

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
INSPIRES AWARDS  
AND  
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES  
2020



BARNEGAT TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Administration**

**Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Brian Latwis

**Business Administrator/Board Secretary**

Stephen Brennan

**Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Human Resources**

James Barbieri

**Director of Student Services**

Daniel Gundersen

**Director of Special Projects**

Stephen Nichol

**Supervisor of Special Education**

Stacey Jakalow

**Supervisor of Elementary Ed. K-5**

Regina Santolla

**Supervisor of Language Arts/Social Studies 6-12**

Mary Cammarata

**Supervisor of Math/Science 6-12**

Krystina Smith

**Athletic Director**

John Germano

**District Supervisor of Guidance**

Leah Purpuri

**Principals & Assistant Principals**

**Principal of Barnegat High School**

Patrick Magee

**Assistant Principal of Barnegat High School**

Tracee DuBeck

**Assistant Principal of Barnegat High School**

Francis Pannullo

**Principal of Russell O. Brackman Middle School**

Shannon Smith

**Assistant Principal of Russell O. Brackman Middle School**

Jared Burke

**Principal of Robert L. Horbelt School**

Joseph Saxton

**Principal of Joseph T. Donahue School**

John Fiorentino

**Principal of Cecil S. Collins School**

Josh Toddings

**Principal of Lillian M. Dunfee School**

Jennifer Froehlich

**PAWS Academy**

**Assistant Principal**

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Robert Sawicki

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Richard Quelch

# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE, OWNERSHIP, AND PRIDE**

Superintendent's Award for Excellence, Ownership, and Pride is awarded to staff members who take pride in what they do and how they do it. Staff members who are awarded this honor refuse to give anything less than 100% to the district, the school, the classroom, and the students. They are always there when you need them and they exemplify what we want in our Barnegat family.

## Danielle Ascough

Danielle Ascough strives on making sure students know they are important. She has a positive attitude and gives 100% each day. Danielle makes learning fun through exposing students to STEM project based learning. She continues to research new projects and collaborates with other schools in the county to enhance the school curriculum. Additionally, Danielle works hard to help other teachers when they are in need. For example, this September Danielle planned and prepared lessons for another STEM teacher while they were out on maternity leave. Her expectations of herself supersedes an administrators expectations.



## Colette Bach

Colette continues to go above and beyond the expectations of her position. She is organized and thorough and has been a lifesaver more than once. She takes such pride in everything she does and really is so much more than an Assistant to the Superintendent. Caring and supportive, passionate and invested, she is truly a pleasure to work with and I am grateful she is on my team.



## Frank DiPaolo Jr.

Frank's pleasant demeanor is recognized by all of the students and staff members at Dunfee School. Frank's work ethic is extraordinary. When we call him on his radio (numerous times daily) that he is needed to clean up a spill, vomit, urine, broken glass or whatever we might need, he never hesitates and always replies on the radio "I'll be right there". If Frank sees someone carrying a box or trying to move something, he always offers to do it for them. He never sits down, he is always busy keeping Dunfee School clean or assisting staff members or students. He exemplifies the meaning of a dedicated employee. Students all "Love Mr. Frank", he treats all of them with respect. He also assists our PTA by helping to set up for their events and supports their fundraisers by attending various events including McDonald's Night, and Pasta Dinner. He is truly a cherished member of our Dunfee Family.



## Cindy Gallagher

Cindy Gallagher was named Teacher of the Year last year. At Horbelt, the transition from one year to the next is an important transition ceremony. Cindy took it upon herself to organize the entire process virtually. She set up a place where her colleagues could write something special to Mrs. Viglone, ordered a picture that embodied the TOTY, and then organized having the TOTY tiara and flowers delivered to celebrate our newest recipient of this prestigious award. All of this was done while keeping it secret from Mrs. Viglone.



## Jennifer Lane

Jennifer Lane chooses to be positive and look for the good in each person and in each situation. At the start of this year, she took it upon herself to copy, laminate, and post positive quotes around the building to remind EVERYONE that being positive and having a happy heart is a CHOICE.

This ONE thing does not account for all of the other things Jen has done to make Horbelt a wonderful place to work. She set up numerous culture-building activities, she helped staff understand the new data and RTI process, she made collegial suggestions to help with students in the classroom, and she organized transition programs (like the nurse's retirement program.) Just a small sample...

Her lead on the Culture and Climate Committee, and everything she has done in between, have been a major reason why Horbelt has its amazing culture!





## Tara Larsen

Tara Larsen blends her love of Dunfee, her love of Art, and her love of teaching together and creates ways to have her students express themselves through different mediums. She is always working to enhance student learning in her classroom. She has developed a great rapport with her students, the staff and the entire community. Tara started an Art Club after school that all the students want to participate in, but she has also created a more challenging Advanced Art Club to cultivate the talents of those with a strong focus on Art. Tara has also worked with our staff and students to create several murals and particularly the design of Mrs. Katherine Makela's Media Center design. However, one of the most inspiring things she does is how she supports our Dunfee family. Without any discussion, Tara took upon herself to create welcoming baskets for our new staff which included school spirit items, classroom supplies, and warm messages; Tara frequently will do similar acts of kindness for struggling families, new students or staff in times of need. She is a true asset to our teaching staff.

Mrs. Larsen has always been the Dunfee School Cheerleader even before the Pandemic hit us, but she has really tried to bring all of our students, staff, and parents some hope and a smile during these very difficult times. One thing she created, in collaboration with our PTA is "Bedtime Stories with the Dunfee Staff." She set up a schedule for staff to sign up to read to our students live on the PTA Facebook page every night at 7:00PM. The students interact through comments that they post while the staff member is reading them a bedtime story. Also, she has set up a culminating Bedtime Story with each staff member reading a line from the book *Oh the Places You'll Go*. In this final read, she has asked each staff member to sign up for a line from the book and send her a video clip of that line that she will piece together to create the story and publish it on PTA Facebook page. Additionally, Mrs. Larsen put together a video montage of all LMDS Staff to the song "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" which featured every staff member holding a poster/sign giving the students a message of comfort and hope. One final note, yes there is more, Mrs. Larsen brought the annual Art Show to the students and their parents virtually. She put together a Digital Art Show for the Dunfee and Donahue Schools for every student by grade level and school. She was able to do this via a program she used throughout the school year because she created Artsonia Accounts for every student.



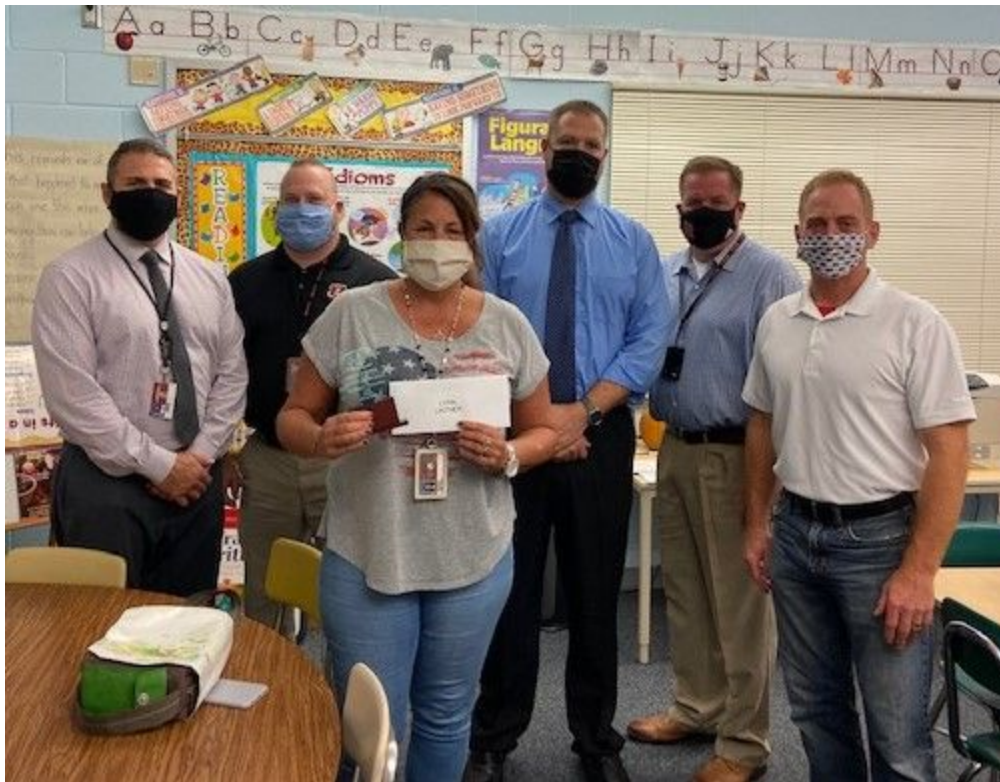
## Alexandra Liguori

Miss Liguori made sure that the many families in need within our community were able to continue to benefit from our backpack program throughout this Pandemic. After gaining permission from the district, Miss Liguori contacted the coordinator of the program to reinstate the program during COVID-19. She personally contacted the parents and arranged for pick-ups at the Dunfee School parking lot every week. Additionally, several parents do not have cars and were unable to come to pick-up the items, therefore, she personally delivered their food to their homes. She made sure that those 18 families, consisting of 48 students, received three meals per person in the family.



# Lynn Lintner

Lynn Lintner would be mortified to receive public attention, but that is because she prefers to be in the background and not on stage. But that's exactly where she works – behind the scenes. She sees a “problem” and just becomes the solution. In the past she has spent considerable time in a class supporting a teacher who needed help and recognized a problem with recess coverage and just proposed a solution which she then saw implemented. This year, in the same vein, she has just assumed becoming a good consumer of data and looked at student performance with the online programs. Without any prompting, she assumed this role, evaluated the data, and made recommendations about students' future work in the programs. She is much appreciated for this work!



## Monica Lowe

Monica is always a breath of fresh air and a smiling face. You know the second she walks into a room. The very definition of a team player, she goes above and beyond and the word “no” is literally not in her vocabulary. She picks up so much extra work and really is someone the rest of us can lean on. Whenever anything is requested of her you can rest assured it will not only be done but done really well. Thank you Monica!



## Lauren Mennen

Mrs. Mennen started a schoolwide initiative to collect shoes and clothing to help students in need within the Donahue School. She took it upon herself to collect, store, contact families, and distribute needed items to less fortunate families. This type of selfless act is common for Lauren whose actions often demonstrate just how big her heart and dedication are.



## Theresa Nelson

Mrs. Nelson demonstrates Excellence, Ownership and Pride by going above and beyond what her normal job duties. At the end of the day on the last day of summer, a parent showed up at Brackman with a medication they wanted to drop off. With no nurse on duty, the office staff and building administration asked the parent if they could come back the following week when a nurse would be there to check the paperwork and make sure we had everything we needed in order to accept the medication and administer it if needed. When the parent expressed that they would be at work during school hours and this was the only time she could be here, Mrs. Smith reached out to me. I called Mrs. Nelson, who was not working that day, to ask her possibly what to check for or how to help the parent. Without hesitation, Mrs. Nelson told me she would run over to the school to assist. Within five minutes she was there at the building assisting the parent and making sure the student would be able to start school on the first day with the medications in the hands of the nursing staff in the event of an emergency.



## Molly O'Brien

The end of August is always a crazy time as we prepare for our new students to begin the new school year. Molly was working tirelessly preparing placement letters, working with transportation to ensure the preschool students had transportation on the first day of school, and getting last minute supplies to the preschool classrooms throughout the district.

During this time, she was also asked to order all of the food and assist in preparing information packets about the Preschool Program to distribute to families during the annual Dunfee Block Party on Sunday, August 25th. Without even thinking about it, Molly volunteered to go into work on her day off to finish the placement letters and get everything ready for the Block party that weekend. Not only did she get everything done on her day off, she volunteered to work at the Block Party handing out information about the Preschool Program to Barnegat residents, hand out food, and continue to build relationships in the township. We are very fortunate to have Molly on our Preschool team who goes above and beyond her expectations.





# Michael Palmieri

Mike continues to do anything that is asked of him for the good of not only the high school but the district. When asked to film and capture our graduates for the 2020 virtual graduation he didn't hesitate and brought ideas to the table. He is constantly designing and producing things in his classes and his own time to make the Barnegat School District shine in print and video. He is always looking out for what is best for our school district.



## Danielle Rosa-Brown

Danielle took it upon herself to create a video for the students where she gathered messages from the teachers to share with the students about how they were missed! Video clips, pictures, and messages were collated, edited, and set to music. The video was shared with the students and also featured on the WOBM homepage.



## Shannon Rossi

Mrs. Rossi takes pride in everything that she does and this is evident through her work in Barnegat High School. In the classroom, Shannon sets high academic expectations for her students, and supports them in the process of self-reflection and self-motivation to get there. Through her data-driven instruction, Shannon takes pride in being an educator and sets the stage for students to take pride in everything that they do. Shannon constantly supports programs and events in the high school that highlight all of the positive things within the school. For example, Shannon has collaborated with the elementary gifted and talented teacher to bring together students to discuss and learn about journalism. Similarly, she brings in guest speakers to give students the ability to see real life careers and to ignite interest in different areas of life. Mrs. Rossi puts 110% into everything that she does, and as a result, she constantly models excellence, ownership, and pride.



# Lynne Senyk

Lynne Senyk represents Barnegat as its Payroll Specialist. In her brief tenure in our District (September 2018) she quietly made a huge impact in advancing education in our schools. Lynne's calm demeanor emphasizes her strong work ethic. Lynne set the bar high for herself and proves she is an invaluable asset to the Barnegat Team.

In 2018-19 (her rookie year) she successfully on-boarded an entire preschool program while dealing with a learning curve as a new employee herself. She routinely spent late nights and weekends working to ensure that all of the staff members in Barnegat received accurate and timely payroll.

In the 2019-20 school year she again proved her commitment to excellence by enrolling in a program to earn a Certificate in Payroll Excellence issued by the American Payroll Institute. She continues to educate herself on the nuances of payroll in a school environment. Through her motivation to educate herself, she developed into a solid resource for her colleagues and never hesitates to help anyone navigate the complicated regulations of tax sheltered annuities, pensions, and flexible spending accounts. Through her dedication, she successfully partnered with a third party administrator that provides the District assurances necessary to comply with the intricate laws related to tax deferred vehicles.



## Kate Stolte & Carla Catania

Mrs. Kate Stolte and her aide Carla Catania went above and beyond during the Covid 19 virtual teaching. Both of them drove to each one of their student's homes and read to them from the street while practicing social distancing. They provided them with some treats and sat with them for a bit to just visit and put a smile on all of their faces. Having had two parents reach out, not to mention all the smiles on social media posts, it is obvious their objective was met and exceeded!



# Technology Department

Michele Haviland  
Kelly West

Frank Kukulya  
Stephanie Youmans

Angela Polisano

The Technology Department came in during the thick of the pandemic to ensure the families of Barnegat had access to devices and someone to assist with troubleshooting any concerns. This department partnered with the Administration and staff to ensure students and staff were fully supported. These selfless acts truly kept the district moving along without any pauses or hiccups. Each member of this team had their own personal stories and reasons that would have made it completely understandable to request working remotely, however not one individual did. They came in, worked on the front lines with our community, and ensured our virtual platform was up and running and students had access. I cannot thank this group of people enough. Truly selfless, dedicated, with a foundation of pride.





## Sandra Vazquez-Santiago

Sandra, a playground aide at LMDS, personally made and sewn masks with the Dunfee colors and an LMDS monogram; additionally, her husband Carlos, LMDS Security, helped her with putting together the materials to assist her and delivering them. They made it their job to help keep our Dunfee Community safe by making these LMDS masks for the students and staff. They handed them out in the community as well as during Monday and Thursday breakfast and lunch pick-ups at the Dunfee School. They even made a short video as parents sent them pictures of their children wearing these masks.



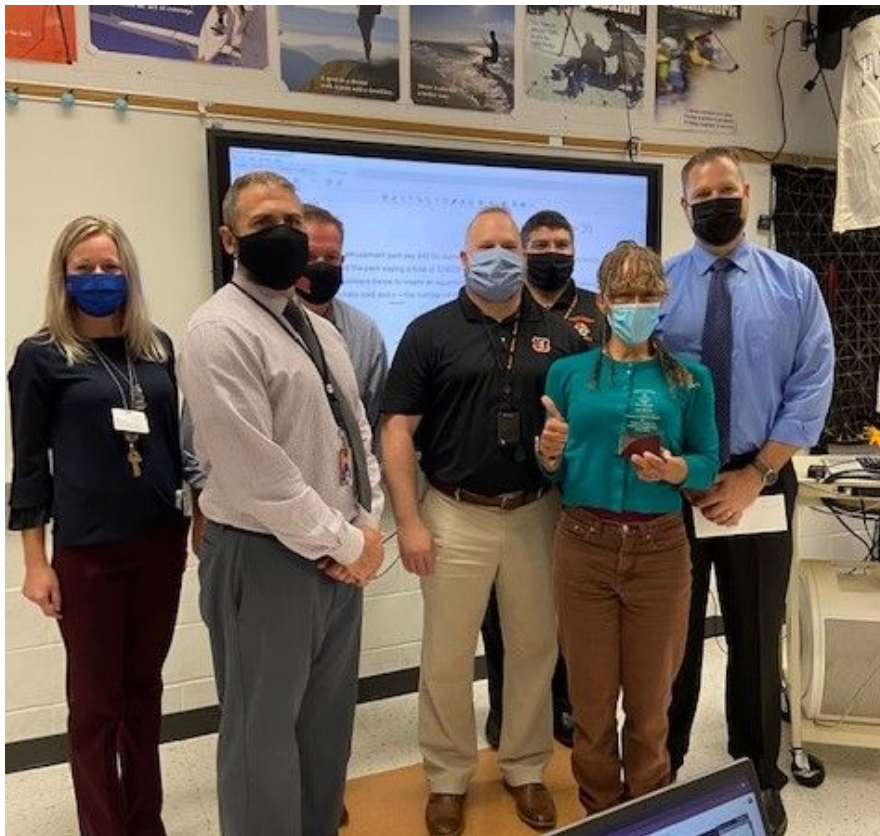


# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR BEING A LEADER IN STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

Superintendent's Award for being a Leader in Student Engagement is awarded to staff members who are leaders in innovation, active student learning, and collaborative learning in the classroom. Staff members who are awarded this honor embrace cutting-edge educational strategies and link learning to relatable, real-world connections. These staff members are willing to take risks in the classroom, and as a result, are leaders in student engagement.

# Lisa Betty

Lisa Betty is driven to help all students overcome barriers that impact their learning of mathematics. She inspires all students to achieve and grow as learners and to generate their own course of lifelong learning. Lisa encourages students to take ownership of their learning, to make purposeful contributions to their learning environments, and to tackle mathematical challenges one step at a time. She has a passion for teaching mathematics as well as infusing her background of engineering into the curriculum. Lisa has a wonderful work ethic and continues to “go the extra mile.” For example, Lisa decided to take it upon herself to create questions on LinkIt with minimal training on how to do so. She wanted her Midterm questions to have specific content and made sure this would come to life.



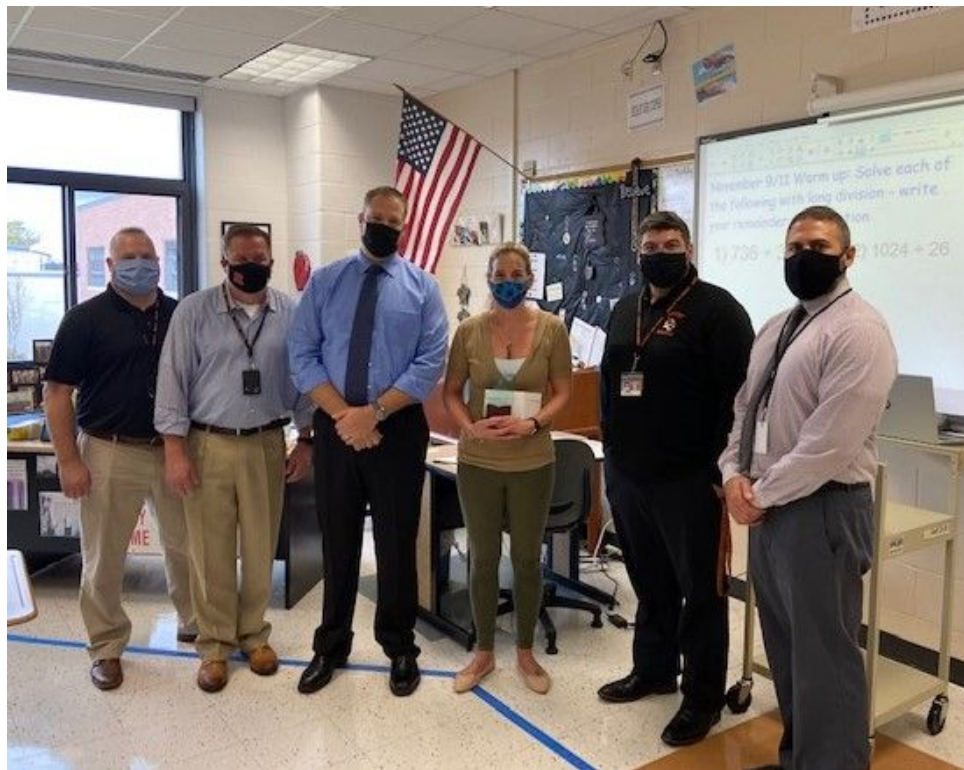
## Samantha Burke

Mrs. Burke has given countless hours to the students and her colleagues at Brackman. Mrs. Burke has consistently demonstrated her passion for teaching through her remarkable innovations and strategies in the classroom. She has shown that she is eager to apply new theories and techniques in her classroom and is not afraid to incorporate student feedback and student preferences into her practices, which has led to incredible rapport and a most inclusive learning environment. Mrs. Burke is an asset to our district and the epitome of the role model we want our students to follow.



# Emily Cherry

Emily Cherry is recognized for her commitment to student success inside and outside of the classroom. She is a passionate, student-centered educator who consistently evaluates her instruction to enhance her teaching styles for each student in her classroom. Specifically, Emily asks her students whether her teaching style is working, whether the assignments she gives are fair and ways she can improve to help the students in her classroom. She feels that when students meaningfully participate in decision making about their learning, they are more likely to remain involved in education and achieve better results. Emily takes time to give students the best opportunity in her classroom and prepares students for college-level rigor.



## Theresa Howanich

Theresa Howanich's three core values consist of creativity through innovation, compassion for science, and critical thinking. She teaches science through having students discover the "why" of science practices. Theresa inspires students through her story-telling and classroom experiences. On the second day of school, Theresa's supervisor received an email from a parent stating that she was the students favorite teacher as she was very funny and introduced an assignment about Mars in a creative way. In addition to connecting topics to students, she is willing to take risks in the classroom. This year she attended a Next Gen Science Standard Workshop and incorporated phenomena into her classroom to make connections between earth, life and physical science. Theresa is a confident and inspiring teacher.



# Ashley Peoples

Ashley Peoples is recognized for making math meaningful for Grade 6 learners and finding new ways to teach mathematical topics. She makes learning math fun through engaging students in active learning. For example, in November Ashley had students virtually grocery shop to find the best deals on taco supplies using unit rates. She consistently relates mathematical topics and vocabulary to everyday life so students are exposed to how they will use math each day.



## Michele Ruddy

Mrs. Ruddy first became a Grade 1 Early Intervention teacher about 16 years ago, and since that time has provided specialized instruction for students in the primary grades who require additional support. Several years ago, Mrs. Ruddy began using the Rhyme Magic program to help with phonics instruction. The results have been amazing, and her students have made tremendous growth in the area of literacy. Therefore, this year the administration asked Mrs. Ruddy to turnkey the Rhyme Magic program to the other Grade 1 teachers at LMDS, as a pilot program before it is adopted district-wide next year. Mrs. Ruddy embraced this leadership role, and for that she is recognized and praised.



## Traci Sellers

Traci Sellers is continually seeking ways to improve teaching and learning. Each year Traci takes her students to Hackfree where students have the opportunity to code and engage in fun activities and presentations by engineers in the industry with students in Monmouth and Ocean County for 24 hours on the weekend with no sleep. She also collaborates with computer scientists around the world in providing students experience with software development through new programs as well as having a programmer from LA come to present to the students. Traci continues to seek ways to expand our computer science program.





# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR ADVANCING IN ACADEMICS**

Superintendent's Award for Advancing in Academics is awarded to staff members who set high expectations and are leaders in reading, writing, and literacy instruction, as well as, leaders in furthering STEAM and Mathematics in the classroom. Staff members who are awarded this honor implement cross-curricular learning and set high expectations. As a result, these staff members lead in high state testing scores and academic success.

## Gerard DeGrazio

Jerry DeGrazio has bought into the concept of using data to impact instructional decision making. Before we went in this direction as a district, Jerry began looking at the standards and asking questions about how his students performed. His next steps were based on the answers he received from his questions and looking at his student performance on specific test items. Jerry is a complete teacher who handles all aspects of the classroom well, and his students highly respect him, but as a result of this thoughtful process of looking at data and ascertaining what's going on, Jerry has consistently had the highest overall Linkit/NJSLA scores from his students in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade.



## Marilyn Dino

Mrs. Dino is an ICR teacher who goes above and beyond every day with kindness and caring to meet the needs of our entire student body. Mrs. Dino provides after school assistance to students in need of help, works with the fifth grade and kindergarten students providing academic assistance, and is also a Wilson certified reading specialist. She serves as a Spanish translator for the school district and assists with meetings whenever called upon. Mrs. Dino also involves herself in every Donahue School event, serves as the Student Council Advisor, where she plans numerous activities for the students to give back to the community, and is the Academic Bowl Advisor. Mrs. Dino is respected by her peers, puts in countless hours to help the Donahue school and students, and does so with pride, passion, respect, and a constant smile that inspires others to give their all.



## Hande Drexler

Hande Drexler has reorganized her instructional approach to base what she teaches in the classroom based on the standards. She has analyzed the curriculum, what the NJSLA focuses on, and created an ongoing loop of ascertaining her students' performance. As a result of her academic focus, Mrs. Drexler received a perfect 4.0 mSGP reported score.



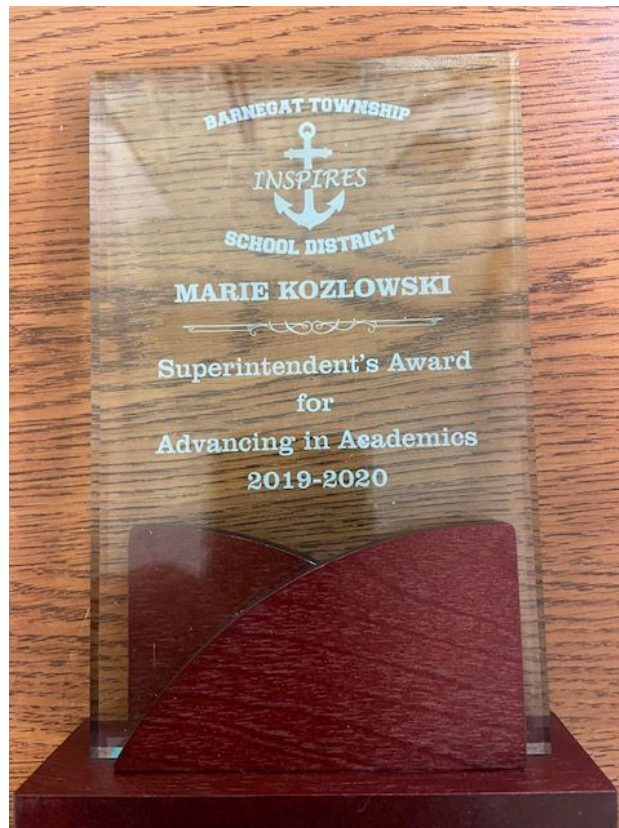
## Nora Green

Mrs. Green has transitioned this year from teaching Early Intervention to 5th grade ELA at the Joseph T. Donohue Elementary School. Nora has enthusiastically embraced this new role as well as using all of the data from our new programs to drive her instruction in order to advance academics. More specifically, Nora uses her LinkIt data to reflect and improve her teaching practice, continually collaborates with our Master Teacher and uses professional development through Mrs. Smeckins to improve her teaching practice. Well, it has paid off! Data from Star Reading indicates an average growth percentile of 1.0 for her students' instructional reading level- that is a full year of growth in less than a year (4.7-5.7)! Mrs. Green's effort and commitment to foster student learning is commended!



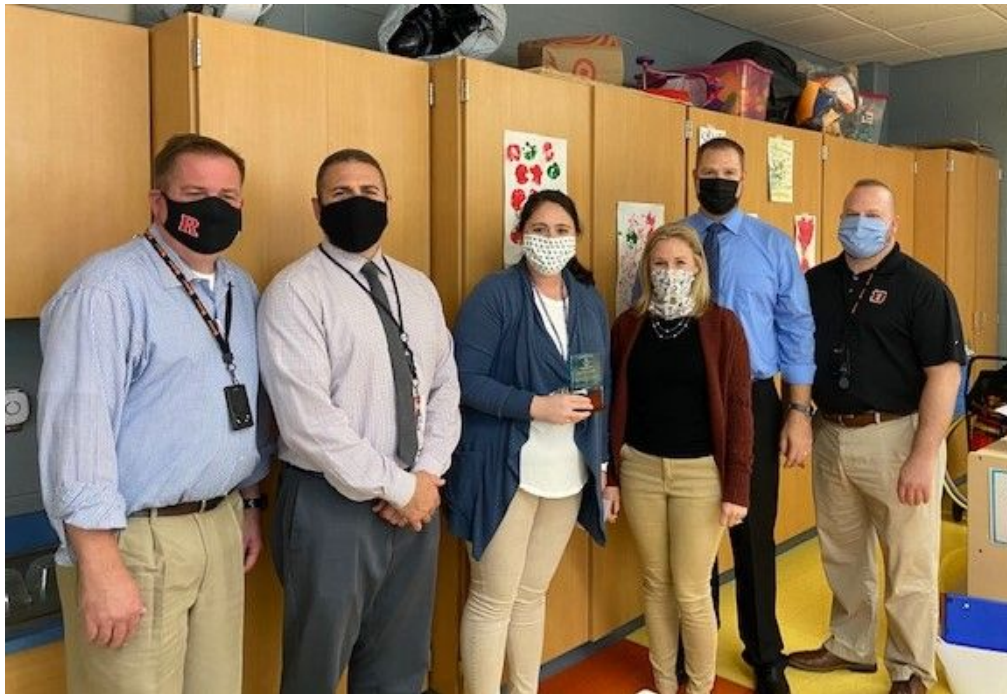
# Marie Kozlowski

Mrs. Kozlowski has been the foundation of Brackman Middle School and a shining example of what it means to challenge, educate, and prepare our students for better futures. Mrs. K serves as a vocal leader for her peers and a stout advocate for her students. Her high standards and expectations lead students and staff members to perform to the best of their abilities. Mrs. K is a rare commodity; the teacher that demands more than any teacher students have ever had and the teacher that inspires students to achieve higher than they ever have before.



## Kaitlyn Lazaro

Ms. Lazaro goes above and beyond for her students daily. She is always trying to find new ways to bring the curriculum to life for the students in her classroom. She makes learning in her classroom meaningful and fun for students! This school year, her students were showing an interest in learning sight words. Even though this is a kindergarten standard, Ms. Lazaro has found different ways for the students to practice sight words. She has set up scavenger hunts through the classroom, they have practiced writing them on white boards, and they read them throughout the day. Seeing the excitement on the students' faces as they are learning sight words in Ms. Lazaro's class is priceless! Thank you for going above and beyond for our youngest learners!



## Brittany Lyon

Brittany Lyon has spent this year as a virtual jack-of-all-trades. In her role as a BSI Teacher, she has embraced the new academic intervention programs of the district as key components in her instructional practice. However, she has also taken it upon herself to move beyond the expectation as just a user of the programs, to dig deeper into the reports and data mined by the programs. She uses her skills and this data to offer insight to classroom teachers and advise them on the use of the programs at the classroom level. She has teamed with lead teachers and administration to recommend training areas and identify learning trends. Another example of her efforts extending beyond her classroom is the work she has put toward compiling a comparative review of safety shades for the classrooms in the district. The district Safety Committee, acting on the recommendation of the state, wanted to review the options available for our schools. Ms. Lyon contacted companies, collected samples, and documented spec for potential solutions to be presented to the committee. It is for these reasons and countless others I recommended Ms. Brittany Lyon.





## Chelsey McCallum

Chelsey is a dedicated, compassionate, and inspirational kindergarten teacher at the Collins' School. Her perseverance to ensure she reaches every student through differentiated instruction and engaging activities is only one of the many ways she always goes the extra mile. Teaching in an inclusion classroom, she co-teaches seamlessly with her colleague to meet the needs of all of her students using cross-curricular learning activities that set high expectations for each learner. Students aside, Chelsey sets high expectations for herself and promotes professional development amongst her colleagues. For instance, assisting at the district level for promoting the use of online data collection through ESGI to inform instruction for individual students is one example of many that I could provide. We are so proud of Chelsey for her positive attitude and desire to advance academics and inspire change within the Barnegat family.



## Beth Ann Rapolla

Mrs. Rapolla went above and beyond by working with the Guidance Counselor to place over 100 students into the appropriate tiers of RTI who were identified in the district data harvest. She helped create spreadsheets, identify appropriate services, contact teachers, create Tier 3 section of Student Action Plans, and participate in meetings to ensure that our students were getting needed services to enhance their academic abilities.



## Catherine Romano

Mrs. Katie Romano has always demonstrated a steadfast dedication to her students in her time at Brackman. Once our program shifted to the online platform, she has frequently demonstrated a willingness to go above and beyond for her students. Mrs. Romano has been in close contact with several of her students that have been struggling in this new format and has extended herself to make sure that those students get the attention and support that they need to be successful. Mrs. Romano has made Google Meets private lessons for many of her students, made herself available late into the evening to accommodate the schedules of her students, and has kept guidance and administration up to date on her classes. Mrs. Romano has exemplified the Bulldog attitude in her efforts to advocate and provide for her students.



## Margaret Schoka

Margie is someone who very much wants to work behind the scenes and unnoticed, but the performance of her students is highly noticeable. She was one of the first in the Horbelt building to get excited about Linkit, seeing how its data gathering and sorting power could be used to drive instruction. That is exactly how Margie used data this year. Not only is she a teacher who has created a classroom atmosphere where students love to be, but she has created a feedback loop where she is able to see how her students have performed and then adjust her instruction accordingly and specifically. As a result, Margie's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students have the highest Linkit and NJSLA scores in the building!



## Susan Stashkevetch

Mrs. Stashkevetch went above and beyond by working with the BSI teachers to place over 100 students into the appropriate tiers of RTI who were identified in the district data harvest. She helped create spreadsheets, identified appropriate services, contacted teachers, input every SAP into the computer, and participated in meetings to ensure that our students were getting needed services to enhance their academic abilities.



# Meghan Vanderpyl

Mrs. Vanderpyl went above and beyond by working with the Guidance Counselor to place over 100 students into the appropriate tiers of RTI who were identified in the district data harvest. She helped create spreadsheets, identify appropriate services, contact teachers, create Tier 3 section of Student Action Plans, and participate in meetings to ensure that our students were getting needed services to enhance their academic abilities.

Mrs. Vanderpyl also started an initiative to collect shoes and clothing to help students in need within the Donahue School.



# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR SUPPORTING SPECIAL NEEDS**

Superintendent's Award for Supporting Special Needs is awarded to staff members who prepare students for life beyond school, maintain high expectations, and demonstrate empathy. Staff members who are awarded this honor exemplify what we look for in a teacher of special needs children.

## Deanna Bartolini

Deanna is a building leader! She manages her BD program with poise and has developed an extraordinary awareness of student management. She offers ongoing advice to her colleagues on managing difficult students at all levels. Unsolicited by me, Deanna has specifically provided help with difficult students in kindergarten, second grade, fifth grade, and specials, acting as a true professional colleague to her peers.





## Megan D'Arienzo

Megan works tirelessly to find paths of success for some of our most challenged students. Because of her training and background in special education and effective implementation of ABA strategies, she is a virtual sage for the self-contained programs and practices of the district. She willingly seeks-out and takes-on a student caseload that is beyond the capability of others. She works tirelessly with case managers, parents, behaviorists, and administration to explore solutions and pathways to success for the students in her class. She endures physical, mental, and emotional struggles daily in order to meet students where they are at, and take them places others thought they could not go.



## Giovanna DeGrazio

Giovanna DeGrazio was denoted as an outlier in terms of her mSPG scores. That's because she strongly supports the academic achievement of her children with learning needs. She continuously looks for ways to help her students improve in all facets of their school experience – organizational, behavioral, social, and academic. Giovanna's work with her students, her near perfect mSPG scores and her relentless quest for student improvement and achievement helped her math partner achieve a perfect teacher score on the NJSLA! That would not have happened without Jo's support and intervention.



## Joseph Fessenden

Mr. Fessenden is a School Psychologist at Cecil S. Collins and Joseph T. Donahue Schools. Joe always goes with the flow and puts forth his best efforts with any tasks assigned to him. He also volunteers his time as an integral member of the Special Education Advisory Committee and assists in planning, preparing and running our FUSE meetings.



## Amanda Hoolahan

Ms. Hoolahan is the PIRT (Preschool Intervention and Referral Team) Specialist and Speech Therapist for our Preschool Program. She has been such an asset to the team since we started the program in January, 2019. She has worked tirelessly to build the district's PIRT team from the ground up and is always trying to find ways to improve the service and support offered to students, teachers and parents. She collaborates regularly with the other PIRT members and administration to ensure that the students are getting the support needed in the classroom. She also does a wonderful job communicating with the parents regularly and always has a positive attitude.



## Kristen Howe

Mrs. Howe is an LDTC at Cecil S. Collins School. Kristen is a valued member of the Child Study Team and is someone who is always willing to help out her team and administration with anything necessary. Kristen has mentored new Child Study Team members and provides them assistance as much as needed. In addition, Kristen volunteers her time as an integral member of the Special Education Advisory Committee and assists in planning, preparing and running our FUSE meetings. Everything that she does is much appreciated!



## Rachel Javins

Ms. Javins is a School Social Worker on the preschool team. She works tirelessly to ensure that our youngest learners are receiving the support that they need as they enter school. She collaborates regularly with early intervention to ensure that the transition for students aging in is seamless for the student and their families. She is thorough in her case management responsibilities and really advocates for the best interest of her students.



## Lauren Mackin

Ms. Mackin is recognized for supporting students with special needs. Throughout her day she strives to support and make connections with her students while ensuring that their educational and social emotional needs are being met. An exemplary act of this was observed when a student was struggling with a health concern and such was being discussed at a parent meeting. Ms. Mackin went above and beyond to connect with the student and parents in a way that left all parties feeling comforted and supported. In this situation this made a world of difference for this family and that interaction and her daily support of her students is much appreciated!



## Debra Majewski

Mrs. Majewski is an LDTTC at Russell O. Brackman Middle School. Deb is someone who thinks outside of the box and is always willing to brainstorm new creative ways to meet the needs of her students. During the school closure she spent countless hours on Google Hangouts with her students to help them step by step as they completed their work. She never gave up on them and just kept on supporting them the best that she could. Deb has developed positive relationships with her colleagues and students and her dedication to her students no matter how difficult the situation becomes is a valued trait that she possesses.





## Edith Mallett

Mrs. Mallett has manually Brailled all of the work for a visually impaired school student. She has communicated with the teachers and case manager to coordinate getting the work to the student. Her hard work and dedication has allowed this student to continue learning, uninterrupted through this difficult time.



## Susan Rogers

Ms. Rogers is an LDTC at Barnegat High School. She is someone who always goes above and beyond for her students and their families to ensure that her students' needs are met. She works extremely hard to develop relationships with the families of her students and this has a huge impact on her ability to brainstorm as a team during difficult situations. She is always willing to assist the administrative team in anything they ask, and has been an invaluable member of the team during the COVID-19 closure. Throughout the closure, Sue made every effort to connect with and support her students, oftentimes calling them late into the evening because she knew that was when she would be able to reach them. We thank you Sue for EVERYTHING!



## Samantha Rua

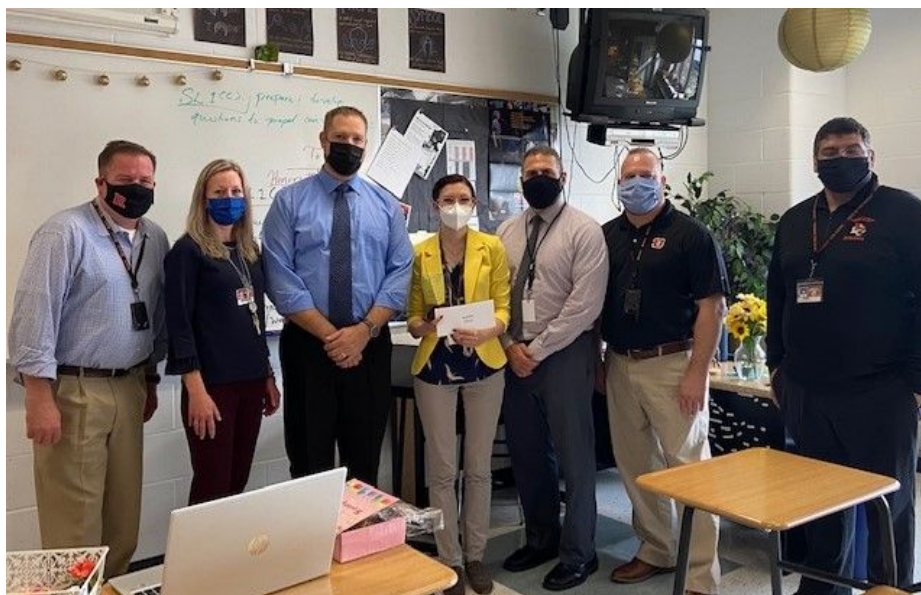
Samantha Rua excels in supporting the special needs of the students at Barnegat High School. She maintains high expectations for all of the students in her classroom through engaging activities, motivational discussions, scaffolded instruction, and best practices. Mrs. Rua constantly implements the use of data, technology, and relevant instruction to set a high expectation for her students, but to also support them in meeting those expectations to succeed both in school and in life. Sam constantly researches ideas and resources to help her students. For example, Mrs. Rua has found grant opportunities and is participating in the grant writing process to create opportunities to purchase items to transform the classroom into an engaging instructional environment. Similarly, Sam has collaborated with colleagues to also support the special needs of students in her classroom and the school. She recently offered guidance to colleagues in the STAR reading program, to aid in the implementation in the classroom as a means to better support student literacy skills. Samantha Rua supports the special needs of the students and Barnegat High School and prepares them for life beyond the classroom.



## Allison Stella

Allison Stella is nominated for the Superintendent's Award for Supporting Special Needs. Ms. Stella supports not only the special needs of the students in Barnegat High School, but she always supports the special needs of the district as well. Allison has supported the district in many areas by filming commercials, interviewing community members, participating in Communities that Care, and constantly guiding students to highlight the many positive aspects of Barnegat High School and the Barnegat Township Schools. Similarly, Ms. Stella supports the special needs of students in the school by working with administration, counselors, and students to give students every opportunity possible. For example, Ms. Stella has supported the special needs of a student in the Bengal Buzz course by independently teaching the student, supporting students collaboration, and identifying special projects. As a result, the student has found a love for film, and has become invested in the production of Bengal Buzz. As an advisor for GSA, Ms. Stella also supports the special needs of the students involved by acting as a mentor. Ms. Stella continues to support the special needs of students in the school and the district.

When called upon she delivered her expertise. Not only did she step up to video the virtual graduation, she has taken hours, if not days, to video the Senior Class Awards as well as Scholarship Night. This gave the seniors something to remember the year by.



## Sara Stoeckel

Ms. Stoeckel joined the Barnegat family in the summer of 2019 and jumped right in to support our staff and students during ESY. She is a Behaviorist working primarily with our students with autism, while she is a behaviorist, she is also always willing to support a student or staff member in need of assistance. She has worked tirelessly with teachers, therapists, administration and other colleagues to brainstorm and implement plans for students who at times struggle significantly.



# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR PROMOTING & SUPPORTING THE WELL-ROUNDED STUDENT**

Superintendent's Award for Promoting and Supporting the Well-Rounded Student is Awarded to staff members who support students beyond the classroom. Staff members who are awarded this honor promote opportunities for contests and activities, and support students outside of school and within the community. These staff members model and promote UPstander behavior.

## Alison Greco

All Guidance Counselors wear multiple hats in their positions, so it is no surprise to find Alison juggling a multitude of tasks during the day. For Ali a single day may include running student groups, compliance classroom lessons, RTI meetings, sitting in on protective services visits, crisis interventions, 504 plan coordinating, and 1-on-1 student needs meetings.

While she often preaches grit and resilience, these are traits she puts on display daily. But fortunately for us there is more. She goes beyond her school responsibilities to assist her supervisor and administration in district wide initiatives.

The mindfulness program Mind Yeti was supported district wide by a grant Ali acquired. This intervention tool, that is used daily in the classrooms, not only benefited the well-being of our students, but ensured compliance with NJ's Health and Physical Education requirements.

An additional task Alison has taken on, is to act as the point person for annual ordering for the district's elementary schools. She collaborates with her colleagues and compiles the annual orders. As shipments arrive, she works with the office staff and counselors to check-in and distribute resources. Moreover, she does these things because she is a doer. She does not wait for direction, or look for recognition. It is for reasons like these I feel Alison Greco is deserving of the Barnegat Inspires Award.



## Tina Martin

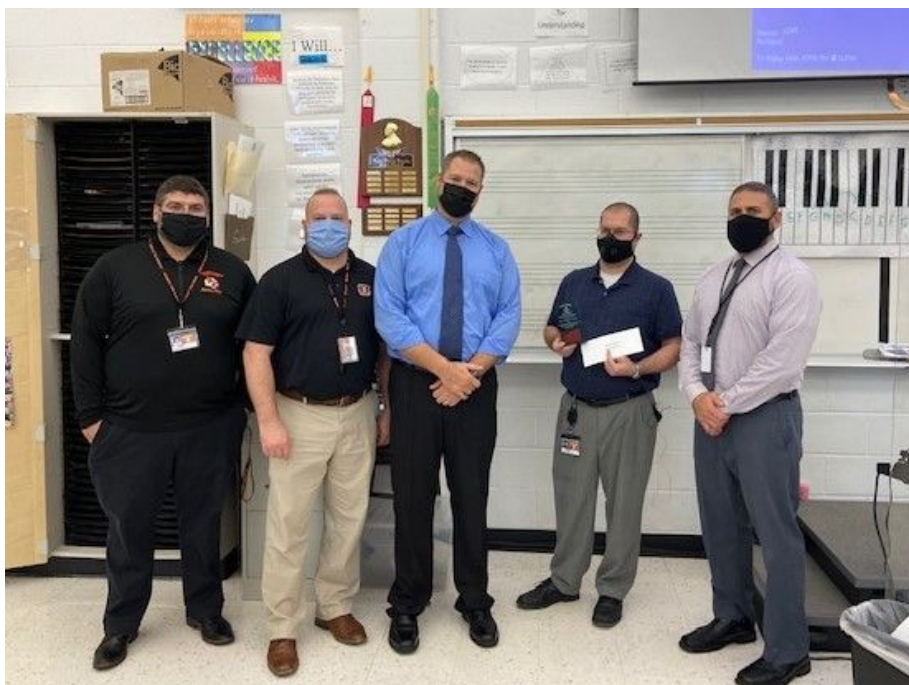
For the second year in a row, Tina has applied, been approved, and then managed the entire Jets Upstander program run here at Horbelt. She would weekly send out emails to solicit nominees, take the winning student's picture and then tweet it to the Jets website to fulfill the requirements of this program. Tina would communicate to the families as well. She did this with a sense of pride and joy at what she was able to bring to the Horbelt school community.





## Anthony Orecchio

Mr. Orecchio promotes well-rounded students through his daily activities. In addition to teaching honors symphonic band, concert band, jazz band, music composition, guitar workshop, and music theory, Mr. Orecchio is involved in many aspects of the Bengal community. He organizes, conducts, and plays instruments in the Bengal Theatre Company productions, and does the same for music throughout the school, the district, and the community. Mr. Orecchio takes every opportunity to allow his students to be involved in every experience possible, such as Ocean County Teen Arts, Unsung Hero Award Ceremony, and events at community centers. To promote well-rounded students, Mr. Orecchio gives students the opportunity to participate in Music in our Schools Month, by collaborating with all of the schools in the district. Similarly, as a leader of the Tri-National Honor Society, Mr. Orecchio leads students in participating in activities to become well-rounded students. Research shows that students who are involved in music and the arts excel in all other areas in school. Not only does Mr. Orecchio support the well-rounded student, but he inspires them through his leadership.



## Robinann Urso

As an ROBMS Counselor, Mrs. Urso is continually recognizing and celebrating student success. Mrs. Urso maintains constant contact with students and families, assisting them in academics and supporting them through challenges they may be facing. She leads the way with the BARK squad, orientation for new students, student of the month breakfasts, and many more activities to celebrate the accomplishments of our Bulldogs. Robin works hard to make sure that her students are recognized for their efforts and encourages them to participate in groups, clubs, and sports programs to make sure that they are getting the most out of their Brackman experience.



# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS TO FOSTER LEARNING**

Superintendent's Award for Building Relationships to Foster learning is awarded to staff members who truly care about our students. Staff members who are awarded this honor build relationships with students and are partners with parents. These staff members leave a lasting impression on students and ultimately change their lives for the better.

# Jenna Cipriano

Jenna creates a very safe and supportive class atmosphere and builds lasting relationships with her students and parents. Jenna makes a difference in the lives of her students on a daily basis academically and emotionally. A couple of examples of how she supports her students are as follows; she has been working very closely with a student this year that has been dealing with severe post-traumatic distress and is making strides with him because of the time and research she puts in to develop strategies that will help him. Another example; last year there was a student who had chronic absenteeism, then Jenna personally ensured he was set up to succeed; he likes school and is coming more than he has in the previous four years. These students, and others, often comment about how they love their teacher and being in Mrs. Cipriano's class. Being in Jenna's class you will see her making genuine comments that demonstrate this admirable rapport she fosters as well as hear her regularly make personal relevant connections between her students' lives and the curricula.



## Lynn Cruse

Lynn Cruse is committed to educating students, colleagues, families, and the community on equity for ELLs through establishing strong connections. Lynn is a student first educator who recognizes the potential in every child. She is passionate about each and every ELL student who attends Barnegat schools and strives in providing multiple supports for not only Lillian M. Dunfee teachers but teachers in the entire district. In addition, Lynn continues to attend professional development workshops to further her knowledge and expertise on educating ELLs and will follow up with teachers to provide new strategies to build their knowledge. For example, Lynn helped a teacher by providing a specific sheltered instruction strategy based on the lesson they were going to teach the following week. The teacher was very excited about the strategy and asked if she could share with other teachers to help them in the classroom. Lynn is recognized for her pride in serving ELL students as well as exemplifying strong ownership in making our ESL Program the best it could be!



## Monica Gonzales

Monica Gonzales is dedicated to equity and closing the achievement gap for our ELL students. Monica empowers our ELL students to contribute in classrooms and constantly is in contact with the teachers to hold students accountable. Additionally, she communicates with teachers weekly to provide strategies to assist ELLs in learning as well as finds ways to assist with instruction in ESL class. Each day Monica stays after school to assist students who need extra help and support when learning and meets with administrators to make sure she prepares students for NJDOE graduation requirements. She is always looking for the best interest of her students and seeks resources to support instruction. Monica's beliefs include equity, celebrating diversity, and developing partnerships for our ELL community.



## Lauren Machado

Miss Machado is admired for her sense of commitment and efforts to motivate our students and staff; Lauren exemplifies the spirit of Dunfee and is definitely Dunfee's biggest cheerleader! Additionally, she always goes above and beyond to ensure all the needs of our students and staff are met. Lauren is always the "woman about campus" helping our students and staff whenever and wherever that help is needed. She can always be counted on whether it's eliciting the support of an initiative or just offering a smile, hand or kind word and always at the "right" time. Lauren demonstrates her dedication to our community by volunteering to work after hours to help participate in an event or a school-wide project. Lauren always has a positive sense of humor throughout the workday with the students and staff that inspires and motivates us all.



## Jennifer Pearson

Mrs. Pearson is lauded for her sense of dedication and willingness to go far “above and beyond” the call to meet the needs of our students and staff. Prior to her role now as a Preschool Paraprofessional, she was a regular substitute who would use every minute of her time to get to know every student; she greets all the students by name as they come in as well as all day as they pass by with an energetic smile and always with enthusiasm. She is a huge supporter of her time and gracious with supplies when it comes to our many fundraisers. Jen exemplifies the spirit of dedication it takes to support the needs of all of our students and staff.





## Katherine Torres

Katie Torres is continually seeking ways to improve teaching and learning. In doing so, she plans and prepares students by assessing through the four components of a language. Once deciding on a department goal, Katie quickly began to revise her assessments and assignments to make sure she provides students with proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking. She collaborates with teachers in the department to consistently strengthen our World Language program and communicates effectively with parents. For example, Katie contacts parents when they show exemplary strength in learning Spanish. Here is what a parent has said about Katie: “She just adores you so much and it is wonderful to know there are teachers who acknowledge and reach out to parents about the good in kids. Thank you for making my daughters freshman year so fun and exciting!”



# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR LEADING OUR STAFF TO INSPIRE CHANGE**

Superintendent's Award for Leading our Staff to Inspire Change is awarded to staff members who are leaders of teachers. Staff members who are awarded this honor support and promote district and school visions, model positive attitudes and actions, and act as a coach to teachers. They go the extra mile and have taken ownership and initiative within the district.

## Michael Iveson

Mike Iveson's classroom learning environment promotes fun and growth for students learning mathematics. He inspires all students to achieve and grow as learners and to generate their own course of lifelong learning. Mike collaborates with other math teachers and is the leader of modeling a positive attitude and following the department's goals and initiatives. He finds ways to connect mathematical topics to students' lives and is passionate about teaching real world applications that connect to students' lives. Mike has a wonderful work ethic and continues to "go the extra mile."



## Suzanne Mayo

Sue Mayo has transferred her passion and commitment for student growth from the classroom to the district which is compounding her impact on student learning. She has delved into her new position as the Elementary Master Teacher and has supported our staff by inspiring change by believing in our vision, helping to implement our new initiatives in a meaningful way and working directly with our teachers to unpack standards, differentiate instruction and to read data in order to positively impact student achievement. Our administration, teachers, and students are all benefiting from Mrs. Mayo's dedication to fostering learning throughout our district and it is an honor to recognize her for that.

Moreover, from the moment our district went into remote learning, Sue stepped into high gear! Initially she reached out to teachers in need of tech support and patiently guided them through the process. Throughout this ordeal, Sue created choice boards engaging lessons, and supported our elementary teachers in a variety of ways. She worked diligently to create professional development that truly took teachers to their next tech level. Sue, being Sue, differentiated for the teachers and showed them how to create Jamboards, delve into google classroom, and integrate Flipgrid, as a few examples. I am so proud of Mrs. Mayo for the pride she takes in her work, being a leader in student engagement, advancing academics and inspiring positive change in our district! Thank you for all you do!



## Morgan Schwartz

This school year, the Preschool Disabled teachers were asked to explore a new curriculum and find different ways to incorporate the studies into their daily routine. Ms. Schwartz took this guidance to a new level in her classroom. She was more than willing to jump in and begin implementing the new curriculum and assessment tools immediately with her students. She has been successful in doing so which has allowed her students the opportunity for a successful transition when interacting with general education peers throughout their day. Additionally, she has demonstrated that she is hardworking and dedicated even when working with students with challenging behaviors. She never gives up and is always willing to try anything for the benefit of her students.



## Joseph Tagliavia

Joe Tagliavia advocates that student success is created through meaningful relationships. Joe not only supports students' efforts and ambitions, but assists other teachers in his philosophy of teaching and is supportive to the mathematics department when a teacher needs help. He is an exemplar teacher who continuously encourages students to learn and develop mathematical reasoning through critical thinking. Additionally, Joe collaborates with Barnegat High School teachers to make sure he meets expectations for students' next step in their educational experience.



## Erich Wald

Mr. Wald is continually spreading his positive message to inspire change both in and out of the classroom, not only to your students but staff as well. He finds ways to lift students and staff up through songwriting. Mr. Wald inspires students and staff with uplifting messages such as his message to staff during Teacher Appreciation Week and the song "We Make a Difference." Mr. Wald shared the following message with staff: *"We need to do the little things, or maybe tomorrow, it's the medium things, or the next day step up and do the really big things. Whatever those things are for you, I know for sure that if we can come together to do something, we all CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!"* - E. Wald. He makes a difference in the lives of our students every single day.



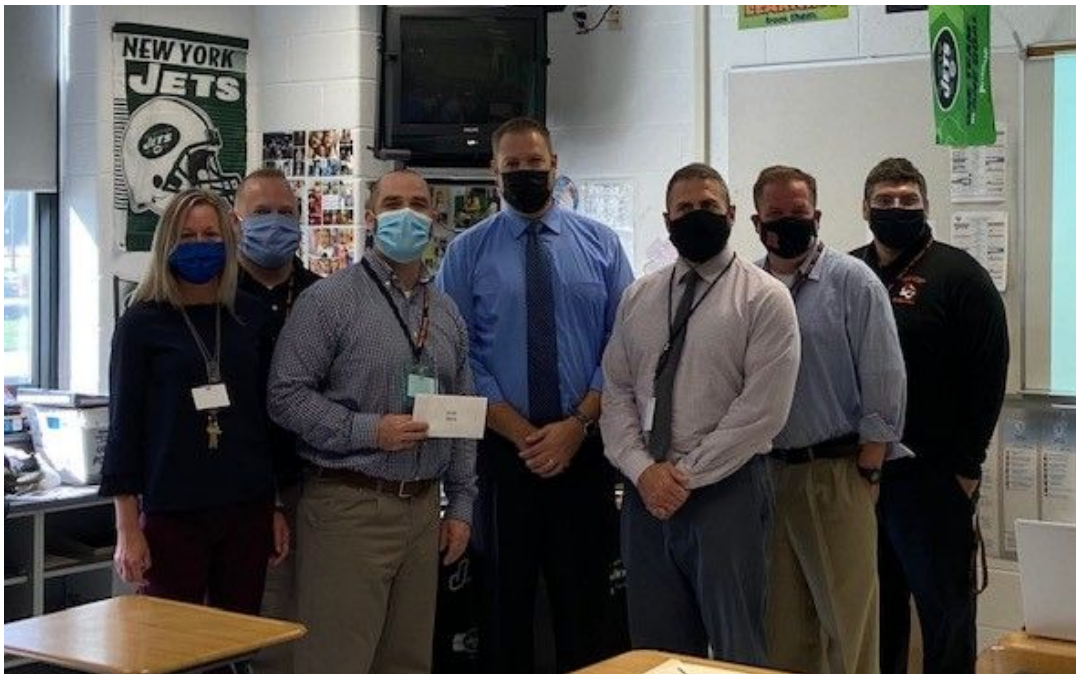
# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR PROMOTING SUCCESSFUL STUDENT ATHLETES**

Superintendent's Award for Promoting Successful Student Athletes is awarded to staff members who are coaches that prioritize the STUDENT part of student athletes. Staff members who are awarded this honor set high academic expectations of team members and emphasize ethical and academic integrity, as well as, offer extra help and academic support.



## Kevin Smith

Coach Smith is a veteran coach who is one of the backbones in our athletic programs. He is a great resource for me as an athletic director to bounce things off of and get some great feedback. In addition, during his hiatus from coaching he continues to monitor our athletes and works closely with me to recognize and celebrate their achievements. He has spearheaded our triple threat athletic initiative. He volunteers his time outside of school to work in our community and with our football program, including volunteering to mentor our defensive coordinator and assist in the booth on the headsets on game days for our varsity football team. He does all he can to see our students reach their fullest potential.



## Lyndsey Torre

Each and every single day Coach Torre was in constant contact virtually with her team. She held daily Yoga, stretching, and video conferencing with them. In addition she had several athletes help create videos of their team virtually passing the ball to one another through Twitter and Tik Toks. Coach Torre has been there for her girls and she has made this terrible time just a little bit better for all.



# **SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD FOR COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS**

Each year the Barnegat Township School District recognizes local businesses and organizations that go above and beyond for the betterment of our students and their families.

## Fritz's

Miss Alexandra Liguori, who has been recognized, continued the backpack program throughout the pandemic. She was able to serve meals to 18 families, consisting of 48 students. We would like to recognize one particular donor who supplied most of the food, Fritz's, a restaurant located in the Easton Avenue neighborhood of New Brunswick. The owner, Jonathon Guarino, had driven down every Thursday to deliver the meals to the Dunfee School. Owners, Jonathon Guarino and Robin Varga, along with their team are passionate about creating great, fresh food at their restaurant as well as being community orientated and always willing to help those in need.



# OASIS

OASIS is a community organization located in the heart of the town of Barnegat and is also in the hearts of all of the residents of Barnegat. Oasis has been a partner of the Barnegat Township School District for many years, supporting school initiatives, family programs, student wellness and community involvement. Oasis has supported such events as the Strengthening Families campaign and the Dunfee Thanksgiving, just to name a few. The Oasis team, led by Alyssa and including Keri, Tara, Lauren, Cari and Monica, as well as many others, continued to support our children and families during the Covid 19 epidemic, offering basic needs, food and supplies to families directly who were in need. They also continue to support the school district and the community throughout the summer months, offering the BackPACKED campaign to support summer reading challenges, to promote student success in school and to assist families of all ages, all around the year. Oasis is an integral part of our community here in Barnegat, a partner in all of our schools, and an asset to all of us. Oasis inspires Barnegat. We want to recognize and to celebrate them for all that they do for our students, our families, our schools and our community!



# Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame's mission is to continue its very proud tradition, encourage excellence in all areas of education and continue to cultivate and preserve the rich heritage of our schools and those who have retired and dedicated themselves to its service.

# Maria Puorro

September 1, 1978 - June 30, 2016  
Barnegat School District

Throughout her career Maria exemplified an abundance of admirable qualities, such as diligence, conscientiousness, and being highly motivated that made her a consummate professional and a mainstay and anchor of the Dunfee faculty. Perhaps most importantly, she exhibited a caring and supportive attitude that endeared her to her students, their parents, and her colleagues. All of these attributes combined allowed her to construct a classroom, year in and year out, in which students met with success, were understood and appreciated for their value and felt special and unique.

Walking into her classroom was always a pleasure, her students were fully engaged and lessons relevant, taught with focus and intensity. Maria was differentiating instruction before there was a book written about it, being sure to provide remediation or enrichment based on her observations or assessments. She never looked at her students for what they didn't know, but saw each for their potential to learn.

Maria served as a mentor to new teachers, and helped lead so many committees and clubs including; Safety Patrol Advisor, After School Coordinator, PTA Liaison, Curriculum Council, Attendance Committee, Positive Behavior Support, Science Fair, as well as volunteering her time to attend so many evening and Saturday events. As Maria made the Dunfee School a second home for many years, she became the face and the captain of the school, as well as being selected to be a teacher of the year.

She is indeed a very special teacher who was truly concerned for both her students' academic and emotional welfare. Her students were most fortunate to have such a teacher as Maria in their lives - all of our children should be so lucky. It is an indisputable fact that her spirit in so many ways made the Dunfee school a very special place for all concerned. She made and continues to make a difference in the lives of all who both learned and worked at the Dunfee School.

# Mario Sammarco

March 14, 1979 - February 28, 2011  
Barnegat School District

For thirty years Mario not only made sure that the schools were clean and safe he also dedicated himself to students and staff. While Mario was the “*custodian*” at the Lillian M Dunfee School he was so much more than just that. The hallways and the lunch room were filled with his Italian accent, laughter and genuine smile.

Every kid knew who he was and he knew every kid. Some students would often forgo going right home after school and spend a few minutes or sometimes an hour with Mr. Sammarco either in the custodial office or sometimes helping him with tiny tasks. He was truly another teacher within the school building who the students looked up to and learned from. For so many, the key lesson learned was that it didn’t matter what job you held, but that you held a job and did your best at that job every day. Mario had an attitude that could infect and affect the others around him. That was always Mario’s attitude, infectious. There was never a moment that he was not fun to be around, nor was there a time when he said no to staff or students. He was always willing to lend his hand no matter what was needed.

His lunchtime antics were hysterical, and for a few of the students who he had the best relationships with-- he might steal their lunch, their ice cream, or pretend to toss them into the trash. While this probably wouldn’t go over so well today, for so many students it is what made school so great. Dunfee always had a firm feeling of community and togetherness and Mario had a huge stake in those beliefs. He also was quick to “lend” change to anyone who was short for lunch or ice cream—kids genuinely looked forward to lunchtime as they knew Mario would be there, even if they spilled something or dropped their lunch. He was always there quickly with a replacement and an assurance not to worry.

Mario is one of those people in education who impacted all and everyone was better for having him around. He was an all-star in all aspects within his capacity and how he served the students and staff here in Barnegat



# Outstanding Staff Members of the Year for SY 19/20

## BHS - Jennifer Wojciak

Jennifer has been described by her peers as hardworking, inspirational and a pleasure to work with. Her enthusiasm, passion, and love of her job and students is undeniable. She pushes her students towards excellence in the classroom and challenges them to be the very best they can be. Jennifer is a wonderful asset to the Barnegat School District.

## ROBMS - Jill Spain

Jill is a creative teacher who encourages her students to be better readers and writers. She is a great role model and teaches her students valuable life lessons on how to be compassionate human beings. Jill is constantly introducing and testing new strategies to help her students. She clearly loves what she does and strives to be the best teacher possible. Jill is an integral part of the Russell O. Brackman Middle School staff.

## CSCS - Chelsey McCallum

Chelsey's classroom has been described to be loving and supportive. She uses various teaching strategies with her Kindergarten students and encourages them to be successful. Chelsey has a great rapport with her students and understands the importance of building a foundation of skills for learning. She has worked hard to create a positive classroom environment for her young learners. Chelsey cares about both her students and her peers and is a vital part of the Collins School family.

## JTDS - Marilyn Dino

Working as an In Class Resource Teacher allows Marilyn to work with many different students at different levels. She sets a high bar for all of her students. Marilyn uses a variety of instructional techniques to teach them the skills they need in the classroom. She is a natural at what she does and her students benefit from her hard work and dedication. Marilyn's positive and cheerful attitude has impacted both the students and staff of the Donahue School.

## LMDS - Jillian Quinn

Jillian works endlessly to help her students achieve their full potential. She uses many different teaching strategies and manipulatives in her classroom. Jillian fosters respect by creating positive relationships with her students. She is not only a good teacher, but also contributes to quality professional development in the school district. Jillian's passion for teaching is evident in everything she does. She is an essential part of the Dunfee School community.

## RLHS - Maryellen Viglone

Maryellen is an educator that goes above and beyond to increase her students' achievements. Through her many years of experience, she has helped children to be confident and successful learners. Her classroom climate is both nurturing and encouraging. She provides her students with a variety of tools to help them reach their academic goals. Maryellen is one of the rare individuals who understands that teaching is a vocation that should be embraced with love and shared with others to inspire a love of learning in all children. This approach is beneficial to both the students and staff of the Horbelt School.

## Buildings/Grounds/Technology - Robert Murdock

Bob maintains a positive attitude in everything he does. He is always helpful, kind, and willing to give a hand where needed. He interacts well with his peers, staff and administration. Any task that needs to be done is completed properly and efficiently. Bob takes pride in his job and devotes many hours to increase the quality of school and district environments. It takes many people to run a district as large as Barnegat Schools, and Bob is an essential part of the Buildings & Grounds department.

## Educational Services Provider - Jennifer Trombly

Jennifer is an outstanding Speech teacher that works extremely hard to keep her students engaged. She encourages her students and tailors her lessons to their individual needs. Jennifer is competent in her content area and willing to share strategies and ideas with other teachers. She is extremely professional as well as warm and caring towards her students. Jennifer provides speech services for children in multiple schools throughout the district. Her students have benefitted by her diligence and hard work. Jennifer truly wants to make a difference in the life of all her students.

## Paraprofessional - Mary Ann Simpson

Mary Ann is a kind, and supportive paraprofessional for her students. She is encouraging and instrumental in building their self esteem and guiding them towards more independence. She inspires her students and helps them to be the best they can be. Mary Ann helps students with both academic and life skills. She has many years of experience and understands the importance of her role with assisting students. Mary Ann is an exceptional paraprofessional and a wonderful role model for others in the Barnegat School district.

## Secretary - Alison Taglang

Alison works diligently with schedules and planning to make sure the busses are running on schedule and smoothly. She supports all of the bus drivers and aides and makes them all feel the importance of their position in the district. She is described as hardworking, kind, and a great multi-tasker in her duties as a secretary. She is the friendly voice on the bus radios. Alison makes it her top priority that all of the students are home safely at the end of each school day. She juggles phone calls, radio calls, and her daily tasks, all with a smile. Due to her remarkable skills, Alison is called “Wonder Woman” by her fellow workers in the Transportation Department.

## Transportation - Lori Schoonover

Lori has been a bus driver for the district for many years. She makes it her duty to get to know the children that ride on her bus everyday. She takes her job seriously and feels the importance of picking up and delivering home her young charges safely. Transporting students is an important and vital cog in the workings of a school district. Lori is an essential part of the staff and instrumental in the daily machinery of the Barnegat School District.

We wish to thank our two generous sponsors for this event who are part of a unique benefits package here at Barnegat. Irene Netzle from the Glendenning Mortgage Corporation and Gary Brown who represents NEA Member Benefits. Both groups have been instrumental in supporting our programs as well as assisting our employee's financial assistance.

