



Superintendent's Report

April 9, 2025

Congratulations to all of our students who performed in the Porchlight Production of *The Lion King, Jr.* last week. Every student did an excellent job acting, singing and dancing as they took the audience on Simba's journey around Pride Rock. Congratulations to all!

Congratulations to our TMS students who ranked first place in the region in the New Jersey Math League Contest for seventh grade mathematics. The top students in the region, ranking first and second, are Changha Rho and Jean Park, who are currently sixth grade students enrolled in seventh grade math class. This is a notable achievement! We are so proud of our students! Kudos to Mr. Bomzer, Mr. John, and Mr. Rota, our seventh-grade math teachers, as well as all of the teachers who taught the students from PreK through seventh grade to prepare them for this great accomplishment.

Thank you to Ms. Cipollini, Ms. Cohen and Ms. Zanin who represented Closter Public Schools at the Bergen County Job Fair on Saturday, April 5, 2025. We have five positions open for the 2025-2026 school year, and they were able to meet with many candidates at the job fair. Ms. Cipollini will also represent Closter at the upcoming Montclair State University Education Job Fair.

The NJDOE has posted the 2023-2024 School Performance Reports on the state website. I have posted a [link to the reports](#) on the Closter Public Schools website's main page. You may find the link on the right-hand side of the main page, which is listed as the *District Performance Report*. This link also contains my letter about the School Performance Reports, explaining the reports. I encourage everyone to view the performance reports to learn more about our district and schools.

Tonight, we honor our Science Olympiad Team members in recognition of winning the New Jersey State Championship for 2025. Their dedication to scientific excellence, collaborative problem-solving, and competitive spirit has led to this remarkable achievement. The students' hard work, countless hours of preparation and unwavering commitment have brought honor to themselves and to our district. Kudos to Madison Du, Oren Feibish, Gilad Harley, Sharro Jin, Sulayman Khalique, Aiden Kim, Hannah Kim, Jisoo Kim, Lauren Kim, Olivia Kim, Sarang Grace Kim, Jacob Lee, Julia Lee, Sophia Lee, Ni Li, Akshat Mishra, Mark Nikolov, Johanna Park-Kam, Avish Sabnani, Gyanvi Saran, Caitlyn Yeoh, Matthew Yoon, and Abigail Yun. Thank you to Ms. Moidu and Mr. Hernandez for leading this champion team. We wish them well at the National Science Olympiad in Lincoln, Nebraska, in May 2025. Thank you also to the high school students who have volunteered to help our team prepare for the competition.

The Tenakill Middle School Science Olympiad Team is raising funds for their trip to the national competition in Lincoln, Nebraska. If you would like to support them, please visit their [Spirit Gear Fundraiser](#) or [GoFundMe](#). We are grateful to the outpouring of support for our Science Olympiad team. A special thank you to the Korean Parent Group, Closter Coaches Athletic Association, and Closter Kumon for their generous donations.

Our Profile of a Closter Learner Committee is continuing their diligent work, having met earlier today. The committee has identified six main characteristics to describe what a Closter learner should be when graduating eighth grade. The committee is finalizing the descriptors that will be listed under each characteristic. The committee members have done an excellent job of analyzing and synthesizing the input from the 480 stakeholders who participated in the *ThoughtExchange* in January. We had four graphic designers respond to my email seeking volunteer graphic designers to help the committee design the iconographic. I plan to meet with the graphic designers after spring recess. I look forward to sharing the Profile of a Closter Learner before the end of the school year! I am grateful for the work that everyone has contributed to this goal.

The public hearing on the 2025-2026 school budget will take place at our Board of Education meeting on April 30, 2025. All are invited to attend the presentation.

Schools will be closed for spring recess from Monday, April 14, 2025, through Friday, April 18, 2025. I wish a happy Passover and happy Easter to families celebrating! Schools will reopen on Monday, April 21, 2025.

Vincent Mc Hale