

The Garwood Connection

A Link Between Our Schools And Our Community

Winter 2014

A Message From The Superintendent

*For every child we teach to cherish learning
a universe is born! – D. Simone*

Welcome to Winter 2014! I think this winter is one for the record books as Lincoln School had two snow days in one week! With that the second marking period has closed and students are looking forward to the 100th day of school celebration! Staff and students have worked hard this year living up to our school motto, Work Hard, Be The Best You Can Be and Be Kind to One Another.

The 2013-2014 school year brought changes to both the staff and students. The new TEACHNJ law requires all teaching staff to be evaluated three times per year by a State approved evaluation system. The Garwood School District uses the MCREL model and information on it may be found at www.mcrel.org. Students are now learning using the Common Core State Standards that have been adopted by forty-five states. These curriculum standards are designed to be vigorous and relevant to the real world. Focusing our students on the skills they will need for success in college and their careers. You may find the grade level standards at www.corestandards.org.

All staff and students are working diligently as we prepare for the PARCC assessments in the Spring of 2015. The Partnership for Assessment and Readiness of College and Career (PARCC) goal is to prepare students for the skills they will need for college and the workplace of the 21st century. Beginning next year students in grades 3-8 will take the State assessments (PARCC) online using a computer or tablet. Information on PARCC may be found at www.parcconline.org. As we move towards the 21st century technology, the staff is committed to providing our students with a safe, respectful, and positive environment where every student learns, achieves, and performs.

Although these new mandates are fiscally challenging to our small district, we will continue to work together and do our best. Challenges are opportunities to grow and each year is another chance to do better. Parents and community members are always welcome at Lincoln School. Please stop by and visit our wonderful school or go to our website at www.garwoodschoools.org
Teresa Quigley, Ed.D.

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for kindergarten for September 2014 will take place Monday, March 24th to Monday, March 31st from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

To expedite registration, forms may be obtained from the Garwood Schools website at www.garwoodschoools.org. Children turning five by October 1, 2009 may be registered for kindergarten.

The following documents are required for student registration.

An original and a copy of child's birth certificate and current immunization records. An original and one copy of each document from each of the categories listed below must also be presented at time of registration
Category I (Must have one of the following)

1. Photo ID
 - a. Driver's License with current address
 - b. Passport

Category II (Must have one of the following)

1. Current Mortgage Statement
2. Current Lease Agreement

Category III (Must have one of the following)

1. Current Utility Bill of Residence Statement
 - a. Gas
 - b. Phone
 - c. Electric

Category IV (Must have one of the following)

1. Current Financial Account Statement
2. Current Pay Stub with Address
3. Current State Agency Document

Once registered, parents will receive information on the kindergarten assessment and orientation that will take place in June.

Character Counts at Lincoln School!

Overwhelmingly, schools are safe and nurturing places for students, and school leaders and faculty are dedicated to making sure schools remain safe learning environments for all students. However, bullying is a serious issue that every school in the nation faces. Nationwide, research shows that more than half of all school-aged children will be involved in bullying this year as a victim or a perpetrator with many more witnessing bullying acts on a regular basis.

At Lincoln School, we believe in working together with parents to combat bullying. We know this problem isn't confined to school grounds. Bullying at school affects and is affected by what happens at home between siblings, what happens in the neighborhood, and what happens when kids go online. We must work together to take immediate action, whether a child bullies, is a victim of bullying, or is a witness to bullying.

We encourage you to consult a new, *free* resource for parents called the Education.com **Special Edition on Bullying at School and Online**. This resource helps parents take an active role in addressing bullying at school and online. It includes articles, video clips, quizzes, online workshops, community forums and quick-fact lists, all available free-of-charge at <http://www.education.com/special-edition/bullying/>. A highlight of the content is a list of 10 actions parents can take to help reduce bullying. The complete list can be found at: <http://www.education.com/reference/article/ten-actions-to-eliminate-bullying/>.

The **Special Edition on Bullying at School and Online** was created by the American Association of School Administrators, Education.com, a leading website for parents, and Dr. Shelley Hymel, Dr. Amanda Nickerson, and Dr. Susan Swearer, renowned experts on bullying, with corporate sponsorship provided by Symantec, makers of Norton security software.

Lincoln School is pleased to share this free resource with you as part of our continuing effort to ensure a safe and productive learning environment for all of our students.

~Mrs. Mary Emmons
Lincoln School's Anti-Bullying Coordinator

~Mrs. Theresa Parkhill
Lincoln School's Anti-Bullying Specialist

A Fond Farewell!

This past June Ms. Karen Toth and Mrs. Kathleen Dangeleit slipped quietly into retirement after a combined 67 years of service! Ms. Toth began her forty-four year career as a first grade teacher and was instrumental in creating the full day kindergarten program in Garwood. Ms. Toth was the district Teacher of the Year in 1991 and was known for her perfect attendance. Ms. Toth's mom worked in the Garwood Public library for many years and the book, *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten* has been dedicated in their names to the Garwood Public Library.

Mrs. Dangeleit began her career in Garwood as the Home Economics Teacher and former students still talk about the delicious food they made in class! When that program was phased out, Mrs. Dangeleit taught basic skills, fifth grade and middle school language arts literacy. Known for her famous student poetry bulletin board, a book of poems has been dedicated in her name to the Garwood Public Library.

Both teachers have been enjoying their retirement and are part of the Garwood Retirees' Club that meets at Rudy's for lunch throughout the year. A sincere thank you to these dedicated teachers' service to the Garwood Public Schools.

Garwood/Clark Field Hockey PINK OUT Game

To support Breast Cancer Awareness Month the Garwood field hockey team with their coach Ms. Karen Lukacovic participated in a *Pink Out* game against Clark. On October 15th the team donned their uniforms and added pink wherever possible and headed to Kumpf Middle School. It was a fun game that also raised awareness and money for this worthwhile cause. A donation was made to the American Cancer Society in the name of the Clark and Garwood Field Hockey Teams.



Preschool Program At YMCA Washington School

The Garwood Family Center Y is located at the former Washington School, 500 East Street. The Y provides a safe and nurturing environment for children to learn, grow, develop social skills and realize their potential. Currently available: full and part time early learning programs for children ages 2 ½ - 5 years old; before and after school compliment for students in grades K-5. Information is available from the Director, Shannon McGillis and she can be reached at 908-301-1616.

Project Child Find

Do you have or know of a preschool child age three to five that may have a developmental delay? If so, our district's Child Study Team can help.

A community-wide effort to find and help preschool age children who may be developmentally delayed and in need of special education services is under way. In many cases, a child who is identified early can be helped with interventions. Sometimes parents are not aware that help is available. Do you have or know any child from age 5 through 21 who lives within Garwood and may have a disability? The child may currently attend any elementary or secondary program, including non-public schools, or be home-schooled or be highly mobile such as migrant and homeless.

If you are concerned about your child, or know a child who may need assistance, please call the Garwood School's Child Study Team at 789-0331 ext. 2109 for further information.

Garwood PTA

The Garwood PTA is a proud supporter of Lincoln School, providing our students with enriching school assemblies, team t-shirts, Scholastic Book fairs and family nights. For more information on the PTA, please visit their website at www.garwoodpta.my-pta.org.

Garwood PTA Playgroup

Kids in training ages 0-4
Meets every Friday from 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Presbyterian Church
341 Spruce Ave.
Garwood, NJ

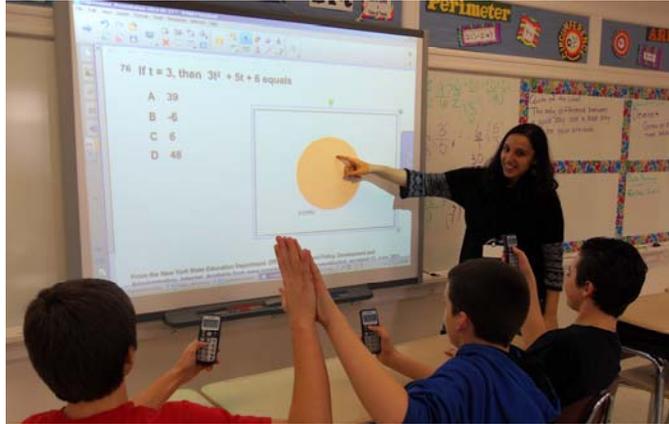
For more information please contact
garwoodplaygroup@gmail.com

Student Council at Lincoln School!

The Student Council at Lincoln School is a very active organization. The group, led by President Jessica Knowles, VP Michael Pellino, Treasurer Casey Pender, and Secretary Ashley Kessler, has undertaken several large projects since their election in October. Every Friday staff and students don their spirit tees; this year's tee shirts were designed by President Knowles and once again funded by the PTA. In early November, the Student Council conducted a mock gubernatorial election prior to the state election for governor. All students in grades Pre-K through eight were given the opportunity to mark their own ballot, and middle school students participated in a school survey regarding middle school issues. Ballots were tallied by SC members; Governor Christie was "re-elected" by our students. Later in November, the officers and fifth through eighth grade homeroom representatives organized their annual food drive, to benefit a local food bank, in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus. Nearly 550 pounds of food were collected. Just recently the SC members collected 300 cans of food, mainly soup, for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Proceeds will again be donated to a local food bank. Members also conducted a Super Bowl coin drive. Students and staff members were asked to vote for their favorite Super Bowl team with pennies; silver coins were used to subtract votes from the opponent. Over \$350. in silver coins were collected and will be donated to Relay for Life. About fifty dollars in pennies will go toward the purchase of gift certificates for readers in our annual Read Across America (RAA) ten day reading marathon. The Student Council has provided gift certificates for the Students of the Month and RAA readers for several years now. Students also select the colors and themes for No Name Calling Week and Spirit Week. Upcoming projects and activities include the sale of project boards to middle schoolers preparing for the curriculum fair; providing gift certificates for spelling bee winners and snacks for all students at Field Day; rewriting the Student Council Constitution which was last revised nearly twenty years ago; and possibly returning to the State House for a tour. This enthusiastic and hard-working group of young leaders and dedicated students is led by advisor Tamara Benc.

Education Foundation of Garwood

The Education Foundation of Garwood, more popularly known as the EFG, was developed in 2004 to provide funding for programs that could not be supported by the district's regular operating budget. The EFG contributes to the school in the form of grants; proposals are submitted by the school staff and then reviewed by the EFG committee. For the 2013-2014 school year the EFG approved a grant submitted by Mrs. Arsiwala, a special education mathematics teacher. Pictured below are eighth grade students with Mrs. Arsiwala using SmartBoard responders that were purchased using an EFG grant. Each year the EFG has a fundraiser on the last Thursday of April at the Westwood where the Garwood Educator of the Year is honored. Please consider attending this worthwhile event. EFG supports our students and staff please support the EFG on April 24th!



Garwood Board of Education
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Garwood, NJ 07027
www.garwoodschoools.org

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STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Garwood Board of Education is committed to equality of opportunity in every aspect of the operation of this school district and will not condone conduct that discriminates among staff members or pupils on the basis of race, gender, age, national origin or ancestry, religion, handicap, or social or economic status.