



Important dates to note

Mon. Nov. 19 - Wed., Nov. 21:
Early dismissal days -
Memorial and BG, 12:48 p.m.;
CO, 1:28 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 19 -
CO Parent Teacher Conferences

Monday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m. -
Board of Education regular
meeting at Memorial School.

Tuesday, Nov. 20 -
BG Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 10:15 a.m. -
4th grade Float Day at BG

Thursday, Nov. 22 - Friday,
Nov. 23 - District is closed in
observance of Thanksgiving

Welcome to the Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter, which will be sent out weekly when school is in session. This will serve as a glimpse of some of the wonderful things going on in our schools and with our students, as well as a point of reference for upcoming events.

Your Partner in Education,
Michele R. Pillari, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Local teachers attend development day at PVHS

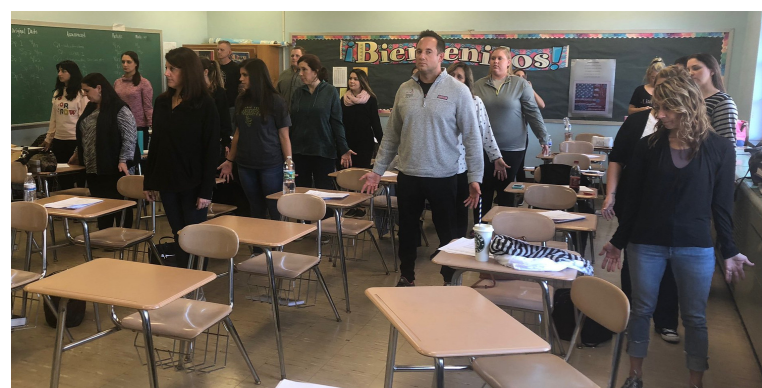
Passaic Valley Regional High School (PV) hosted its third annual day of development on Nov. 7, uniting all teaching professionals from PV High School and each of its feeder public schools throughout the Little Falls, Woodland Park and Totowa.

The event was established by PV to ensure all local area teachers are provided the opportunity to foster strong relationships across the three school districts, instill collaborative problem solving, and participate in impactful development and training.

This year's theme focused on addressing mental health and wellness issues and was developed in joint partnership with The Codey Foundation for Mental Health, which provided a series of clinicians and experts that lead a variety of trainings and forums. In addition, The Honorable Richard J. Codey served as the event's keynote speaker.

"As the focal point for education in our public school system, it is one of PV's top priorities to be a resource to each of the three communities of the tri-borough area," stated PV Superintendent JoAnn Cardillo. "Now in our third year, this day of development is the culmination of a great deal of work and vision on the part of each of our local superintendents, and together we have built a world class day to unify around important issues and provide our great teachers with the kind of development they deserve and demand."

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Included in the teacher development event were a variety of topics. A sampling includes:

Trauma-Informed Classrooms - Participants discussed the importance of trauma-informed classrooms to help gain an understanding of the impact of trauma and adverse life experiences on students and the classroom culture.

Signs and Symptoms of Stress and Anxiety - This workshop covered best practices for understanding and treating symptoms of anxiety that may be undiagnosed and/or untreated.

LGBTQ - This workshop aimed to increase understanding of serving LGBTQ children in classrooms and understand the challenges they face in schools.

Fostering Resilience in Students Coping with Loss - This workshop provided an understanding of the impact of loss on children and youth and how it impacts their academics, behavior and social-emotional development.

Crisis Intervention - Participants learned practical ways to serve those dealing with crisis.

Adolescent Development, Psychopathology and Addiction, Resistances and the Stigma of Recovery - During this seminar, teachers explored these areas of concern by learning how to differentiate normal adolescent developmental crisis vs. pathological development.

Celebrating Body Image - Participants gained a better understanding of the signs and symptoms of eating disorders and review proper terminology for addressing body image.

Character education program brings messages of kindness, giving back

Beatrice Gilmore School recently hosted a school-wide character education assembly called The NED Show. NED is a cartoon character whose name is an acronym for Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best. The program used humor, audience participation, yo-yo and magic tricks to bring forth its message.

NED, and his human friend Kazmo, shared details of their kindness adventure to Kenya, Africa with the students. In Kenya, they visited the Bidii Primary School in Kenya, where 59 students share a classroom.

The NED Show came to BG at no cost. The school made NED-messaged items available for purchase during the week, which reinforce multi-sensory learning and are tangible reminders that increase the students' ability to retain NED's message long after the assembly. The proceeds from BG's sale will allow another school to benefit from the program. With the Kenyan treasures the students purchased, they also learned that in addition to paying it forward to another school, proceeds benefit artisans in Africa and help provide clean drinking water to residents there.

BG Principal Mrs. Tomback said that students are on board with helping build another well in Kenya and providing fresh water. They are also on board with continuing to spread kindness!

Find out more about the program at www.thenedshow.com or www.kindnessadventure.com.

Memorial Middle School Students of the Month are announced

Memorial School Students of the Month for November are:

Grade 5: Rifat Muhith, Matthew Chantes. Johan Donneys. Jayden O'Connor and Athena Galindo

Grade 6: Kayla Weaver, Madelyn Barros, Roselyne Caceres, Robert Papeniuk and Jake Mazzie

Grade 7: Jasmin Ortega, Samantha Falduti, Montaha Moraktan, Ariana Cardenas, and Ethan Pena

Grade 8: Brianna Corsetto, Cristina Sgobba, Isadora Desa, Lazar Jezdimirovic and Walner Huatay