of which is “Secrets.”

• Seventh graders attended Camp Speers-Eljabar to extend their 7th grade Environmental Studies.

• Eighth graders attended Pocono Valley Resort to extend 8th grade NJ Core Content Standards in PE/Health and the NPMS Character Ed Program.

• Tova Friedman, a Holocaust survivor, discussed the Nazi concentration camps with MS students.

• Twenty-four students competed in the NJ Regional Science Olympiad tournament at Princeton University. NPMS placed 7th in the regional competition and then 7th at the State competition out of more than 25 schools.

• NPMS Science Club hosted the Jr. Solar Sprints, sponsored by the DOE, at Lieder Field. NPMS teams earned awards in Documentation, Technical Merit, Innovation, and Student Choice. NPMS progressed to the State level and placed 5th in Craftsmanship. The team advanced to the National competition in Massachusetts.

• Two MS Science Club students competed in the 3M Young Scientist Competition with one student winning the state competition and named as a semi-finalist in the national competition.

• MS staff and students participated in team building activities this year to promote school spirit, minimize standardized test anxiety, and emphasize responsibility in teamwork while encouraging self-esteem as every student had an opportunity to successfully connect to a group goal. Teachers encouraged trust, cooperation, planning, problem solving and communication through physical, social and academic challenges.

• AWR kindergarten participated in a butterfly release, in conjunction with their unit on Mexico and butterflies, and grew seeds in collaboration with other grade levels to prepare the school’s courtyard to become a Monarch Weigh Station for next year.

• AWR students created the “Pillar Pride Press”, a biannual student generated school newspaper that is focused on articles, interviews, and games about school pride!

• Members of the 5th and 6th Grade AWR Science Club also participated in the annual Jr. Solar Sprints. The students designed and constructed an original car that would run on solar energy using a solar panel. Students learned about the design process, and how to design a product that could be safer for our environment.

• Fifth grade AWR students participated in the Watershed Ambassador’s Program becoming young scientists.

• AWR and HS students conducted science experiments that studied the various water ecosystems found on school property.

• Salt Brook students participated in the Read Across America program and were visited by Dr. Seuss’ “The Cat in the Hat” as well as several community members who shared their love of reading.

• A Salt Brook sixth grader won the Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award for the state of New Jersey and the Regional Kohl’s Kids Care Award for her efforts in community service. The student won a $1000 scholarship and now enters the national competition.

• A Salt Brook third grader won first place in Senator Kean’s “Lincoln’s 200th Birthday” poster contest and a sixth Grader won the American Math Teacher of New Jersey Conference button design contest.

• The New Providence Education Foundation provided over $61,000 towards educational programs throughout the district. So far the Education Foundation has raised over $250,000.
The New Providence High School Marching Band won the US Scholastic Band Association’s NJ State Championship and received awards for Best Overall Effect, Best Music, Best Visual and Best Color Guard.

Fifteen students were selected for CJMEA Elementary Honor Band.

Four students were selected for junior high Regional Orchestra, and two students were selected for junior high Regional Band.

One student was selected for high school Regional Chorus.

Four students were selected for NJ Elementary All-State Honor Choir, one student for NJ Junior High All-State Honor Choir, and four students for NJ High School All-State Chorus.

The HS music ensembles earned one Excellent rating, four Superior ratings, and one Superior with Distinction rating at the Capitol Area music festival in Washington D.C.

The MS music ensembles earned one Good, one Excellent, and three Superior ratings at the Music In The Parks festival at Kutztown University.

One student was selected for MENC All-Eastern Honor Choir in Providence, RI.

Sixty elementary and middle school students participated in music and performing arts categories in the Union County Teen Arts Festival at Summit High School in March.

Six elementary students were honored by the Trenton Thunder with a School Music Award in April.

Sixty-two elementary and middle school students participated in the Morris-Union Jointure Commission Music Festival.

All New Providence music and performing arts staff members performed in a faculty recital to benefit the NP Music Boosters organization.

Elementary, middle, and high schools students provided community service by performing monthly at the New Providence Senior Citizens Center during luncheons and dinners.

Seven students won Gold Key Awards for the North East Region of the National Scholastic Art Awards. Two students also won Silver Keys and one Honorable mention. The gold key winners’ works were exhibited at Montclair Art Museum, Montclair NJ.

One student won a National Scholastic Silver Medal for printmaking and was honored at a ceremony at Carnegie Hall.

One student won second place nationally in the 65th Annual National AAA School Traffic Safety Poster Program.

One student won an award from the National Society of Arts and Letters.

A two-student team won the Junior/Senior Design Challenge at The College of New Jersey out of 27 teams. NPHS also placed second and scored the largest combined points.

Four works of art, out of only 50 pieces selected statewide, were selected by the Morris Museum for their “Fresh Perspective” Show.

Eight CAD, Computer Graphic Design and Tech and Design students have their work exhibited at the NJ State House in Trenton. The work showcases NJ public high schools’ technology classes problem-solving and cross curricular projects.

Five students were selected to exhibit their work at the Parklane Gallery in Chatham.

MS students won 1st and 2nd prizes in the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest.

The National Art Honor Society designed and created a ceramic-stain glass entry for Salt Brook Library with a grant from the New Providence Education Foundation.

The Tech and Design Class won fifth place out of 30 in the Union County College Bridge Building Contest.

HS and MS students participated in the local and county Teen Arts Festival.

Twenty students were inducted into the National Art Honor Society.

Two students won “outstanding in show” awards in printmaking and sculpture at the North Jersey Craftsman’s Fair. One student won Best in Show Cup for two-dimensional work.

High school students won thirty 1st place awards, forty 2nd place awards, and thirty 3rd place awards at the
North Jersey Craftsman’s Fair at Ledgewood Mall. Over 2,000 entries were submitted in a multitude of categories from ninety-two schools.
- MS students won one first prize, eight second prizes and fourteen third prizes at the North Jersey Craftsman’s Fair at Ledgewood Mall.
- Seven students won awards at the 30th Annual Juried Student Art Show at the DuCret School of Art in Plainfield, including one first prize, one second prize, three third prizes and two honorable mentions.
- Two MS students and two HS students will have their art work touring the county all next year in different locations as part of the Union County Teen Arts Festival.
- One HS senior won the Rizzo Fine Arts Scholarship, and had a show with four others at the Rizzo Fine Arts Gallery.

The MS Drama Club performed the “Clique-Clash Edition” of “Family Feud” for SB & AWR. MS “nerds” faced off against MS “jocks.” A glitch caused the groups to put their differences aside and learn to respect each other and cooperate in order to win the game.
- HS art students had their art work exhibited for the month of April at the New Providence Memorial Library.
- Two HS and one MS students were selected to show their art work at the Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit.
- Salt Brook students had their Reflections Arts program entries selected at the county level advance to the state level of the competition.

Photo Gallery
Community Service

AWR, MS and Salt Brook students participated in the Summit Junior League’s Thanks-For-Giving project and collected food to be donated to the Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Union County.

AWR, MS and Salt Brook students participated in the NP Police Department’s Annual Toys for Tots Holiday gift drive.

AWR and Salt Brook students participated in the St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital’s Math-A-Thon, which raises money to help children in the battle against childhood catastrophic diseases.

AWR and Salt Brook students participated in the “Pennies for Peace” project and in the Bridges program.

AWR and Salt Brook students participated in the “Jump Rope for Heart” program.

AWR students participated in their school “PRIDE Mountain” program throughout the year by making decisions both in and out of school that would make their parents, school, and themselves proud! By completing these activities and making these decisions, as a class the students climbed up Pride Mountain, resulting in Mr. Barcadepone and Mr. Fiory camping overnight on the school grounds.

AWR students decorated grocery bags for shoppers at A&P to help raise awareness for Earth Day and Valentine’s Day cards for children in local hospitals.

The AWR science club was responsible for implementing a Waste Free Lunch. This focused on recycling and reducing the amount of waste we create.

Students participated in the AWR Mileage Club. At lunch time and after school students walked around the track, counting their laps. Throughout the time participating in this activity, students walked enough miles to walk across the entire United States.

AWR participated in its first “Mix It Up Day”. Students were given the opportunity to sit with different people at lunch time, where they were encouraged to make new friends and learn more about their peers.

First grade AWR students took a trip to the New Providence Police Department to bring toys that were purchased with money that they raised for the Toys for Tots program. While at the police station students were greeted by a number of officers and were also read a holiday story by Officer Gazaway.

AWR students in grades Pre-K through six created Valentine’s Day cards for children in local hospitals.

AWR students donated bags of candy and supplies to an army troop deployed in Iraq.

Salt Brook students participated in the school-wide “Walk the Talk” program in which students focused on doing the right thing by making positive choices both in and out of school.

Salt Brook Students participated in World Hello Day in which students were greeted by sixth graders and taught a special greeting to start their day.

Salt Brook students mailed “Flat Tigers” (their version of flat Stanley) to friends and family and asked them to send the tiger back along with a description of how they “Walk the Talk” in their daily lives.

Salt Brook 6th graders operated a school store and donated the money to the Make a Wish Foundation.

Salt Brook students participated in the school-wide...
cafeteria recycling program and the fourth graders organized and ran a school-wide paper-recycling program.

- Salt Brook students donated Halloween candy to the Soldier’s Angels organization who mailed and shared their candy with military personnel overseas. In addition they sent encouraging and supportive letters to School Resource Officer, Officer Wilson, and other military personnel overseas and collected toiletries and other items that were sent to a Salt Brook parent and his troop deployed to Iraq.

- Fifth and sixth grade students at Salt Brook brought in cans of food and measured the circumference of their canned items. This food was donated to a local Community Food Bank in celebration of “Pi Day.”

- Salt Brook second graders designed and made a fleece blanket that was donated to the Project Linus organization.

- MS Peer Leaders entered a PSA Public Service Announcement contest to be drug free.

- MS Student Council donated monies to our school chapter of S.A.V.E “Students Against Violence Everywhere.”

- MS Student Council raised $1,000.00 for Pennies for Patients for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

- MS Student Council donated $100.00 to Operation Smile.


- MS Student Services baked cookies that the Senior Citizens in New Providence delivered to the homeless in Newark.

- MS 7th graders showed their appreciation for our soldiers in active duty by creating a holiday package of candy and toiletries, which they sent to one of our own soldiers from a New Jersey Unit.

- MS Science students collected juice pouches and Nabisco wrappers for a company called TerraCycle which recycles the wrappers into new usable products.

- MS Marching and Jazz Band participated in the New Providence Memorial Day Parade.

- The NPHS Spanish Club continues to financially support a young boy in Bolivia.

- NPHS celebrated it’s 50th Anniversary with a variety of displays, announcements and special programs.

- The HS hosted “Senior Citizens Day” a collaborative effort between the Art, Music and Drama departments. Senior citizens were invited to eat a Thanksgiving meal, listen to music, and view a production of the Fall play.

- MS Chemistry students mentored 2nd grade students through a series of science experiments in the high school science labs.

- The NPHS Student council organized a highly successful Blood Drive.

- The HS Gay/ Straight Alliance participated in the Spring 2009 AIDS walk in New York City.

- HS Environmental Club members spent a day cleaning the community as part of an on-going project.

- HS Peer Leadership organization sponsored a female only assembly on dating violence.

- The New Providence School District was recognized as the top donor in the state for the Pennies for Peace project. Pennies for Peace has now constructed 78 schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and is helping 100 other schools pay for teachers.
Congratulations to The Teachers of the Year, Deborah Leonard-AWR, Pat Miller—Salt Brook, Denise Moser—NPHS and Cathleen White—NPMS

Juliette Campasano was invited back to serve on the NJ math selection panel for the 2009 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She served on the committee in 2008.

Mike Giordano represented NPMS at “Green Boot Camp” at an intensive 5-day interactive workshop for the latest methods of instruction to teach green and sustainable topics, methods, lessons, and concepts to MS students.

James Finley, attended an AAPT meeting in Chicago where the research he conducted with Rutgers University was presented. He presented his own research on “Blogging and Metacognition” as well as “Middle School Physics Instruction and Student Needs” at the University of Michigan.

Lynn Celler received a scholarship to attend a two week teacher institute painting and printing course at William Paterson College.

Retirees, Russell Carter and Bill Sinnott receive warm applause from students and staff as they lead out the senior class during graduation.

Staff

The New Providence Board of Education guarantees each student equal opportunity and each employee equal job opportunity regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status. For information including plans and grievance procedure, contact district Affirmative Action Officer Dr. Deborah Feinberg at (908) 464-9050.

Board of Education:
Robert Lucid, President, John Wolak, Vice President, Ira Krauss, Robert Betz, William Dibble, Nancy Opperthauser, Adam Smith

Central Office Administration:
David M. Miceli, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools,
Deborah Feinberg, Ed. D., Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services,
James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary,
Sandra M. Searing., Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Supervision

Athletics

New Jersey Group One State Champions 2008-2009
Girls’ Tennis

North Jersey Section 2 Group I Champions
Girls’ Soccer
Girls’ Tennis
Girls’ Track

Mountain Valley Conference Division Championships:
Girls’ Basketball
Golf
Boys’ Soccer
Girls’ Soccer
Girls’ Tennis
Boys’ Track
Girls’ Track (Overall and Relay Champions)
Girls’ Volleyball

The New Providence Athletic Foundation renovated the popular Snack Shack at Leider Field

Coaching Awards
Nancy Scarola was named Star-Ledger Union County Coach of the Year.
Frank Bottone, Football Coach, was named Independent Press Area Coach of the Year.

The Girls Tennis team was once again crowned New Jersey Group One State Champions.

A REVIEW OF OUR SCHOOLS