



A newsletter for students, parents, teachers, business partners and supporters

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Spring 2008

Mission Statement

Salem County 2000 is a volunteer partnership dedicated to community and individual improvement through lifelong learning. By providing creative leadership, Salem County 2000 develops and facilitates cooperative initiatives leading to improved education, personal excellence, good citizenship and a prepared workforce.

Goals

1. All students will enter school ready to learn.
2. Ninety percent of our students will graduate from high school.
3. All students will achieve certain levels in the core subjects of English, math, science, history and geography and will understand how to be good citizens.
4. All educators will have access to programs for continued professional development.
5. Our students will be first in the world in math and science.
6. Every adult will become a lifelong learner. Everyone will have the opportunity to learn to read.
7. All classrooms will be drug and violence free.
8. Parents will become more involved in their children's education.
9. All Salem County students will be able to use the tools of technology effectively.

Salem County Internet Safety Initiative

Salem County 2000 has partnered with the state and Salem County law enforcement communities, local businesses, municipalities and schools to create the Salem County Internet Safety Initiative.



The Initiative sponsors town hall-style meetings and school assemblies throughout Salem County. Meetings provide an opportunity for parents, teachers, township officials, youth and other community members to learn how to protect our children and ourselves while surfing the Internet. Topics include chat rooms, instant messaging, MySpace and other social networking sites, and cyber-bullying.

The Initiative also sponsors "train-the-trainer" sessions for Salem County educators. In 2007, Salem County 2000 sponsored a pilot training session for school administrators and teachers. With the help of the Salem Health and Wellness Foundation, these training sessions will continue to be offered in 2008 and 2009.

To learn more about the Salem County Internet Safety Initiative, call:

- Carol Mizrahi at (856) 935-7510, ext. 8430 for school programs, or
- Rae B. Walzer at (856) 299-2210 for community events.

To reach law-enforcement officials, call the Salem County Internet Safety Hotline at (856) 935-8119.

2008 Celebrity Waiter Dinner raises \$12,000

Over 200 attended the Celebrity Waiter Dinner on February 29 at the Centerton Country Club. As the theme was "Pirates on the Delaware," many came dressed in their best pirate attire. Many thanks go to the sponsors, and the many businesses who contributed to the Chinese and Silent Auctions. Through their creativity, the celebrity waiters raised thousands of dollars in tips, with Oldmans Township Mayor Harry Moore raising the most donations. In all, \$12,000 was raised to be used to promote and continue Salem County 2000 programs. I extend my appreciation to the Dinner Committee members for all their work in making this a successful fundraiser.

Rae B. Walzer
Executive Director

Celebrity Dinner Committee Members

Sandy Burden, Salem County Retired Teachers' Association
Carol A. Burke-Doherty, Principal, John Fenwick School
Michael Burke, West Jersey Title Agency
Denise Dersch, Vice Principal of Early Childhood, John Fenwick School
Crystal Hassler, Salem County Office of Education
Joan Heil, Salem County Office of Education
Carol Mizrahi, Salem County Office of Education
Rae B. Walzer, Executive Director, Salem County 2000

Goal Committee Reports

Community Service Committee

Dr. Mark Jones, Chair • mjones@psdnet.org

The committee continues to focus its efforts on three initiatives: The Salem County Book Bank Drive, a functional service-learning model and the award of community service scholarships to deserving high school seniors.

The committee's goals for 2008 are to:

- share research and dialogue with educational leaders about a functional model of service learning for students in Salem County,
- collaborate with the United Way and other local agencies to fully launch a County-wide book drive for new or "gently used" books with efforts to involve school districts, and
- expand committee membership to include leaders from Salem County school districts, non-profit organizations and businesses.

World Languages Committee

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The committee is currently looking into meaningful professional development in the areas of student-based learning and performance-based assessment. Teachers from the Penns Grove-Carneys Point Regional School District have attended a professional development workshop on technology. As a result of participating in the roundtables in Millville, the World Languages Committee is establishing a network with neighboring counties.

An updated world language Web resource page with useful and significant information has been completed for teachers to use. The committee is establishing communications and meetings through distance learning.

Humanities Committee

Shari Hayes • hayess@alloway.k12.nj.us

The Humanities Committee Goals for 2008 are to:

- familiarize the citizens across all age levels with the rich history and culture of Salem County,
- increase use of technology through cooperation with the N.J. State Library,
- increase the public's awareness of resources in all libraries within Salem County through projects and other related activities, and
- encourage other areas of the humanities to become involved.

This past fall, the Salem County 2000 Humanities Committee and the Pennsville Public Library invited representatives from the N.J. State Library to speak at the county-wide professional development workshop. They presented participants with information on the state library's free databases available to New Jersey schools.

On April 5, the committee co-hosted the third annual "Lunch with the Authors/Illustrators" with the Pennsville Public Library. Local authors Susan C. Stevenson, Mary Lou Frank and Esther Lankitus were featured.

The committee is again sponsoring a county-wide brochure contest for school-age children. Students in grades 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 are invited to create a brochure highlighting events, history, architecture, etc. from their own towns. The committee hopes to ignite students' interest in their communities. Winners will receive \$25 gift certificates to Barnes & Noble. Interested students should see their school librarian or e-mail Shari Hayes.

Other areas of the humanities are encouraged to become more involved with the Salem County 2000 Humanities Committee. Anyone interested in attending meetings and/or being on the committee's mailing list, please contact Shari Hayes. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month from September to June at 9 a.m. at the Pennsville Public Library.

Vote in School Board Elections April 15

Is this a great country or what? We have been and are engaged in a two-year campaign to elect a new president. While the process may seem too long for many, the candidates and issues have energized the electorate. Primary elections have seen record turnouts and young people are a large part of the increased interest in this contest.

Whether you are Republican, Democrat or Independent, the excitement generated by the presidential race is good for our nation. It means that we perceive that we have the opportunity to make a difference in our country and the world.

Although school board elections may not seem quite as exciting as choosing a president, they are a great opportunity to make a real difference in our communities. In fact, because the turnout for board elections is often low, the significance of each vote is enhanced.

School board elections will be held on Tuesday, April 15. Use your right to vote and make a positive difference in your community.

John D. Jordan, Esq.
Chair, Salem County, 2000

Check out the home of Salem County 2000 on the Web:
www.salemcounty2000.org

Visit this site for updates on Salem County 2000 throughout the school year.