



District Highlights



VDV Grades PS-5:

- In the month of March, the Kindergarten students partnered with Blankets of Hope to provide blankets to homeless individuals. Blankets of Hope is a non-profit organization created to fulfill a simple need - provide a blanket to someone needing a little warmth and a little love. Each Kindergarten student wrote an encouraging and uplifting message to attach to a blanket. The students donated 120 blankets, with messages, to SHIP in Somerville.
- Music In Our Schools Month is being celebrated this March and began with an outstanding performance from the Middle School Jazz Band and Middle School Chorus. The presentation took place in VDV's Multi-Purpose Room and was attended by all grade levels.
- On March 9th, sixty (60) of our 5th-grade students along with staff chaperones attended the final dress rehearsal of La Cenerentola by Rossini, at The Metropolitan Opera House, Lincoln Center, in New York City.
- Preschool and Kindergarten registration took place on Saturday, March 7th and was very well attended. Mr. Reavey would like to thank Sheila Deck for organizing the participating staff members from Van Derveer and the Middle School, as well as the two high school student volunteers. Parents/guardians of our incoming preschool and kindergarten classes shared with Mr. Reavey how pleased they were with the guidance, information, and manner in which their children were welcomed into their new school.

Somerville Middle School:

- A Great Expectations Assembly was held for all grades. This was the second of two meetings for the year.
- Challenge Day, which is an organization that helps students learn to connect through powerful, life changing programs using highly interactive and energetic activities, was a huge success this year. Thank you to all staff who helped to make this a successful event.
- Over 100 students attended RVCC to celebrate Black History Month and saw the program, "Walk On: The Story of Rosa Parks."
- The High School Engineering students visited SMS to talk to students about their engineering program at the High School. Students were engaged in meaningful conversation and loved learning about the different activities.
- The Somerville Middle School D.A.R.E. program with Officer Vito from the Somerville Police Department for 6th graders are going well.
- Hoops4Heart went very well and students raised over \$300.

Somerville High School:

- Peer Leadership Family Night was held on Wednesday evening, March 11th at SHS, which is an event organized by our peer leadership advisors: Debbie Grossmith, Colin Williamson, and Marybeth Annese. Peer Leaders and their parents enjoyed a night

together while they learned more about the Peer Leadership program. And, of course, dinner was served!

- Congratulations to Kylie McLaughlin and Madison Bayles who had their artwork displayed at the NJ State Youth Art Month Exhibition. Kylie McLaughlin was a state winner! For both their participation, Kylie and Madison will be given a State House resolution from Assemblyman Friedman in honor of their achievements.
- An amazing performance by the entire cast of Hello Dolly on March 5th, 6th, and 7th. Congratulations!