

Principal's Report 12/09/09

Technology Initiative

We have a significant "Theory of Action" In Place this Year:

Our Goal is to utilize technology to improve student learning through increased teacher efficiency and home-school communication.

In essence: "Technology Today, Smarter Tomorrow"

\$200K to be spent on tech initiative added to \$100K this year's Reso A Money

Objectives under consideration and processing:

- ❖ Each teacher gets a dedicated Mac book to improve instruction, use the tools, and for professional development
- ❖ Purchase a printer for each teacher in need
- ❖ Create virtual Network where in all students have folders to log into to get and/or revise their work from anywhere, home/school, etc.
- ❖ Purchase Nano Ipod, video cameras for teachers to use during instruction, record components of a lesson for posting on Ed-line so that students can see how a problem was solved from home. This can also be done with smart boards.
- ❖ Ensure every teacher has a smart board and working projector
- ❖ In most middle school classrooms and some high school classrooms install integrated arm units which removes the need to have a projector mounted on a table
- ❖ New computers for tech lab, two printers, and a scanner
- ❖ This permits the redeployment of computers to set up the internet cafe
- ❖ 4-6 computers installed in the library
- ❖ Smart board has already been installed in the library
- ❖ Purchase of about 90 more Mac books and carts for student use.
- ❖ We are also experimenting with recording the Morning Message for Internet/website publication for more timely information availability

Edline & Easy Grade Pro

- ❖ These two programs will allow parents to check in on their child's progress in all classes while at home, anytime day or night
- ❖ You will be able to view class news, monthly calendars, helpful links, test dates, etc for individual classes
- ❖ Please be mindful that we are in the beginning stages of this process, therefore not all pages are fully complete at this time
- ❖ Professional development sessions and small group teacher trainings are currently taking place
- ❖ Staff members are excited to use this new tool as a way to improve communication between home and school.
- ❖ For parents that wish to activate their accounts and want to learn more about it, an

evening workshop for parents was held tonight at 6 and will continue throughout the year before PTA meetings

ARIS Parent Link

- ❖ This is a resource that provides parents with academic information about their child. This information includes; biographical, assessment, attendance ,etc
- ❖ To log onto the ARIS link go to: www.ARISParentLink.org
- ❖ You will need your child's OSIS number, which can be found on his/her report card
- ❖ You will also need the temporary password which was distributed last spring
- ❖ If you do not have this information, it can be provided to you by Janet Brady
- ❖ To request your password or to have a lost password reset, please call Janet Brady at 718-474-6918 x 188.
- ❖ For security reasons, email requests cannot be accommodated.

Theatre Updates

\$100K to be spent on:

- ❖ Theatre curtains
- ❖ Repair recessed spot lights and
- ❖ upgrade sound or projector system

Construction

- ❖ Science labs are ready for use devoid of gas at this time
- ❖ Gas will be ready after January
- ❖ Roof is currently being worked on and depending upon rain, we are still experiencing leaks in various locations
- ❖ Classrooms and offices are in the process of receiving new radiator covers

Sports

- ❖ Student Government/high School events are planning a high school sports awards night to take place during spring
- ❖ Middle School Cheerleading try-outs taking place with Mrs. Scannell
- ❖ Middle School Soccer Team was Victorious at a Soccer tournament on Dec 3rd at BCHS
- ❖ Check out December calendars for sports section, there are numerous sporting events and games taking place after school, come and support the SA Seawolves

Thank you PTA

- ❖ For sponsoring a holiday sale during periods 5 & 6 today and tomorrow

Candy Sale

- ❖ Candy and prizes are in the process of being distributed this week
- ❖ Approximately \$4,000 was raised during sale
- ❖ Classes with the highest money raised received free dress down day

MP2 Report Cards & Learning Goals

- ❖ A Newsletter will continue to be sent home each marking period with general grading updates and school information This month the newsletter's principal's section advertised the school's support for the PTA's Annual Campaign. A suggested donation that other schools use of \$200 was referenced
- ❖ Marking Period 2 will end Monday, December 14, 2009
- ❖ Report cards will go home on Wednesday, December 23
- ❖ Updated learning goals will go home in planners Wed. December 23rd as well

Community Service

- ❖ Logs are due to Ms. Rozman by Monday, December 14th for MP2
- ❖ Students participated in Little North Pole this past Sunday evening
- ❖ Window painting is rescheduled to this upcoming Sunday at Capital One Bank on 116th Street 1pm
- ❖ Holiday visits to Adult Care Facilities and Senior Homes taking place Dec 18 & 21 to spread holiday cheer (band, chorus, step, and cheerleaders) + 6th grade
- ❖ Student Government Organized School Canned Food Drive is thriving. It ends Dec. 23rd

This Week's Trips + Future Trips

- ❖ Tuesday December 8th Ballroom Dancing Studio 50 8th graders
- ❖ Wednesday December 9th Carnegie Hall with Ms. Morritt & JFK Hanger Operation Santa with Mr. Leicht
- ❖ 8th grade visit to NYC Tenement Museum in December
- ❖ Sophomore trip to Medieval Times in March
- ❖ 6th & 8th grade Eco-Tours of Jamaica Bay in April
- ❖ 7th grade Philly & Gettysburg Trip in April
- ❖ Junior trip to Washington DC in April
- ❖ [Junior Career Day Trip to Broadridge Financial in Spring](#)
- ❖ [Sophomore trips to local colleges in March as part of March to College Week](#)
- ❖ Freshmen trip to 6 Flags in June
- ❖ 8th grade NYC trip in June
- ❖ Trips to St. Francis College have been planned for the spring term for the sophomore and junior classes as well

December Upcoming Events

- ❖ Winter Concert Thursday December 17th 6pm
- ❖ 6th grade visits to Senior Centers December 17th
- ❖ Middle School Scholar of the Month Assembly Fri. Dec. 18th
- ❖ Middle School Talent Show Monday, Dec 21st periods 7, 8, 9
- ❖ High School Outstanding Scholar 4th period Tuesday, December 22nd
- ❖ Neponsit Adult Home Visits December 18th & 21st

Internships

- ❖ A school-wide letter went home regarding internships
- ❖ If you know of any businesses or organizations that would be willing to sponsor student interns, please send contact information to Janet Brady

- ❖ Internship plans and opportunities for next year's senior class are developing now
- ❖ There is currently an internship opportunity through the New York Aquarium for high school students – applications are due on Friday; Ms. Rozman and Ms. Brady have specific information

College Planning

- ❖ The High School Planning Team has been focusing on preparing students for college applications and making final revisions on a College Handbook; handbooks will be ready for distribution for the spring term
- ❖ Juniors participated in the first two workshops of a three part series, designed to assist them in making informed decisions during the college selection process
- ❖ A parent workshop on college selection took place tonight at 6pm

Advanced Placement & St. Francis Courses

- ❖ All courses have been approved by St. Francis College and AP
- ❖ Courses are officially designated as “Advanced Placement”
- ❖ St. Francis College received the registration forms and payment from participating juniors before Thanksgiving