



Superintendent's Report

January 22, 2026

Our recent professional learning day on January 19, 2026, provided targeted, job-embedded training aligned with the district goal of providing professional development on data analysis of student assessment data. Sessions focused on Big Ideas Mathematics, curriculum pacing guide updates, literacy instruction, dyslexia training, DIBELS data entry and analysis, and the use of multiple data sources to inform instructional decisions and improve student outcomes. In addition, Child Study Team members, nurses, and school counselors participated in specialized sessions on 504 plans, new assessments, case management data review, and student health records. Thank you to the administrators and teachers who thoughtfully planned and led these sessions to support continuous improvement across the district.

We are excited to celebrate the Lunar New Year on Friday, January 30, 2026. This celebration will occur at both schools with an educational assembly featuring our students. The Hillside School assembly will start at 10:00 a.m. The Tenakill Middle School assembly will start at 1:30 p.m. The Board trustees are welcome to attend! Thank you to the Lunar New Year Committee, who have worked tirelessly to put this all together, and kudos to our students who will be performing in the assemblies!

We invite families to attend *Raising the Resilient Child*, a four-part evening parenting series designed to help nurture strong, capable, and adaptable children, aligned with Hillside's ICARE and Tenakill's CharacterStrong programs to connect home and school strategies. Led by Josephine Hunt, a PreK teacher at Hillside Elementary School, the series will explore research-based approaches to resilience across four sessions: February 11 (*Why Resilience Matters*), March 11 (*Raising Resilient Learners at Home*), April 8 (*Resilience in School*), and May 6 (*Home and School Together*). All sessions begin at 7:00 p.m. at Tenakill Middle School and parents may attend any or all sessions. Please register for the sessions you plan to attend at <https://tinyurl.com/parentseries2026>.

This week, we shared important information from the Closter Police Department with all families regarding the new statewide e-bike law that took effect on January 19, 2026. The updated regulations in New Jersey require e-bike riders to be properly licensed, e-bikes to be registered with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, and owners to carry liability insurance. The law also establishes minimum age requirements and clarifies speed limits by e-bike class. By communicating these changes, we want to support student safety, promote responsible use, and ensure families are aware of their obligations under the new law. Students under the age of 15 may not operate e-bikes and should not ride them to school.

Vincent Mc Hale