

Columbus School

February-June  
Volume 1, Issue 2



# Cougar News

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

GREETINGS COLUMBUS!

WELCOME TO THE START OF SUMMER! EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE COLUMBUS SCHOOL COMMUNITY HAS MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF OUR STUDENTS AND HERE IS THIS FINAL ISSUE OF OUR 2018-19 EDITION OF COLUMBUS NEWSLETTER TO PROVE IT. WE HOPE YOU THOROUGHLY ENJOY EVERY PAGE! A SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT TO MS. MAYLING CARDENAS, THIS YEAR'S EDITOR AND CHIEF OF OUR NEWSLETTER AND OUR ASSOCIATE EDITOR, MS. LAUREN SCHWARTZ.

AS PRINCIPAL FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS, I MUST SAY IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE! THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SERVE YOU AND OUR STUDENTS IN THIS ROLE AND WORK. I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING OF ALL THE GREAT THINGS COLUMBUS WILL BE AND DO FOR OUR CHILDREN IN YEARS TO COME.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER AND KEEP IN TOUCH!

YOURS TRULY,  
STEPHEN V. PETERS, PRINCIPAL

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### IMPORTANT DATES

- Have a great summer!

# Hoops for Heart!

Our school is joining thousands of others to participate in the Hoops for Heart event with the American Heart Association. Students can join exciting fundraising events where they learn heart healthy skills, have fun shooting hoops and raising money for the American Heart Association. Last year Columbus School was able to raise \$1,655 to help kids and families live heart-healthy lives. This year we made an effort to raise \$2,138 and help students strive to understanding the importance of staying active and eating healthy. Students also joined in to donate and were able to have Dress Like a Gym Teacher Day.



## READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

In March we celebrated Read Across America! In honor of the amazingly creative author, Dr. Seuss, we had a week long celebration, where students were able to show off their wild side. They came to school wearing crazy socks, wild hair and mismatched clothes. We also came together as a community to celebrate the importance of reading and the joys of reading. Guests from around town, including our Mayor, Dan Reiman, police officers, firefighters, Board of Education members, school administrators and students from the Middle School came to read their favorite children's book to different classes. We even had a special visit from the Cat in the Hat! The kids had a great time!

It is always important to remember "You are never too old, too wacky, too wild to pick up a book and read to a child" -Dr. Seuss



# World Read Aloud Day

On February 1st Columbus School celebrated the 10th annual World Read Aloud Day! World Read Aloud Day started 10 years ago by Scholastic in hopes to unite people around the world by highlighting the importance of reading aloud and sharing stories. We had a great time at Columbus School joining in the celebration! Students and staff came to school dressed as their favorite storybook characters and were able to share their favorite books. Students listened to administrators and staff read their favorite stories aloud, and through [storylineonline.com](http://storylineonline.com) students were even able to hear movie stars read their favorite books.

During our celebration, the 2nd and 3rd Grade students took part in Readers Theater, where they were able to read and act out stories with their classmates. The older classes were matched up with younger classes to do read alouds and act as reading mentors for the younger students. We can't wait to celebrate again next year!



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

On February 28, 2019 Columbus School celebrated Black History Month. Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements made by African Americans and is a time to recognize their contributions to American History. During the event the Columbus School choir sang two song selections and student volunteers from the fifth grade and honor society spotlighted influential African American activists, lawyers, politicians, scientists, doctors, inventors, writers, artists, educators, athletes and entertainers.





# MATH NIGHT

On the evening of March 13th, our families were invited to Columbus school to take part in some fun math activities with their children. There were centers set up for grades K-5 run by our very own teachers. Parents were encouraged to put on their student thinking caps along with their children! We love providing all the opportunities we can for parents to learn and see some of the amazing things going on in classrooms. Families were able to not only participate in their child's current grade level activities, and they were also able to expose themselves to the upcoming grades and activities!



## STUDENTS VS. STAFF KICKBALL GAME

During our Annual Spirit Week, the 4th & 5th grade classes joined together to watch their fellow classmates compete against their teachers in our 2nd Annual Kickball Game. It was a close game but our Columbus Teachers came out victorious once again against our Columbus Students!



# SPELLING BEE



This year, Columbus School hosted its First Annual SCRIPPS Spelling Bee. Preliminary rounds in grades 1-5 took place in classrooms. Then, five finalists from each homeroom participated in a championship round with students in each grade placing first, second and third as friends and families watched from the audience. We look forward to next year's bee! Way to go, Columbus School!



# TITLE I STEAM NIGHT

On Thursday, May 3rd, Title I students and their families participated in Title I STEAM Night. Participants had the opportunity to design and build their own race cars, learn binary code by making bracelets representing the letters in their names, and build a rocket and launch it into the solar system! Everyone had a great time working collaboratively and did a wonderful job exploring science, math and art.



## PRE-K PROM

On May 3, 2019, Columbus School hosted their very first annual Pre-K Prom! The theme was “Under the Stars” and the gym was decorated with balloons, centerpieces, and a photo backdrop. Students were able to dress to impress and dance the night away with their someone special. A professional photographer was on hand to capture special moments, and a DJ played all the best music! Students also enjoyed a snack and drink. It was a great night!





## Watch D.O.G.S!



With Spring in the Air, on Tuesday, March 19th, 28 fathers and father-figures came together to enjoy donuts with their child(ren) and to hear about our fantastic program at Columbus School. The Watch D.O.G.S program has two primary goals; to provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating that education is important by their presence, and to provide an extra set of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

During their day of volunteering, the Watch D.O.G. gets a glimpse of their students' everyday world and learns about the increasingly complex challenges and decisions today's youth are facing. As a result, they can learn to relate better to their student and hopefully connect with them. They also gain a greater awareness of the positive impact they can have on their student's life in three critical areas; academic performance, self-esteem, social behavior.

As a result, over half the fathers and father-figures signed up for a date to volunteer during this school year. If you weren't able to attend our events this year, please stay tuned for more information on our Fall event once the 2019-2020 school year begins! We look forward to seeing you in the classrooms next year!



## FUN FAIR

Our annual Fun Fair was held on May 31st for students in Pre-K to 2nd grade. It was a warm, sunny day filled with the sounds of children shrieking with excitement as they jumped around inside the bounce house with their friends and slid down the slides on the playground. There were many different games to play like the pizza box relay, the water sponge relay, sack races, ring toss, bowling and fish bowl toss. The children also got to visit various craft stations to make beaded bracelets, sun visors and sand art. Other favorite activities of the day included tattoos, face painting and a bubble filled dance floor where the students got to show off their moves.

There were many parents, students from Carteret High School's Pathways and National Honor Society, Columbus School's NEHS students, and staff members that volunteered to help with the games and activities. Students ended their time outside with a snack and an ice pop to enjoy back in their classrooms. Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to what next year will bring!



## FIELD DAY

Our annual Field Day took place on June 3, 2019 for grades 3, 4 & 5 on our playground at Columbus School. Field Day is an all day event where each grade level comes out to participate in a various amount of sporting activities. These activities include: Potato Sack Races, Sponge Relays, Pizza Box Relays, Obstacle Course, Agility Bag Station & Tug of War. Students are provided with a lunch, music entertainment and an opportunity to have a fun-filled day with their teachers and peers!





# DANCE TEAM PERFORMANCE

On Thursday, June 6th the Columbus School Dance Team held their second annual performance for their family and friends. The team consists of over thirty 4th and 5th grade boys and girls. This years theme was "Peace, Love & Dance". The dancers performed four different dances to "I feel good", "Level Up/Mi Gente", "Wings/Love Myself" and "Save the World". The dance team also performed for their classmates. We are so proud of the hard work and dedication the students showed this year during dance team practices!

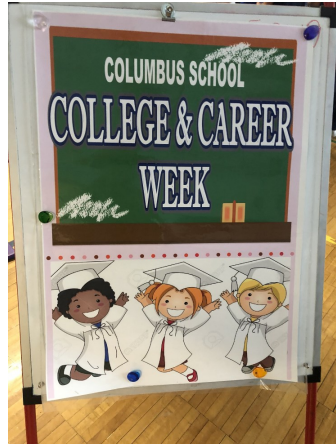


# 4TH GRADE WAX MUSEUM

On June 7th, the fourth grade students participated in our annual Living Wax Museum. Students dressed up as a famous person of their choosing and recited a short speech when guests stepped on their "button". Poster boards were also displayed, which gave important information about the historical figures. Our attendees included parents and other members of the public, along with our own third and fifth grade students. We had an amazing turnout and the students had a fun time working on the project at home. Our fourth graders did a wonderful job and we are proud of them!



# COLLEGE AND CAREER WEEK!



In May we celebrated our college and career week. During this week students did classroom activities that included goal setting, planning their further dreams, and envisioning their future accomplishments. All of our parents were invited to participate in sharing with their child, their dreams and aspirations for them. This activity invited parents to help their children realize their full potential for the future. Our 4th and 5th grade students were able to visit our college and career fair where they had the opportunity to speak with people from all different professions including firemen, police men, accountants, fitness instructors and scientists.

