



**Montville Township Public Schools
October 2015**

Cheryl Zanone Selected at Morris County Teacher of the Year

Board of Education to Honor Cheryl Zanone at the November 17, 2015 Board of Education Meeting



Cheryl Zanone, a 7th grade science teacher at Lazar Middle School, has been named the **Morris County Teacher of the Year** by the New Jersey Department of Education. Ms. Zanone is the first Montville Township teacher to be selected for this honor. Districts nominate teachers to be considered for this award. A panel of administrators, teachers and parents selected by the Morris County Executive Superintendent of Schools reads the application packets and makes the selection of the County Teacher of the Year. Ms. Zanone brings real world science experience to her classroom, having spent a decade working in the cosmetic and pharmaceuticals chemicals industry prior to beginning her career as a teacher. She joined the faculty at Lazar Middle School in 2002. Mrs. Zanone commented, "Teaching is a remarkable, challenging as every day starts with a clean slate. Each morning, eager faces greet me and I know that my lessons must creatively motivate and engage their curiosity while delivering the collective standards of our state." The Board of Education is proud to have a teacher of Mrs. Zanone's caliber in our district and happy that her talents have been recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education.

PARCC Results

Individual Student Results Expected in November

The results from the 2015 administration of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Test are expected to be released to local districts mid-November. The scoring of the PARCC is structured differently than the previous state assessment (NJASK). Instead of the previous three bands (partially proficient,



proficient and advanced proficient), there are five levels: Level 1 - Minimal Command; Level 2 - Partial Command; Level 3 - Moderate Command; Level 4 - Strong Command; and Level 5 - Distinguished Command. The new Individual Student Report will provide increased detail regarding student performance. On the English Language Arts report, parents will see an indication of student performance in the following subareas: Literary Text, Informational Text, Vocabulary, Writing Expression and Knowledge of Conventions (elements of language). On the Mathematics report, student performance categories are: Major Content; Additional and Supporting Content, Expressing Mathematical Reasoning, and Modeling and Application. The Individual Student Score Report will also contain data to compare the student to others at the same grade level in their school, across the Montville Township School District, across the State of New Jersey and to other states which administered the PARCC assessment. In future years, information will be included on the student's academic growth when compared to other grade level students in the school, district, state and other PARCC states.

A presentation on the district's PARCC performance will be made at a Board of Education meeting later this fall.

YEA Climate and Culture Survey

Parent Input Sought

This fall, in-school surveys will be administered to students and staff in all district schools to solicit their thoughts on the climate and culture of their school. The data from these surveys will then be provided to the school team in each building for review and analysis. This information will allow the teams to identify areas that they would like to address through the development of action plans or other initiatives. Following the conclusion of the staff and student surveys, parents will be invited to share their input through an online survey instrument accessed through Survey Monkey. A separate survey will be provided for each school. A broadcast email will be sent to parents to alert them when the links to the parent surveys are open. Parent survey data will then also be provided to the school teams.



Emmy-winning Classroom Close-Up to Air Two New Episodes Featuring Montville Township School Programs

Episodes featuring the district's Extended School Year Program and the Lazar Middle School's Organic Farming Program will broadcast beginning in December. The Extended School Year Program is a high energy program that allows students to close learning gaps and prepare academically for the new school year. The program features numerous "hands on" activities which help the students develop skills that have broad application. The students are shown operating a "restaurant" by taking orders, cooking and serving breakfast sandwiches which are made to order. The Organic Farming episode showcases a program established by Matthew Myers, 7th grade science teacher. Using one of the indoor courtyards at Lazar Middle School, students are taught organic and sustainable farming techniques. The crops are planted, cultivated and harvested by 7th grade students. They use compost created using cafeteria scraps to enhance the soil and rain barrels to help irrigate the gardens. Produce from the garden is used in the lunch program and also sold to teachers, staff and others. Proceeds are reinvested in the Organic Farming Program.



Broadcast dates for the Classroom Close-Up Episodes featuring these Montville Township Public Schools

programs are: Sunday, December 20; Saturday, December 26; Sunday, January 24; and Saturday, January 30. Classroom Close-Up NJ airs on NJTV every Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 5:30 p.m. - set your DVR!

Contact

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*"Tell me and I forget. Teach
me and I remember. Involve
me and I learn."*

-Benjamin Franklin

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