

The Public Schools of Brookline
School Committee Meeting of Thursday, May 21, 2015
Superintendent Report

William H. Lupini, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

JET Memorial Invitation Program (JET-MIP)

Nicholas Gallitano, class of 2015, was accepted in the JET-MIP Scholarship Program and will be traveling to Japan this summer. This is a highly competitive national program to raise awareness of the 3/11 disaster in 2011.

JET-MIP provides 32 high school students with the opportunity to visit Japan for two weeks – with a focus on the Tohoku region – to participate in exchanges with Japanese students, see the current condition of recovery in the region, and act as symbolic bridges to enhance the goodwill between Japan and the United States.

Students also participate in Japanese language courses and activities at the Japan Foundation Japanese Language Institute. Participants will also be able to experience life in Japan first-hand during a weekend home stay. This program provides an enriching experience to those who have been studying Japanese and seek to apply what they have learned.

Cherry Blossom Festival

The 4th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival was held on Saturday, May 16th and was a tremendous success. Over 1,300 people attended and the event raised almost \$3,000 in scholarship money for the BHS Japan Exchange Program Scholarship Fund.

Music in the Parks Festival

Our Town-Wide elementary music ensembles – Voices of Brookline (Chorus), Jazz Band, Concert Band, and Brookline Youth Orchestra – participated in the Music in The Parks Festival, which is an adjudicated music festival. Each of our groups came in first place with an excellent rating and our Brookline Youth Orchestra came in first place with a superior rating and the overall top award for string orchestra!

Congratulations to our students and their group advisors – John Ferguson (Director of Brookline Youth Orchestra), Holly Ahearn (Director of Voices of Brookline), Rick Stone (Director of Concert Band and Jazz Band), Emily Stewart (Assistant Director of Brookline Youth Orchestra), Michelle Cavalieri (Assistant Director of Concert Band), and Colin Stack (Assistant Director of Jazz Band), as well as all of our music teachers who work with these students.

National French Exam

Nathaniel Liberman, a ninth grader at Brookline High School, placed first nationally in the National French Exam (Level 2) program with a perfect score. Over 19,000 students took part in this national exam program.

Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials (MASBO)

Congratulations to Mary Ellen Dunn, our incoming Deputy Superintendent for Administration and Finance, on receiving the MASBO President's Award, given in recognition of an individual's outstanding contribution to his/her school system, community, and/or to the profession.

Today's Students, Tomorrow's Teachers (TSTT)

TSTT is a unique, school-based mentoring program that recruits and mentors culturally diverse and economically challenged high school students who are interested in pursuing a career in teaching. With the support of school systems, colleges, corporations and communities, TSTT has grown from seven students in Westchester Council High School (NY) to nearly 880 participants in four states, including the Greater Boston area that currently includes three participating districts (Arlington, Andover and Brookline). Additionally, there are 50 students in both the Worcester and Boston cohorts.

The Greater Boston area recently recognized the first cohort of TSTT graduating seniors, six of whom are students at Brookline High School. All six of these students will be going to college in the fall and we will eagerly await their return to become classroom teachers in The Public Schools of Brookline.

Our graduating seniors are Taylor James, Stephanie Jung, Royal Sanyika-Hall, Kenny Szeto, Kephron O'Neal and Rafi Michaels. In addition, we want to thank their teacher leaders: Malcolm Cawthorne and Jeanette Sergeant Lindor.