



**Superintendent's
Report State of the
Schools December 19,
2023**

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Impact Employee Recognition/Student Recognition
UPDATE: Student Farmer Frontline: What's up with TUPS!
(Student Liaisons)

UPDATE: Visionary Leadership Mentorship Academy:
Empowering Leaders for Success! (Student Liaisons)

A Small Glimpse

HIB Report for November 15th to December 12th Affirmed

HIB Report for December 13th to December 19th Reported

Student Liaisons – Neissa Filias & Gia Patel

IMPACT EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Aims to acknowledge administrators, educators, and staff members who, through their actions, dedication, and achievements, have profoundly influenced the lives of our students.

Paula Chapman: BHES Art Teacher

Student Recognition

BHES Students: Artwork

Student Farmer Frontline

What's up with TUPS?

A team of passionate individuals to share positive news stories about the Township of Union Public Schools.

Issue No. 1 | November 2023

Student Farmer Frontline

What's Up With TUPS?

edited by Angelyn Ansah, Grade 12



Introducing our 2023-2024 Student Farmer Frontline Committee!

Bottom Row (from left to right): Belicia, Denae, Angelina, Tari, Isabella, & Andrew
Top Row (from left to right): Anikey, Nkechi, Ayanna, Harrison, Dehby, Leo, Jeremy, Peter, Angelyn, & Samantha
Not pictured: Alexa, Andrew, Ava, & Roland

After School at Franklin

by Belicia Pinkrah, Grade 12

For many elementary schoolers staying after school usually means staying until just before getting picked up by parents coming home late from work. However, at Franklin Elementary School, staying after school also means learning essential literacy skills in a fun and engaging way.

During the month of November,

Franklin has extended their after-school program with two coordinators, Ms. Nelson and Ms. Santoro, who run the after-school reading programs, respectively. The program they came up with is called Beyond the Bell, targeted towards students in grades 1-4, not only are important reading skills, articles, but math and STEAM activities, homework help and snacks are available during these four days a week. The program strives to be especially beneficial during a time when



Students in Franklin Elementary School's After-School Program

Visionary Leadership Mentorship Academy

EMPOWERING LEADERS FOR SUCCESS!

What are the qualities of a Leader? What qualities are similar for effective teachers?



Schedule of Meetings

January 22, 2024
February 12, 2024
March 18, 2024
April 15, 2024
May 20, 2023
June 10, 2023

“Leaders matter. What leaders think, say, and do — and who they are when they come to work each day — profoundly affects organizational performance, the satisfaction they and those with whom they interact derive from their work, and their ability to sustain engagement with their work over the period of time necessary to oversee significant improvements.”

Dennis Sparks, *Leading For Results, Vol. II, 2007*

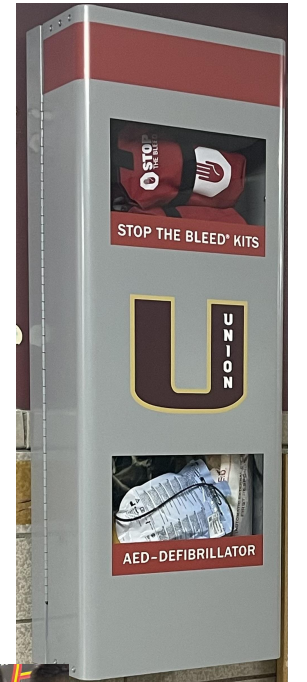
UNION HIGH SCHOOL ALLIED HEALTH A SMALL GLIMPSE

The Allied Health Students began clinical starting at KMS and the Union Senior Center to speak, socialize, and answer questions with the Seniors while also taking blood pressure and pulse. The Allied Health students also participated in the BINGO activities. The Senior Center has already asked them to return throughout the school year.



DISTRICT-WIDE SECURITY A SMALL GLIMPSE

ROTC & ALLIED HEALTH STUDENTS received training in the STOP THE BLEED Initiative
Nurses, Physical Education, Health, School Counselors, Coaches, & Security



TUPS SAFETY/SECURITY

A SMALL GLIMPSE

**School Violence: District-Wide Communication: December 19,
2023**

Academic Performance:

- Research indicates a strong correlation between exposure to violence in schools and academic performance. Students who experience or witness violence may struggle with concentration, attendance, and overall academic achievement.

Psychological Well-being:

- School violence can have profound effects on the mental health of students. Victims may experience anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and other mental health issues. Witnessing violence can also have a detrimental impact on the psychological well-being of students.

School Climate:

- The occurrence of violence can contribute to a negative school climate, affecting the overall sense of safety and well-being among students and staff. A hostile school environment can hinder the learning process and create a culture of fear.

Family and Community Impact

- School violence can extend beyond the school premises, affecting families and communities. Parents may experience stress and concern for their children's safety, and communities may face challenges in fostering a positive environment.

DISTRICT-WIDE LITERACY

A SMALL GLIMPSE

This year, part of our PD and PLCs are focusing on the Science of Reading for SPED and K-5 staff. In addition, we are piloting “MyView(Savvas)” and “Into Reading” (HMH) for K-5. Jefferson is conducting full year pilots and teachers are receiving ongoing PD and professional support. For Grade K-4, MyView(Savvas) and Into Reading (HMH) will be piloted this January. The pilot teachers will receive their introductory training at the 12/8 PD. Both programs are grounded in scientifically-based reading instruction designed (Science of Reading) to reach every learner and provide comprehensive, explicit, and systematic instruction in foundational literacy skills. The goal is to increase foundation reading skills in K-2 through explicit instruction in phonological awareness, phonics, and word study. Strengthening foundational skills in K-2 will promote success in advanced reading comprehension and higher-order thinking in 3-5. Furthermore, by adopting a common program for K-5, there will be better continuity for grade 5 to build on the skills from K-4, which will prepare students for the transition to the secondary grades.

TUPS Grant Updates

A SMALL GLIMPSE

Total Amount Received from September 2022-Present: \$4,855,474

NJ Clean Energy Program/Plumbing and Appliance Grant \$1,219,894

This grant allows the district to replace all plumbing fixtures in each school building. To date, four buildings have been updated and work is continuing and expected to be completed by August 2024.

NJ Clean Energy Program/HVAC Grant \$822,675

The HVAC unit will be installed at Hannah Caldwell Elementary School in the café/gym area.

Emergent and Capital Needs Grant \$181,495

This grant will ensure the safety and security of the district by updating door access alarm systems.

Local Recreation Grant \$84,000

The Local Recreation Grant funding allowed the district to purchase playground equipment, flooring, and security fencing at Battle Hill Elementary School.

Mark Schonwetter Holocaust Education Grant \$750 (2022-2023) & \$1000 (2023-2024)

This grant was awarded twice, allowing the district to create Holocaust Resource Libraries at Burnet, Kawameeh, and Union High School.

School Climate Change Grant \$6660

The School Climate Change Grant allowed the district to purchase raised gardening beds and supplies for each of our schools.

TUPS Grant Updates con't

A SMALL GLIMPSE

McKinney Vento Homeless Consortium Funding \$25,000

The funding was used to offset the high transportation costs of the MKV students.

Rackspace Foundation Technology Grant \$25,000

The Rackspace Foundation Grant provides money to a school district to purchase technology supplies. The funding is solely based on employee donations, and the Township of Union Public Schools is the first New Jersey school to receive the funding. The grant was used to purchase 3D printers, robots, drones, and additional technology supplies for classes on the secondary level.

School-Based Mental Health Grant \$375,000 for 5 years= \$1,875,000

The School-Based Mental Health Grant allows our district to partner with Kean University to integrate additional student mental health support and staffing. A total of six School Psychology externs are placed in the schools to provide additional counseling, mentoring, and mental health programming to our students throughout the school year. In addition, the grant allows each school building to furnish a teen counseling suite to be used for all mental health professionals and students.

NJ Learning Acceleration Program: High Impact Tutoring Grant \$614,000

The High Impact Tutoring Grant will help increase ELA and Math support and decrease learning loss due to COVID. The grant allows the district to partner with tutoring companies to provide high-dosage tutoring, specifically for grades three and four, to increase academic achievement. The funding will support TUPS in providing high-dosage, intensive tutoring by focusing on high-impact interventions for students who have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)

	November 15, 2023 - December 12, 2023		
	AFFIRMED		
	Founded	Unfounded	Inconclusive
November 15, 2023, to November 21, 2023	6	1	2
November 22, 2023, to December 12, 2023	9	3	5

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)

November 15, 2023 - December 12, 2023

Affirmed

	Founded	Unfounded	Inconclusive
Battle Hill Elementary			
Burnet Middle	9		1
Connecticut Farms Elementary	1		
Franklin Elementary		1	
Hannah Caldwell Elementary		1	

	Founded	Unfounded	Inconclusive
Jefferson Elementary			
Kawameeh Middle	2	1	1
Livingston Elementary			
Washington Elementary			1
Union High	3	1	4

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)

	December 13, 2023 - December 19, 2023		
	REPORTED		
	Founded	Unfounded	Inconclusive
December 13, 2023, to December 19, 2023	6	5	1

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)

December 13, 2023 - December 19, 2023

Reported

	Founded	Unfounded	Inconclusive
Battle Hill Elementary	1		
Burnet Middle	2		
Connecticut Farms Elementary			
Franklin Elementary		3	
Hannah Caldwell Elementary		1	

	Founded	Unfounded	Inconclusive
Jefferson Elementary			
Kawameeh Middle	1		
Livingston Elementary		1	
Washington Elementary			
Union High	2		1

TUPS Student Liaisons

Neissa Filias

&

Gia Patel

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1YSSxoiWwgCeKZsfLKkoFF2cwlAk2Y5Su8QCnL5oDzNs/edit?usp=sharing>

A LOOK FORWARD

JOB/ Internship Board: The Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce, Township of Union, & the Township of Union Public Schools

TUPS BUMPER STICKER DESIGN CONTEST (32 Submissions)

Impact Recognition

Bumper Sticker B



BUMPER STICKER B



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**Thank You TUPS Community
& Happy Holidays!**

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