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## Robert L. Craig Newsletter

### March 2019



*Every Child. Every Day. Every Chance.*

#### Board of Education Members:

Mr. David Vaccaro  
Mr. James Campbell  
Mr. Matthew Vaccaro  
Mr. Charles Pallas  
Mr. Edmond Monti

#### Meeting Dates:

March 5 and 19, 2019  
6:30 P.M.  
RLC Cafeteria

### **From the Desk of Dr. Jonathan Ponds,** **Superintendent/Principal**

Although Spring is near, the weather is still cool so please send your student to school with a jacket and/or a sweater. You also may be receiving a telephone call from the school for your child to receive extra tutoring. Please take advantage of this opportunity. We are not only tutoring students that need assistance but also students that are excelling. On March 22, we will be having our house celebration. If your child is in one of the 3 houses that won this year, we encourage them to attend the dance. The NJSLA is upon us. Please ask your child's teacher for ideas to help prepare your child for the assessment.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Ponds, Ed. D., Superintendent/Principal

*Always Remember: Do Your Best and You Are Special*



### **PTO News**

The PTO helped the Pre-K to 2 grade celebrate Read Across America with Green Eggs and Ham on March 1st. The kids had a great time trying the green eggs and wishing Doctor Seuss a Happy Birthday. We are preparing for the spring events and are looking for volunteers. Please watch out for flyers that will be sent home with kids for all the Spring Events. April 5 Spring Dance Grades Pre-K- 4, April 9 and 10 Spring Book Fair and April 10 Last PTO Meeting for the Year.

At the Last PTO meeting we will be electing new officers to the PTO Board. Please look for information on the web site and flyers that were sent home for nominations.

There are many exciting things happening at Robert L. Craig School. Our STEAM TEAM is competing at NJIT on March 9th. Congratulations to Joey Berrios, who is wrestling in the State Finals as well on March 9th. We had a fantastic Family Literacy Night on February 28th and a wonderful Green Eggs and Ham Celebration on March 1st. Our Pre-School program is flourishing, highlighted by an exciting Family Engagement Night on February 21st. Saturday school is offered each week for individual tutoring, basketball, chess, and elementary STEAM. We are also gearing up for our Spring book fair on April 9th and 10th! None of these wonderful events and opportunities would be possible without our dedicated partnerships with the P.T.O. & YMCA, as well as the hard work and commitment of our teachers and staff. We are looking forward to an exciting Spring, with our students continuing to flourish and our garden coming to life again!

### **Important Dates**

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 3/8  | YMCA 21st CCLC Closed  |
| 3/10 | YMCA 21st CCLC Saturday<br>Program 9am - 12 pm, In House<br>Basketball (K-4) 10 am |
| 3/14 | Burger King Cash-O-La 5-7 pm   |
| 3/16 | YMCA 21st CCLC Saturday<br>Program 9am - 12 pm, In House<br>Basketball (K-4) 10 am |
| 3/19 | BOE Meeting 6:30 pm  |
| 3/22 | RLC House Party 6-9 pm   |
| 3/22 | YMCA 21st CCLC Closed  |
| 3/23 | YMCA 21st CCLC Saturday<br>Program 9am - 12 pm, In House<br>Basketball (K-4) 10 am |
| 3/28 | Youth Government Night 7 pm  |
| 3/30 | YMCA 21st CCLC Saturday<br>Program 9am - 12 pm, In House<br>Basketball (K-4) 10 am |



**THE RLC BEAT**  
**By Donna Gallo BSN MEd RN, School Nurse**

MARCH IS NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH so here are some suggestions for keeping your family healthy. Always **eat breakfast**. A great breakfast is fruit, low-fat yogurt and a whole grain cereal. Make **half your plate fruit and vegetables**. Fruits and vegetables contain lots of fiber which aides in digestion and fills you up. (Not to mention all the natural vitamins and minerals they contain.) Check out the Nutrition Facts Label and the serving sizes on packages. Get out your measuring cups and actually **measure the serving**, keeping your serving size to the recommended size. Make **healthy snack choices**. Choose fresh fruits and vegetables, low-fat cheese or whole grain crackers between meals. **Drink more water** and fat-free milk. Avoid drinks with sugar and chemicals.

For more tips on ways to eat healthier, check out Eat Right: The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics <https://www.eatright.org>

We would like to **CONGRATULATE Alex Francisco, Hailey Friedman and Kelly Chicayza Intriago**

for being chosen as the February  
Students of the Month!



**Meadowlands Area YMCA**  
**21st Century Community**  
**Learning Center**



February was super fun, we started the month with a Super Bowl Party! The children decorated their helmets with their favorite team colors. We had a buffet and the food was donated by **Segovia Steakhouse in Little Ferry**.

We also designed the winter and Valentine cafeteria bulletin boards. The children made many art projects including their favorite craft, Slime. We created Valentine theme healthy snacks for Valentine's Day and Healthy Heart month.

YMCA 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC and Robert L. Craig School continued it Saturday School Program providing free academic support and tutoring for students in Grades 1 to 8. We offer the extra help many children need to stay on track in school, plus specialized programs like Chess, Robotics and test prep to help accelerate, and encourage, learning for all students. If you are interested in any of our programs for your child, please contact Dr. Ponds at the school or call Mr. Facendola at 201-206-8774.



This year's National Scripps Spelling Bee for grades 6-8 was a nail-biter. The last contestants remaining included two 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and one 6<sup>th</sup> grader. The judges had already resorted to the set of dictionary words, considering the contestants had already spelled all the provided words correct. Finally, with one minute remaining, the 6<sup>th</sup> grader proved victorious. He won his third spelling bee in a row and cried tears of joy. All of the Robert L. Craig contestants did a phenomenal job studying and preparing for the competition.

