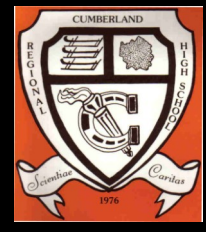


# CRSD COLT COURIER

## WINTER, 2010



## Student and Staff Recognition

### Colt Citizens February 2010



Congratulations to Allie Horowitz, Chris Rose, Teayera Howell and Gordon Pierce for their selection as Colt Citizens of the Month for February.

Allie was recognized for her volunteer service. She gave up two evenings to participate in the Grade Eight Orientation Program.

Chris Rose was recognized for his honesty when he found a class ring in school and returned it to a teacher so the rightful owner could be located and have the ring returned to them.

Teayera Howell was recognized for her positive interactions with fellow students and her positive attitude and mutual respect for others.

Our final recipient of the Colt Citizen of the month award is Gordon Pierce for his accomplishments in English class.

Congratulations to Allie, Chris, Teayera and Gordon.



### UPPER CLASSMEN VISIT SENDING DISTRICTS

As part of our grade eight orientation program, students from the High School went back to their elementary schools to talk with incoming eighth graders. Having this familiarity with former graduates of the elementary school enabled present eighth graders to ask questions about the High School to familiar faces. Participating were:

Gentlemen left to right: Jordan Pierce, Keith Karol, Mohammad Ahmad  
Ladies left to right: Allyson Horowitz, Cebreice Edwards, Heather Bone



Congratulations to Mrs. Maureen Davis for her presentation on Classroom Close-up. The presentation was a showcase of best practices occurring in New Jersey classrooms.

Congratulations to Ms. Jeanne Sikorsky for her selection into the South Jersey Coaches Hall of Fame. Ms. Sikorsky's induction ceremony took place on March 3, 2010. A Brief Bio of Ms. Sikorsky's accomplishments is below:

- Attended West Chester University and the College of New Jersey
- Coached 27 years at Cumberland Regional Field Hockey
- New Jersey Coaches Hall of Fame
- South Jersey Coaches Hall of Fame
- Cumberland Regional Hall of Fame
- Group III State Championship—2000

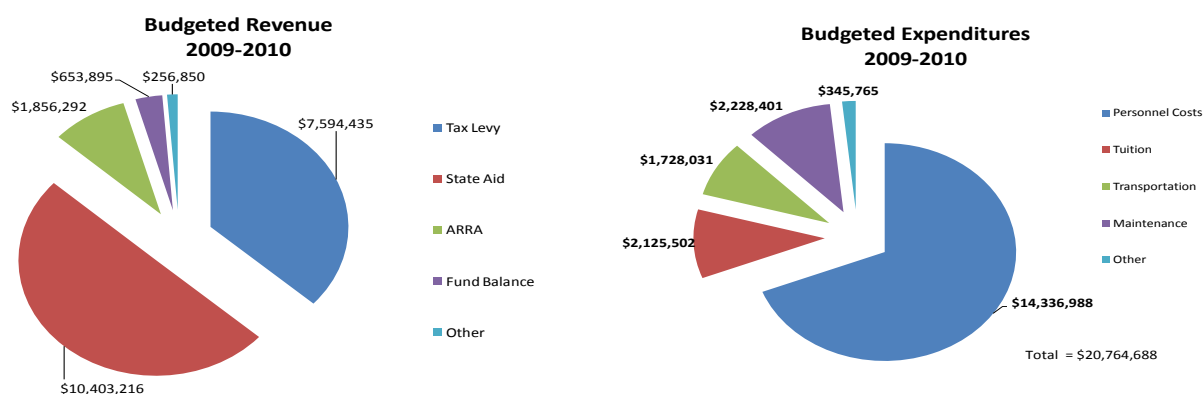




# Cumberland Regional School District

## Budget Update

The Board of Education has been engaged since the fall in building its budget for the upcoming 2010-11 year. In doing so, it has involved stakeholders from the community, its bargaining units and other groups with an interest in addressing a potential \$2,000,000 shortfall in the upcoming year. This potential shortfall stems from the use of Federal Recovery (ARRA) funding to replace state aid in the 2009-10 budget which will not be available in the upcoming year. We will not have any definitive word on how the State will deal with this problem, or what our state aid will be until the Governor delivers his budget speech on March 16. In this uncertain time, we have been planning for the worst and hoping for the best. We appreciate the support and understanding of the whole CRSD community while we bring this process to its conclusion at the end of March. Please visit our website [www.crhsd.org](http://www.crhsd.org) for up-to-date information regarding the budget. The charts below identify the revenue sources and expenditures of the CRSD budget. There will be a public hearing April 1 where the results of the process will be available for discussion.



## State Aid and ARRA Funding

- Our Total General Fund Budget for 2009-10 is \$20,764,688 – Entire Circle
- CRSD State Aid = \$12,192,050 (58.7% of Budget)
- State Aid Replaced by Federal Recovery Act funds (ARRA) - \$1,856,292
  - This represents 9% of the total budget
  - This represents 15.2% of State Aid
  - ARRA funding was for 1 year only
- From all indications, it is unlikely the State will be able to replace ARRA funding.
- Due to increases in mandated and contractual costs, we need to “find” approximately \$2,000,000 of new funding, OR reduce costs by \$2,000,000.

## MODEL CONGRESS

On February 18 and 19, 2010, 23 CRSD students participated in a simulation of the law making process of our government during Model Congress. Vincent Sparacio and Tali DeJesus were awarded Best Delegates for their Committees. Nicole Smith & Jessica Bramante got their bill passed by both the Senate and House. Abby Freitag and Kelsey Bayzick were Chairpersons. The following were Party Leaders: Jessica Bramante, Nicole Smith, Tom Morris, Chris Zanni and Zach Rollins.

## Advisory Program – The Freshman Seminar Experience

Mr. Johnson and Mr. McGraw have assembled a committee consisting of teachers, administrators, a guidance counselor and a parent with the goal of developing a new course called the “Freshmen Seminar.”

This program is projected for implementation in the 2010-2011 school year. The course will be mandatory for an identified target group of in-coming freshmen that have scored in the Partially Proficient Range on the ASK 8 test in English & Math. A daily mentoring program (with senior student mentors) will be a major component of this course with the aim of reinforcing instructional goals and objectives. The curriculum will be focused on promoting life application skills, attitudes and behaviors that are deemed most essential for academic and personal success for these academically at-risk freshmen students. Similar courses have been established in several schools in the South Jersey area, such as Lindenwold High school. The goal of the committee is to research these programs and to implement a course with very similar framework. With this goal in mind, the committee has visited Lindenwold High School periodically this school year (once a month) for training and professional development. The curriculum that we are implementing involves:

- **A Student Orientation during the summer** – Which provides the students with agenda books/ notebook check information & activities throughout the year
- **Study Skills** – Which reinforces study skills such as Cornell Note Taking, Goal Setting, etc.
- **Organizational Skills** – Such as: Agenda & Notebook checks - we will be using “7 Habits of Effective Teens” as the course textbook
- **Cooperative Learning Skills** – Such as: Group Problem-Solving, Low Ropes, Peer Mediation, Cooperative Learning Skills and Service Learning
- **Character Education** – Involving the “Ten Pillars of Character,” Hometown Heroes, Journal Reflections and the Ben Franklin program.
- **Service Learning** – Which requires Fall Community Service projects and a Spring Service Learning Project.

The class will be offered for this identified group of academically at-risk students. The goal is to have two to three classes of 15 students with three senior mentors per class. Each senior will be assigned a group of five freshmen and will perform daily organizational checks, weekly conferences, notebook checks and positive relationship building. There will be a variety of different criteria that will be analyzed Throughout the school year to determine effectiveness of this mentoring program.

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## Freshmen Transition Program

The Freshmen Transition Program is having a very successful second year. We have completed our district visitations, which have allowed us to present Cumberland Regional High School to our incoming ninth graders in a very positive light. The student ambassadors spoke eloquently but realistically about what the first year of high school is really like. It looks like we are going to have a bright and talented group of freshman next year.

This year's group has also made a positive impact on the school community. Discipline referrals have been reduced, tardies have decreased and the student's attendance and grades during the first semester have improved regularly. The cohort teachers have expressed their enthusiasm for what their students have been able to achieve so far this school year.

It seems that the students are benefitting from having a guidance counselor that is able to focus all her energies on the success of this class. Ms. Beckwith meets with each student at least two or three times so that they have every opportunity to achieve success. Ms. Beckwith also conducts monthly focus lessons that target the entire freshman class in a very direct way, yielding results that extend into their classroom setting.

Next year, we hope to add to the success of the program by expanding our cohort classes to include math and science. Incorporating these core subjects into the cohort curriculum will allow all of our students to achieve success in a more diversified way. Our teachers will be able to more freely share strategies and lesson planning in a collaborative effort since they will now share the same class of students.

We look forward to the completion of our second year and anticipate a bright future for our current and future freshmen.

## Mock Trial

Mock Trial is conducted by the NJ Bar Association. Each school has an attorney assigned to them by the County Bar Association to give guidance/advice. Our attorneys were Leslie Snock and Chrissy Aiello from the Prosecutor's Office. Matt Binghampton was the attorney who ran the program for our county. Vineland, Millville, Bridgeton and CRSD all participated.

The CRSD team consisted of 10 members (2 prosecuting attorneys, 2 defense attorneys, plus three witnesses for each side). The Bar Assoc.

gives each school a case with stipulated facts plus six witness affidavits and exhibits. The student attorneys make up questions, opening statements and closing arguments based on the affidavits and exhibits.

This year's case was State vs. Loren Perry. The defendants were accused of kidnapping their boss' child because they did not get an advancement in position at their firm.

CRSD Mock Trial Team competed against Millville winning both the prosecution and defense teams from Millville. On day two, CRSD went

against Vineland winning against their defense team but losing to their prosecution team. Vineland won the county championship.

CRSD Team Members included:

Prosecuting Attorneys: Allison Gaines, Jenniedale McCormick; Defense Attorneys: Chris Davis, Vincent Sparacio; Witnesses: Kelsey Bayzick, Neftali De Jesus, Freddie Neal, Tristan Kernan, Michael Marino, Taryn Rosetti

## COLT COURIER WINTER SPORTS REVIEW

**Summary**— The Winter Teams demonstrated wholesome levels of sportsmanship, energy and success. We honor their levels of achievement. Special thanks to the BOE, parents, coaches and student-athletes for their commitment and devotion to our athletic program.



**Boys Basketball** – Jason Ceresini, Alex Williams and Tim Homan – coaches/overall record 14-9. The team was led by a group of seniors including Jimmie Willis, Steve Butts, Keith Karol, Eugene Bard, James Brown and Brejhan Doss. The team was able to accomplish two goals: be competitive in every game and qualify for the State Tournament. This was accomplished by many hours of hard work and the cohesiveness of playing together throughout the summer and fall. The next step for this group is to continue the efforts they have given all season to make a competitive run through the South Jersey Group III Playoffs. This group of highly talented seniors will be missed.



**Girls Basketball** – Otto Steigerwalt, Dan McDermott and Sandy Weed – coaches/overall record 9-12. The Girls Basketball team reached two plateaus this season. Congratulations to Otto Steigerwalt for getting his 100<sup>th</sup> win and Sophomore, Lauren Whelan, for scoring 500 points in the 42<sup>nd</sup> game of her career (Woodstown). Seniors, Allison Read (Manager), Mark Fogg (Manager), Jacobi Durham-Pierce, Shelby Weiss, Nicolette Pizzo and Jamie Matlock will be missed. The girls team will participate in the South Jersey Group III Playoffs.

**Boys Swimming & Diving** – Kristine Coxe – coach/overall record 6-8. The Boys Swim team is rebuilding with skilled and talented swimmers. The team was led by Senior Bradly Hawkins. The boys team had 10 Varsity letter winners, many of whom are 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year letter winners. The future is looking bright for the boys swim team. Thanks to Martin Carbone for a very successful season (Diver). Martin placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Sectionals.

**Girls Swimming** – Catherine Muhlbaier – coach/overall record 7-5. The Girls Swim team enjoyed a prosperous season. Winning their first meet against Kingsway by 13 points, the girls went on to collect 7 wins and 5 losses over the course of the season. In division, the girls maintained a .500 record, with 4 wins and 4 losses. Overall, the girls team achieved a record number of wins in one season. The girls participated in the NJSIAA Playoffs.

**Wrestling** – Carmine Davis, John VandeZilver and Joe Sparacio – coaches/overall record 8-9. The Wrestling team competed in the District 31 Championships, which was held at Delsea Regional. Placing for the Colts were Steven Paul (3<sup>rd</sup>), Robert Elliott (District 31 Champ), Mahalo Camba (3 time District 31 Champ, currently ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the state. Remains undefeated 25-0). For the first time in school history, we have 2 District Champs in 1 season. Mahalo Camba record was 22-0 (215) and Robert Elliott's as 22-3 (145).



**Boys Winter Track** – Jamie Bagley - coach. The track team completed an outstanding season. For the first time, the TCC conducted an indoor Showcase Meet. Our team performed very well with outstanding effort by our athletes. Shot Put Champion, Dontay Kearney, threw a personal best of 50'9". We also finished very well in the Sprints and Hurdles. Our boys missed winning the South Jersey Sectional Championship by 2 points. Denzel Dunns was the SJ Group III Champ in the 55 meter dash. Ashton Dawkins took 6<sup>th</sup> place in the high jump qualifying for the State Championships. Boys Winter Track team finished 6<sup>th</sup> at the State Group III Championships last Saturday. Three of the athletes qualified for the Meet of Champions: Denzel Dunns – 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 55 dash, Vic Nichols – 4<sup>th</sup> in the 55 dash, Holland Sherrer – 4<sup>th</sup> in the 800m.



**Girls Winter Track** – Michelle Hoxworth – coach. The track team completed a successful season. For the first time, the team had 50 females to compete during the winter season. The student-athletes thrived at practice and continued to show improvement. The team performed well in various meets. Outstanding efforts by the Sprint Medley Team – 1<sup>st</sup> place: Khaliah Andfield (400m), Chezarae Jones (200m), Amber Henry (200m), and Chanelle Cross (800m). Destiny Price placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 55 meter and Chazmine Mosley placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Shotput.

**Cheerleading** – Melissa Kellen and Jessica Weinstein – coaches. As we reach the end of another Basketball season, the girls worked well together as a team with a group bonding activity by making tie-dyed shirts for the last Coaches vs. Cancer game. Seniors Katie Cline, Morgan Mooneyham, Amanda McCormick and Ryan West will be missed.

