

# Absecon Board of Education Meeting

January 23, 2024



# Cooper Levenson Holiday Card Art Contest



- **5th Grader Quinn Broomhead's artwork was selected as a winner for the 2023 Cooper Levenson Holiday Card Art Contest.**
  - Quinn's drawing was featured on holiday cards mailed out by Cooper Levenson and she will receive a \$50 gift card



# Special Recognition

## Wishing Mrs. Sue Jamison a Happy Retirement!



- 23 years as a Marsh Elementary School 2nd Grade teacher
- Thank you for your service to The Absecon School District



# Student Safety Data System 2023-2024 Report Period 1 Public Presentation

...

**Absecon Board of Education Meeting  
January 23, 2024**



# Student Safety Data System

- NJDOE online module that tracks instances of violence, weapons offenses, substance use, and bullying.
- Reporting is submitted twice each school year and information is presented to the Board of Education following each submission
  - ◆ Report Period 1: September 1 - December 31
  - ◆ Report Period 2: January 1 - June 30

# Violence, Vandalism, Substances, Weapons, and HIB Confirmed

## Emma C. Attales Middle School

### REPORT PERIOD 1

Incidents: 1

Other Incidents Leading to Removal: 5

Use, Distribution, or Possession of Alcohol or

Other Drugs: 1 (Substance Possession)

## H. Ashton Marsh Elementary School

### REPORT PERIOD 1

Incidents: 0

Other Incidents Leading to Removal: 0

Use, Distribution, or Possession of Alcohol or Other

Drugs: 0

# Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

**District Anti-Bullying Coordinator:**

Lindsay Reed

**Emma C. Attales Middle**

**Anti-Bullying Specialist and Investigator:**

Jessica Carver

**H. Ashton Marsh Elementary School**

**Anti-Bullying Specialist and Investigator:**

Mary Alvarado

# Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying - Report Period 1

## Emma C. Attales Middle School

### 2023-2024 Report Period 1

- Confirmed Instance - 0
- Alleged HIB Reports - 9

## H. Ashton Marsh Elementary School

### 2023-2024 Report Period 1

- Confirmed Instances - 0
- Alleged HIB Reports - 3

**Investigation Status:** All investigations were completed within the required time periods and are compliant with requirements

**Restraints/Seclusion 2023-2024:** Attales - 0 Restraints    Marsh - 3 Restraints

# Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Trainings/Programs

## Emma C. Attales Middle School

- Programs
  - Family Dinner, Family Time Friday, Family Meetings, Week of Respect, Red Ribbon Week, School Violence Awareness Week, and Sledgehammer Recipients

## H. Ashton Marsh Elementary School

- Programs
  - Marshy's Market, Marsh Mega Stars, Kindness Kidmittee, Staff Shout Outs, TLC Restoration, Week of Respect, School Violence Awareness Week, Red Ribbon Week, Making Memories with Mariners

# Improving Climate and Culture in Absecon Schools

## Additional Professional Development and Initiatives

- HIB Policy, Referral, and Prevention lessons for staff and students; Stand Tall Steve
- Marsh: Mariner Mix Up, Pep Rallies, Marsh Leadership Team
- Attales: Stand Tall Steve, Schoolwide Personal Improvement Goals

# SSDS Reporting

2017-2018

**Emma C. Attales**

Incident Total: 5

HIB Alleged: 3

HIB Confirmed: 1

**H. Ashton Marsh**

Incident Total: 6

HIB Alleged: 1

HIB Confirmed: 1

2018-2019

**Emma C. Attales**

Incident Total: 4

HIB Alleged: 7

HIB Confirmed: 1

**H. Ashton Marsh**

Incident Total: 2

HIB Alleged: 7

HIB Confirmed: 0

2019-2020

**Emma C. Attales**

Incident Total: 2

HIB Alleged: 4

HIB Confirmed: 0

**H. Ashton Marsh**

Incident Total: 1

HIB Alleged: 4

HIB Confirmed: 0

2020-2021

**Emma C. Attales**

Incident Total: 1

HIB Alleged: 1

HIB Confirmed: 0

**H. Ashton Marsh**

Incident Total: 1

HIB Alleged: 1

HIB Confirmed: 1

2021-2022

**Emma C. Attales**

Incident Total: 6

HIB Alleged: 13

HIB Confirmed: 1

**H. Ashton Marsh**

Incident Total: 8

HIB Alleged: 19

HIB Confirmed: 5

2022-2023

**Emma C. Attales**

Incident Total: 5

HIB Alleged: 11

HIB Confirmed: 2

**H. Ashton Marsh**

Incident Total: 3

HIB Alleged: 4

HIB Confirmed: 3



# Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Grade

## 2017-2018

District Official Grade:

59 of 78

Emma C. Attales Middle  
School:

Self Report: 60 of 78

H. Ashton Marsh

Elementary School:

Self Report: 57 of 78

## 2019-2020

District Official Grade:

75 of 78

Emma C. Attales Middle  
School:

Self Report: 75 of 78

H. Ashton Marsh

Elementary School:

Self Report: 75 of 78

## 2021-2022

District Official Grade:

77 of 78

Emma C. Attales Middle  
School:

Self Report: 77 of 78

H. Ashton Marsh

Elementary School:

Self Report: 77 of 78

## 2018-2019

District Official Grade:

74 of 78

Emma C. Attales Middle  
School:

Self Report: 73 of 78

H. Ashton Marsh

Elementary School:

Self Report: 75 of 78

## 2020-2021

District Official Grade: 76  
of 78

Emma C. Attales Middle  
School:

Self Report: 76 of 78

H. Ashton Marsh

Elementary School:

Self Report: 76 of 78

## 2022-2023

Emma C. Attales Middle  
School:

Self Report: 77 of 78

H. Ashton Marsh

Elementary School:

Self Report: 77 of 78

District Official Grade

Anticipated to be 77 of 78



*Thank you!*

# District Update

- **VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest Winners**
  - Luna Taraborelli (1st Place) and Ava Andreoli (2nd Place) on "How are you inspired by America?" selected among all submissions by the Absecon VFW Post 9462



# District Update



- **VFW Teachers of the Year**
  - Mr. Chris Bell and Mr. Bill Ewell selected by Post 9462 as the Smart/Mayer VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award winners for Attales and Marsh schools!
  - All winners recognized by VFW at their Jan. 15 meeting



# District Update

- **Elks Americanism Essay Writing Contest**

- 5th Grade - 1st Place Lynzee Delgadillo, 2nd Place Liam White and 3rd Place Maya Delgadillo
- 6th Grade - 2nd Place Olivia Ragazzi, 1st Place Maeve Snyder
- 7th Grade - 1st Place Gabe Carrillo
- This year's theme was "What the Bill of Rights means to me."
- Students will be honored at the Galloway Elks meeting 6 p.m. Jan. 24





# District Update



- **Weather Updates**

- No snow days to date
- After-school activities canceled on Tuesday, Jan. 9 due to freezing temperatures and icy road conditions
- Early dismissal on Friday, Jan. 19 due to snowstorm, STARS was able to stay open for families in need

# District Update

- **Atlantic and Cape May County Superintendents' Roundtable at Stockton University, Atlantic City campus on Friday, Jan. 12**
  - Hosted by ACASA President, Absecon's Dr. Daniel J. Dooley
  - Guest Speakers included Mr. Anthony Mongelluzo (cybersecurity) and Dr. Chris Tienken (equity in teaching and learning)





# District Update

- **CAP Bullying Prevention Program**
  - Virtual parent meeting on Jan. 16
  - Teachers received mandatory training on Jan. 17
  - CAP representatives to provide students with training Jan. 22-Feb. 6



CAP's Bullying Prevention Program  
A program of the National Center for Assault Prevention because...  
*"All children deserve to be Safe, Strong and Free."*


**ABSECON PARENTS/GUARDIANS  
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A  
WORKSHOP ON BULLYING**

Why does it happen?  
Who are the bullies and the victims?  
What are the consequences of bullying to all our children and our community?  
What can we do to prevent bullying?

**6 p.m.  
Tuesday, Jan. 16**  
via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87592579421?pwd=TOUrb2o2UmtldGpPOElodVVJN2ZYZz09>  
Meeting ID: 875 9257 9421    Passcode: ATLCAP

# District Update

- **SOAR (Student Opportunity for Academic Reinforcement) for students in 1st through 8th Grade**
    - Targeted, small-group instruction from certified staff for 40 minutes after school, three days a week
    - Help each student reach their highest potential in math and/or language arts
    - All students receive a snack and bus transportation home
- 
- Funded through remaining federal ESSR funding
  - Winter session runs Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from Feb. 6 through March 27

# District Update

- **School Boards Recognition Month**



- Gov. Phil Murphy has proclaimed January 2024 as School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey
- Recognizing the hard work and dedication of our local board of education volunteers, whose avid support of our district has led to the expansion of our preschool; enhanced extracurricular activities, enrichment and specials programming; expanded before- and after-school care; safety and security of our school and students; and additional in-school resources (among many other initiatives), all without a tax increase!

# Marsh Update

## Finn's Mission

7 more steps to complete Finn's Mission.



- **Kids Heart Challenge**

- Running now through Feb
- Organized by gym teacher Mr. Doug Scholder
- Students sign up to raise money for the American Heart Association
- Can compete for individual and schoolwide prizes



# Marsh Update

- **Jared Campbell Music Assembly on Jan. 5**
  - Marsh students and Attales 5th Grade
  - Campbell is an award-winning singer/songwriter who writes music designed to inspire and uplift young people focusing on overcoming obstacles, anti-bullying, respect, leadership and having an amazing outlook on life



# Attales Update

- **Family Meeting on Dec. 22**
  - Sledgehammer Award received by Mrs. Delaya Rosenberger and 8th Grade student Leila Rano
  - Family Meeting is a chance to reflect on first half of school year and give thanks to those who have inspired our staff and students
  - Alumni guest speaker Ernest Howard





# Attales Update

- **DickensFest held on Thursday, Dec. 21**

- Cross curricular activities for 8th Grade class, incorporating themes from Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"
- Parents invited to participate, more than 75 in attendance





# Attales Update

## ● MLK Day of Service

- Attales Middle School students participated in a Day of Service activity on Jan. 12 in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- NJHS students participated in the Absecon community clean up on Monday, Jan. 16



# Attales Update

- **5th Grade Social Studies**

- Mayor Kim Horton and Councilman Tommy Marrone visited with 5th Grade classes Jan. 16 to discuss how our local government works
- Organized by Mrs. Stanton, this was a great opportunity for our 5th Graders to see the real world applications of the topics they are learning in Social Studies



# Attales Update

- **Basketball**

- Season began Jan. 8, next games Wednesday
- Girls 3-2
- Boys 0-3





# Preschool Update

## **ABSECON PRESCHOOL PARENT WORKSHOP: HEALTHY HOME ROUTINES**

WITH LUZ VALENTIN, MSW, LSW

**FRIDAY  
JAN. 19, 2024  
1:45 PM  
MARSH CAFETERIA**

### **LEARN ABOUT:**

- ROUTINE & DAILY ACTIVITIES
- BENEFITS OF ROUTINE
- IDEAS TO CREATE YOUR OWN ROUTINE!

JOIN VIRTUALLY WITH SPANISH TRANSLATION:  
[MEET.GOOGLE.COM/DAX-YUYH-FRW](https://meet.google.com/DAX-YUYH-FRW)



- **January Parent Workshop Jan. 19**
  - Held virtually due to weather
- **ECAC meeting Jan. 9**
  - Held virtually due to weather



# Preschool Update

- **End-of-study music celebration**

- Moved to Jan. 22 due to weather
- Held in classrooms



# Curriculum Update

- **Staff Professional Development on Jan. 12**
  - Attales Staff and Marsh Special Area teachers - Dr. Christopher Tienken present to on Artificial Intelligence
  - 4th Grade - Addressing Gaps in Phonics
  - 1st and 2nd Grade, ESL - Explicit Phonemic Awareness
  - Kindergarten & 3rd Grade, ESL - Explicit Fluency
  - Preschool - Conducting Home Visits
  - Special Services, Self Contained Teachers, Instructional Assistants - Handle With Care



# Facilities Update

- **Annual Marsh boiler maintenance (January)**
- **Continued HVAC resolutions throughout district**
- **Additional illumination in the rear entrance**
- **Stage floor resurfaced and stage area repainted (Winter Break)**
- **Summer 2025 HVAC Projects are a go (waiting alloc/ROD Grant)**
  - Ductwork color for Attales Gym (cream/off-white)
- **New HVAC update (insurance - completed January 2024)**
- **Planned project: Cafeteria repainting (color suggestions?)**
- **Turf Field?**
  - Using received (Local Recreation) Grant for testing and planning to determine final costs of the projected project
- **Grounds preparation for winter weather**
- **FY2024 NJSDA (New Jersey Schools Development Authority) Emergent Project and Capital Maintenance Program: Absecon awarded \$22,827**





# STARS Update

- **Week 3 of STARS Basketball**
- **Swim starts Feb. 14**
  - Twice a month
- **Absecon Green Team meets with STARS Green Team on Fridays**
  - Starting on replanting Annex garden with fruits and vegetable
  - Using hydroponics to start seeds
- **Yoga & Mindfulness with Mrs. Bell and Ms. Townsend every Wednesday**
- **Joe Holiday Magic Show (1/25)**
- **Push to support more STARS families by providing information and assistance with applying for Child Care Network (tuition assistance)**



# Upcoming Events

- Great Kindness Challenge, Jan. 22-26
- 2nd MP ends, Jan. 24
- PTO Designer Bag Bingo, Feb. 2
- Preschool Family Fun Night, Feb. 13
- Random Acts of Kindness Week, Feb. 11-17
- No School, Feb. 16 (Staff PD) & Feb. 19 (President's Day)
- Attales Drama Club presents 'Frozen Jr.', Feb. 22 & 23
- Preschool End-of-Study Celebration, Feb. 23
- Read Across America, March 4-8
- Staff vs Students Basketball fundraiser, March 8
- PTO Book Fair, March 11-15 (Family Night is March 13)



# THANK YOU!

