

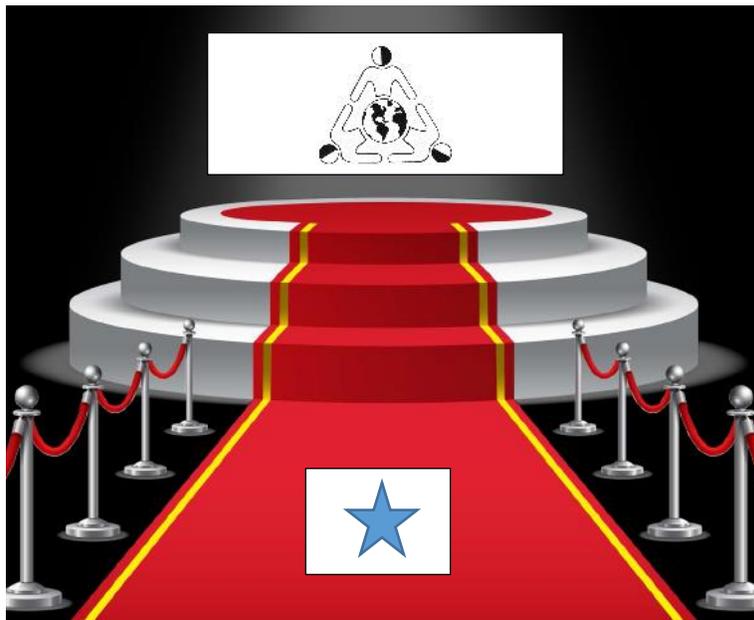
Montclair Public Schools



Great by Design

We Are #MontclairProud

Highlights & Successes of the 2018-2019 School Year



Thank you to the entire Montclair community (staff, students, families, partners, & citizens) for making these successes possible!



Elementary Schools



BRADFORD

Academic

One School, One Book initiative: This initiative supported the school goal of "Boosting Bradford's Culturally Responsive Temperature." Every student in the school was given a copy of the book, The Whole Human Race, which focused on celebrating diversity and accepting differences. There were lessons and activities related to the book that were implemented in each classroom and during art time. The students created their own pictures to accompany the book, and it was re-published with Bradford student artwork gracing the pages.

Professional learning community time was spent looking at Renaissance Learning, DRA, and classroom test data so that teachers could track targeted students and monitor interventions closely.

Social Emotional Learning

The Compassion Project was introduced which established new behavioral expectations: Be Compassionate, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be in Control. Under each category, behaviors were clearly outlined for each of six areas: Classroom, lunchroom, bus, playground, hallway, and bathroom. This systematized a schoolwide understanding of behavioral expectations and approach to the discipline and referral process. A flow chart was developed outlining the process to address student behaviors and a list of major/minor behaviors was also developed so that all staff would have a shared understanding of what a 'major' behavior is for an office referral. The project also ensures that tracking data is done for office referrals. Lastly, a series of social emotional lessons were implemented to help students grow in this area.

Community Engagement

A series of professional development seminars to assist staff in teaching in a more culturally-responsive way (Professional Development with Montclair State University (MSU) History Professor Leslie Wilson, Montclair Public Schools Student Advocate Joe Graham, and MSU Education Professor Fernando Naiditch) were conducted. An Equity and Inclusion Committee consisting of teachers, parents, and community members and a Spanish Club for Spanish-speaking parents were started. Chapters of Brother to Brother and Sister to Sister were established.

CHARLES H. BULLOCK

Academic

In keeping with Bullock's environmental magnet theme, the third grade "raised" trout from eggs to fish and took a field trip to Herschfield Park, Pompton Lakes, NJ to release the trout into the wild.

A group of 29 fifth graders participated in the Perennial Math online competition. The students were divided into teams. One of the teams placed 2nd and another placed 3rd.

Fifth grade students wrote poems, which they submitted to *Young American Poetry Digest*; the *Digest* is distributed to schools around the country. Many of the students' poems were selected for publication.

Social Emotional Learning

Mindfulness: Schoolwide mindful minute starts each day. Staff participated in *Mindfulness in Schools* training.

Service Activities

The third graders raised over \$2,400 for the Georgie Badiel Foundation, which provides access to clean water and education in Africa.

In response to a need for food and medicine by some Bullock families, especially during the summer and school vacations, a Food Pantry was created.

In conjunction with the American Heart Association, the physical education/health teachers ran the month-long fundraising activity, Kids Heart Challenge. Students learned about their hearts and helped others by raising money for the American Heart Association.

EDGEMONT

Academic

Continental Math League: A program which helps further students' progress in the art of problem solving. Students have an unusual opportunity to learn mathematics and enjoy it at the same time. The Math League is a valuable supplement to an enrichment school program, as it aids students with learning math facts, helps improve their reading comprehension and strengthens their problem-solving skills.

WordMasters Challenge: This challenge uses analogies to help students master vocabulary words which are advanced for their grade level (the Gold Division).

Montessori Period (pilot): Students in grades K-2 engaged in project-based learning throughout the year during the Montessori Period; developed to help strengthen the Montessori magnet.

Roots N Shoots: The school club held a meeting with Montclair Mayor Robert Jackson about banning the use of plastic straws in Montclair Township.

Edgemont Debate Team: The team took 1st place in location debate competition vs. Lacordaire Academy. Topics included lowering the voting age and the importance of letter grades in school.

Edgemont's Got Talent: The annual talent show had a record number of acts ranging from magic to a martial arts demonstration.

MFEE Annual Appeal Grant Winner: Mrs. Avril Fagan was the winner of the \$1,000 grant and donated the funds to Edgemont.

Social Emotional Learning

Restorative Justice: This year a restorative justice framework was piloted and implemented and community building circles for both students and adults took place.

Character Education: Monthly character education lessons and schoolwide assemblies were held based on the month's theme (ex. kindness, sportsmanship, friendship, etc.).

Mindfulness: A schoolwide mindful minute was held throughout the day. Faculty/Staff participated in mindfulness training sponsored by the Mindful Breath Foundation.

Service Activities

Edgemont Green Team: The newly formed Green Team partnered with the Roots N Shoots school club to beautify a pollinator garden and butterfly garden. The team has partnered with the PTA to help develop an outdoor learning environment.

Laptop Upcycle: Established a partnership with Laptop Upcycle to provide computers for students in need.

Community Engagement

S.T.E.M. and Families Invention Night: Edgemont was the recipient of a \$5,000 grant to host a S.T.E.M. and Families Invention Night. This grant included 50 LittleBits Kits so families could build robots and projects for the evening and enhanced the S.T.E.M. program.

YMCA Family Night: YMCA Family Night was a PTA-sponsored event hosted at the Geyer YMCA. Families were able to swim, participate in making crafts, take exercise classes and interact with other Edgemont stakeholders.

Brother to Brother/Sister to Sister: Chapters of Brother to Brother and Sister to Sister were established.

Edgemont Book Club: The PTA purchased the same book for the entire school community. This year's title was *Flora and Ulysses*. The culminating activity was a book discussion during Pajama Night. Students had an opportunity to discuss the book with their peers during parent/teacher facilitated circles. There was also a book swap and trivia questions as part of this project.

HILLSIDE

Academic

Schoolwide academic initiatives included the annual Spelling Bee, Wipro Science Grant Implementations, and the annual Science Day.

Family Code Night was an absolute success. Parents and students learned to write code for computers. Coding empowers creative thinking skills and transforms young minds from being passive watchers of screens, to active, passionate creators of what's on their screens.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, student artwork was proudly displayed at the Montclair Library Art Show.

Social Emotional Learning

Screenagers viewing and panel discussion encouraged healthy family dialogue and practices regarding screen time and device usage.

Cyber Awareness Night with parents and a student panel highlighted the pros and cons of increased technology in our lives and how we can all work together to become more mindful about the right balance of screen time.

Social Emotional Learning was embedded in monthly character education lessons for every homeroom class; Start with Hello Week; Anti-bullying poster contest; and Preliminary implementation of restorative practices.

Service Activities

During the month of December, a coat drive was held and students collected over 40 coats and donated them to Toni's Kitchen.

Traveling Troupe performed at seven different venues, nursing homes, community centers, and schools in addition to their school performances.

“Playing for a Cause” Field Day generated over 800 pieces of food and \$500 which went to help Montclair’s Toni’s Kitchen!!

Yearly Red Nose Day, established by a Montclair parent to help end childhood poverty, collected \$383 which went to the Comic Relief Fund.

Community Engagement

Drums of Thunder had a busy year with almost 40 performances at places like the Eagles and 76ers games, college basketball, festivals, and many other places where they brought the thunder!

The after-school Explorers Program offers over 25 classes to enrich students’ minds as they participate in activities such as cooking, space exploration, volleyball, photography and more.

NISHUANE

Academic

“Pennies for Pages” literacy FUNdrasiser is a collaboration with the Montclair Public Library which focuses on reading engagement and response and measures the impact of reading done by students. Included is an author visit, book swap, and reading challenge. This year \$570 was donated to the library. First Grade Lending Library was developed for children to take multicultural literature home to read with their families that includes reading response for both children and their parents/guardians. Two Parent Palooza evening workshops for families were held on topics including reading support, math and social emotional skills.

Social Emotional Learning

A schoolwide positive behavior program (Bucket Filling) for classroom management and tracking behavior management infractions was successfully maintained. Two new norms to focus on responsibility and persistence were added.

A second grader was second place winner in a national Healthy School Lunch Challenge.

As a Compassion Project pilot school, two new expectations were added: Responsibility and perseverance along with a flow chart for the process of student support.

Community Engagement

Developed a Community Resource Guide for staff and family, which provides a list of local community organizations and parent resources, with contact information and ways they will/can support the school. Held a Health and Wellness Fair, including sessions of wellness, led by community partners (i.e. Gorilla Fitness, Yoga studio, karate studio) and teacher volunteers. We also had nutrition sessions.

NORTHEAST

Academic

As part of Global Studies Magnet activities, K-5 students participated in the National Geography Bee, students tracked the musher teams throughout the Iditarod competition, and children raised over \$800 for the UNICEF foundation. And in June, the fifth graders visited the United Nations as one of their culminating Global Studies activities.

Social Emotional Learning

The Buckets & Beyond Committee was established as part of an ongoing focus on social and emotional learning. Fourth and fifth grade student volunteers met regularly throughout the year during their lunch periods to work on a variety of activities to support the school and the Montclair community. They acted as homeroom greeters to ensure that all children were met with warm welcomes as they entered each day. The Buckets & Beyond members also facilitated conversations and activities during Morning Meetings in their partnership homerooms that connected with our monthly Bucket-Filling themes. Beyond their schoolwide efforts, the students also partnered with the Human Needs Food Pantry throughout the year to support families and collected dozens of bags of food, diapers, toiletries, and other essential items.

Service Activities

The entire school participated in the third annual Jump Rope for Heart event raising over \$12,500 for the American Heart Association.

Community Engagement

The fifth grade Blue Hawks band performed for the veterans at the VA Hospital in East Orange and as part of the town-wide May Day celebration in Watchung Plaza.

WATCHUNG

Academic

Students participated in “Spring into Reading” read-a-thon. Students were encouraged to read at home and log their minutes. Students also voluntarily participated in the corresponding art contest. This year, a special bonus prize for sportsmanship was awarded. This award is actually the most important one pertaining to the spirit of the read-a-thon as it goes to the students who demonstrated fairness, honesty, generosity, tenaciousness, and consistency.

The school’s community came together to begin an initiative to strengthen its Science and Technology magnet. The initiative has included schoolwide assemblies on topics such as the science behind hot air balloons and music/technology. The initiative has also included many hands-on activities in the classroom, such as robotics and rocketry.

The student cast of the “Wizard of Oz” performed a few songs at a Board of Education Meeting. This was followed up by two amazing performances, one evening and one matinee, at the school.

Social Emotional Learning

After a week of activities to honor the Week of Respect and Start with Hello week during the month of October, a “Respect: Give it, Get it” poster contest was held.

On the evening of March 8 families gathered in the gymnasium to celebrate the different cultures that make up the school at an International Fair. Families created tables displaying different items with which they identified.



Middle Schools



BUZZ ALDRIN (BAMS)

Academic

For the second consecutive year, the BAMS First Lego League Robotics Team made it to the state finals. The team won awards for the second-best robot for their research project on the effects of microgravity on humans. At the state event in December, the team showed well, earning a top award for their robot design and strategy.

Students (125) were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. These students raised \$500 for a schoolwide community service project, Penny Wars. The proceeds were donated to Eric LeGrand's service organization, Team LeGrand. National Junior Honor Society students completed over 3,000 hours of community service throughout the school year.

Project CS Girls involves an annual competition that challenges young girls to identify an imminent social problem that is important to them and propose a viable solution. Once again, this year, teams finished as either semi-finalists or finalists.

All students participated in an annual schoolwide Engineering Design Challenge. Teams of students competed against one another to build a bridge out of straws and masking tape that could hold a maximum load of sand. Students who had the best design were awarded prizes.

Annual STEAM Career Day included dozens of professionals who shared hands-on/minds-on activities related to their fields of expertise. Students were exposed to several careers throughout the day-long event, including engineers, attorneys, entrepreneurs, graphic designers, doctors, and a congresswoman, just to name a few.

Model Congress and Model UN met weekly during the school year. Students learned about and practiced structured debate based on Robert's Rules of Order. Topics often included real world issues such as climate change, the economy, and immigration.

At the NJ Northeast Regional Science Olympiad Competition held at NJIT in January, the team finished 2nd overall! The team then headed to the State Tournament at Middlesex County College in March, against the top schools in New Jersey. Several students earned medals for their top performances. The school play saw 100+ talented 6th, 7th, and 8th graders involved in some capacity. Students participated on stage, in set design classes, at evening set painting workshops, and as members of the stage crew. The school's production, Legally Blonde Jr. the Musical, was a big hit.

Band competed at the High Note Music Festival in Allentown, Pennsylvania and received a Superior Rating.

More than 115 students participated in a gifted and talented program, Rogate. Those students attended weekly SAT Preparation courses to prepare for the exam. They then had the option to sit for the actual SAT exam as seventh and eighth graders. Rogate students attended a field trip to Montclair State University where they heard a college lecture on rhetoric provided by a professor. Rogate students also attended a field trip to Princeton University, where students toured the historic campus and the town. Several Rogate students participated in MathCounts, a math competition where students are challenged by competing with other students throughout the county and state, using advanced math skills.

As part of an SATp initiative to improve parental engagement, four Family Game Nights for all students, parents, and staff were held.

A new Newspaper Club was started for students who have an interest in writing and journalism. Thirty-two students participated in the club as journalists, editors, graphic designers and photographers. *Into the Eagle's Nest* is the new official school newspaper.

The PTA helped to create a CPR/Babysitting Certification course.

A drama workshop was held where students had the opportunity to learn from actual actors.

The third annual Poetry Slam, *Every Voice Matters*, where students created their own poems, raps, and forms of expression was held. Winners of the Poetry Slam performed their spoken word poetry at a Montclair Art Museum special event.

Social Emotional Learning

All students participated in a schoolwide activity called the *Love Quilt Project*. A special assembly to learn about this “non-profit charity that uses the power of love to change the lives of vulnerable orphaned South African and American children, many of them affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic” was held. Students then participated in an art project, designing quilt squares that will eventually become donated quilts to be distributed to these children.

The school community implemented Start with Hello (from the Sandy Hook Promise) and had many schoolwide activities (several mentioned below). For example, the Start with Hello Committee helped to organize a school supply drive for students in Haiti.

An assembly was held where Eric LeGrand presented his inspiring theme of perseverance. Students then wrote thank you cards and organized a fundraiser called “Touchdown Thursday” to donate to Eric’s foundation. The students raised \$600 in proceeds.

Students participated in a week of gratitude where they wrote kind letters to staff and other integral members of the community including crossing guards, bus drivers, and bus aides. Also, Literature Alive students created “Flowers of Positivity” where flowers filled with positive adjectives were displayed throughout the school to provide words of inspiration.

Start with Hello teachers and members, along with our counselors, created various advisories for the school, including: Showing empathy, anti-bullying, stress relief, and creating action plans to promote positive thinking. Students designed an Autism Awareness Month advisory in which they educated the student body about autism and designed a fundraising event. Students also created an advisory about food allergy awareness.

Start with Hello students conducted *See Something Week* where they planned the following activities: Schoolwide advisories, Mix-It Up lunches, positive announcements, friendship grams, and decorating classrooms and lockers with positive messages. Start with Hello also invited JLine Dance Crew in to use dance, music, and personal testimonies to discuss anti-bullying, respect, responsibility, and following your passion in life.

For Red Nose Day the school raised \$135 to help fight childhood poverty.

GLENFIELD

Academic

Eighty-five students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS): Students completed 2,550 hours of community service.

During the musical production of *In the Heights*, creator Lin-Manuel Miranda sent a motivating video message to students.

Art students paired up with a Syrian refugee for whom they painted a portrait.

Spring Dance Concert: In CI Dance classes, 12 dances choreographed by Ms. Dacas and guest choreographers took place.

Jazz Band performed at Edgemont Montessori School.

Family Math Center provided families with an opportunity to learn math skills to assist with homework help.

Three students' short stories were chosen for The Friends of Anderson Park short-story contest.

Glenfield Art Festival: Over 400 pieces of student art were on display at the school.

Art Educators of New Jersey's Student Art Exhibit: Artwork from four Glenfield students were displayed in the Hall of Records at the Office of the County Executive in Newark.

The Science Olympiad team placed 5th in the region, which gave them the opportunity to take part in the state competition. They attended the Cornell University Invitational. No other Montclair school has ever taken part in a Science Olympiad invitational before this. Several medals were won at the state level. Wipro Science Education Fellowship at MSU: Four teachers are Wipro Scholars. This spring Lynn O'Sullivan presented her Wipro culminating project at MSU: Cross-Curricular Approach to Teaching Science.

House Titus Mock Trial "Sometimes you feel like a nut.": Cross-curricular approach to teaching Science. Students engaged across all subject areas in research, writing, developing arguments, citing evidence to participate in a mock trial on a case about a student with a peanut allergy.

Social Emotional Learning

African American Career Day: 40 professionals from the community shared their professional stories with our students.

Implemented Restorative Justice circles in a Social Studies classroom, art classroom, and one that included students, the Principal, Montclair Police Department detectives, and a teacher.

More than 200 students, teachers, and staff participated in the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network Day of Silence on April 12.

Service Activities

Projects included collections for the homeless, an animal shelter, and Toni's Kitchen; planting at the Miller Street Garden, and developing partnerships with Montclair Inn residents and National Junior Honor Society.

RENAISSANCE

Schoolwide

Through a collaboration with the entire school community inclusive of the staff, students, PTA and School Action Team for Partnerships, Renaissance Middle School has successfully re-envisioned its magnet theme and redesigned its school schedule.

Renaissance Middle School is now known as: The Innovation Education Magnet: *It's not just what we do, it's HOW we do it!*

Our new school schedule:

- 8:05 am – 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday
- 8:05 am – 2:35 pm Friday

Success in the areas of our magnet

Innovation

Renaissance Middle School specializes in providing our students with the tools and experiences necessary to make meaningful connections with their learning. It's not simply what we are teaching the students, rather HOW we guide them to access the information and then apply it with purpose.

We worked as a school community and successfully rebranded the entire building. Meaningful and aesthetic upgrades to our facility help remind and guide students and visitors about our programming. This is a major achievement in enhancing the positive learning space we provide for students.

Engagement

If students aren't paying attention, they aren't learning. Staff seek to first harness the engagement of their students by exciting them about the world around them. By designing unforgettable moments, our teachers maximize the take-aways in all of our lessons. We pride ourselves in our students going home and sharing what they've learned in school.

Students were treated to a variety of primary source experiences through either classroom level guest speakers or schoolwide assemblies.

Jazz Trio

Guest Performers: Guitarist John Ehlis, trumpet player Nathan Eklund, and percussionist Glen Fittin.

Internet Safety

Guest Speaker: Detective Pierre Faliase, Montclair Police Department and Ms. Ursula Liebowitz-Johnson, Montclair High School Counselor.

Hands on Learning

Reach out and touch it! What better way to bring education alive than to ensure there is always a tactile component in one's lesson. Staff appreciate that not all students learn the same way. Allowing students to be physical with the information adds another level of connectivity.

All students participated in the schoolwide **Science Fair**.

Everywhere is Our Classroom

It's no secret that the school is small. However, the size limitation as an opportunity to grow. Students

learn that a classroom is not exclusive to a school building and does not always have walls. We go everywhere! Both during the regular school day and during specially designed field experience trips, students go to where the learning is.

Students took hikes to **Harriman State Park**, volunteered at the **Hillside Foodbank**, explored a **Hindu Temple**, analyzed the diversity of life at **Sandy Hook**, relived history at the **African Burial Grounds**, and gallery hopped in **Chelsea**! These are just a few of the multitude of locations that we consider part of the Renaissance Middle School Campus.

Collaboration

The school community works together. Renaissance respects the individual, embraces all learning styles, and celebrates the strengths of all of our students. The collaboration of the various 6th, 7th and 8th grade students on the robotics team **TORN**, led to winning the **Champion's Award** at the county competition!

Leadership

The student government led many fundraising activities inclusive of a school dance, bake sales and Red Nose Day activities. Several Spirit Weeks helped to foster the comradery of the school community.

The Arts for All

Fear can sometimes impede students' opportunities to try their hand in an art. Whether a performing art (dance, band or chorus) or a visual art (painting) students will inevitably benefit from exposure to this type of thinking and creativity. All students participate in these types of courses. The Renaissance Middle School interdisciplinary approach in the classroom quickly demonstrates to students how knowledge and skill in the arts is not only for the stage. No audition is needed to participate in the arts.

Students participated in:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Winter Concert: | 130 Students | (School Population 249) |
| Winter Dance Show: | 150 Students | (School Population 249) |
| Musical Production (Aladdin): | 35 Students | (School Population 249) |
| Spring Concert: | 150 Students | (School Population 249) |
| Spring Dance Show: | 130 Students | (School Population 249) |

1:1

Renaissance is first 1:1 school in the Montclair District! Reviving this facet of our original magnet programming was not easy, but necessary to create an environment that levels the playing field. In September all students received a Chromebook. Students keep this device for their three years here.

Discovery and Relationships

Renaissance Middle School is a **Restorative Justice Pilot School!** The staff has begun training and implementing of restorative practices. While this process does not replace discipline, it fosters relationships among students, staff and all school community members. We have seen the power that establishing trust can have in the reduction of poor choices and unwanted behaviors.



Student Highlights

Max Munoz performed at the Montclair Social Club. Max is a gifted vocalist with an old soul. Max played at such legendary American venues as The Troubadour in Los Angeles and The House of Blues in Las Vegas, and he recorded at The Village in Los Angeles. In addition to School of Rock, Max is the lead vocalist and keyboardist of Mind Hazard, an original blues-infused rock band. Mind Hazard will be recording its debut EP.

Maya Savoie recently celebrated the publication of her debut novel *The Lore of Ramridge*, under the pen name Karuna Savoie at Watchung Booksellers to a packed audience. This event was also sponsored by the MFEE as a fundraiser, where Maya Karuna is a Junior Board Member. *The Lore of Ramridge* is a suspenseful, action-packed thriller about a curious boy who defies his parents and ends up the hero of a spooky adventure in a corn maze. *The Lore of Ramridge* targets the middle grade to young adult reader, but is suitable for all ages.

Chynna Dunneman was selected for the National Girls and Women in Sports Day at Seton Hall University. Chynna embodies all of the qualities we want our student athletes to strive for. Chynna is an excellent student and dynamic athlete who also volunteers her time in the community.

Charles Murphy Jr. and Joshua Crawford made the New Jersey Football Coaches Association All-State team.

Gary Robinson Jr. was chosen to play in the Phil Simms North/South All-State All Star Classic. Walter King, Jacob Manthey, Matt Battle, and Amarea Witter were selected for the 27th annual Robeson East/West All Star classic.

Kimoni DePass was presented with the Unsung Hero Award presented by the New Jersey School Boards Association at Liberty Middle School in West Orange. The recognition is open to students in Essex County high schools. The honorees are the "unsung heroes/heroines"—students who make outstanding contributions to their schools and communities, but who may often be overlooked by traditional student recognition guidelines.

Jaala Williams placed 2nd in the New Jersey Wrestling competition in Atlantic City for her weight class.

Jessie Legister was a state sectional champion in the 400m Track and Field event.

Academics

STEM & Weston students visited the Liberty Science Center. Students were able to participate in a lab about the terraforming of Mars through the use of CAD software and 3D printing. Students worked in groups to design hypothetical buildings for humans and explain the reasoning for them before placing them on their Mars landscape.

The AVID program sponsored a trip to Jets Business Day at MetLife Stadium. Students from the AVID and MAAC programs learned about various careers in the sports industry as well as what it takes to succeed in any business. Executives from various departments, including sales, sponsorship, data collection, marketing, and media, relayed their personal stories and tips for success. Students toured the locker room and executive suites and ended the day on the field.

Seniors in the Civics & Government Institute (CGI) participated in a simulated congressional hearing, as part of the national program, "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution."

The Math League is ranked in the top 15 high schools in New Jersey. This is the 12th consecutive year our students have achieved a ranking in the top 15 schools.

At the Hunger and Homelessness symposium last year, a representative from the Salvation Army told the CGI body that the least donated item is the most needed—socks. A group of CGI students in the State and Local Committee decided to take action. Donations were slow in the beginning but by December, we had received almost 2,000 pairs of socks!! These socks were delivered to the Salvation Army and Interfaith Hospitality and were gratefully received.

The Black Student Union presented, as part of African American History Month, to the entire student body, a celebration of African Americans in the Arts. This student assembly provided students with an appreciation of African American contributions in the area of the arts. Students provided experiences through song, dance, cheer and the spoken word to procure an opportunity of cultural learning. Students also had an opportunity to hear from guest speaker and former MHS alumnus Dr. Aaron X Smith '93.

The Mock Trial team advanced to the County Semifinals for the 4th time in the last 5 years.

Chief Meteorologist for ABC Network, Ginger Zee, visited our school to speak to the STEM students about her career in meteorology for Women's History Month. She spoke about her interest in science as a child and how it led her to become the first female chief meteorologist. Students were able to ask questions and interact with Ginger throughout the presentation.

Approximately 100 Civics & Social Justice (CSJ) students attended Kean University's annual Human Rights Day where the theme of this year's event was hunger. The students listened to and interacted with food activists. CSJ students raised over \$1,000 at a fundraiser called "Arts of Respect." The funds raised will go to local activist organization "Reaching Out Montclair." In addition, CSJ students participated in the fourth annual CSJ Women's Day event. In the morning, women from the community visited CSJ to give presentations and workshops on various topics, and students engaged in artistic activities related to women's empowerment. In the afternoon, the women of CSJ gathered together for performances of songs, poetry, and other displays of talent.

Latin students traveled to Princeton University to compete in the Princeton University New Jersey Junior Classical League Certamen. Certamen is an academic competition where students answer questions about Latin grammar, mythology, history, and culture. Teams competed in Upper Level, Level II, and Level I. In Level I, the B team placed first and the A team placed second respectively in the Northern region. In Level II, our team won first place in the Northern region.

Ms. Gayl Shepard, Ms. Petal Robertson, Dr. Shivoyne Trim, Ms. Mirta E. Alsina, and Ms. Tara Crisafulli attended the National Education Association's National Leadership Summit in Denver, Colorado to present the district's implementation of Restorative Justice.

Twenty-five students participated in community service at the New Jersey Community Food Bank in Hillside, NJ. Students packed 616 boxes of senior citizen food supplements which will be distributed throughout the state.

Mr. Woodruff's National Action Committee in the CGI finished their documentary on the opioid crisis. With the help of Robin Lavorato, head of the Essex County Opioid Task Force, they interviewed recovering addicts, health care professionals, and law enforcement officials, including James Hunt, Agent in Charge of New York Region DEA, who brought in El Chapo. Local professional documentarians Joanne Diglio and Jerry Fried shared their expertise in hours of consulting. The result is a professional, fast-paced, 12-minute documentary that is packed with information and emotion.

The men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. held its 71st Second District Talent Hunt competition at Martin Luther King Student Center on the campus of Delaware State University in Dover, Delaware. Invited were 37 students from around the Second District, which is made up of five states, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland. The students competed in seven categories for trophies, cash prizes and a chance to represent their host chapter and districts at Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Leadership Conference in Atlantic City, NJ. The categories were, Classical Instrumental and Vocal, Contemporary Instrumental and Vocal, Dance, Dramatic Interpretation and Visual Arts. The winners of the competition were chosen by a stellar panel of judges from the local Dover and Philadelphia area. The contestants received their invitation to the Second District competition by winning their local chapter Talent Hunt competition. Senior Eva Calabrese took 3rd place in the category of Visual Arts. Her pieces caught the eye of the judges, according to Music Director and Omega Psi Phi's Eta Pi Chapter Talent Hunt Chairman, Boyce Ennis. Miss Calabrese was in a group of 11 students competing in her category.

From the Athletic Department

Boys Soccer won the Essex County tournament over Seton Hall Prep. The team was selected as the Super Essex Conference Team of the Year. Toure Weaver was nominated as the Coach of the Year for the Super Essex Conference.

Girls Soccer had an outstanding season under a new coaching staff. The team made it to the semi-finals of the state sectional tournament.

Girls Cross Country won the SEC tournament and won the Essex County tournament for the first time in two decades.

Boys Cross Country won the SEC tournament. The team placed 2nd in the Essex County tournament.

Gymnastics won the league "B" tournament!

Crew Team head coach, Jeremy Michalitsianos was recognized as national coach of the year! He has coached at Montclair for 10 years, bringing home several State titles and National Championships. With his guidance, our Boys' Varsity 8+ has gone undefeated for the past two seasons, winning States, The Stotesbury Cup, and SRAA Nationals.

Senior Phillip Cubeddu, one of the captains of the team, in addition to being named the SEC player of the year, was chosen by SCANJ as All-State First Team Selection. Phillip received All-State and All-Region (our region includes all public schools in NJ, PA and NY).

The Varsity Girls Fencing Team was 7th out of 55 NJ high schools at the Santelli Tournament at Drew University. The Girls Sabre Team took the silver medal. Fencing had a stellar season sending our girls to the final round of States giving us 2nd place.

Varsity Boys Fencing Team was ranked 9th out of 55 New Jersey high schools at the Santelli Tournament at Drew University.

The Girls Indoor Track Team placed 2nd and our Boys Team placed 6th in the Essex County Individual Championships. There were 37 teams in this tournament.

The Girls Varsity Track Team placed 1st (by a big margin - almost 30 points) in the Essex County Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Ice Hockey made it to the second round of the NJSIAA tournament.

The Golf Team won the North 1 Group 4 championship.

Varsity Baseball beat Seton Hall Prep to win the Greater Newark Tournament.

The boys and girls teams competed in the Essex County Relay Championships where the girls team finished 2nd place overall and the boys team finished 5th. This is the first time in at least a decade (if not

more) that the boys team finished in the top 5 and not just that, but the difference between 4th and 5th was one point, 3rd and 5th was 9 and 2nd and 5th was 11. This is the closest this has ever been in the history of the Essex County Relays.

From the Guidance Department

2018 College Fair: Over 100 representatives from colleges and universities nationwide were on hand.

AP Exams: 405 students took 774 exams.

PSAT: Administered the PSAT to over 900 sophomores and juniors.

2019 Onsite Admissions Day: 80+ students were given the opportunity to apply, and receive onsite acceptance to over 20 colleges and universities.

College Admission Representative Visits: Hosted over 120 College Representatives.

Developed partnership with Montclair State University in an effort to offer dual-credit opportunities to our seniors.

Developed the “MHS-101” curriculum, a social emotional learning seminar to be administered to all 9th grade students in the 2019-20 school year.



The Department of Equity, Curriculum and Instruction

- Creation of curriculum for all core courses and currently approved electives for Montclair High School
- Implementation of the Board-approved curriculum writing and textbook adoption plan
- Creation of K-8 course sequence documents for elective courses (to be finalized during summer 2019)
- Creation of the K-8 Instructional Assessment Handbook (under field review and will be shared during the summer 2019 with all internal stakeholders)
- Creation of District Dyslexia and 504 Handbooks (in conjunction with the Department of Pupil Services for external stakeholders)

The Department of Pupil Services

- Creation of Pupil Services Operational Handbook (under field review and will be shared during the summer 2019 with all internal and external stakeholders)

The Department of Personnel

- Revision of onboarding process for District staff
- Held third annual Diversity Fair (over 100 diverse employee candidates attended)

The Department of Personnel in collaboration with the Department of Technology

- Creation of digital process forms for efficiency – examples of the digital forms include but are not limited to personal day request, vacation day request (12 month employees) and leave of absence request (under field review and will be shared during the summer 2019 with all internal stakeholders)

The Department of Operations and School Support Services in collaboration with the Department of Technology

- Revision of student placement process syncing with the District's Student Information System (aligned with Board Policy 5122)
- Supervision of the 2018-19 safety audit of each school and District office

Department of Business (includes Offices of Payroll, Transportation, Facilities and Accounts Payable and Receivable)

- Revision of School Accounting Handbook
- Creation of Employee Portal
- Revision of Field Trip Form (aligns with Board Policy and requires essential alignment with curriculum and state standards)
- Creation of Employee Intranet (to be launched to internal stakeholders during summer 2019)

Office of the Superintendent

- Creation of Superintendent Communications Page
 - All district-wide communications are housed
 - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
 - Superintendent Letters and Resources
- Creation of 2018-19 Mid-Year District Review Video and PowerPoint
- Creation of 2018-19 End-of -Year Successes Document
- Creation of the 2019-20 Montclair's RESPONSE (Resources, Efforts and Supports for Proper **ON**-time Services and Emergencies) This initiative supports the Social Emotional learning needs for the District.

