

Wishing You Health and Happiness in the New Year!



**Montville Township
Public Schools™**
EDUCATE. INSPIRE. EMPOWER.

News & Updates - February 2018

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Montville Township Public Schools win NJ State Character Awards

On January 26, 2018, the Montville Township Public Schools received notification that the New Jersey Alliance for Social, Emotional and Character Development (NJASECD) had selected the district as a **2018 New Jersey District of Character**. The Robert R. Lazar Middle School was selected as a **2018 New Jersey School of Character**. William Mason Elementary School received the distinction of being an **Honorable Mention School of Character**. The Montville Township Public

Schools district and Lazar Middle School will now move on to the [national level competition](#). In 2016 both Cedar Hill School and Woodmont School were selected as **National Schools of Character**. The district, Lazar Middle School and William Mason School will receive special recognition at the NJASECD Annual Conference to be held in May at Rider University. We are extremely proud of all of the district's efforts to support character education as one of the foundations of school culture in each school building.

MTHS Joins the Making Caring Common Project, a #CommonGood Campaign



MAKING
CARING
COMMON
PROJECT

Montville Township Public Schools is proud to announce its participation in the Making Caring Common Project. The #CommonGood campaign is an initiative of the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE). This movement was developed in response to the realization that young people perceive that our culture values personal success over concern for others and the common good. The HGSE recognizes that the college admissions process holds a unique position in being able to convey to students the importance of becoming more generous and humane in ways that benefit not only society but the students themselves. The colleges involved acknowledge that even when students and parents understand that contributions and service count in the college admissions

process, they often seek to "game" service.

The Making Caring Common Campaign has three challenges:

- 1) Promoting: More meaningful contributions to others, community service and engagement with the public good.
- 2) Assessing students' ethical engagement and contributions to others in ways that reflect varying types of family and community contributions across, race, culture and class.
- 3) Redefining achievement in ways that both level the playing field for economically diverse students and reduce excessive achievement pressure.

Some of the colleges and universities that have already aligned themselves with Making Caring Common include:

Amherst College, Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Brown University, University of Chicago, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Drew University, Harvard University, University of Maryland, Michigan State, MIT, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, Purdue University, Rice University, Smith College, Swarthmore College, USC, University of Virginia, Wake Forest University, and Yale University

For more information in this initiative visit: [Making Caring Common](#)

Bits and Pieces....

Congratulations to Nicholas Ferrone, Curtis Wang and Joshua Estrin from William Mason Elementary School and Logan Fitzpatrick and Scipio Han from Valley View Elementary School who claimed the first place trophy at the Perennial Math Tournament held in Woodbridge, NJ on January 13th. On the individual level, Estrin and Wang each won first place in the 5th grade competition. The Montville team will now advance to the national competition in May 2018.

MTHS teacher Mary Gormley will be honored at a dinner on March 10th for being selected as the Public Service Person of the Year by the [Montville Township Chamber of Commerce](#). The dinner will be at the Lake Valhalla Club.

The Hilldale Elementary School Student Council organized a food drive and collected over 330 items for the Montville Kiwanis Food Pantry.

Six students from MTHS were among the 600+ who auditioned for the Choral Ensemble from across Northern New Jersey. We are thrilled to report that all 6 were accepted! Congratulations to Anna Rehberg (Class of '20), Gabriella Casiano (Class of '20), Clara Trogani (Class of '20), Madison Bustamente (Class of '20), Srishti Nandy (Class of '20), and Verina Megala (Class of '19) on this incredible honor! In addition, Anna Rehberg ranked #4 of 110 students for her voice part. These students performed on Saturday, January 27th at Bloomfield High School with 250 of the top choral students from the region.



**Master Class on Vaping
Program to be held on
February 13th at 7:00 p.m.
at Memorial Junior School
61 Highland Avenue, Whippany**

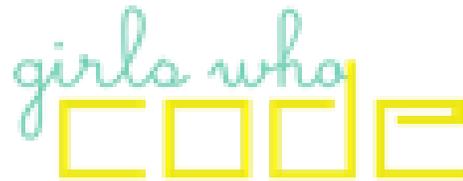
The Morris Area Coalition for Education and Positive Choices is taking Morris County by storm with their initiatives to arm the community with facts and information in the fight against

drug and alcohol abuse. The Coalition is a pro-active team comprised of elected officials, law enforcement, educational leaders and concerned citizens who are up to date on the latest crazes and abuses that are plaguing our children.

The most recent trend in teenage abuse now includes vaping and the use of e-cigarettes. Teens often do not consider how their current behaviors can impact their future health. The goal of the Coalition is prevention through education and informing the public of the dangers of these negative behaviors. Today, with social media, the drug and alcohol abuse problem and new ways of getting high have become a national crisis. What many people do not realize is that vaporizer pens are becoming the new way for drug users to not only get high but do it discreetly, right under the nose of police, parents and teachers. Vaping can pose many risks and kids, being as creative as they are, will often place synthetics and liquids in device cartridges and inhale substances which cannot be differentiated from nicotine, marijuana, or any other liquid. Worst of all, it could be a deadly concoction of toxic chemicals often obtained on the Internet. These vapors can cause chronic bronchitis, compromise immune systems and wound healing, harm the brain and cause mouth and lung cell damage.

The Morris Area Coalition for Education & Positive Choices, in conjunction with the Hanover Township Police Department and the Morris County Sheriff and Prosecutor's Offices, invites the public to attend this noteworthy session. This is the best opportunity for you and your children to attend an outstanding, informative conversation with veritable facts that can change lives forever.

Girls Who Code Offers Summer Immersion Workshops



Girls Who Code was founded five years ago with a mission of closing the gender gap in technology. The organization offers learning opportunities for students and alumni to develop skills in computer science while building their confidence. The programs create pathways to jobs within the computer science field. Girls Who Code offers a free 7-week summer program for current 10th and 11th grade girls which allows them to learn code and gain exposure to jobs in the technology field. No previous experience in computer science is necessary. The Early Acceptance deadline for the 2018 program is February 16, 2018 and the final deadline is March 16, 2018. The application consists of one short-answer question. The program does not require the submission of grades or a recommendation. Visit the [website](#) to apply: [Girls Who Code Summer Immersion Program Online Application](#)

Montville Township Public Schools | (973) 331-7100 | www.montville.net

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