A UNIFIED EFFORT

OUR STORY VOL. III

TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS

2019-2020
The Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation proudly supports the Toms River Regional Schools
2018-2019 represents an unbroken chain of several years of success for Toms River Regional Schools. While challenged by millions of dollars in state funding cuts brought on by the notorious, unjust, and ill-conceived Senate Bill S2, out of adversity has come strength. Led by our Board of Education, district leaders, community members, and-- most importantly-- our students, our district has distinguished itself as a civic force, demonstrating leadership that has inspired other schools and communities across the state. Our collective fight to restore funding and the sense of unity it has engendered highlight a year full of proud moments. This booklet celebrates the accomplishments of the previous school year while illuminating what lies ahead in 2019-2020 and beyond, complementing stories of our successes regularly featured on the district web page and in the annual highlight video.

Toms River Regional Schools is, simply put, the best school district within the most supportive community I have ever known professionally. It is my distinct pleasure and privilege to be a part of this extraordinary family. **The best is yet to be.**
MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Our students and staff truly shined this year, earning accolades and recognition for excellence in academics and innovation, financial reporting, and more. At the heart of its success is the district’s student-centered mission that focuses on the whole child.

North Dover Elementary School fourth graders won first place in the Ocean County Math League Contest.

Authentic science research students like Christiana Ntim are studying mosquito samples with help from Vanderbilt University and students in Israel.

AP District Honor Roll

TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS WAS NAMED TO THE COLLEGE BOARD’S 9TH ANNUAL AP® DISTRICT HONOR ROLL.

District-wide professional development days were predominantly staff-led and focused on engaging the whole child and social-emotional learning.

High School South senior Jacob Roessler scored a perfect 800 on his SAT subject test in physics.

High School East students participated in the RWJ Barnabas Healthcare Learning Collaborative.
Toms River Among Top NJ School Districts In New Rankings

The annual Niche rankings put the district in the top third of New Jersey school districts.

Data company Niche recognized TRRS as an “above average public school district.” While it certainly appreciates the positive rating, the district is set on improving its standing statewide, particularly through its much-needed and in-progress facilities upgrades.

FOR AN ASTOUNDING FIFTH STRAIGHT YEAR, THE DISTRICT EARNED THE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIALS INTERNATIONAL'S CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING.

High School North students took first place at the Monmouth University Computer Programming Competition.

High School South's Anisha Singh represented Toms River at the FIRST National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.
The Peoples Pantry is one of the busiest food pantries in the State of New Jersey. Starting after Superstorm Sandy, the Peoples Pantry provides food to over 4000 families a month and that number continues to grow.

THE PEOPLES PANTRY IS FUNDED BY COMMUNITY DONATIONS. Please visit www.thepeoplespantry.org or our Facebook page to donate. A $1.00 donation provides three meals.

1769 Hooper Ave.
Toms River, N.J. 08753
(732) 731-1419

*The Peoples Pantry is proud to be a school to work site for Toms River Regional Schools special needs students.*
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Helping others and improving our community through service has been a core component of our students’ academic journey.

True Blue Monday helped earn more than $5,000 for the Toms River Police Department’s Vest-A-Cop campaign.

The installation of a Peace Pole at Silver Bay brought a message of hope, and helped raise money for JBJ Soul Kitchen.

OUR STUDENTS SHOWED TREMENDOUS GENEROSITY AS MANY SCHOOLS HELD FOOD DRIVES, COAT DRIVES, AND BLOOD DRIVES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

High School East’s outdoor military wall was dedicated to our veterans and military personnel.

A softball game between Silver Bay and Hooper Avenue teachers netted a $13,000 donation for the Toms River Field of Dreams Project.
Honda of Toms River is Proud to Support The Toms River Regional Schools

$1000 off your new or used car purchase.

*Must bring in to redeem offer. See dealer for details.

Every New or Certified Pre-Owned Honda purchased includes:

- Loaner Cars
- VIP Pick Up Service and Delivery, at home or at work
- Car wash with every service
- Receive $250 cash for any customer you refer that purchases any new or used vehicle
- $25 gas card with parts or service referral
FUNDING FIGHT

Our well-publicized fight to restore millions in state funding that was unjustly lost as a result of Bill S2 placed our schools and students in the spotlight, and we couldn’t be prouder of how they’ve represented our district and Toms River. A March 5 rally on Trenton, testimonials from district leaders and students at several Senate budget hearings, a follow-up Trenton rally and press conference that included the dropoff of 30,000 letters to legislators, and an ongoing social media campaign have all served to exhibit a sense of civic duty, respect, and social justice that are being learned and practiced in real time, outside the confines of the classroom. #WeAreTRschools

"IT WAS A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION FOR SUCH A LARGE AMOUNT OF YOUNG STUDENTS. YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOUR PROFESSION AND THE PEOPLE YOU WORK FOR AND WITH. THERE WAS NOT ONE INCIDENT." - A NJ STATE TROOPER WORKING THE MARCH 5 RALLY
The Rebuilding Our Schools Initiative advanced this year thanks to the passing of a $147 million referendum, and the continuation of the Energy Savings Improvement Plan (ESIP), which integrates upgrades at zero cost to taxpayers.

Our high school athletic fields have been completely resurfaced.

NEW LIGHTING HAS TRANSFORMED THE JOHN BENNETT INDOOR ATHLETIC COMPLEX, A.K.A "THE BUBBLE"

Updated lighting throughout High School East has literally brightened the days for staff and students. And a new boiler room at High School South-- a self-funding ESIP-based project-- has made the school cleaner and more energy efficient.
New playgrounds at many buildings--including Silver Bay Elementary, seen here--have been constructed and resurfaced.

Parking lots, roadways, and sidewalks have been repaved. New flooring and carpet have been put down in high traffic areas like main offices and media centers. The Rebuilding Our Schools Initiative continues in 2019-2020.

For updates on all ESIP and referendum-based projects, visit: https://www.trschools.com/community/referendum
The RWJBarnabas Health Arena hosts:

- Sporting Events
- Concerts
- Trade Shows
- Cheerleading Competitions
- Community Events
- and more!

For a schedule of events or to host your event at the RWJBarnabas Health Arena, please visit www.rwjbarnabashealtharena.com

1245 Old Freehold Rd. Toms River
(732) 818-8536
SPORTS
For the vast majority of our students, a well-rounded education includes sports and athletics, and this year our students continued to excel.

1. South-East ice hockey began its second year as a co-op;
2. The High School North Lady Mariners bowling team won its second consecutive Tournament of Champions at the NJSIAA Girls Team Bowling State Championships;
3. North Dover’s Jessica Abbott placed second in the Junior Olympic’s 3k race;
4. The High School North Lady Mariner soccer team became Shore Conference Champions;
5. The Intermediate South girls track team went undefeated and won the Ocean County Championship;
6. High School South's Alle Johnsen became the first Toms River female to compete at the NJSIAA Girls State Wrestling Tournament.
LEADERS TAKE NOTICE

There’s no doubt that Toms River Regional Schools is on the map, with a growing reputation for excellence and efficiency. Our state leaders and education officials want to know what makes Toms River Regional Schools tick, and they visited several times throughout the course of this year.

New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal spoke to students at High School North.

Ocean County Executive Superintendent Kevin Ahearn visited Pine Beach Elementary.

Congressman Andy Kim read to students and discussed government at Citta Elementary.
GRANTS & SPONSORSHIPS

A record-setting year for grants helped support initiatives in health, STEAM, and more, as well as promote the construction of model classrooms. Significant sponsorships helped solidify partnerships and provide alternative revenue to help meet district goals.

Intermediate South piloted its Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) project, while Silver Bay hosted the YA Arts Lab, both health-based, grant-funded programs.

FIVE (!) SCHOOLS EACH WON $10,000 OCEANFIRST FOUNDATION GRANTS TO BUILD MODEL CLASSROOMS.

High School North won a $10,000 Sustainable Jersey grant to build an outdoor classroom.

Grant Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Major Sponsors & Partners

THE BASIE PRESENTS

RWJBarnabas HEALTH ARENA

JAY & LINDA GRUNIN FOUNDATION
Driven To Success, Sparked By Pine Belt!

Proud To Support The Driven To Excellence Program With A New Chevy Spark Donation For The Fifth Year In A Row.

PineBeltCars.com
SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Our district doesn’t take the word “innovation” lightly, and a handful of special programs this past year have served to highlight the creativity, capacity, and talent of our team.

Jersey Shore Makerfest, a district-founded event, enjoyed its fourth year of success.

THE GIRLS ON THE RUN PROGRAM TOOK OFF AT WALNUT STREET, CITTA, WASHINGTON STREET, AND SOUTH TOMS RIVER.

NEA Big Read: Toms River was hugely successful, and featured a guest appearance by best-selling author Tim O’Brien.

Our summer peer leadership camp focused on health, wellness, and relationship building.
As we enter into 2019-2020, we look forward to building on recent achievements, continuing to face our challenges together, and sharing in the joy of the events and moments that will define this school year. We know that our students will continue to make us proud through their academic, athletic, and extracurricular success, and inspire us through their work within the greater Toms River community. Our fight for fair funding will advance, forging new leaders and teaching civic lessons in the process. Our buildings, fields, and other facilities will continue their physical transformation thanks to the referendum and ESIP, making Toms River Regional Schools a better place to learn, work, and play. Our pursuit of every opportunity with potential to benefit our students will resume unabated, and with renewed spirit and motivation to meet the evolving needs of our diverse learners. And special programs like Jersey Shore Makerfest, NEA Big Read, and Girls on the Run will return, as new projects are imagined, designed, and implemented.

As a model school district, all eyes are on us. We embrace the spotlight, but our motivations are for each other. Here’s to a new year, and another unified effort.
Let’s be healthy together.

Community Medical Center

RWJBarnabas Health

Let’s be healthy together.

rwjbh.org/community