

# WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOLS

**T**he Valedictorian for the Class of 2016 is Rasha Abouelsaadate. As a student at West Deptford High School, Rasha has pursued the most rigorous honors/advanced placement program. She has completed 19 Honors and Advanced Placement courses and has earned a cumulative GPA of a 106.43 on a 100 point scale. As a result of her determination to challenge herself and her motivation to succeed, Rasha has earned induction into the West Deptford High School Chapters of the National Honor Society as well as the World Language Honor Society.

In addition to her academic success, Rasha has distinguished herself as a talented musician, singer, and actor. Rasha was selected in both her junior and senior years to serve as Drum Major of our award-winning Marching Band. She also has performed on numerous occasions as part of the High School's concert choir and Madrigals groups. Most

notably, Rasha has entertained audiences performing lead roles in the school musicals including Rizzo in *Grease* and Morticia in *The Adamms Family*.

When she is not performing, Rasha can be found helping others. She gives unselfishly of her time to help both her school and local communities. Rasha has been an active member of several school clubs and organizations including Key Club, where she currently serves as Vice President and an Action Team captain; Physics Olympics, the Gifted and Talented program where she has co-coordinated the peer tutoring program; and her church Youth Group, where she serves as President. Rasha has also volunteered at the West Deptford Public Library during her summer breaks.

In the fall, Rasha will attend the University of the Sciences and begin a 6-year journey toward a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. We wish her well in all her future endeavors!

### CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIAN



Rasha Abouelsaadate



### CLASS OF 2016 SALUTATORIAN



Matthew West

**T**he Salutatorian for the Class of 2016 is Matthew West. Matthew has pursued the most rigorous academic program and has been widely recognized for his academic achievements. He has been enrolled in 19 Honors and Advanced Placement courses earning him a 105.98 GPA during his time at West Deptford High School. As a result of his hard work and dedication, Matthew was inducted into the National Honors Society. He has earned numerous awards for his academic ability, amazing character, and athletic talent.

Matthew has not only proven to be a leader in the classroom, but he has also distinguished himself as a leader in a broad range of school activities. He was the President for our DECA club, and a four-

year member of our WDHS chapter. He has participated in multiple events at the regional and state levels, and received 1<sup>st</sup> place for creating an effective business-marketing plan at last year's competition. In addition to his challenging academic program and his vital role in DECA, he was also an active member in Key Club, Cross Country, and Track.

Matthew inspires positive attitude and behavior in his peers. He strives for the best in all that he does, and is willing to work through whatever obstacles are thrown his way in order to achieve his goals. Matthew has been a tremendous role model and a valued contributor to the West Deptford community. In the fall, Matthew will be attending Lehigh University where he will major in Biology.

# West Deptford High School Class of 2016 SCHOLASTIC HONORS TOP 10% AWARDS

Abouelsaadata, Rasha Mohamed  
West, Matthew Curtis  
Simmons, Gary Enoch  
Cargill, Sydney Elisabeth  
Streets, Christian Monroe  
Ennis, Connor Sean  
Munyan, David Joseph  
Arseneau, Camryn Elise

Bartley, Melissa Ann  
Budd, Samantha Renee  
Kipp, Annalise Joy  
Revelas, Catherine Lee  
Linquist, Jessica Marie  
Gilligan, Emily Marie  
Kotter, Emily Lynn  
Wilner, Micaela Isabel

Forbes, Mia Li  
Plotts, Allison Nicole  
Warlow, Jacob Dylan  
Reichert, Katelyn Elizabeth  
Denny, Ryan Joseph  
Gotchel, Kyle Richard  
Clements, Makayla Patrice

## CLASS OF 2016 FUTURE PLANS



**Craig Ivan Abbott** ..... Employment  
**Rasha Mohamed Abouelsaadata**.... University of the Sciences:  
Pharmacy  
**Willie Earl Adams** ..... The Career Center at GCIT  
**Eric Edward Ainsley** ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Health, Physical Education and Recreation  
**Kimberly Lynn Alexander** ..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Undeclared  
**Heather Lynn Allen**.....Employment  
**Alexa Marie Anderson** ..... Pennsylvania State University-  
Brandywine: Human Development and Family Studies  
**Camryn Elise Arseneau** .....Rowan University: English  
**Dominic Gene Auremma** .....Employment  
**Brianna Nicole Austin** Rowan College at Gloucester County /  
Thomas Jefferson University PACE Program: Health Science  
**Tynaisha Monae Austin** Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Business Studies  
**Christian Paul Avellino**.....Employment  
**Zachary Tyler Baginski** Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Engineering Technologies  
**Avery Lynn Bailey** ..... Drexel University:  
Business and Engineering  
**Rachael Elizabeth Ball**... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared  
**Andre Derek Ballou**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Computer Graphics Arts  
**John Ryan Barrett**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Law Enforcement  
**Jordan Briel Kristen Bartlett** ..... Palm Beach State College:  
Biology  
**Melissa Ann Bartley**..... The College of New Jersey:  
Psychology  
**Samantha Jean Bergin**.... Rutgers University-New Brunswick:  
Biological Sciences  
**Wilson David Bibler**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Information Technology  
**Emma Leigh Blades**..... Moravian College: Health Science

**Alexis Noelle Boehm**.....James Madison University: Nursing  
**Parker Otto Bonaventure**....Stockton University: Biology and  
Marine Science  
**Brooke Paige Bradley**.... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Biology  
**Steven Andrew Breen**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Arts and Sciences; Communications Option  
**Robert Summerville Brewer**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Education  
**Matthew Ryan Britt**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Marketing and Management  
**Samantha Renee Budd**..... Rutgers University-New Brunswick:  
Engineering  
**Sydney Elisabeth Cargill**.... University of Delaware: Geological  
Sciences  
**Trevor Avery Carr**..... Ursinus College: Health and Exercise  
Physiology  
**Devyn Saige Carroll**..... Camden County College: Computer  
Graphics; Game Design & Development  
**Jason Sherwin Carter**..... Camden County College: Undeclared  
**Samantha Jo Casper**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared  
**Tyler James Cleary**..... Rowan University: Management  
**Makayla Patrice Clements**..... Spelman College:  
Anthropology and Sociology  
**Erica Taylor Colna**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared  
**Michael Francis Colville**..Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Computer Science  
**Christian Michael Conaway**.....Employment  
**Tommaso Coppola**..... Kutztown University: Criminal Justice  
**Briana Providencia Costello**..... Rosemont College:  
Elementary and Special Education  
**Alyssa Sariya Cruz**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Exercise Science  
**Gregory D'Ottavi** ..... Seton Hall University: Business  
**Maggie Davis**..... University of North Carolina-Wilmington:  
Nursing  
**Gwen Alexis Decker**..... Undecided  
**Ashley Lynn DeHart**..... Rutgers University - Camden: Nursing  
**John Joseph DeLia**..... Ursinus College: Biology

**Ryan Joseph Denny**..... Rowan University:  
Mechanical Engineering

**Nicholas Xavier Diaco**..... Colgate University: Mathematics

**Andrew Pagnavarak Diep**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Exercise Science

**Richard Joseph DiRenzo III**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Computer Science

**Justina Lynne Dougherty-Reilly**..... Rutgers University-  
Camden: Criminal Justice

**Karlie Alexis Dreyer**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Arts and Sciences; Psychology Option

**Colin Matthew Eckley**..... West Chester University: Undeclared

**Chandler Elias Elliott**..... Undecided

**Katelyn Nicole Emick**..... Stockton University: Undeclared

**Connor Sean Ennis**..... University of Massachusetts-Amherst:  
Civil Engineering

**Matthew John Enzman**... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared

**Farrah Pan-oy Fabrigas**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Art Option

**Nicole Alice Fallon**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Chemistry

**Shawn Alexander Fanslau**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Criminal Justice Option

**Shaelynn Marie Fisher**..... Drexel University: Engineering

**Mia Li Forbes**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Arts and Sciences; Undecided

**Cameron Patrick Frantzen**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Criminal Justice

**Jade Rachel Freeberg**..... Rider University: Health Sciences

**Karley Danielle Friel**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Education

**Drew Edward Funk**..... Employment

**Allison Elyse Gallagher**..... York College of Pennsylvania:  
Criminal Justice

**Carol Ann Garrett**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Business Administration

**Jordan Marie Garrity**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared

**Julia Catharine Gibson**..... Rutgers University-Camden:  
Criminal Justice

**Emily Marie Gilligan**..... Rider University:  
Environmental Sciences

**Ciara Lorraine Girouard**..... Indiana University: Undeclared

**Pasquale Gismondi**..... Widener University: Engineering

**Cara Elizabeth Goggin**.... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Pre-Nursing

**AllyMarie Gordon**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared

**Kyle Richard Gotchel**.....Rutgers University-New Brunswick:  
Finance

**Thomas Paul Grassi**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Arts and Sciences; English Option

**Richard Greatrex**..... Unites States Army

**Dashawn Damon-Steven Green**... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Marketing and Management

**Nathan Thomas Green**.... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Computer Science

**Stephen Austin Griffin**.... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Arts and Sciences; Criminal Justice Option

**Bobbiann Marie Gubbei**..... West Virginia University:  
Criminology

**Jaclyn Taylor Hahn**..... Neumann University: Nursing

**Justyne Helen Haley**..... Widener University: Nursing

**Madison Rose Haley**..... University of Alabama: Undeclared

**David Allan Hamilton**..... Delaware Valley University:  
Criminal Justice

**Kassandra Therese Hammond**..... PB Cosmetology Education  
Centre: Cosmetology

**Kevin Clayton Harris**..... Camden County College -  
The Technical Institute:Welding

**Lindsey Gwin Harris**..... The College of New Jersey:  
Journalism/Professional Writing

**Justin William Hastings**..... Rowan College at  
Gloucester County: Undeclared

**Casie Lynn Haubois**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Education

**Anthony Craig Headman**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Marketing and Management

**Addison Craig Hennequant**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Pre-Nursing

**Kaitlin Marie Hesser**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County  
(Rowan Choice): Psychology

**Kimberly Ann Hesser**..... Neumann University: Nursing

**Eric Delaney Hibbs**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Engineering Science

**Daniel James Hicks**..... East Carolina University:  
Marketing

**Phoebe Lynn Hill**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County  
(Rowan Choice): Education

**Wayne Dennis Hires**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Computer Science

**Owen Conroy Hoffman**... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared

**RebeccaLynne Holdstein**..... Rowan College at  
Gloucester County: Pre-Diagnostic Medical Sonography

**Erykah Mone' Holmes**..... PB Cosmetology Education Centre:  
Cosmetology

**Nicholas Dean Horn**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared

**Davin Christopher Horner**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Marketing and Management

**DanielleLynn Houpt**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Business Administration

**Samantha Lee Iraldi**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Health Sciences

**Lucylle Yvonne Jenkins**.....Blue Ridge Community College:  
Undecided

**Shaliah Taree Johnson**..... SUNY Delhi: Event Management

**Nicholas John Kappre**..... United States Marine Corps

**Desiree Jasmine Kearse**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Psychology Option

**Emma Grace Kelly**..... Rowan University: Athletic Training

**Sean Haslam Kelly**.... Rowan University: Radio/Television/Film

**Jason Michael Kiessling**..... West Virginia University: Biology

**Albert Joseph Kilpatrick**..... Kutztown University: Accounting

**Annalise Joy Kipp**..... Rutgers University-Camden: Nursing

**Emily Lynn Kotter**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Computer Science

**Corinne Noelle LaGrange**..... Stockton University:  
Business Studies; Accounting

**Sean Robert Leaser**..... New Jersey Army National Guard

**Joshua Edward Legg**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Business Studies

**Brendan Robert Leonhardt**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Radio/Television/Film Option

**Jarryd Charles Ley**..... The College of New Jersey:  
Mechanical Engineering

**Christian Blake Lindabury**..... Syracuse University:  
Television/Radio/Film

**Jessica Marie Linquist**..... George Washington University:  
Psychology

**Katelyn Marie MacDonald**..... Widener University: Nursing

**Matthew Bryan Mahon**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Criminal Justice Option

**Alex Joseph Malcolm**..... Pennsylvania State University:  
Finance

**Marc Anthony Malloy**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Biology

**Marcus Antonio Malloy**..... University of Southern Maine:  
Business Administration; Marketing

**Viscount Basil Martin**..... Champlain College:  
Game Programming

**Lauren Summer Maslinski**..... University of the Sciences:  
Occupational Therapy

**Arthur Westley Matthews**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Criminal Justice Option

**Timothy Joseph McCloskey**..... Stockton University:  
Health Sciences; Pre-Physical Therapy Track

**Erin Kristin McConville**..... Montclair State: Fashion Studies

**Elizabeth Anne McCool**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Education

**Jonathan Paul McCormick**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Communication Option

**Curtis William McDonald**..... University of New Haven:  
Criminal Justice

**Luke Michael McKeown**..... Rowan University:  
Physical Science

**Danielle Ashley McLaney**..... Towson University:  
International Relations

**Matthew Francis McSorley**..... Rowan University:  
Civil Engineering

**Makayla Paige Mehaffey**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Arts and Sciences; Criminal Justice Option

**Nicholas Ryan Meyer**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Arts and Sciences; Pre-Law Option

**Briel Emirah Mitchell**..... Rowan College at Burlington County:  
Graphic Design and Digital Media

**Shane William Moore**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Business Administration

**Taylor Renee Moore**..... Stockton University: Biology

**Austin Nicholas Moss**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Computer Science

**David Joseph Munyan**..... Pennsylvania State University:  
Meteorology

**Aaron Alexander Olsen**..... Army National Guard

**Stephanie Ortiz Martinez**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Pre-Nursing

**Marquise DeShaun Owens**..... Undecided

**Alyssa Marie Palumbo**..... West Chester University:  
Pre-Pharmacy D. Option

**Nicholas John Paterna**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Chemistry, Pre-Pharmacy D. Option

**Danayjha Aliyha Paulk**.... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Biology

**Brendan MacKenzie Persicketti**..... Rowan University:  
Biological Science

**Zachary Tyler Peterson**..... Long Island University-Brooklyn:  
Sports Management

**Christina Catherine Petito**..... Rutgers University-  
New Brunswick: Undeclared

**Alexa Bryn Petracci**..... Salisbury University:  
Early Childhood Education

**Julian John Pinto**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Education

**Kevin Daniel Pizzutillo**..... Widener University: Accounting

**Allison Nicole Plotts**..... Elizabethtown College:  
Occupational Therapy

**Gabrielle Cecilia Polimeni**..... Rowan University: Undeclared

**Nathan Aaron Poshywak**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Automotive Technology(Ford ASSET Program)

**Nicole Carol Poulos**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Undeclared

**Rita Loretta Prinz**..... Widener University: Nursing

**Jannah Pearl Quigley**..... Rutgers University-Camden:  
Health Sciences

**Elsie Sue Racite**..... Employment

**Paul Arthur Raney**..... Undecided

**Christopher James Raphaely**..... United States Marine Corps

**Lauren Quinn Rasmusson**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Pre-Nursing

**Brooke Nicole Rattay**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Law Enforcement

**Cory James Redington**..... Stockton University: Psychology

**Jeinajua Gloria Reed**..... Virginia Union University:  
Criminal Justice

**Walter Robert Reeve**..... Rowan College at Gloucester County:  
Biology

**KayLynne Mae Reichart**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Pre-Nursing

**Katelyn Elizabeth Reichert**..... University of the Sciences:  
Occupational Therapy

**Catherine Lee Revelas**..... Drew University: Biology

**Ty Douglas Riley**..... Automotive Training Center:  
Automotive Technologies

**Autumn Angel Roberts**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Business Administration

**Dominic Joseph Ropel**..... Undecided

**Izabella Catherine Ruskai**..... Rutgers University-Camden:  
Biology

**Sabrina Lauren Sacco**.... Drexel University: Sport Management

**Frank Anthony Salvatore**..... Rowan College at Gloucester  
County: Business Studies

**Toni Lynn Scola**..... Manhattanville College: Education

**Elijah Pedro Shabazz**..... Widener University:  
Mechanical Engineering

**Cameron John Shields**..... Drexel University:  
Environmental Engineering

<b>Tori Elizabeth Shivers</b> ..... Philadelphia University: Biology	<b>Noah Raphael Vitale</b> ..... Rutgers University-New Brunswick: Biotechnology
<b>Gary Enoch Simmons</b> ..... Rutgers University-New Brunswick: Aerospace Engineering	<b>Derek James Wakeley</b> ..... Stony Brook University: Business Management
<b>Jaida Paige Simmons</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County (Rowan Choice): Pre-Nursing	<b>Ryan Daniel Walker</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Arts and Sciences; Criminal Justice Option
<b>Bradley Clifton Smith</b> ..... Undecided	<b>Heather Janine Ward</b> ..... Holy Family University: Elementary and Special Education
<b>London Grey Smith</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Arts and Sciences; Undecided	<b>Jacob Dylan Warlow</b> ..... Rutgers University-New Brunswick: Civil and Environmental Engineering
<b>Giana Soli</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Education	<b>Todd Jared Watson</b> ..... Santa Monica College: Undeclared
<b>Rebecca Marie Solimeo</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Pre-Nursing	<b>Michael Joseph Watts</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Business Administration
<b>Zachery Rudolph Solimeo</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Business Administration	<b>Nicole Paige Weer</b> ..... Employment
<b>Samantha Nicole Souder</b> ..... Temple University: Undeclared	<b>Thomas Joseph Weer</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Computer Science
<b>Laura Anna Sparacio</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Pre-Nursing	<b>Benjamin Daniel Weidner</b> ..... Rowan University: Computer Science
<b>Katherine Lynn Sproul</b> ..... University of South Florida: Biomedical Sciences	<b>Andrew Kevin Weikel</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Undeclared
<b>Michael Anthony Stauffer</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Undecided	<b>Matthew Curtis West</b> ..... Lehigh University: Biology
<b>Megan Ann Steffney</b> ..... Widener University: Nursing	<b>Andrew Stephen White</b> .... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Marketing and Management
<b>Megan Renee Stemple</b> ..... Undecided	<b>Mitchel James Wileczek</b> ..... Mount Saint Mary's University: Health Sciences
<b>Christian Monroe Streets</b> ..... Temple University: Computer Science	<b>Micaela Isabel Wilner</b> ..... Ithaca College: Exploratory Studies
<b>Matthew Christopher Szczepanski</b> ..... United States Navy	<b>Julia Morgan Wilson</b> ..... Stockton University: Business Studies
<b>Fiona Rae Terranova</b> ..... Widener University: Biology	<b>Gabrielle Lee Winter</b> ..... Rutgers University-Camden: Criminal Justice
<b>Danielle Alexis Tory</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Business Administration	<b>Aidan Glenn Witherspoon</b> ..... Westminster College: History
<b>Nicholas Paul Tropiano</b> ... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Business Studies	<b>Carl Washington Young</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Business Studies
<b>Caylin Deborah Troughton</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Law Enforcement	<b>Tyler Jack Yowler</b> ..... Rowan College at Gloucester County: Criminal Justice
<b>Kyle Franklin Ulerick</b> ..... Employment	

## Second Graders Ready to Begin New Frontier

It is hard to believe how fast the past two years have gone by and it is now time to send the Class of 2026 to explore their new frontier at Green-Fields. As a culminating activity, our fabulous second grade staff organized a special day for our students to add one last Oakview memory in their lives. Teachers worked together to plan a "Frontier Day," where all students had opportunities to participate in fun events together as a class. We grouped students from all ten classes randomly for the purpose of promoting social interaction and encouraging them to meet new friends.

Frontier Day was broken into eight individual stations, and each group of students rotated through each station. Stations consisted of line dancing, sing-a-longs, water activities, relay races, reading stories, cattle wrangling, and even panning for gold! Students also had some relaxation time spent in tents to hydrate and enjoy ice pops as a break from all the fun.

Thanks to the many parents who volunteered to run each station, the teachers were able to circulate around, take photos, and participate in the activities with their students. Needless to say, it was a fun day for all involved and such an awesome way to end our students' days at Oakview in a positive way.

It is definitely bittersweet having to say goodbye to this wonderful group of students and we will miss them tremendously. On behalf of our entire staff, I would like to wish the Class of 2026 best of luck as they begin the next chapter of their lives, and I am confident they will continue to make us proud. Thanks for all the memories you gave us and please come back to visit!



## Red Bank Ends the Year with a Bang!

With beautiful blue skies and plenty of sunshine, a great field day was on tap for Red Bank 1<sup>st</sup> Graders. Many parent volunteers and the Friends of Rachel Club from the High School worked together to make the day a huge success. As the kids traveled from station to station with their classes and teachers, their smiles just grew and grew. The tug-o-war station was a popular stop as was the obstacle course, but none was more popular than the water game stations. It was hard to determine who was having more fun; the parents, High School volunteers, or our Red Bank students.



Our kindergarten classes had to wait a while longer for their chance to get outdoors and enjoy their day of fun. Red Bank Kindergarten Classes were lucky to take a short bus ride over to Oakview to join their other Kindergarten friends on June 1st. Field Day gave them the opportunity to meet some new friends, see their new school building, and hang out with Mr. Dougherty, their new Principal. Again, there were so many parent volunteers as well as many who came out simply to be spectators. Mrs. Peticari's and Mrs. Elberson's classes couldn't have asked for a better day.

The highlight of the end of the school year was the 1st Annual Red Bank "Student Appreciation Week." We take time out to honor our Teachers, Nurses, and Administrative Assistants, but where would we all be without our Students? Red Bank Staff decided to celebrate the most important people in our School, our students. The week was kicked off with a staff greeting of pom poms, cowbells, and clappers as the kids walked through a human tunnel of cheers. The PTO provided the students with a small surprise gift each day; pencils, erasers, book marks, etc. Teachers did special activities in their classrooms. Every morning teachers were guest morning announcers. They gave shout outs, wrote poems, and told jokes all to let our kids know how much we appreciate them. On Thursday, the big surprise was the bouncy house obstacle course sponsored by the Red Bank PTO. The extra recess became so much more fun! Of course the week couldn't end without a bang, so the culminating activity was the "Ultimate Glow in the Dark" dance party. With the lights turned off and glow necklaces around their necks, teachers escorted 220 six-seven year olds into the All Purpose Room for an afternoon of dancing. Not only did the kids dance continuously, but they were joined by all their teachers and Red Bank faculty.



*It was a great year at Red Bank...enjoy the summer; we can't wait to do it all again in September.*

## Exciting Year for Middle School ACES Program

It has been an exciting year for the Academic and Creative Enrichment for Students (ACES) Program at West Deptford Middle School, highlighted by outstanding accomplishments from our gifted and talented students. The ACES Program seeks to expand upon and enrich students' learning, by giving them opportunities to engage in project-based activities that go above and beyond the standards in areas of varying academic disciplines. Students are challenged to enrich their critical thinking, problem-solving, and research skills. In grades five through eight, students have participated in exciting learning opportunities this year, such as: publishing authentic folktale picture books informed by multicultural research, exploring food science and nutrition, completing meta-gifted projects of choice, and creating life-sized miniature golf courses using principles of geometry.



One of the cornerstone units of study in the seventh grade and eighth grade programs is participation in the National History Day (NHD) Competition where students conduct original research on historical topics of interest using primary and secondary sources. The contest theme for 2016 was "Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange in History." At the regional competition, hosted at Princeton University, seventh grade students Alec Roselli, Brad Smith, Hayden Weikel, Tommy Thomasson, Allison Flynn, and Jeffrey Lee advanced to the state competition at William Paterson University for their exhibits. Eighth grade students Nicholas Wiggernhorn, Colin Ligameri, and Shay Vitale advanced to states for their documentaries. Shay Vitale's documentary, entitled "The Atomic Bomb: A Scientific Revolution," was in competition at the national contest at the University of Maryland in mid-June. Each year more than 600,000 students participate in the NHD Contest and less than 1% of them make it to the National Contest!

Students were also able to experience field-learning with our first-ever ACES trip to Washington, DC. The students arrived in style via tour buses, and the wet weather did not dampen the spirits of the students and supportive parents eager to explore the historical treasures of our nation's capital. We are so proud of our students and we are grateful for the continued support from our school and community members of the ACES Program.



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## West Deptford's Future "5<sup>th</sup> Graders" End the Year on a Fun Note

The end of the 4th grade year at Green-Fields is filled with all sorts of fun activities for our future Middle School students. It seems as though it's a month-long celebration of sorts as a four-year reward for hard work, perseverance, and growth. These well-deserved rewards include, but are not limited to, our annual choir performances both at West Deptford High School and the Philadelphia Soul, the Safety Patrol Luncheon, Green-Fields' Fun Day, Student/Staff Kickball Game, the 4th Grade Closing Ceremony, Yearbook distribution and signing, and of course, the highlight of the year, the annual trip to Tall Pines Day Camp.

That's right, our soon to be "5th Graders" traded their desks and chairs for paddle boats, water slides, and ping pong balls. Camp Tall Pines is a wonderful little hideaway located in Williamstown, NJ, just about a 45 minute bus ride from Green-Fields School. It's a trip that our 4th grade students look forward to each year, and certainly a fantastic way to end the school year.

After leaving school around 9:35 am, six busloads of excited boys, girls, parents and staff began their ride through the suburbs of South Jersey on the way to this fun place they've only heard about from their older brothers or sisters. Arriving safely, students gathered in the main assembly area to learn a bit about Tall Pines and the activities of the day. Following this short introduction, and after placing their belongings in a designated location, students were free to experience four hours of uninterrupted fun.

So, what did they do? We'll here's the list... swimming, basketball, ping-pong, mini golf, Gaga, open playgrounds, hiking, paddle boats, water slides and lunch, including water ice. This is certainly different from a normal day at school, but a well-deserved reward for our 4th grade students who have done so well over the past four, or even five years of their elementary experience here in West Deptford.

We would like to thank the Elementary PTO for arranging all of the fun, and the teachers and parents who served as chaperones for the day. It is well noted that all of the adults present had plenty to occupy their time as well; especially Mr. Corbitt, who when speaking of his golfing skills, was quick to mention that it is indeed difficult to explain the difference between a putting green and a driving range to 4th grade boys. That said, the day eventually came to an end, and we all returned to Green-Fields with memories to last a lifetime.



Tall Pines Mini Golf Pros Sal Badalamenti, Jack Sparks, Ryan Lawrence, Marcello Simon, and Jack Bonanno