

Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

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New superintendent sees 'world as classroom'

By R.R. Faszczewski

Township students in the elementary grades will have the "world as their classroom" starting on Wednesday, Sept. 4—that is the philosophy of Dr. Paul Ortenzio, the new superintendent of schools for the Clark public school system.

Dr. Ortenzio, who officially began his duties in the Clark schools on July 1, told The Clark Patriot he will try to get all staff members to aim their methods of problem solving—whether it be in mathematics, reading, writing or any other subject area—at real-life applications of learning.

For example, if a student is trying to learn about the value of money it is much more relevant to teach him by pointing out what a particular article of clothing will cost at the regular price and what it will cost if it is discounted when he goes shopping with his parents.

The new superintendent also wants to involve teachers more in skills application—not just looking at the results of tests but gauging those results to find out what skills can be expanded as the result of student performance on a particular test.

Dr. Ortenzio also wants to institute a committee for the evaluation of primary education, especially, but not exclusively, aimed at the kindergarten level, to explore the educational program, the method of instruction—what is done and how it is being done.

He also wants to have a representative of the Houghton-Mifflin Co. come into the schools to explain how the company's reading materials can be used more effectively and have students come to a realization of the many purposes of reading—to gain knowledge, for relaxation, for diversion from world concerns, etc.

Writing will become more idea oriented with the "holistic scoring" approach to essay writing, for example, where teachers will pay attention not only to spelling and grammar errors, but look at an essay as a complete product and the thoughts it is seeking to convey.

Dr. Ortenzio believes "practice makes perfect" in writing and will encourage staff members to have students write as much and as often as possible.

He pointed out, even in the computer age the basic writing skills are needed. The computer will only help the student—it is up to the student to input well-thought-out information to get the best result from the tool.

The superintendent also intends to meet with students to talk about their views of school and how each piece of learning equipment fits into the overall learning structure.

He believes in teaching the basic skills, but does not want to limit teaching only to those skills, preferring to have students prepared with as many skills as possible.

He wants to give everyone the opportunity to participate in physical education activities which will make him a healthier human being. The physical education guide will be a major part of this.

Dr. Ortenzio believes the skills of learning to be healthier are something everyone can master no matter what their level of expertise in a particular sport. He also believes in a well-rounded education with all activities in balance.

A new guide, focusing on special education study skills, was prepared by Gayle Conlin and Paul Westerfield this summer and the district also has a new social studies guide.

Although the former North Haledon superintendent still wants to watch and see what can be done differently or continued in Clark before making any comparisons between his old district and his new district, he is impressed with the seventh-and-eighth-grade French and Spanish courses in Clark and wants to see that students are more able to think in those languages.

The Clark elementary school system has 1,132 students so far this year, compared with 1,223 last year, with 390 at Frank K. Hehly School, 410 at Carl H. Kumpf School and 332 at Valley Road School.

There are 20 students in the pre-school handicapped class at Valley Road.

There will be no change in the Kumpf schedule, with students starting the day at 8:05 a.m. and being dismissed at 2:40 p.m. The students above kindergarten level at the other two schools will be in school from 8:20 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

The morning kindergarten at Hehly will run from 9 to 11:30 o'clock and the afternoon session from 12:30 to 3 o'clock.

Valley Road's morning kindergarten will start at 8:30 and end at 11 o'clock and the afternoon session will run from noon to 2:30 o'clock.

The pre-school classes at Valley Road will run from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Schools will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 16 and 17, for Rosh Hashanah; on Wednesday, Sept. 25 for Yom Kippur; on Monday, Oct. 14 for Columbus Day; on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 7 and 8 for the New Jersey Education Assn. Convention, a half day on Wednesday,

Nov. 27, and all day on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 and 28 for Thanksgiving; from Monday, Dec. 23 to Wednesday, Jan. 1, 1986 for the holiday recess; Monday, Jan. 20 for Martin Luther King Day; Monday, Feb. 17 for President's Day;

Tuesday, Feb. 18 for winter recess; March 28 for Good Friday; Monday, March 31 to Friday, April 4 for spring recess; Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day and after 12:30 p.m. on Monday, June 23.

The last day for students and teachers will be Tuesday, June 24.

Johnson starts with 19 fewer students

By R.R. Faszczewski

Arthur L. Johnson, Regional High School of Clark's 856 students will begin their first full day of school for 1985-1986 on Wednesday, Sept. 4.

There were 875 students at Johnson at the end of the last school year.

Freshmen and new students will report on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

The Union County Regional High School District No. 1, of which Johnson is a part, will have about 3,105 students for 1985-1986—about 200 less than last year.

The district also includes David Brearley Regional High School in Kenilworth, Jonathan Dayton Regional High School in Springfield and Gov. Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights.

One of the major issues in the district recently has been a study of the facilities needs for the next 10 years.

Although there has long been a Board-administration committee on future planning in the district, according to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Donald Merachnik, the committee was given more emphasis when the regional school body re-organized in April.

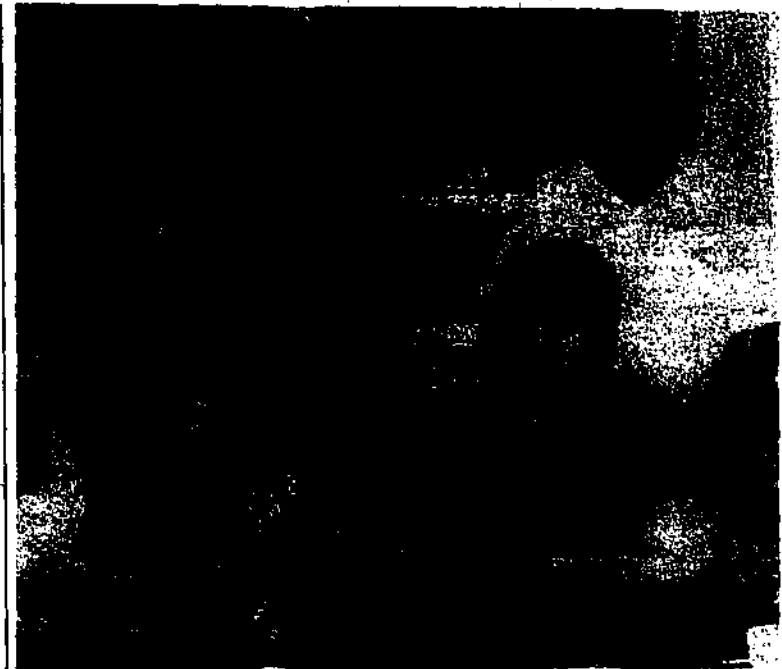
Chaired by Board president Joseph Vaughn of Berkeley Heights, the committee has all the school body members, Dr. Merachnik and Dr. Martin Siegel, the district's director of curriculum, serving on it.

According to the superintendent Eve Marchioni, the field representative of the New Jersey School Boards Assn., suggested the 10-year time frame to assess the needs, both educationally and in terms of physical plant, for the district.

In June Drs. Merachnik and Siegel received reports from all department heads and compiled from them a report on what the district should look for in a high school program in 1995.

That report was submitted to the Board on Aug. 23, and, after the school body studies it, recommendations will be made about the next phase of the study.

Dr. Merachnik told The Clark Patriot only after the educational needs are determined can the district assess what will be needed in terms of physical plants for the next 10 years. Thus, the educational report is just the first phase of the study.



AT THE HELM... The new officers for 1985-1986 elected to the board of the Mother Seton Regional High School Parents' Guild in Clark are as follows: President, Charles and Marie Munch; vice president, William and Beverly Kerrigan; treasurer, William and Kathy Ehrhardt; recording secretary, Michael and Joan Maldony; and corresponding secretary, Karen Gielen. Mr. and Mrs. Munch are shown with Mr. and Mrs. William Skleder; the outgoing presidents. The guild will again resume Saturday and Sunday night Bingo starting Sept. 7 and 8. Irish night is being planned for Friday, Oct. 25. For more information please telephone Robert and Joan Severease at 241-1809.

Clark seniors to meet

The Senior Citizens of Clark will hold their first meeting for this month on Wednesday, Sept. 4 at 12:30 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall on Broadway.

The meeting will affect students and parents. One directive, will affect students and parents. One directive, will affect students and parents. One directive, will affect students and parents.

If a student is absent from school for two consecutive days and no information is furnished or obtained by the school attendance officer about the nature of the absence the local police will be notified just in case the student turns up missing. Police intervention may then take place.

The second one deals with child abuse. If the school believes a student has been subjected to child abuse or neglect, this must be reported to the Division of Youth and Family Services of New Jersey for investigation. In this way suspected cases of child abuse or neglect will be investigated quickly.

Rosenmeier reports to camp at Colgate

Junior center, Erik Rosenmeier, from Clark's Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School, reported for pre-season football camp at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y. on Aug. 21.

He was one of 71 upperclassmen joining 46 freshmen candidates, who reported on Aug. 18.

The upperclassmen took their physicals on Aug. 22 before taking to the field in the afternoon. The entire squad practiced together beginning on Aug. 23.

Colgate head coach, Fred Dunlap, feels his team will be hungry for the taste of success in 1985 after last year's 5-5 showing. The previous two campaigns, 1982 and 1983, saw Colgate produce back-to-back playoff appearances and top ten finishes in Division I-AA.

dedication, enthusiasm and hustle of everyone involved." Colgate will open its 1985 season on Saturday, Sept. 14 when the Red Raiders travel to Holy Cross College.

THE CLARK PATRIOT PICKUPS OF ANY MATERIALS TO GO INTO THE NEWSPAPER OR ANY COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE STAFF OF THE PAPER WILL BE MADE AT BREWER SCHOOL ONLY. THERE WILL BE NO MORE PICKUPS AT THE CLARK POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN THE FORMER MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

Plantation to hold fall herb sale

The Dr. William Robinson Plantation and Museum, at 593 Madison Hill Rd., Clark will be open to the public on Sunday, Sept. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Guided tours of the restored farmhouse and grounds will be conducted by costumed members of the Clark Historical Society and the Museum Shop will be open. Admission will be free.

The Annual Fall Herb Sale will take place, featuring dried and freshly-cut herbs and herb-related items

such as potted herbs, potpourri, tarragon vinegar and seasoned salts. Herb tea and cookies will be served and information on herbs and their uses will be available.

The herb garden, located on the ground was a project funded by a gift from Arnold Morway in honor of his late wife, Mrs. Dorothy Morway, a member of the society. The garden and walks were designed and installed by members of the society.



NEW GUARD... Clark's Frank K. Hehly School Parent-Teacher Assn. Officers for 1985-1986, left to right, Linda Montgomery, president; Rachel Abenilla, first vice president; Gail Brazdo, corresponding secretary; Marlene Hamilton, treasurer; Elaine Shiel, recording secretary and Stephanie Rendolfo, second vice president, discuss plans for a successful year.

HELP US CELEBRATE OUR BIRTHDAY

Clark's own hometown newspaper, The Clark Patriot, is 20 years young this year and the paper plans to celebrate in real style.

A special anniversary edition will be published in October. If you have any contributions please send them to: ANNIVERSARY ISSUE, EDITOR, THE CLARK PATRIOT, POST OFFICE BOX 1061, RAHWAY, N.J. 07065 or drop them off at the office at 219 CENTRAL AVE., RAHWAY FROM 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. MONDAY TO FRIDAY.