

December

Here we are.....the last month of the calendar year! It is probably one of the quickest months to fly by because many of us are looking forward to celebrating the Christmas holiday season! I want to ask you to give yourself a big pat on the back for being such wonderful and loving parents! We know how hard schedules, jobs, bills, sicknesses can be and in spite of it all, we had a gratifying turn-out for parent-teacher conferences. Thank you so much!! We also enjoyed the PTA sponsored Saturday with Santa! This event was especially wonderful because teachers, custodial staff, cafeteria staff, the YMCA staff and the Success Center all pitched in for our KIDS. It was amazing and tons of fun.

Be aware that progress reports will be sent home on December 14. Is your child making progress? Daily attendance is critical to his/her learning. Conference with your child's teacher; seek help from the Child Study Team, Guidance office and my office. We are here for you!

As you may know, our District had over \$900,000 re-instated into this year's budget. We were able to move Mrs. Joy Dunn into a 3rd Kindergarten. The class sizes are now around 19-20! We have also hired a 3rd Second Grade teacher – Mrs. Kathleen Abbott. She has been released from her prior District's contract and will join us on December 20. We were able to hire Mr. Ted Prohovich as the computer teacher in the Haleyville-Mauricetown School. Funds were able to be put back into the Maintenance and Capital Reserves. We are just so blessed and grateful for this monetary relief.

On December 10, Senator Van Drew and the NJ Commissioner of Education are meeting with Superintendents and Board Presidents to hear our concerns about the lack of funding for Cumberland County Schools. The one-hour meeting promises to be insightful for all of us.

Please feel free to call me – 609-247-2943 (cell) 856-785-2333 ext. 2149 (school) or email me at: jean.smith@commercialschools.org or jsmith3696@aol.com. I would love to hear from you

May you have a blessed, happy and healthy Christmas season!