

The TIGER'S DEN MLK Newsletter

The Atlantic City School District



EAGLES AJ BROWN
COMES TO MLK FOR
THREE POINT
SHOOTOUT. MLK
ALUMNI DERRY
SHINES BRIGHTEST

ISSUE AT A GLANCE

ACBOE ELEMENTARY SPORTS
BASKETBALL
Tournament



Hoop Dreams: Highlights from the Recent
Elementary School Basketball Tournament



SJR

MLK
ROBOTICS

SOUTH JERSEY ROBOTICS HONORS
TWO MLK TEAMS DURING THEIR
RECOGNITION NIGHT

STUDENTS ABLE TO SEE
THE STARS IN A WHOLE
NEW LIGHT THANKS TO
INFLATABLE PLANETARIUM
BUBBLE



2024 ATLANTIC CITY SCHOOL CONVOCATION

Last month marked a momentous occasion for the district with the hosting of its second annual Convocation Ceremony, an event designed to celebrate and honor the outstanding contributions of its employees. This special day brought together staff from across the district for a series of activities that not only recognized individual achievements but also promoted team bonding and professional development.

The Convocation Ceremony serves as a vital platform to acknowledge the hard work of all district employees, including teachers, administrative staff, and support personnel. It is a day filled with appreciation and camaraderie aimed at strengthening the bonds among staff members. The highlight of the event is the awarding of honors such as "Teacher of the Year," "Building Educational Service Professional of the Year," and "Principal of the Year," among others.

This year, the MLK school stood out with multiple accolades. Ian Mahler was named MLK's Teacher of the Year, Bria Days received the Building Educational Service Professional of the Year award, and Cecelia Mirabella was celebrated as Venice Park Teacher of the Year. Additionally, MLK Secretary Joanne Lyons was recognized for her invaluable service. However, the pinnacle of the ceremony was when MLK Principal Jodi Burroughs received the prestigious District Principal of the Year award, highlighting her exceptional leadership and outstanding commitment to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Complex and everyone who works within it.

Beyond the award ceremony, the day was also filled with activities led by the district's SEL staff, focusing on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and team-building exercises. These activities are designed to enhance interpersonal skills and foster an environment of support and collaboration among the district's workforce.

The event proved to be a great success, with many leaving not only with awards but with renewed spirits and strengthened relationships. Those honored were celebrated for their dedication and impact, making their schools and the district very proud. The Convocation Ceremony reaffirms the district's commitment to recognizing excellence and fostering a supportive and collaborative educational community.



MLK PLAYS HOST FOR THE AC 3 POINT SHOOTOUT

with Special Guest Star A.J. Brown

Earlier this month, our school hosted an inspiring community event organized by Atlantic City Mayor Marty Smalls and the Atlantic City Recreation Department. The event was not just a display of athletic prowess but also a celebration of community spirit and achievement.

Nazim Derry, a former MLK Tiger and current student at Goldey-Beacom College, clinched victory in the City's Recreation Department's 3-point Showcase, besting competitors, including Philadelphia Eagles receiver A.J. Brown and a slew of other former AC High School basketball legends. The event, which took place on Wednesday, March 27, drew a huge crowd that filled the school's bleachers with enthusiastic supporters.

The evening was about more than basketball. The Recreation Department honored several community figures for their contributions during the event. William Steele, former principal of Atlantic City High School, received a Lifetime Achievement Award. Community activist Shermaine Gunter-Gary was presented with the Hometown Hero Award, and Willie Glass, an Atlantic City High School alum and former NBA draftee, was honored with the Living Legend Award.

Adding to the community focus, the Hot Topics dance group received a generous \$10,000 donation from the Agronomed Foundation to support their journey to a national competition in Florida.

Principal Jodi Burroughs of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex was recognized for her ongoing commitment to opening the school for community events. "This is our community school," Burroughs remarked, underscoring the event's inclusive nature.

The event also featured prize raffles, including bicycles and autographed Eagles memorabilia, and attendees enjoyed moments like selfies with A.J. Brown and laughs with comedian Bubbadub. Derry highlighted the importance of the showcase, noting, "This is an awesome feeling. The community came out, there was no drama, it went well." This memorable event underscored the power of community and the enduring impact of gathering together to celebrate local heroes and talents.



HOOP DREAMS

MLK Highlights from the Recent Elementary School Basketball Tournament

In mid-March, the District Sports Program celebrated another successful season with its annual Middle School Basketball Tournament. The event, which unfolded over several weeks, reached its exciting conclusion on Saturday, March 16th, with a series of playoff games that showcased the talents of young athletes across multiple grades.

The Tigers fielded four impressive teams this year: 5th & 6th Grade Boys and Girls, as well as 7th & 8th Grade Boys and Girls teams. Each team demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and skill, but there were a few standout performances that captured the crowd's attention.

The 5th and 6th Grade Boys' team emerged as the champions of their bracket. A notable highlight was the performance of 6th grader Saddir Wright, who was named the tournament MVP due to his outstanding play throughout the competition.

Not to be outdone, the 7th and 8th Grade Girls' team advanced all the way to the championship game, showing great determination and team cohesion, which was celebrated by all who watched.

The success of the tournament was not just due to the athletes but also the supportive school community. Special thanks were extended to the MLK Cheer Team, whose enthusiasm and encouragement played a vital role in boosting team spirit throughout the tournament.

Appreciation was also given to the dedicated coaches, Mrs. Sanders and Mr. Dixon, whose guidance and mentorship were pivotal in preparing the teams for their games and in nurturing the players' development both on and off the court.

The tournament was more than just a competition; it was a celebration of community, teamwork, and the spirit of sportsmanship that defines MLK Middle School. The school looks forward to future tournaments, where they can continue to build on this year's successes and celebrate the talents of their young athletes.



sjr honors 2 mlk robotics teams

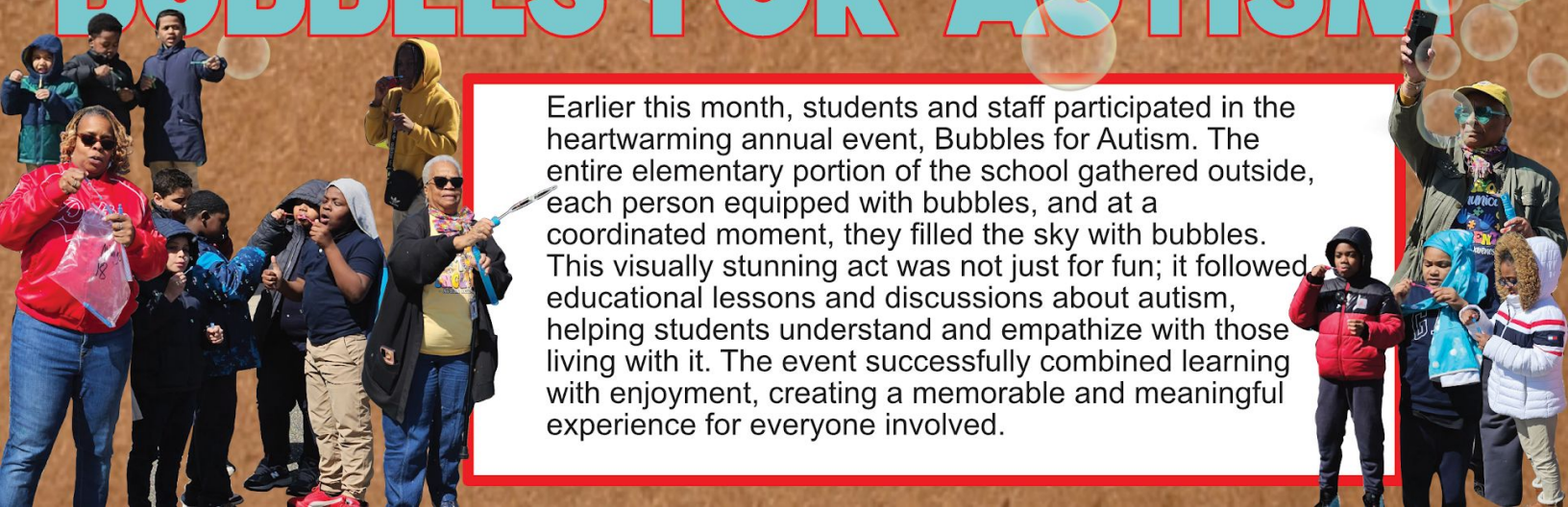
TWO MLK TEAMS HONORED AT SOUTH JERSEY ROBOTICS ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER



On Monday, April 15th, the South Jersey Robotics League held its annual robotics awards dinner. During this event two first-year MLK robotics teams were honored for their outstanding achievements. The Sandy Squirrels received the Rising Stars Award, while the Black Panthers Team was honored with the Young Innovators Award. Congratulations to both teams! We eagerly anticipate more innovative contributions from these talented young minds in the future.



BUBBLES FOR AUTISM



Earlier this month, students and staff participated in the heartwarming annual event, Bubbles for Autism. The entire elementary portion of the school gathered outside, each person equipped with bubbles, and at a coordinated moment, they filled the sky with bubbles. This visually stunning act was not just for fun; it followed educational lessons and discussions about autism, helping students understand and empathize with those living with it. The event successfully combined learning with enjoyment, creating a memorable and meaningful experience for everyone involved.

STUDENTS ABLE TO SEE THE STARS IN A WHOLE NEW LIGHT THANKS TO INFLATABLE PLANETARIUM FROM STOCKTON

Last week, Mr. Holmstrom took his STEM classes on an extraordinary journey around our galaxy, and he did so without the need of a rocket ship and he did it without ever leaving the school. Instead, he reached out to Stockton University to borrow their inflatable planetarium—a request to which they graciously agreed. The gym was then transformed into a celestial classroom as each STEM class took turns experiencing the cosmos from inside the inflatable bubble.

Once inside the planetarium, students were immediately immersed in the night sky, presented in three captivating formations. Mr. Holmstrom began by showing the standard starry sky to illustrate the placement of the stars. He then switched the projector to a format that connected the stars with lines, clearly outlining the shapes of various constellations. For the final transformation, he changed the slide once more, bringing the constellations to life with colorful images that vividly represented each celestial group. The class was not only educational but also enchanting, as Mr. Holmstrom told stories of each constellation, enriching the lesson with the lore and mythology surrounding them. It was a memorable class that left a lasting impression on the students, undoubtedly one they are sure to remember for years to come.



STOCKTON UNIVERSITY WAS KIND ENOUGH TO LET MLK BORROW ITS INFLATABLE PLANETARIUM FOR THE DAY, TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO SEE THE STARS IN A WHOLE NEW WAY

EXPLORING THE PAST

"The Northside" Mini Museum Comes to MLK

Early in April, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex was transformed into a portal to the past with the annual mini museum exhibit, made possible through the efforts of Ralph Hunter and the generous sponsorship of Cooper Levinson and the Atlantic City Art Garage. Each year, this event captivates students by exploring a unique aspect of Atlantic City's rich history through carefully curated themes.

In previous years, the exhibit has celebrated notable themes such as the influential women of Atlantic City and the city's athletic history. This year's exhibit, titled "The Northside," offered students a glimpse into the historic Northside of Atlantic City during a bygone era. The exhibit provided a detailed look at the cultural and social dynamics of the area, enriching students' understanding of their city's heritage.

The students were particularly engaged by the visual and narrative exploration of how their community has evolved over the decades. The event was not only educational but also a source of pride for the students as they learned about the significant changes and developments in their own environment.

Gratitude was expressed to all who contributed to bringing this enlightening and wonderful exhibit to the school. It provided an invaluable learning experience that highlighted Atlantic City's enduring spirit and history.

