



School News

Month of Appreciation

We are grateful for all of our staff who give so much of themselves to make P.G. Chambers School a special place for our students to learn and grow.

Nationally the month of May recognizes Better Speech and Hearing Month, as well as teacher and nurse appreciation weeks.

P.G. Chambers School joined the celebration by hosting Qdoba lunch for all to enjoy. Thanks to our teachers, nurses, and SLPs for their dedication to our students, not only in May, but each and every day.



Our nurses receive a healing plant in appreciation.



SLPs pose in their Every Child Deserves a Voice t-shirts.

SpaceX astronaut Hayley Arceneaux visits P.G. Chambers School

Prior to speaking at our *Menus for the Mind* event on April 7, Hayley Arceneaux, SpaceX Inspiration4 astronaut, physician assistant, and pediatric cancer survivor stopped by to visit with P.G. Chambers School students. Hayley and her mom, Colleen spent time visiting each classroom, getting to know our students and joining our kindergartners in singing "If you're happy and you know it clap your hands." In preparation for her arrival each classroom learned about space and made bulletin boards and other

space-themed decorations. Hayley was a natural with our students, and they were thrilled to spend time with her.



Hayley connects with Jenny (top) and Kailynn.



Staff members express appreciation in new initiative

Taking care of our staff is a school-wide commitment. Staff members are expressing their appreciation for each other through a new initiative: P.G. Chambers School Shining Stars. All staff are invited to fill out Shining Star cards for colleagues who they view as making a difference within the P.G. Chambers School community. Each month cards are delivered to the recipients along with a small treat in gratitude for their efforts.

There have been several instances where the recipient tells us that this has made their day while we are passing them out. We forget how powerful our words can be. Taking a couple minutes to write this little card is a small gesture but the impact is profound.



Project leads

Allison Marcus, School Social Worker
Brianna Funicelli, Paraprofessional

Cherished long-time teachers retire from P.G. Chambers School

After a combined 42 years of dedication to our students and families at P.G. Chambers School, early intervention teacher Abbie Greenberg retired in April, and preschool teacher Kathy Rossi will be retiring in June.



Abbie Greenberg

About her colleague, El director Amber Hummer shared, "Abbie has touched the lives of countless families over the years. She has been a source of strength and knowledge for families during one of their greatest times of need." After 25 years at P.G. Chambers School, Abbie is moving to Colorado where she looks forward to spending time with her sons and her new grandchild.

For the past 17 years Kathy Rossi has shared her passion for teaching our preschoolers, shaping their hearts and minds and laying a solid foundation for their future.

Kathy has served as a cherished partner with families as they embark on a new journey. Her years of experience and nurturing support have helped parents embrace the possibilities of their children. She will be deeply missed by her students, parents, and her colleagues. Kathy looks forward to traveling and spending time with her family.



While it is never easy to say goodbye, we will always be grateful for the lives they touched and the inspiration they provided to the many teachers that will follow in their footsteps. They will be truly missed but never forgotten.

Kathy Rossi

Alumni Spotlight

Jake Canete, Class of 2019



Jake enjoys learning new skills.

Jake graduated from P.G. Chambers School in 2019 after having been in the program since preschool. He attends the Gramon Family of Schools in Fairfield, where he loves riding the bus and participating in community based instruction. Jake is also a member of the school's bowling team!

With summer approaching, Jake is looking forward to spending time with his family in Point Pleasant. He loves spending time on their boat and taking special trips to the boardwalk where the train is a favorite ride!

It was wonderful to catch up with Jake's mom, Darlene, and hear about all the things Jake has accomplished since his time at P.G. Chambers School. We look forward to staying in touch and hearing great things in the years to come.

Partners Making a Difference

Thank you *Menus for the Mind* Supporters!

At P.G. Chambers School, we rely on the help of dedicated volunteers who give of their time, talent, and treasure in support of our mission. We are delighted to report that our *Menus for the Mind* event held on April 7, 2022 was a smashing success thanks to the leadership of co-chairs Suzie Maguire and Judy O'Hagan and their stellar committee: Patti Chambers, Patty Capawana, Kathy Cowan, Stephanie Donato, Raquel Fruchter, Christine Gilfillan, Siobhan Gilfillan, Kim Honeker, Lori Kariss. Susan Kloss, Susan Lodge, Lacey Malloy, Lynne Pagano, Mia Scavone, Aaron Turner, and Karen Zipp. Our *Menus* guests were inspired to follow their lead and gave generously raising over \$225,000 to support our children!

The event, made possible through the generosity of our community and our "Passionate Leader" partner, The MCJ Amelior Foundation, honored the life of Bobbi Phillips and celebrated her legacy of service in a presentation by former board member and dear friend, Linda Kaugher. Rue Faal, mother of Aminata, a 6 year old student at the school inspired *Menus* guests with remarks about Aminata's journey and how far she has come. The evening ended with keynote speaker Hayley Arceneaux reminding guests to never lose hope.



Rue and Mbye Faal with their daughters Aminata and Onani



Linda Kaugher after speaking of the legacy of Bobbi Phillips.



Please watch your mail for several opportunities to come in-person to see the impact you are making on the lives of our students with special needs.

Menus guests enjoying a themselves in support of P.G. Chambers School. L-R: Colleen Arceneaux, Hayley Arceneaux, Ryan Lohuis, Siobhan Gilfillan, Christine Gilfillan, Erin Gilfillan, Meghan Lohuis

P.G. Chambers Leadership Group Organizes Successful Projects

Led by speech therapist, Jennifer Jacobs, and classroom teacher, Dina Alves, the Leadership Group gives the students of Class 12 the opportunity to develop leadership skills. The students have rotating jobs at their weekly meetings, which include agenda writer, time keeper, attendance helper, affirmation helper, and note taker. A student also helps to facilitate the meeting.



Tinaya tie dyes a shirt for a staff member.

Between February and April, the P.G. Chambers Leadership Group sold 110 tie dye shirts and 71 spirit wear items on a Pop Up Shop website turning a profit of over \$1,000 so far, with more to come. Pending approval, the money raised will be used to purchase, organize, and manage a snack and drink cart.

The students in the P.G. Chambers Leadership Group look forward to collaborating on school and community projects each year. Tinaya's favorite part is making people happy while Samir enjoys helping to plan the meetings. Previous fundraisers have included a clothing drive and selling bracelets, called Yuda Bands, which benefited students in Guatemala. Congratulations to the P.G. Chambers Leadership Group on another successful fundraiser!



Students helped to make the signage.

Special Events

Save the Date!

Walk.Run.Fun.5K

Sunday October 2, 2022



Park Avenue at
Morris County
Florham Park, NJ



P.G. Chambers School Golf Classic



Join Us!

Monday, May 23, 2022

Rockaway River Country Club
Denville, New Jersey

Our popular Golf Classic is sold out but
it's not too late to join us for dinner.
Please click [here](#) to reserve your seat.



Congratulations Ella & Connor, Class of 2022

As Connor and Ella
continue their journey,
the future holds HOPE.



Make your gift today by
clicking [HERE](#).

Forever Forward

You can protect what matters most to you and also make a lasting impact
at P.G. Chambers School by including a gift to us in your will.

Click [Forever Forward](#) to learn more.

"Your legacy is every life you've touched."—Maya Angelou

Be sure to visit our [website](#) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram