

Superintendent's Report



Volunteer honored for his labor of love

The Board of Education honored Linden resident Mark Mannuzza at its June 26 meeting for his outstanding volunteer work for the school district. His generosity particularly stood out in his recent work to help the family of School No. 8 first-grader Isabel Dominguez, who has leukemia. Mannuzza helped pay for a venue for a fundraising dinner for Isabel on May 1, organized a car show from which the proceeds were donated to the Dominguez family, and helped Issy's mother get her car fixed when it broke down. [Click here to read more.](#)



Collaboration and celebration



Members of Instructional Leadership Teams from all of our schools listen to Assistant Superintendent Denise Cleary speaking at their year-end luncheon on June 21 at the Academy of Excellence.

Members of the Instructional Leadership Teams from all the Linden Public Schools gathered for an end-of-year celebration on Thursday, June 21, to reflect on what they've accomplished throughout the school year. The ILTs, which were instituted in the 2016-17 school year, are made up of about 10 teachers from each school. The teams break down assessment data and study innovative teaching methods, passing the information and techniques on to colleagues at their respective schools. The ILT approach gives schools instructional leaders beyond just the principal, and allows educators to learn in a collaborative way from peers. [Click here to read more.](#)



Instructional Leadership Teams from School No. 8, left, and Soehl Middle School.

Seniors in cosmetology class go 5-for-5 on licensing exam

Graduating seniors in the Linden High School cosmetology class scored a perfect five for five in passing the state exam to be licensed. This is the second straight year that everyone in the class passed the exam, following the class of 2017's seven graduates. Students completed 1,000 hours of instructional time over three years to be eligible to take the exam. [Click here to read more.](#)



From left are Shanya Becton, Brianna Pihulic, teacher Maria Fabre, Brianna Thomas, Ciera Feliciano and Ny'lah Dent.

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Ed.D.

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LHS senior qualifies for roller figure skating nationals

Jaclyn Beviano, who will be a senior at Linden High School in the fall, won a bronze medal in the Eastern Region Championship roller skating competition on June 26 in Delanco, N.J. Placing third in the freestyle division qualifies Beviano for the 2018 USA Roller Sports Roller Figure Skating National Championships, which are taking place in Lincoln, Neb., from July 22 to 25. It is her second time competing at the national competition. [Click here to read more.](#)



REMEMBER WHEN: 1971

Music legends rock McManus

The year was 1971. Students at McManus, which then housed Grades 7 through 9 and was



Brooke Ostrander



known as McManus Junior High School, were getting ready for their ninth-grade spring dance and needed a live band. The instrumental music teacher at the time, Brooke Ostrander, offered up his band, which played original songs and some contemporary rock hits of the time. Ostrander, who had just started his career at McManus in January 1969, played



Brooke Ostrander, former music teacher at McManus, is back right in this circa 1970 photo of Wicked Lester. The band also included future Rock and Roll Hall of Famers Gene Simmons, back left, and Paul Stanley, center – founding members of the rock band KISS.

keyboards and flute for the band, known as Wicked Lester. The names of two of Ostrander's bandmates from that night may

ring a bell: Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley – founding members of the legendary rock band KISS. [Click here to read more.](#)



ESL program's excellence in action

When Linden's ESL program was chosen as a model district by the state, the Department of Education sought to highlight the program. [Here is the resulting video](#), showing teachers working with students and talking about what makes Linden's program so special.

Up Next

July 31: Domain 4, School No. 9's all-faculty band, will play at the Linden Public Library at 7 p.m. At this show, the band will be donating the proceeds from its first show to the family of Isabel Dominguez, a School No. 8 second-grader with leukemia. The \$1,100 donation will be made at 6:15 p.m.

Next Board of Education meeting:

Aug. 28 at the Administration Building, 2 East Gibbons Street