

WARREN MONTHLY^{NJ}

WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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ISSUE 38 • FEBRUARY 2016

WARREN TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING

THURS FEB 25TH
8:30am - 9:30am

WARREN TOWNSHIP
COURTROOM
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The Warren Township Chamber of Commerce meets monthly for breakfast, networking and presentations from experts in various industries.

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ANNUAL WINTER FESTIVAL & YULETIDE BONFIRE

Warren Township Recreation Commission held their 8th Annual Winter Festival & Yuletide Bonfire on Sat, January 16th from 4- 7pm behind the Municipal Complex.

This event is always well attended. Some enjoyed the entertainment of the Take Flight Dance Center production! Some wore their cowboy boots to join them as they led a Line Dance for everyone to follow. This year's musicians included Warren's best, Bob Marino & Warren's Got Talent, Michael Forte and Alyssa Puccio plus Teen Band "Tank." There were carnival games by the local Sports Clubs and stargazing by Stonecrest Community Church. Some people brought their cameras and phones and took pictures with special guests "Sparkee" from the Somerset Patriots, Olaf the snowman, Wendy from Wendy's fast food, the Elephant from the Learning Experience and the juggler on stilts. Some couples bundled up with a horse & carriage ride while the kids enjoyed the trackless train, carousel and the playground. This was a FREE event including hot chocolate and cider, marshmallow roasting plus snacks & popcorn. Some people skipped dinner so they could enjoy the famous Smokin' Chicks homemade pulled pork, brisket and chicken BBQ sliders, Tacos, chicken fingers and fries. Sponsors decorated their booths giving away prizes and goodies. The bonfire handled by the Warren Fire Department was a sight to see and kept residents warm. Thanks to them and the Warren

Rescue Squad, Warren and Watchung CERT, Warren Fire/Police, PBA, Fire Marshal, department of public works and Warren Police Explorers as they kept the residents safe to enjoy the event. And let's not forget the Fireworks at 7pm!

Wow – what a jam packed event this was! The Recreation staff would like to thank the dedicated volunteers as well as all of their sponsors for allowing them to pull this event off!



Photos of this and other events can be found at www.rennamedia.com and on the [Facebook.com/WarrenMonthly](https://www.facebook.com/WarrenMonthly). Feel free to "Like", "Tag", and "Share."

Photos by Mark De Hanes



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Warren Monthly is published by Renna Media. 6,000 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Warren, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

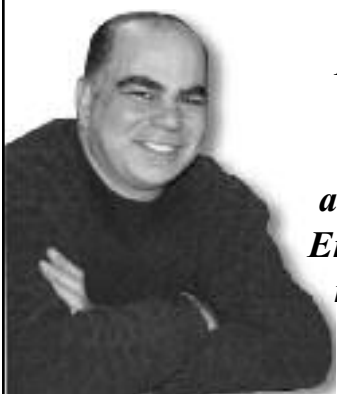
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WARREN TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS MONTHLY NETWORKING MEETINGS

Warren Chamber of Commerce meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Municipal Court Room located at 44 Mountain Blvd, Warren, NJ. All businesses are welcome. The meetings are free to attend. Coffee and light breakfast is supplied.

The January Chamber meeting was sponsored by BrightView Assisted Living of Warren. Community Sales Director Jennifer Fazio gave a presentation about the new facility that is located at 57 Mt. Bethel Road.

**Anyone interested in hosting a future meeting
can call or email Chamber President,
General Manager of Fulton Bank of NJ,
Evan Tornquist 908-561-1279 ext. 19686
ETornquist@fultonbankNJ.com**



(left, r-l) Stella Testa Sweet Success received the trophy for the best "Elevator Speech" awarded at each monthly meeting, presented by Stephen Tucciarone, owner of icar Limo Service, winner from the previous month.



(left, l-r) Michael Marcus of DiFrancesco Bateman Law Firm, Jennifer Fazio of BrightView and Melanie Vamerin, Community Relations Director of Chelsea Senior Living.

APPLICATIONS DUE FOR DELEEUEW SCHOLARSHIP

High school seniors wishing to apply for the Adele DeLeeuw Scholarship should obtain applications now from their school guidance office. The scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Deadline for submission of applications is March 11, 2016.

The Plainfield Rotary Scholarship Foundation, headed by Michael R. Townley, acts as selector for the scholarships. Area Rotary Clubs assist in the selection process.

Only students attending high schools in Plainfield, North Plainfield, South Plainfield, Warren, Watchung, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Edison are eligible. Location of high school, not student's residence, is the qualifying factor. The

student must also be accepted to an accredited college or university.

Applicants must plan to major in one of the following areas of study: art, poetry, writing, journalism or engineering. They must demonstrate the scholastic aptitude and interest to pursue study in one of these specified areas. They must also prove financial need.

Interested students should consult their guidance counselors to obtain the necessary application information or go to the Plainfield/North Plainfield Rotary Club website at www.rotarynpn.org. Questions may be directed to Johanna Salvemini, Scholarship Administrator, at (908) 755-8098.

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SCIENCE FUN AT ALT

By: Mary Ann McGann

Fourth graders at Angelo L. Tomaso School were treated to a lively demonstration of gravitational pull, Newton's Laws of Motion and other scientific fun on Jan. 6.

"Gravity doesn't care how massive an object is," said Joe Talento of the Franklin Institute's Traveling Science Show, as he tossed balls of different sizes and weight to a willing volunteer.

Talento recruited additional 4th graders from an enthusiastic gathering to help him illustrate inertia, action-reaction and the scientific formula, $F=ma$ (Force = Mass times Acceleration). "Sir Isaac Newton had three special rules or laws of science," he explained.

The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia offers traveling shows covering a wide variety of scientific topics, including astronomy, energy, the human body and flight. The ALT PTO has sponsored visits by the Traveling Science Show for several years. This year's interactive assembly focused on the basic physics of motion.



(above) ALT 4th graders Dylan Sempervive and Victoria Dziasek demonstrate a scientific formula with the help of Joe Talento.

"LET US ENTERTAIN YOU!" AT THE WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER

"Let us entertain you. Let us make you smile."

The Watchung Arts Center presents "Let Us Entertain You! - A Musical Variety Show" on Saturday, February 27 at 8 PM. The concert, a fundraiser for the benefit of the Watchung Arts Center, will feature an array of performers of many ages, many styles, and many talents.

Coming from towns that include Watchung, Warren, North Plainfield, South Plainfield, Martinsville, Scotch Plains and South Orange, the performers scheduled to appear are The Eigen Experience (Kate, Jonathan, Richard and Marty Eigen); vocalist Kanttara; young jazz pianist Nathan Graham; vocal/piano duo Deborah and Gordon Rowan; another jazz piano prodigy, Leonieke Scheuble, with her father Nick on drums; and singer/songwriter Joe Higgins

The Watchung Arts Council was founded in 1978. It operates in a charming, 125-year-old building, part of which was the original schoolhouse for the village of Watchung.

The nonprofit, volunteer-run Center excels in cultivating an eclectic mix of professional and emerging artists in the performing and visual arts. Quality works in fine arts, exciting music, and comedy events are presented to enthusiastic audiences.

The WAC is unique in New Jersey due to the depth and variety of art experiences and educational opportunities that it offers.

The performance on February 27 offers an excellent opportunity to find out what the Watchung Arts Center is all about, while helping the Center to continue providing quality arts



experiences to residents of Watchung and the Central New Jersey area.

As with all performances at the Watchung Arts Center, the evening will include a dessert reception and an opportunity to meet the performers.

"So let us entertain you. And we'll have a real good time."

All tickets for this special event are \$15. Tickets can be purchased online at watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com, or by mailing a check to the Watchung Arts Center, 18 Stirling Rd, Watchung, NJ 08836. Tickets may also be purchased in person during the Center's office hours, Tues-Fri 12-5PM; Sat 10AM-3PM. For more information, please call 908-753-0190 or visit watchungarts.org

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Photo Credit: Mary Ann McGann

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WARREN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN A MOCK TRIAL

By: Mary Ann McGann, Warren Township Schools

Warren Middle School students received a real life lesson on the judicial system as they took part in a mock trial on Dec. 21 at the Warren Township Municipal Court, presided over by the Honorable Mark Adler.

Thirty-four 7th and 8th graders – who participate in the Enrichment Education (E2) program at the middle school – presented two civil cases before Judge Adler, who shared expert advice on courtroom procedures and the legal process.

Some of the students acted as prosecutors and defense attorneys in the courtroom, while others served as trial jurors or took the stand as witnesses in the two cases written by the E2 group. The first case focused on racial discrimination and was followed by arguments surrounding the issue of faulty vehicle seatbelts and the resulting death of a child.

"Our students receive a developmentally appropriate introduction to law through the mock trial process that culminates at the Warren

courthouse with a real life court experience under the guidance of Judge Adler," says E2 teacher Dr. Susan Cooper.

This early exposure to the justice system also helps the group as they create an original mock trial case this month to enter into the Law Adventure, a free educational mock trial competition held each May by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation (NJSBF). Warren Middle School E2 students have been among the contest's winners 6 times in previous years.



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May 21st
Mobus Field Noon – 3:00 pm (Rain Date May 22nd)

Movie Night

to be determined!

A HOT COCOA READING CHALLENGE

By: Mary Ann McGann, Warren Township Schools

First graders at Mount Horeb School celebrated a successful winter break Reading Challenge with a pajama party on Jan. 8.

"We have a special treat for you because you each read 100 minutes over the break," said Grade 1 teacher Rebecca Maag, as fellow teacher Denise Kennedy wheeled in a cart of homemade

hot cocoa. Each student was asked to read at least 10 minutes per day while completing a special page that depicted a mug of hot cocoa with "marshmallow" reading challenges, including "read to your stuffed animal," "read to learn something," "read under the table," and "read while wearing your mittens."



(above) First graders at Mt. Horeb School celebrate a successful winter break reading challenge.

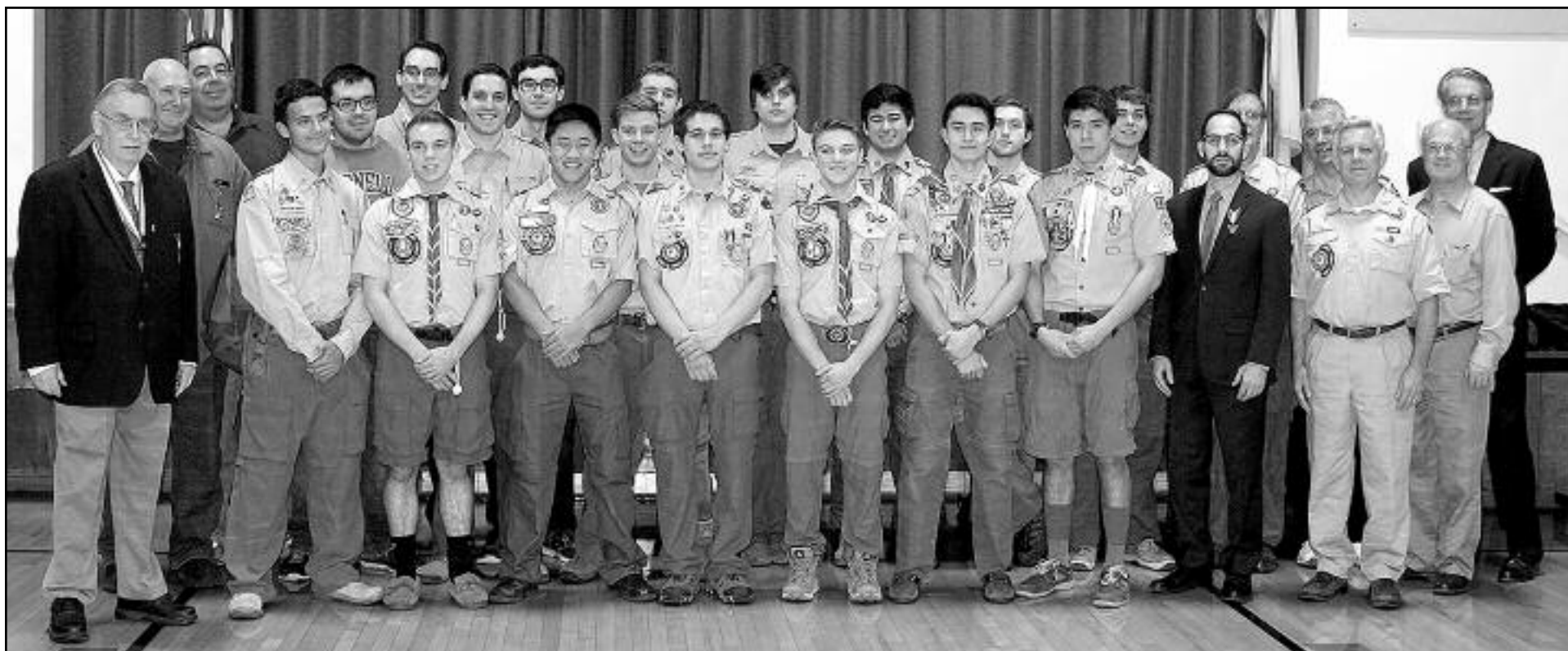
PHOTO CREDIT: Mary Ann McGann

BOY SCOUTS CELEBRATE DOUG REEDER AND WATCHUNG HILLS ELKS LODGE

Warren Boy Scouts Troop #228 celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2015, and we are proud of our 92 Eagles. We had invited our current and former Eagle scouts (2001-2015) to our Annual Holiday

Party on Dec. 21st for a photo with Doug Reeder from Watchung Hills Elks Lodge. The Watchung Hills Elks Lodge has been very supportive of our troops, giving money towards various Eagle

scout projects over the past few years and we greatly appreciate our relationship with them. Most of the Eagle scouts are away at college, and returned for the holiday break.



(above, l-r) Doug Reeder (Elks Lodge), John Wighton, Carlos Mosquera, John Fogarty, Matt Mosquera, William Wighton, Austin Cantone, Alex Warshauer, Dylan Mosquera, Andrew Tu, Josh Guerin, Robert Pilsbury, Jarrod Thompson, Ross Warlick, Andrew Cantone, Andrew Meisenbacher, Stephen Meisenbacher, Alex Duncan, Wesley Lukas, Steven Guerin, Nicholas Guarino, Mike Fogarty, Steven Trovato, Mike Cantone, Glenn Guerin & Peter Lukas.

ROLLER COASTER PHYSICS AND FUN

By: Mary Ann McGann, Warren Township Schools

Seventh graders in Mary Pat Brown's Innovation and Design class at Warren Middle School recently were faced with a unique challenge... to save the failing amusement park in Warren by designing and building a roller coaster guaranteed to boost revenue by coaxing thrill seekers back to the park.

The amusement park, of course, is fictional. But the assignment is very real. Students worked in pairs to draw a plan to scale, using a requisition form to calculate the cost of their paper roller coaster's framework and tracks.

Working within a "budget" of \$35, (the cost of a column, for example, was 50 cents while each stretch of track was \$1.00), the budding engineers were given certain construction and design criteria, then set free to figure out the right combination of fun and physics.

"We started here with straight red track to get the most kinetic energy possible," said 7th grader Hunter Miller, as she and Kaitlyn Loia presented their coaster to the class on Jan. 8.

According to "A Framework for K-12 Science Education," the foundation for the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) which New Jersey plans to officially implement next September in grades 6-12 and in grades K-5 the following year, "the practices of engineering have much in common with the practices of science, although engineering design has a different purpose and product than scientific inquiry."

Each of Brown's 7th grade teams took a turn demonstrating their roller coaster while classmates listened and critiqued, providing

positive feedback on ways to improve upon the design.

"The 7th Grade Paper Roller Coaster project is new curriculum that I developed and piloted during the 3rd (elective) cycle. The project was designed to challenge students as they used the Engineering Design Process," says Brown, about the series of steps engineers take to come up with a solution to a problem.



(above) Warren Middle School 7th graders Hunter Miller (L) and Kaitlyn Loia use a marble to test their paper roller coaster.

PHOTO CREDIT: Mary Ann McGann

ODE TO OUR COFFEE HOUSE

By Denis J. Kelly

Some 40 students, teachers and staff shared poems, musical performances and dance interpretations at a "Coffee House" on Thursday, Jan. 14, at Watchung Hills Regional High School.

To affect the sensation of being a 1960s era Coffee House, the stage area of the school's Performing Arts Center (PAC) was darkened and bathed in blue light. A smaller stage area was set up at one end of the stage, with its exposed bare-brick wall and metal studs as a backdrop.



(above, l-r) Among the students who attended and/or participated in the Coffee House are Freshman Cathleen Luo of Warren Township; Freshman Megan Vetter of Warren Township; Freshman Lola Constantino of Warren Township; Freshman Caroline Xiong of Warren Township; and Sophomore Amreeta Verma of Green Brook Township.

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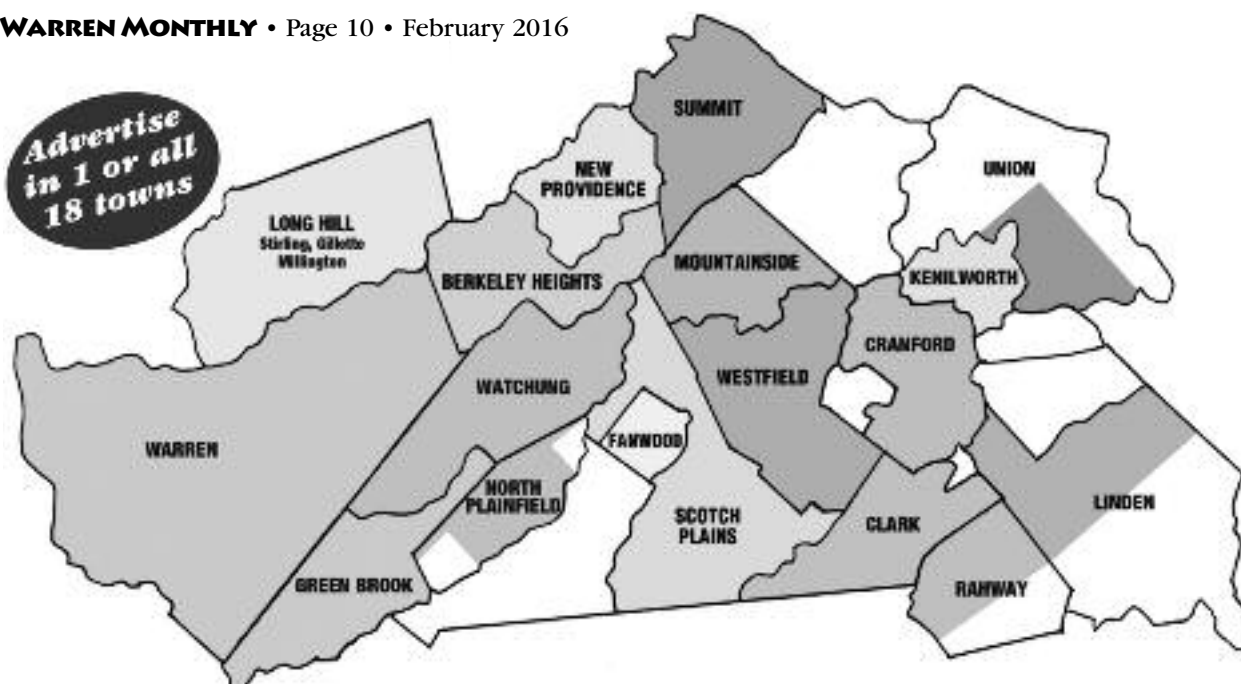
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BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES NEW SUPERINTENDENT

Submitted by Mary Ann McGann

The Warren Township Board of Education at its Jan. 19 meeting approved Matthew Mingle as the new superintendent of Warren Township Schools. Mingle, currently Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for Madison Public Schools, will begin his new position on July 1.

"Having spent most of my career in Somerset County, I was well aware of the excellent reputation of the Warren Township schools. The opportunity to join a community that believes in the power of a strong public school system is very exciting," says Mingle. "With so many great things already in place, I know there are high expectations for everyone involved and I can't wait to be a part of that energy."

Mingle began his career in education as a social studies teacher at Ridge High School in Bernards Township and later, in the Montgomery Township School District. In 2010, he became supervisor of social studies and the Reach program at Hillsborough Township Public Schools, a K-12 administrative position he held for three years.

The New Jersey native, who has lived in Somerset County for more than a decade, has a Bachelor of Arts in History Education, a Master of Science in Educational Administration and expects to receive his Ed.D in Teacher Leadership in May from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, where his research has focused on gifted education.

"We take great pride in appointing Matt Mingle to the position of Warren Township Superintendent," says Board president Tia Allocco. "Our decision was guided by the Leadership Profile which was generated by feedback from administrators, staff, and community members. Matt is a highly motivated professional with particular expertise in communication, curriculum development and classroom instruction."

As Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction in Madison, Mingle developed a five-year curriculum renewal plan, implemented a new professional development model, oversaw the implementation of new teacher/administrator evaluation systems and supervised PARCC testing while creating a monthly newsletter called

"A Walk in the PARCC" to communicate with staff and the community.

"I am proud of these efforts because they have opened an incredible dialogue not only in Madison but across the state," he says. The New Jersey Department of Education shares his PARCC newsletter via Twitter each month.

"Matt is a proven leader who has successfully implemented continuous improvement initiatives in high achieving districts," Allocco says. "The Board of Education has every confidence that working together with our staff and community, Matt will build on our many strengths and move us to new heights."

Mingle believes strongly in "the whole child as a fundamental guidepost in my educational world."

"Despite constant reform efforts, we know what works in public education," he says. "The Whole Child approach provides a framework and a name for what all educators know in their hearts – 'Each child, in each school, in each community is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged.' When that aim is the reality, students thrive. As a guidepost, the Whole Child provides a lens through which we can examine challenging situations and make critical decisions with the best interests of the children we serve in mind."

This means that "a narrow focus on academic achievement, especially when it is measured only by standardized test scores, is insufficient," Mingle adds. "Instead, we must think about the long-term development of children and how our educational system is preparing them to be good citizens."

Mingle holds leadership positions in several professional organizations, including as president-elect of the New Jersey chapter of ASCD, an international association devoted to professional development, educational leadership and innovative programs. He loves to travel, both as a chaperone for seven summers with the People to People Student Ambassador Program and on his own. And he's an avid supporter of marching bands.

"The day I was offered my first teaching job in May 2003, I asked the principal of Ridge High School to introduce me to the marching band director. Since that day, I have not gone a year



(above) Warren Township Board of Education president Tia Allocco welcomes Matthew Mingle as the district's new superintendent. Mingle will begin his new position on July 1.



without being involved with marching bands in New Jersey. I find the arts in general and marching band more specifically, provide the structure and commitment requirements needed for many adolescents to grow and develop as leaders and good citizens," says Mingle. "My career has rapidly taken me from the classroom to higher levels of district administration; however, I still love being active on the marching band field every fall."

Mingle succeeds Dr. Tami Crader, who resigned last July to accept a position as superintendent in the Neptune Township School District. In the interim, longtime administrator and educator Dr. Elizabeth Nastus has been serving as superintendent of Warren Township Schools.

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