



Superintendent's Report

May 1, 2024

The public hearing for our 2024-2025 school year budget is being presented this evening. Thank you to our Business Administrator, Floro Villanueva, his staff, our administrators, and the Board of Education Finance and Physical Plant Committee for their ongoing work in preparing a fiscally responsible budget. I am proud to share that the proposed budget maintains all positions and programs and includes adding an ESL teacher for Hillside Elementary School, a school psychologist for the district, and three additional lunchtime paraprofessionals for Tenakill Middle School.

On Friday, April 26, 2024, the Closter Borough's Shade Tree Commission celebrated Arbor Day in a unique way. This year, our school district and the Shade Tree Commission joined hands to secure a \$48,000 "Trees for Schools" grant. The celebration took place at The Grove, located between Memorial Field and the 9/11 Memorial on Harrington Avenue. Over 50 trees were planted, and a record 90 students participated in the 5th Annual "Trees are Worth It" Poster Contest. The winners and their parents were honored at the celebration, and our middle school band added a musical touch to the event. This achievement wouldn't have been possible without the collective efforts of everyone involved, including the Closter Shade Tree Commission, the Mayor and Council, and several local business sponsors. The winning posters will be proudly displayed at the Closter Starbucks, so make sure to visit and view them!

The Closter PTO Spring Fair will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Tenakill Middle School. All are invited to attend this fun event, including performances, bounce houses, food trucks, crafts, and much more. We look forward to seeing you there!

Next week, we will celebrate our fantastic teachers and school nurses for all their hard work and support for our students. They are not just teachers and nurses – they are heroes who help our students daily. The Board and I truly appreciate, respect, and are inspired by the wonderful work they do all year round.

There are only 33 school days left! Our moving-up ceremonies for grades 4 and 8 will be held on Monday, June 17, 2024, at Memorial Field. The principals will share more information with families about the end-of-year events. Please note that if it rains, the ceremonies will be held at Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest on Monday, June 17, 2024, since the last day of school is June 18, 2024.

Vincent Mc Hale