

# FORT LEE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT



# DISTRICT NEWS

## SPRING EDITION - APRIL 2024

### FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Robert L. Kravitz, Ed.D., M.B.A., Superintendent of Schools



As the warm weather approaches with the arrival of Spring, I am proud to introduce everyone to our first district mailing to the Fort Lee Community from your school district. I take pride in sharing the great things that are happening in our schools.

A community that embraces the students and arrives at one common goal! To be the place to be! I am fortunate to have returned to a district serving as its Superintendent of Schools. It is an honor to say that I have worked in this district as a teacher, and Assistant Principal of the High School, Principal of the Middle School and Principal of School #3. What made me want to return was the wonderful staff and community. They embrace education and recognize that it is a team effort. An effort that when all stakeholders work together great things can happen and that is what this mailing is about. There is so much information to share that we couldn't fit everything into one edition, so look forward to more exciting updates about our schools on our website and in future mailings.

Moving forward to the end of the school year, I am confident that the remainder of the year will be marked by continued success and growth. Thank you for your ongoing support of our school district. Together, we are all making a positive difference in the lives of our students, making Fort Lee the Place to Be!!

## FORT LEE SCHOOL NO. 1 WINN/MTSS

School No.1 recently kicked off its Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)/What I Need Now (WINN) pilot. The first grade team, Basic Skills instructors, guidance, administration, and various support staff have been meeting and planning the implementation of this program since early October. The idea behind our WINN period is simple: adjust the school's schedule, so students miss less time from core educational periods, while receiving tailored assistance and enrichment. Our students have always received a wide range of educational assistance and enrichment courses during the school year; however, in the past, those courses have been scheduled at the expense of regular classroom time. With the introduction of WINN, we can make sure that most student services are held at a common time, which in turn, allows students to be present during core educational classes. The WINN period will also allow us to give academic support and enrichment to students based on their current academic achievement levels, which will lead to students being better prepared for their core subjects. We are very excited about the progress of this schedule change and look forward to its full implementation for the fall.

### Spelling BEE

The first through fourth grade students of School No. 1 participated in the Scripps Spelling Bee, sponsored and run by students from Fort Lee High School. Students participated in classroom competitions in December. The winners from all ten third and fourth grade classes then competed in the school wide championship on January 11th. A special

thanks goes out to Ms. Bijari and Ms. Yoon from the high school for organizing this event.

And the Winners Are:

#### 1st Grade

Solomon Smith, Yuanche Wang,  
Hailey Jung, Sol Le, Julian Ng

#### 2nd Grade

Jeffrey Moon, Thomas Souza,  
Ethan Kim, Stellamarie Curameng,  
Felipe Sarmiento

#### 3rd Grade

Bofan Shang, Theodore Han,  
Kina Oumiya, Jadys Measson,  
Noah Lee

#### 4th Grade

Timothy Wu, Richard Ng, Oscar Wu,  
Vivian Park, Paris Sakong



**Runner Up**  
Richard Ng

**School Champion!**  
Timothy Wu

### GREAT JOB!



## FORT LEE SCHOOL NO. 2

### S.A.D.D. CLUB

The S.A.D.D. (Students Against Destructive Decisions) Club is a group of students at School 2 that works tirelessly all year long to help the students at School 2 and the community at large. They have numerous projects that they work on throughout the year, focusing on community service, kindness, as well as anti-bullying and drug resistance and awareness. Some of which include supporting the Center for Food Action with clothing, diaper, and food drives and events throughout Red Ribbon Week, such as pledging to "Stand Against Bullying and Drugs."

In addition to these projects, the students are role models for their fellow classmates setting good examples, helping younger students, modeling friendship and kindness to others, as well as helping the school community.

The students have an exceptional advisor in Ms. Castano. Not only is she extremely knowledgeable, but she also demonstrates how we can all support each other and those around us throughout the school year and beyond.



Many of the past members of the S.A.D.D. Club have gone on to continue their work helping the community and being role models for their fellow classmates and others throughout the school district and Fort Lee community.

## FORT LEE SCHOOL NO. 3

### ENGAGE IN STEM EXPLORATION

#### Botanist At Work



School 3 Third Grade Scholars are the experts if you are looking for a few good botanists. Our third-grade students have explored and read about how plants use their leaves to make food. They have closely explored

the plant structure of water and nutrient transport. If you ask one of our many botanists, they will share with you how water moves through plants to grow and how sunlight affects plant survival.

## Future Engineers of America

Our Second Grade Scholars explored different materials to construct items. The students learned that different materials can be combined to make and build structures. The students classified and discussed different items they can use to create models of bridges and compared materials used in real structures to their created models. The students could connect their learning in social studies and compare and contrast basic land uses in various environments in our country. Our students were able to identify and discuss urban, suburban, and rural land uses in America.



Students in Ms. Tschoe's class combine different materials to build a structure.



Students in Ms. Gonzalez's class explore and create structures using various materials.



## Know your math facts!

School 3 Our third-grade students are working together to recall multiplication facts. Our third and fourth grades need to know their math facts to support our rigorous math curriculum. We encourage all families to recall math facts daily to support all students with their daily problem-solving and computation.



Students in Ms. Adams' class practice their multiplication facts in class together.

School 3 Students are on a pathway to college and career readiness in STEM. Speak with your child daily to discuss the new and great things they are reading and learning in their class daily.

School 3 is the place to be.

**Viveca Williams Glover**  
School 3 Principal  
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# DISTRICT NEWS

## FORT LEE SCHOOL NO. 4 CHRISTINE DELUCA, KINDERGARTEN TEACHER RECOGNIZED BY VFW

Each year, the Cairola-Barber-Viola VFW Post 2342 in Fort Lee invites our schools to nominate classroom teachers who educate our youth on the importance of American history, traditions, Americanism, civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism. Christine DeLuca, Kindergarten teacher at School No. 4 was nominated and selected as the local winner of the Fort Lee VFW Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. She later advanced to the Regional level where she won the District 2 VFW Teacher of the Year



Ms. Christine DeLuca pictured with Mr. Tony Lione, FL VFW Commander

Award! Recently, we were notified by Tony Lione, Fort Lee VFW Post 2342 Commander, that Ms. DeLuca has been named the **VFW New Jersey State Teacher of the Year Winner for Kindergarten-Grade 5!** The School No. 4 Family is incredibly proud of Ms. DeLuca for her work with our veterans. As a state winner, Ms. DeLuca will move on to compete at the National Level. We wish her luck as she advances representing our school family and our district!

## SCHOOL NO. 4 PARTNERS WITH FLHS



School No. 4 is very happy to once again partner with Fort Lee High School and **The Future Teachers of America Club**. This "partnership" encourages high school students to teach engaging and meaningful lessons at the elementary schools. The experience allows students to recognize their love of teaching and provides everyone with a greater sense of community. This past month, these students visited School No. 4 and delivered incredible lessons for winter holidays, as well as lessons related to English, History, Math, Science, Art, Music, and so much more! The S4 students enjoyed every moment! In February, The Future Teachers of America Club will be returning to S4 to deliver lessons and activities related to Black History Month!



## LEWIS F. COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL LAUNCHING INTO LITERACY: "READING IS OUT OF THIS WORLD" PROGRAM AT LEWIS F. COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School launched its innovative program, "Reading is Out of this World" back in November of 2023. This initiative aims to cultivate a love for reading among our students by introducing dedicated independent reading time, fostering a sense of choice and creativity.

Twice a week, students engage in a 20-minute independent reading session, allowing them the freedom to choose books that captivate their interests. The emphasis on personal choice not only makes reading more enjoyable but also encourages exploration of various genres and topics.

Upon completing a book, students are invited to express their thoughts through a creative book review. This includes the opportunity to design a captivating cover, making the process both reflective and artistic. These reviews are proudly displayed in our "Galaxy of Reviews" hallways, showcasing the diverse literary journeys our students embark upon. Currently we have over 130 book cover submissions!!



As an added incentive, students who complete three reviews receive a special coin, granting them access to our unique book vending machine. The machine is stocked with a variety of exciting reads, further fueling the excitement around reading. This initiative not only rewards effort but also encourages a sense of accomplishment and achievement. So far, 33 of our Intermediate School students have been awarded the special coin and enjoyed their visit to our book vending machine! Their accomplishments are recognized during morning announcements,

which further encourages peers to participate.

At Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School, we believe that reading is not just an academic skill but a gateway to endless possibilities. Through "Reading is Out of this World," we are igniting a love for reading that will stay with our students for a lifetime!





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### MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### NURTURING EXCELLENCE: LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL'S BRIDGEMAN BADGES PROGRAM

Lewis F. Cole Middle School is paving the way for student recognition and holistic development through its innovative Bridgeman Badges program. This dynamic initiative aims to celebrate and reward students for their achievements in academics, consistent attendance, active participation in the school community, and the embodiment of exemplary citizenship. At the core of the Bridgeman Badges program is a commitment to academic excellence. The badges serve as visible tokens of recognition for students who consistently excel in their studies, inspiring a culture of achievement and fostering a sense of pride among the student body. Recognizing the vital link between attendance and success, the program places a spotlight on students who maintain regular attendance. By rewarding punctuality and dedication, the badges reinforce the correlation between consistent attendance and overall academic accomplishment.



Active participation in the school community is another key focus, with badges awarded to students who go above and beyond in contributing to the vibrant tapestry of extracurricular activities, clubs, and sports. This facet of the program underscores the importance of a well-rounded education that extends beyond the classroom. Moreover, the Bridgeman Badges program places a strong emphasis on character development and good citizenship. Students who demonstrate acts of kindness, respect, and responsibility are recognized and celebrated, reinforcing the values that go beyond academic success and contribute to the overall positive atmosphere within the school. By acknowledging students across these diverse dimensions, the Bridgeman Badges program cultivates a positive and supportive school culture. It encourages students to strive for excellence in all areas of their educational journey, promoting a community of well-rounded individuals who take pride in their achievements and positively impact their school environment.

Lewis F. Cole Middle School's Bridgeman Badges program stands as a beacon for nurturing excellence in academics, attendance, community engagement, and good citizenship. Through this multifaceted approach to student recognition, the school is shaping a generation of individuals who are not only academically proficient, but also socially responsible and actively engaged in the life of the school.



### FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL

On Friday, January 12, 2024, the Fort Lee Police Department organized a presentation for Fort Lee High School Seniors. The purpose of the presentation was to educate students on the many roles within the Fort Lee Police Department and share the contributions the department makes to the Fort Lee Community. The first session of the event included an introduction from Chief Matt Hintze, a promotional video, and an opportunity for students to ask questions related to the department. The second session aimed at familiarizing students with the various divisions and specialties within the department. Students were broken into groups and were brought outside to the school parking lot where they cycled through a variety of stations that showcased the different specialties within the department. The divisions in attendance included the Administrative Division, K-9, Patrol, Motorcycle, Traffic, Emergency Services, the Drone Aviation Team, and the Office of Community Affairs. Students were able to watch demonstrations, communicate with officers from these divisions, and experience many hands-on opportunities throughout the event. This is one of the many events that Fort Lee High School collaborates with the Fort Lee Police Department during the school year. Events like these continue to prove to be a great way to build community engagement, establish trust, and provide valuable insights into the workings of the Fort Lee Police Department. We believe working together we can continue to foster positive relationships between law enforcement officers and the school community. Fort Lee High School looks forward to working with the Fort Lee Police Department on our upcoming projects including a Teen Awareness Program, Career Fair, and DUI Presentation.

