

FEBRUARY 2016 SPOTLIGHT



To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others.

Tony Robbins



Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- ✓ Wednesday, February 10th – 7:00 PM PAC (Parent Advisory Council) Meeting
- ✓ Friday/Monday, February 12th/15th - **School Closed** – Presidents' Weekend
- ✓ Wednesday, February 17th – 8:00 PM EFLS Meeting – Point Rd. School
- ✓ Tuesday, February 23rd – 7:30 PM PTO Meeting – Markham Place
- ✓ Thursday, February 25th – 7:00 PM Board of Education Meeting

Little Silver Celebrated the International Day of Acceptance

Annie Hopkins (1984-2009) founded **3E Love** to make the world a better place by **embracing, educating** and **empowering** people of all abilities. Ms. Hopkins, a disabled person herself, created the **International Symbol of Acceptance**, a **wheel chair in the shape of a heart**. The Little Silver School District commemorated the day on January 20th by spreading the message of Annie Hopkins.



Markham Place Student Achievement

Can you spell **h-e-g-e-m-o-n-y**? Sixth grader Riley Flanagan spelled her way to **First Place** in the Markham Place Spelling Bee. Runner-up Finn Gourlie was tough competition but Riley won the title and will move on to the Asbury Park Press/Home News Tribune Spelling Bee at Monmouth University on March 14th.

Kim Christman



How adept are you at identifying geographic locations around the world? Seventh Grade student Jack Dengler is very good as he edged out Natalie Hawthorn (Sixth Grade) for the Markham Place Geography Bee title. Jack will be taking an online test created by the National Geographic Society to determine whether he will be a contestant in the NJ State Bee held in April at Rowan University. Good luck Jack!

Moira Largiader

Student Council Promotes Philanthropy



Money raised from the Markham Place Student Council Pretzel sale was donated to the Monmouth County SPCA. Three of the officers, Kyle Weisman, Drew Valentino and Claudia Kelly are pictured packing up the pretzels.



**Little Silver was Deemed a
HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOL DISTRICT
by the State of New Jersey**

All public schools are required to undergo compliance monitoring. The annual requirements regarding the New Jersey Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) require that the district complete a Statement of Assurance (SOA) that reflects compliance in five areas: 1. Instruction and Program; 2. Fiscal Management; 3. Governance; 4. Operations; and 5. Personnel. In addition, after every third year, the district undergoes onsite monitoring. The State of NJ recently created a differentiated approach to monitoring. After discussing the Statement of Assurance at the October 22, 2015 BOE meeting, the district submitted the documents to the State of NJ. After review of our documents, the State informed Little Silver that due to our **High Performing** status coupled with our successful completion of the SOA, Little Silver met the criteria for pursuing a **QSAC Equivalency Waiver** which would free the district from onsite monitoring for 2016. During the January 28th BOE meeting, the Board adopted a resolution supporting the proposed Equivalency Application.

Due to the ongoing, collective efforts of the Little Silver staff and Board of Education as well as the support of the community, Little Silver is proud of our instructional programs, the teachers who deliver those programs, the fiscal management of the district, the policies and regulations that guide district decisions, and all administrators and support staff who ensure that the daily operations of the district meet the needs of our students.

Markham Cares Day

January 28th marked the 7th Annual Markham Cares Day. The focus of the event is to promote **Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy and Self-control (CARES)** among 6th graders. Several organizations including: the Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Foundation, Holiday Express, Bridge of Books Foundation, HABcore, and Disabled Sports USA made presentations during the day which spoke to students about the attributes of **CARES** and discussed the work their organizations do. Students also assembled care packages for US troops stationed overseas. **Special thanks to the Little Silver PTO** for all of their hard work with the organization of this meaningful day for our students!

Celebrate 21 Years of EFLS

Mark your calendars for **March 4th** to help celebrate the Education Foundation of Little Silver's 21st birthday. One of the primary goals of the Foundation is to enrich and support technology and other educational programs for students in the Little Silver School district. With the proceeds from this one special night, the Foundation generates 99% of its donations to the school! Please visit <http://efls.org> to learn how you can support the EFLS and the Little Silver School district.

Fundraising efforts take many forms. **Student Art** is auctioned annually. Little Silver art collectors will not be disappointed this year! This year's collectables run the gamut from a unique **Puzzle**, with individual puzzle pieces designed in sharpie and painted using watercolor; **The Mantras** – a sixth grade project using three-word mantras with digital color for letters; an **Andy Warhol inspired project** whereby 7th grade students combined selfies and pop art using a google photo editing app to create their colorful portraits are just a few of the masterpieces up for auction.



Partnership with Parents



The New Jersey Department of Education created a **Toolkit of Assessment Resources for Parents** to help explain to parents the value of annual assessments. For valuable resources please visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/toolkit/> The toolkits are intended to enhance critical academic communications between home and school