

Pemberton Pride

The Newsletter of Pemberton Township Schools

March, 2023

FIVE SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT NAMED STATE SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER

Pemberton Township Schools is proud to announce that five of its learning facilities have once again been named State Schools of Character for their outstanding character education



Students at Fort Dix with parents set for deployment received kits as a part of their Anchored4Life character education program.

programs and practices.

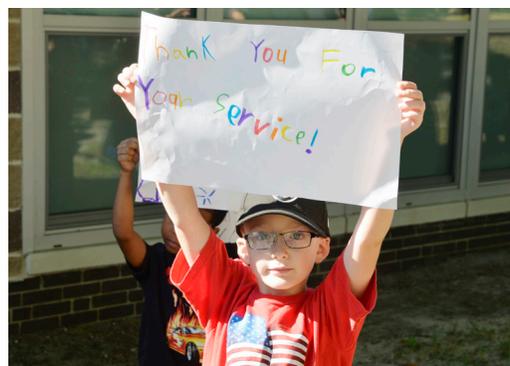
Fort Dix Elementary School, Howard L. Emmons Elementary School, Joseph S. Stackhouse Elementary School, Pemberton Early Childhood Education Center, and Samuel T. Busansky Elementary School were among 24 schools across the state to receive the distinct designation.

“We are extremely proud of this accomplishment,” Pemberton Township Schools superintendent Jeff Havers said. “Staff members were diligent in their efforts to incorporate character education into the

curriculum and facilitate the increase of social-emotional and character development at our schools. Our students have embraced the principles of our character education programs and enthusiastically participate in building a climate of respect.”

Formerly identified as the Character Education Partnership, Character.org was established in 1993 and certifies schools and districts each year at the state level that have developed and implemented an “intentional, proactive, and comprehensive approach that embeds character into all aspects of the school life.”

Criteria for the designations are based on Character.org’s 11 Principles of Effective Character Education, which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership and engaging families and communities as partners in character-building efforts.



Stackhouse students showed their support for the Pemberton Township Police Department with a Hero Parade, an event that exemplified the core values of respect and service.

“Character is the essence of who we are,” PECEC teacher Kristen Bray said. “In preschool, for example, our students are just developing a sense of self, and learning how to engage and interact with each other.”



Character education is a deliberate effort to create a strong community. In preschool, they are a part of one of their first communities.”

The staples of character education are perseverance, respect, integrity, service and responsibility. Each school exerted their abilities to incorporate these core values into their curriculum to enhance learning.

Busansky, Emmons, Fort Dix, PECEC and Stackhouse were previously named State Schools of Character in 2018. The designation is valid for five years and then the schools must go through the comprehensive evaluation process to apply for the designation again.

Pemberton Township Schools’ five selections were the most of any school district in New Jersey in 2023.



Pemberton Learning Community: Pursuing Excellence One Child at a Time

2023 NEHS INDUCTION CEREMONY



39 fifth grade students throughout the district from Busansky, Denbo-Crichton and Fort Dix were inducted into the National Elementary Honor Society on February 2nd. Congratulations to all of those who were honored for their achievements!

The NEHS recognizes students for their academic achievement as well as their commitment to developing as leaders of service in their respective schools. The program empowers students to emerge as transformative leaders.



PTHS PLAYERS PRESENT "LEGALLY BLONDE"



The PTHS Players successfully showcased three performances of their latest production "Legally Blonde" at Pemberton Township High School from February 3rd through February 5th. The musical, based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture, played to packed audiences throughout the weekend.

PEMBERTON JUNIOR PLAYERS PRESENT "ANNIE, JR."

Students from Helen Fort and Newcomb wowed spectators with two outstanding performances of their latest musical production "Annie, Jr." at Helen A. Fort Middle School on February 24th and 25th.

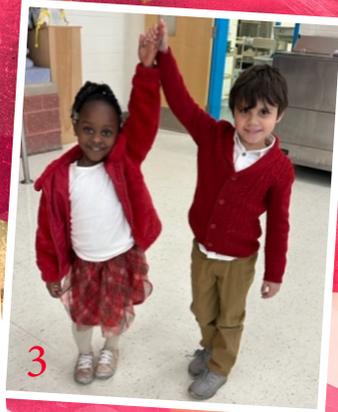


FIRST ANNUAL CHAMPIONS SWEETHEART DANCE



Students in the Champions program at the Pemberton Early Childhood Education Center recently participated in a Sweetheart Dance in celebration of Valentine's Day. Students were encouraged to wear their fancy clothes and bring their dancing shoes to the party!

1. PECEC students smile while sitting with their classmates and enjoying refreshments.
2. Students Milena Barnes, left, and Londyn Johnson, right, hold hands as they dance during the Champions program Sweetheart Dance at PECEC.
3. Students Elias Kelly, left, and Kai Mason, right, raise their hands in unison as they participate in PECEC's Valentine's Day celebration.
4. More students smile while sitting with their classmates and enjoying refreshments.



PTHS Hosts Annual Black History Club Luncheon

The PTHS Black History Club hosted its annual luncheon in the high school's auditorium lobby on February 17th.

Students in John Mocci and Farid Adams' culinary arts classes, along with members of the BHC Club, helped prepare platters of chicken, ribs, vegetables, seafood, rice and desserts for the event. Black History Club advisor Letha Smith thanked Mocci and Adams for their assistance with cooking for the occasion.

The event also featured a live jazz band known as "The Bamber Quartet" which was headlined by the son of PTHS assistant principal John Bamber.

Superintendent Jeff Havers, Administrative Assistant Donna Madara and Business Administrator Pasquale Yacovelli



Students in the PTHS Black History Club served lunch to administrators, staff members, students and community officials at their annual luncheon.

stopped by to eat lunch while staff members from Denbo-Crichton and Helen Fort placed to go orders. Members of the Pemberton Township Police Department also visited the campus to have lunch and to interact with the students helping serve platters.

"It is very important for our students to learn and celebrate the history of African Americans," Smith said. "I have a great amount of joy being able to work with and for these amazing students in the Black History Club. I call it an honor."

The club will host its annual Black History Club Fashion Show at PTHS on Friday, March 17th at 6:30 pm.

PTHS Student Places in Group Finals, Reaches Track and Field Meet of Champions

Pemberton Pride is a publication of
Pemberton Township Schools

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Congratulations to PTHS junior Alyana Meador on placing 3rd in the shot put at the NJSIAA Group 2 state finals and qualifying for the Meet of Champions! The Meet of Champions will feature New Jersey's top track and field athletes and will take place at Ocean Breeze in Staten Island, New York on March 5th. Go Hornets!

