



Board of Education Recognitions

November 2025

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
William McNamee Delia Bolden Elementary School	Delia Bolden Elementary first-grader William McNamee has been selected for the NJPAC Fall Exhibit for the second year in a row, an impressive honor earned through the Art Educators of New Jersey competition. His first-grade landscape will be displayed alongside artwork from students across the state, following last year's selection of his kindergarten circle piece. The community is invited to celebrate the young artists at the NJPAC Fall Exhibit reception on Sunday, December 7 in the Victoria Theater Lobby.
Montrose ECC	Students at Montrose Early Childhood Center took on an exciting task this month that resembled real-life elections: choosing names for the school's two giraffe mascots, inspired by the building's beloved giraffe emblem. Each class shared creative ideas before voting for their favorites, giving students a chance to practice real decision-making together. After all the votes were counted, the winning names Peanut Butter and Jelly were announced to lots of cheers.

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Our Town Achieve Foundation	Many Maplewood and South Orange students, staff members, and community members came together on November 16 to perform “Our Town” at Columbia High School. The show also raised support for the Achieve Foundation’s student programs, tutoring, and classroom grants. The cast included CHS students and alumni, district educators, and local residents, creating a true community production. Great work to everyone who was involved.
CHS Cross Country Columbia High School	Columbia High School congratulates its boys cross-country program for sweeping the varsity, junior varsity, and freshman divisions at the Essex County SEC championships, along with the girls teams for earning top finishes of their own. The district commends all CHS runners and coaches for their consistent effort, strong results, and positive representation of the Maplewood and South Orange community.
Ms. Jessica Cavagnaro Delia Bolden Elementary School	Delia Bolden Elementary teacher Ms. Cavagnaro has been selected as one of only 50 educators nationwide for the 2026 NEA Foundation Global Learning Fellowship. This yearlong program helps teachers build global skills through workshops, mentoring, and an international field study. Mrs. Cavagnaro is excited to represent SOMSD and hopes her experience inspires other teachers to explore similar opportunities.