

# Pemberton Pride

The Newsletter of Pemberton Township Schools

March, 2024

## PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS CELEBRATES HEALTH AND WELLNESS WEEK

Pemberton Township Schools acknowledged its annual Health and Wellness Week initiative with various activities at each of its nine schools from March 18th through March 22nd.



*PECEC student Ivy Murphy uses a stethoscope on a stuffed animal to learn how to check a patient's heart rate.*

The week kicked off with staff members from Deborah Heart and Lung Center and students from Rowan College at Burlington County's nursing program visiting the Pemberton Early Childhood Education Center for the Teddy Bear Clinic. Each student was gifted a teddy bear. The students moved from station to station and utilized health care equipment to take care of the bears. Students from the PTHS Medical Arts Academy also volunteered during this event.

Fort Dix Elementary School also hosted a Teddy Bear Clinic. Members from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst volunteered during the event.

A dental hygiene assembly was hosted at Howard L. Emmons Elementary School on March 21st. Falen Hemmings, the Southern Region Oral Health Coordinator from the New Jersey Children's Oral Health Program, provided a kid-friendly presentation on dental hygiene. Students also received a toothbrush kit following the assembly.

The week also included a bike safety assembly at Stackhouse.

Fort Dix hosted a March Madness basketball game for students to coincide with the ongoing NCAA Tournament. Students were split into two teams and competed against each other.

Denbo-Crichton watched principal Brett Thorp get pied in the face by students and staff members after each

person raised at least \$5 towards the Kids Heart Challenge.

Throughout the week, Anchored4Life team leaders served as guest teachers in health classes at Fort Dix.



*Josue Diaz places a pie in the face of Denbo-Crichton principal Brett Thorp.*

Students also wore a different color each day (example: red on Monday for heart health) to symbolize different aspects of health.

"Health and Wellness Week serves as an opportunity for students to learn essential skills and habits that promote physical, mental, and emotional health," said Jessica Knier, Ed. D., Director of School Counseling and Health Services. "Through the various lessons and activities, students gain valuable knowledge and tools to navigate life's challenges. We believe that investing in their health and wellness now will empower them to lead fulfilling lives both in and out of the classroom and grow into happy and healthy adults."



*Falen Hemmings from the New Jersey Children's Oral Health Program demonstrates how to properly brush teeth at Emmons.*



Pemberton Learning Community: Pursuing Excellence One Child at a Time



# DENBO-CRICHTON Hosts LUNCH WITH A COP



Denbo-Crichton Elementary School hosted members of the Pemberton Township Police Department for its second annual “Lunch with a Cop” event on Wednesday, February 21st.

The officers visited the cafeteria during lunch periods and interacted with students while they ate their lunches. A few officers also grabbed lunch themselves and joined the students at different tables to talk to them about school. Excited students requested autographs and high-fives as they interacted with members of the local police department. Officers also joined students at lunch recess to participate in various exercise activities. We thank our local officers for taking the time to help build this important community relationship!



## BUSANSKY Hosts WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH ASSEMBLY

Busansky Elementary School hosted a Women’s History Month assembly to highlight prominent figures in American women’s history. Nine participating students dressed up as notable women in history and provided a presentation on their background. Taylor Swift, Simone Biles, Katherine Johnson, J.K. Rowling, Carli Lloyd, Anne Frank, Michelle Obama, Kamala Harris and Ketanji Brown Jackson were represented during the ceremony. Busansky student Brayden Hullings served as the Master of Ceremonies and introduced each cast member as they walked onto the stage!



▲ Above, Busansky student Aria Rogers poses as United States Vice President Kamala Harris and provides a presentation on Harris’ journey to becoming the first U.S. female V.P.



▲ Above, Busansky student Brayden Hullings, also known as “Professor Indiana Jones,” serves as the Master of Ceremonies for Busansky’s Women’s History Month assembly.



► Right, Busansky student Aubree Parks, dressed as soccer player Carli Lloyd, holds a soccer ball and talks about the Olympic gold medalist’s career.





# The Pemberton Players Present "Shrek, the Musical"



The Pemberton Players successfully showcased three performances of their latest production, "Shrek, the Musical" at PTHS on February 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The show was based on the DreamWorks film series. Children and adults alike were entertained by the amusing and talented performances!

# THE PEMBERTON, JR. PLAYERS PRESENT "FROZEN, JR."



*The Pemberton, Jr. Players successfully presented two performances of their latest musical production, "Frozen, Jr." at Helen A. Fort Middle School on March 1st and 2nd. The Pemberton, Jr. Players is a group formed of sixth, seventh and eighth grade middle school theater students from Helen Fort and Newcomb. The show was based on the Disney production "Frozen" from 2013. Spectators were wowed by the performers' delightful and artistic productions!*



# PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS CELEBRATES MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH



March is Music in Our Schools Month. Students from Busansky, Denbo-Crichton, Fort Dix, Helen Fort, Newcomb and PTHS participated in the district's annual Choral Festival on March 14th. The district's annual Instrumental and Fine Arts Festival took place on March 20th. The event featured band students from the six schools that also participated in the Choral Festival. Artwork created by students was also displayed in the hallways for spectators to view upon arrival!

## PTHS' Atiyana Williams Named N.J. Girls Wrestler of the Year

PTHS senior Atiyana Williams became the first girls' wrestling state champion in school history, and the school's first overall state champion in wrestling since 1990. The senior defeated Cherry Hill West's Ari Tyson in the 165-pound state final at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City on Saturday, March 2nd. She defeated Tyson four times this season. Williams finished with a perfect 28-0 record, including 27 pins during her senior campaign. 17 of those 27 pins occurred in the first period.

NJ.com named Williams New Jersey's Girls Wrestler of the Year and the Courier-Post acknowledged the senior as the South Jersey Girls Wrestler of the Year.

"Earning those two honors is a once in a lifetime opportunity," Pemberton coach Gerald Hewitt said. "She is truly the best of the best."

Williams also won the Queen of the East Tournament, South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Tournament and the South Region titles.

"Atiyana's accomplishment has put her on another level," Hewitt said. "Her hard work and determination has helped the girls' program tremendously."

Congratulations, Atiyana!



*An official raises Atiyana Williams' right arm after she defeated Cherry Hill West's Ari Tyson in the 165-pound girls' wrestling state championship via pin at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City on Saturday, March 2nd.*



# CAREER DAY AT BUSANSKY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Busansky Elementary School hosted its second annual Career Day on March 22nd. Several organizations were involved and occupations represented included health care professionals, members of law enforcement agencies, tax specialists, firefighters, local government officials, animal rescue workers, active duty military members, bus drivers, mechanics, water treatment professionals, and more!



*Pemberton Pride* is a publication of  
Pemberton Township Schools

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Terry Maldonado**, *President*

**Robert King**, *Vice President*

**Vicky Adams**

**Carmen Bivins**

**Roberto Fernandez**

**Wanda Knox**

**Lionel Lee**

**Sheri Lowery**

**Lori Sheridan**

---

**Jeff Havers**  
Superintendent

**Pasquale Yacovelli**  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**Adelina Giannetti**  
Assistant Superintendent

**Jannett Pacheco**  
Director of Human Resources

**Jeannie Mignella**  
Media Services Coordinator

**Kevin Emmons**  
Editor

Pemberton Township High School  
**Black History Club**

*Realms of Royalty*

**FASHION SHOW**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024**

Doors open at 5:30 pm for Vendor Shopping  
Show begins at 6:30 pm

Tickets: \$5 in advance / \$7 at the door  
(Children 4 & under FREE)

Pemberton Township High School Auditorium  
148 Arney's Mt. Road, Pemberton, NJ 08068

For Tickets Contact Letha Jackson  
at 609-893-8141 ext. 1075 or at [ljackson@pemb.org](mailto:ljackson@pemb.org)

Please send ideas for articles to the Media Services Department or email [kemmons@pemb.org](mailto:kemmons@pemb.org). Questions? Call 609-893-8141, ext. 1025.