



Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

A Community of Learners Seeking Excellence Together

Feb.
2025

A Message From the Superintendent

Dear Scotch Plains–Fanwood
Community,

As you'll see from this month's newsletter, February was filled with energy and excitement in our schools. From the SPFHS Ice Hockey team winning the Kelly Cup to an array of musical performances, this season has been a testament to the vibrant learning community we have built together.

The momentum continues with Read Across America Week, a time to come together to inspire a love of reading in our students. Please keep an eye out for activities in each school, such as guest readers or themed days. These celebrations are a wonderful way to reinforce the importance of literacy.

Beyond the pages of books, I also encourage you to attend an athletic event or performance to cheer on our students as they share their talents with our community. Your encouragement and support means the world to them!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our schools. I look forward to sharing these special moments with you and seeing the many ways our students continue to thrive!

Sincerely,
Dr. Joan Mast
Superintendent of Schools





SPFHS Ice Hockey Wins First-Ever Kelly Cup

The SPFHS Ice Hockey team brought home its first-ever Kelly Cup after winning 4-1 at Codey Arena. It was a pinnacle moment for not only the players but also for the Ice Hockey program, now celebrating its 20th year.

The match on Feb. 10 pitted the Raiders against Montclair Kimberly Academy (MKA). After a scoreless first period, MKA took the lead and held onto it until the third period.

"There were a lot of emotions," said Varsity Ice Hockey Coach Matt Gunther. "The clock was dwindling."



With the Raiders down 1-0, senior Anthony Lorenzetti, who they call "Mr. Clutch", scored a hat trick – two goals within seconds of each other, followed by a goal during the final minute of play. That final shot was his 100th goal of his high school career!

Charlie Sacchetti also scored for the Raiders with an empty-net goal – ending the game with a 4-1 victory.

"That moment was amazing," Lorenzetti said. "There was so much excitement in the air and everyone was hugging. You could feel the family bond that had been built over the entire season."

Gunther, who has led the program for 12 of the 20 years, said the moment

brought him back to when he was a player winning the Kelly Cup for Watchung Hills.



"As a coach, it was a great feeling to see the players set their minds on this goal since freshman year and to finally achieve it," he said. "It was a glorious moment for us to bring a championship to SPF for the first time ever."

Gunther explained that over the program's two decades, there have been highs and lows, with this season being by far the best with a 17-5-3 record. "The senior captains (Anthony Lorenzetti, Ryan Mauer and Ryan Sacchetti) were true leaders."

The 17 varsity players set their eyes on this final prize at the beginning of the season. Their coach continuously reminded them that the reward for winning was both a trophy and a hat – a symbolic moment in which the Kelly Cup champions each receive a hat, recognizing them as the top of the seven-team Kelly Division of the New Jersey Interscholastic Ice Hockey League's (NJIIHL).

"It's just a hat but to us it's so much more," Lorenzetti said. "The dream became a reality."

Lorenzetti was named 1st team all-conference, with Ryan Mauer named 2nd team all-conference. Mauer also broke past 100 points earlier in the season. Nicholas Movsesian and Lorenzo Tittanegro were named Honorable mentions for the conference.



Kindergarten registration is open!

Kindergarten enrollment is now open for the 2025-26 academic year.

- To be eligible to enroll in Kindergarten, children must be 5 years old on or before Oct. 1. Students must be residents of Scotch Plains or Fanwood.
- To determine which school your kindergarten child will attend please see the [*District Street Index*](#). If you are still uncertain, please contact

The district requests that all kindergarten-age children, both returning students and new students, register by April 25, 2025, to ensure placement in their home schools.

Please see details about the process for children who are new to the district and children who are currently enrolled in the preschool program by visiting www.spfk12.org/domain/65.

Nettingham and Terrill Students accepted to regional instrumental ensembles

The Central Jersey Music Educators Association has accepted middle school students from Nettingham and Terrill into the Intermediate Region Instrumental Ensembles.

Congratulations to:

- Ethan Chen: Clarinet, Wind Ensemble - Nettingham
- Benjamin Halpern: Trumpet, Wind Ensemble - Nettingham
- Lillian Jones: Euphonium & Bass (accepted Bass), String Orchestra - Nettingham
- Tanisha Magdum: Flute, Symphonic Band - Nettingham
- Penelope (Penny) Cerone: Trumpet, Symphonic Band - Terrill (Penny was the only 6th grader accepted!)

And, congratulations to Nick Ellis and Trey Shore for taking the time to prepare them for the auditions!

SPFHS presented Cabaret for a Cause to benefit the Emmanuel Foundation

The SPFHS Choir department presented Cabaret for a Cause on Feb. 19 in the Manya Ungar Memorial Auditorium. The concert featured several musical theatre-derived medleys and songs for choir, which were interspersed with vocal soloists. Music from the haunting *Phantom of the Opera*, the hit Disney film *Beauty and the Beast*, the Oscar nominated song "I'm Just Ken" from the *Barbie* movie, and more rounded out the entertaining performance.

Originating in 2015, Cabaret for a



Cause was a concert that Jan Allen, SPFHS Choral Director, had been developing for several years prior. Allen described that “the idea was that a yearly partnership between the choral department and a non-profit organization would not only directly benefit the cause at hand, but expand the compassion of our students and community at large through music.”



SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



Learn more about Emmanuel Cancer Foundation by visiting emmanuelcancer.org

The concert has certainly been successful in this effort, partnering with both local and national non-profit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Curvy Girls Scoliosis Foundation, Children's Specialized Hospital, The Trevor Project, Friendship Circle, The Youth Development Clinic, and others. In addition, the event is one that is student-driven in the selection of the non-profit and an opportunity for a student leadership team to help organize the performance.

This year's charity of choice, the Emmanuel Foundation, which supports children battling cancer and their families in New Jersey, received \$1,626 through the Cabaret for a Cause event.

Thurs. Mar. 13 at 7PM
Fri. Mar. 14 at 7PM
Sat. Mar. 15 at 7PM
Sun. Mar. 16 at 2PM

FREAKY FRIDAY



TICKETS: SPFHSREP.COM

SPFHS Repertory Theatre to present “Freaky Friday”

SPFHS Repertory Theatre is proud to present this year's musical production: *Freaky Friday*. Based on the beloved novel by Mary Rodgers and the hit Disney films, *Freaky Friday* follows an overworked mother and her teenage daughter who magically swap bodies and have just one day to put things right again.

- Thursday, March 13 at 7 p.m.
- Friday, March 14 at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, March 15 at 7 p.m.
- Sunday, March 16 at 2 p.m.

Freaky Friday will be presented in the Manya Ungar Memorial Auditorium at SPFHS. *Freaky Friday* is a heartfelt, comedic, and unexpectedly emotional update on an American classic. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another's struggles, learn self-acceptance, and realize the immeasurable love and mutual respect that bond a mother and daughter.

The *Freaky Friday* production involves almost 100 students, including the cast, crew, and live student orchestra.

Purchase tickets in advance online at www.spfhsrep.com. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 for students and senior citizens.

Seniors may contact Rosa Estevez via email at SPFHSPayTickets@gmail.com or 908-935-7796 to make arrangements for discounted tickets. Tickets may also be purchased at the door, but they tend to sell fast and the shows often sell out. Accessible seating is available for those with mobility challenges; contact Rosa to request special seating. Handicap parking spaces are located near Door 1 and are available on a first-come, first-served basis to those displaying official license plates or placards. Based on individual needs, efforts will

SPFHS Student Named National Merit Scholarship Finalist

Congratulations to Luke Zimmerman on being named a finalist in the annual National Merit Scholarship Program! Luke was named one of the semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program in the fall. As a finalist, he is now in the running to receive a Merit Scholarship award, corporate-sponsored award, or college-sponsored award of varying amounts. The program will award scholarships to 6,870 of the more than 15,000 finalists nationwide.



Featured Events

March 1, 9 – 11 a.m. – McGinn – PTA Super Science Saturday

March 3–7 – Read Across America Week

March 4, 6 – 7 p.m. – Nettingham 4th to 5th Grade Parent Orientation

March 4, 7 – 8 p.m. – Nettingham 5th to 6th Grade Parent Orientation

March 12, 6 – 7 p.m. – Terrill 4th to 5th Grade Parent Orientation

March 12, 7 – 8 p.m. – Terrill 5th to 6th Grade Parent Orientation

March 12, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. – School One PTA Science Fair

March 13, 14, 15, 7 – 9:30 p.m. and March 16, 2 – 4:30 p.m. – SPFHS “Freaky Friday” Musical in HS Auditorium

March 13, 8 p.m. – SPF Board of Education Meeting in SPFHS Media Center

March 14 – Music in Our Schools – Terrill Jazz & Terrill Select Choir to Coles & McGinn

March 14 – HS Senior Citizens’ Day

March 18 – SPFHS PSAT Testing for Sophomores

March 20 – STEM Expo (Grades 5–8) at Terrill

March 26, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Ask the Superintendent in the Terrill Media Center

March 27, 6:30 – 8 p.m. – Coles Science Fair

March 27, 28, 29, 7 – 9 p.m. – Terrill Players Musical "The Lightning Thief"

March 28, 7 – 9 p.m. – Moonglowers Jazz Festival in HS Auditorium

March 31 – Schools Closed – Eid Al-Fitr

[View the full calendar.](#)



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