

# District Highlights

## Sironka African Dancers Visit Camden Students

More than 400 fourth graders had a unique opportunity to witness the “Friends of Sironka African Dance Troupe” from Kenya, Africa on Tuesday, November 13, 2007.

An invitation from The Honorable Theodore Z. Davis, Camden City’s Chief Operating Officer, allowed students to visit the Adventure Aquarium where the African dancers performed. Students witnessed traditional dances and took part in two routines that involved dancing and jumping.

The talented group of young Maasai dancers shared their culture and experiences while touring the United States. Dancers from the city’s Unity Community Center also performed for students.



Fourth grade students clap to a beat as the Sironka African Dance Troupe marched down the aisle. Wearing colorful costumes, the dancers were a big hit during their visit to Camden at the Adventure Aquarium.

## Monarch Butterflies Take Flight from Yorkship



Principal Carol Morgan (middle) poses with students and staff from the Yorkship Elementary School during the schools’ second Monarch Butterfly release.

The Yorkship Elementary School held a Monarch Butterfly Parade on November 1, 2007. Teachers trained in the science program at ERIC (Educational Resource Information Center) in Sewell, New Jersey incorporated the migration of the Monarch Butterflies into the preschool through 5th grade curriculum. This year’s program included a parade, poetry writing about the butterflies and a release ceremony at the end of the project.

Students and teachers wore butterfly masks, and made flags of Mexico for the parade. The program is in its second year at the school. The parade marks the launching of the Monarch butterflies migration to Mexico.

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## Central Office Hosts Holiday Program and Gift Giving

Over 150 students from Lanning Square Elementary School were treated to a Holiday Program at the district's Administration Building on Thursday, December 20, 2007. Students watch music and dance selections performed by students from the Riletta Twyne Cream Elementary School. The Junior Jazz Giants, under the direction of Mr. Hasan Jamal, performed instrumental holiday selections for the students.

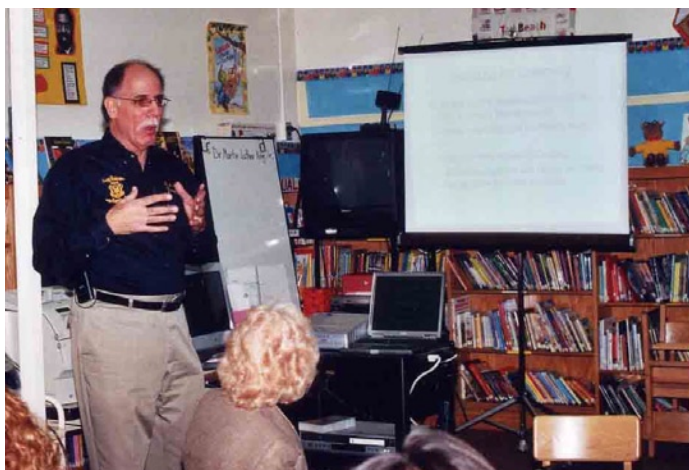
After the festive program, students walked past the decorated holiday tree in the lobby of the administration building to the cafeteria for lunch. Members of the Creative Arts High School Choir dressed in teal and white robes performed for students during lunch in the cafeteria. Later, students in groups of 20 were escorted to each floor to receive gifts donated by administration building staff members.

This year's gift giving and holiday program was designed by the superintendent to promote holiday spirit among staff and students.



Fifth floor staff members pose with Lanning Square students after receiving their gifts.

## Principal Shares Experience With Staff



George Washington Elementary School principal, Malcolm N. Adler speaks to teachers, parents and State Department of Education members during a grade level meeting.

Malcolm N. Adler, principal of the George Washington Elementary School eagerly shared with his staff information he received from attending the National Staff Development Council Conference in December 2007.

Members of the New Jersey Department of Education (DOE) visited the school and met with staff and district administrators and parents. A luncheon was provided and DOE staff observed as Mr. Adler met with his staff during grade level meetings. Parents attending the meeting received certificates and were recognized for their commitment to students as parent leaders for the 2007-2008 school year.

Kudos to Mr. Adler and the staff of George Washington Elementary School!

## Math Teachers Receive Credits Toward Certification

In conjunction with the district's efforts to provide highly qualified teachers, nine middle school math teachers are well on their way.

A program developed and nurtured by math supervisor, Jacqueline Sykes, began its 1st Cohort of 12 teachers in Rowan University's Certificate of Graduate Study in Middle School Mathematics Education in January 2006. Thanks to Ms. Deborah Polk, supervisor of grants, for providing funding through No Child Left Behind, nine teachers completed the coursework necessary for the Praxis II in middle school mathematics. Special thanks to Ms. Linnell Wright, director of professional development, and her staff for their continued support throughout the program.



(From right to left) Ms. Linnell N. Wright, Ms. Jacqueline Sykes and Assistant Superintendent Andrea Kirwin pose with eight of the nine 1st Cohort math teachers who completed the certificate program. Also pictured are their principals, vice principals, retired supervisor Savas Carabases (left), and Ms. Daphne Gilstrap (third from the left), elementary math supervisor, who also attended the graduation celebration held on January 29, 2008 at the Jerrothia Riggs Adult Educational Center.

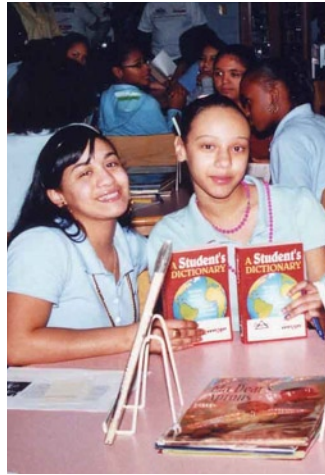
# Around The District

Throughout the school year and during the summer months, Camden students and staff are busy with training, workshops, academics and other activities that enhance the educational experience. Curriculum

and instruction is supported through after school activities, culturally diverse programs and professional development. The following are highlights of student and staff activities for Fall/Winter 2007-2008.

## Verizon Donates Supplies

Cynthia Douglas of Verizon Telecom Pioneers, a non-profit organization, supports urban schools in New Jersey by donating school supplies. On January 11, 2008, Downstate Chapter #81 members donated dictionaries to students at East Camden Middle School.



## Rotary Club Donates Dictionaries

Third grade students from the Alfred Cramer Elementary School received dictionaries from the Camden City Rotary Club on December 11, 2007. The dictionaries were presented to students as part of the organizations' literacy outreach program.



## Pyne Poynt Hispanic Event

A student wraps herself in the flag of Puerto Rico during a performance at Pyne Poynt Middle School's Hispanic Heritage Celebration in November. The school honored Tony and Ruth Maldonado owners Tony & Ruths Steaks who graduated from the school and still do charitable work in the North Camden Community.



## Student Gets A Warm Hug

During the district's Holiday Program at the administration building, Board Vice President Martha F. Wilson shares a warm hug with a student from Lanning Square Elementry School. Students Visited the administration building on December 20th and received gifts donated by building staff members.

## Author/Olympian Visit WWHS

Devon Harris, a three-time Olympic Jamaican Bobsledder, visited students at Woodrow Wilson High School in November. Harris told students the story of his triumphs at the Olympics in Canada, France and Japan. He encouraged students to work hard and follow their dreams.



## Thanksgiving Baskets

Board President Sara T. Davis, and Superintendent Dr. B. LeFra Young, place turkeys in baskets for district parents. The contents were donated by: Brown and Connery Law Office, M & C Insurance, McCollum Insurance, Wolf Block Law Office, Sumners George Law Office, the Woodland Development Corporation and the Campbell Soup Company.





## District Celebrates Best Practices

*On January 30, 2008, the Camden City Public School District celebrated academic achievement through Best Practices. Each school was honored at a dinner held at the Octavius V. Catto Community School for their individual "Best Practice" toward student academic achievement.*

<b>High Schools</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Best Practice</b>
Dr. Charles E. Brimm Medical Arts High School	Ms. Thurselle Treece, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
Camden High School	Ms. Marilyn Jamal, Acting Principal	Intervention & Support
Creative Arts High School	Mr. Byron Dixon, Acting Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
MetEast High School	Mr. Timothy Jenkins, Vice Principal	Climate & Culture
Woodrow Wilson High School	Mr. Calvin Gunning, Principal	Intervention & Support
Jerrothia Riggs Adult Learning Center	Dr. John Randall, Principal	Partnership For Success
<b>Middle School</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Best Practice</b>
Cooper B. Hatch Middle School	Ms. Kathleen Avant, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
East Camden Middle School	Ms. Patricia Kenny, Principal	Attendance & Accountability
Morgan Village Middle School	Mr. Louis Mason, Principal	Intervention & Support
Pyne Poynt Middle School	Mr. Tyrone Richards, Principal	Attendance & Accountability
South Camden Alternative School	Dr. Mary Edwards Andrews, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
Veterans Memorial Middle School	Ms. Ellen Anderson, Principal	Intervention & Support
<b>Elementary School</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Best Practice</b>
Henry L. Bonsall Elementary School	Dr. Eileen Rock, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
Octavius V. Catto Community School	Ms. Robin Wyche, Principal	Staff Development & Support
Cooper's Poynt Family School	Ms. Sandra Sims-Foster, Principal	Monitoring & Use of Data
Alfred Cramer Elementary School	Ms. Linda Bailey, Principal	Monitoring & Use of Data
R.T. Cream Elementary School	Ms. Joyous Carey, Principal	Parental Involvement
Henry H. Davis Elementary School	Ms. Sharon Woodbridge, Acting Principal	Use & Allocation of Resources
Early Childhood Development Center	Mr. Thomas Rowan, Principal	Climate & Culture
Forest Hill Elementary School	Ms. Maxine Campbell, Principal	Staff Development & Support
Lanning Square Elementary School	Ms. Katrina McCombs, Acting Principal	Partnership for Success
Francis X. McGraw Elementary School	Ms. Ramona Pearson-Hunter, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
Rafael Cordero Molina Elementary School	Mr. John Donohue, Principal	Climate & Culture
Parkside Elementary School	Ms. Claudia Cream, Principal	Use & Allocation of Resources
William F. Powell Elementary School	Ms. Janice Taylor, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
Harry C. Sharp Elementary School	Ms. Evelyn Ruiz, Principal	Monitoring & Use of Data
Charles Sumner Elementary School	Mr. Alex DeFlavis, Acting Principal	Community & Collaboration
George Washington Elementary School	Mr. Malcolm Adler, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement
John G. Whittier Elementary School	Ms. Marilyn Allen, Principal	Parental Involvement
Ulysses S. Wiggins Elementary School	Ms. Dannette Sapowski, Principal	Community & Collaboration
H. B. Wilson Elementary School	Ms. Carol Jones, Acting Principal	Staff Development & Support
Yorkship Elementary School	Ms. Carol Morgan, Principal	Focus On Student Achievement

### Central Administration

Dr. B. LeFra Young, Superintendent of Schools  
Andrea Kirwin, Assistant Superintendent  
Reuben F. Mills, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Davida Coe-Brockington, Acting Assistant Superintendent  
James J. Devereaux, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

### Board of Education

Sara T. Davis, President, Martha F. Wilson, Vice-President, Amalia Adame, Kathryn Blackshear,  
Susan Dunbar-Bey, John E. Gilliams, Ph.D., Luis A. Lopez, Ph.D., Theo Spencer and Nyeema Watson

