

THE BEAT



The official publication of the Belleville Education Association

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Recognized state and district wide, these teachers earn the honor by their outstanding efforts this year!

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President Mike offers thoughts and words of encouragement for continued success in unity.

Feature on the Arts

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Good News!

Read exciting news from our BEA members!

Lesson Spotlight

Lori from School #8 shares a hands-on science lesson: 5th grade Straw Kazoo.

Teacher Tips

Visit this section for effective teaching tips that can enhance our profession.

Recipe Corner

Quick and easy recipes submitted by our members for all to enjoy!



Belleville Education Association Member Recognized and Honored by the State Association

“Always follow your dreams. Never be discouraged. Most importantly, **ALWAYS PLACE YOUR STUDENTS FIRST!**” These emotionally charged words, spoken by Ms. Deborah Strano, exemplify her as an esteemed teacher in the Belleville School district. This year, her efforts were recognized statewide: The *New Jersey Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance* (NJAPERD) named Ms. Strano the *Driver Education Teacher of the Year*. Ms. Strano is the first teacher in the history of the state of New Jersey to receive this specific award.

She accepted her award at the NJAPERD Awards Banquet on February 21st, 2016, at the Ocean Place Resort & Spa in Long Branch, NJ. This award recognizes teachers that conduct high quality driver education programs as reflected in NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards. Such





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BEA Brothers and Sisters,

It is a challenging time to be in the field of Education. Each year, we are required to do more and more for less and less. Somehow, someway we make it work without jeopardizing the education of our Belleville children.

I urge you all to reflect on why you entered the world of education. It wasn't about the glory or recognition. We chose this profession because we knew that shaping the minds of the future is the single most, greatest contribution anyone can make to society.

Teachers and Education Professionals are the soul of any educational community. Our family extends to each and every child that passes through our classroom or office, plays on our team, performs in our school's events and walks our hallways. We play a critical part in the development of our children and their integration into our community. Never doubt your decision to teach and count each day as a Blessing.

Still, we must continue the fight to uphold an education system that protects the welfare of our children and respects the rights of its professionals. We cannot depend on our politicians for support or assume the public is privy to the various matters of education. We must take every opportunity to talk to friends, family and neighbors about controversial educational issues. We must take the initiative to band together with our community to assist them in taking ownership of the educational needs of Belleville children. It is our children's education that is at stake and our responsibility to be the voice for them.

Now, more than ever, stand strong for educational ideals. Stay united with your Union family. Together we will win the fight for our Public Schools.

In Unity,

Michael Mignone

special teachers utilize driver education content specific programs to enhance community safe driving behaviors. In addition, they apply various teaching methodologies and plan innovative learning experiences to meet the needs of all students. They serve as positive role models for school and community encouraging and sharing safe driving behaviors and laws. As exemplary teachers, seeking to further their education, they regularly participate in professional development opportunities and provide service to the profession through leadership, presentations and/or writing.

Deborah Strano is currently employed as a Driver Education instructor at Belleville High School. Prior to becoming a teacher, Ms. Strano was an Insurance Claims Representative with Fireman's Fund and CNA Insurance Company. Ms. Strano investigated, evaluated, negotiated, and settled bodily injury claims due to motor vehicle accidents. Prior to becoming an Insurance Adjustor, she was a Police Officer investigating motor vehicle accidents, first hand, as a direct result of drinking and driving and distracted drivers. Ms. Strano prepared a Mock Motor Vehicle Accident with a student to demonstrate an actual collision. The Belleville Fire and Police Departments demonstrated a live motor vehicle accident scenario including transport by the Belleville EMS Squad and an arrest for drinking and driving and texting and driving. The community embraced the project and worked together to send a powerful message to the students of Belleville High School.

Currently, Ms. Strano is collaborating on a Public Service Announcement, sponsored by Toyota and Discovery Education, for the Teen Driver 365 Video Challenge promoting safe teen driving practices.

*Please join us in congratulating
Ms. Strano on this outstanding achievement!*

Information adapted from biography and press release by:
Jackie Malaska 732-918-9999 NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION
FOR HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION,
RECREATION AND DANCE



Pictured:

Belleville students' artwork is displayed at Essex County's PRIDE Expo, at the Livingston Mall in March, 2016.

Congratulations to our Governor’s Teachers of the Year

School #3	Suzanne DiGiovanni, Teacher	Elizabeth Spirito, Educational Services Professional
School #4	Paula Metz, Teacher	Mariann Moran, Educational Services Professional
School #5	Heather Soehngen, Teacher	Marianne Ross, Educational Services Professional
School #7	Jacqueline Frantantoni, Teacher	Brenda Pacheco, Educational Services Professional
School #8	Joanne DeVito, Teacher	Jennifer Alvarez, Educational Services Professional
School #9	Elaine Hudak, Teacher	Janice Ferraro
School #10	Charles Moran, Teacher	Janice Ferraro
Middle School	Lauren Fazio, Teacher	
High School	Michael Bardt, Teacher	Gena Dubuque, Educational Services Professional

Art Appreciation

by Joanne DeFlorio and Michelle Sherrill

As a teacher of art, I frequent museums as a form of entertainment and wish to share these experiences with you.

Across the Hudson, the **Whitney Museum of American Art** maintains one of the world's foremost collections of 20th-century American art.

This winter I visited the *Frank Stella Retrospective*, one of the most important living American artists. This retrospective is the most comprehensive presentation of Stella’s career to date, showcasing his prolific output from the mid-1950s to the present through approximately 100 works, including paintings, reliefs, maquettes, sculptures, and drawings.



GOOD NEWS from our BEA members!

Angela Salinger says...

"My husband, Rusty, and I will be married 40 years this spring... My son James will be competing in this years Special Olympics Track and Field this spring. Last year he placed first in the 100 meter dash."

Yailin Ramires says...

"I'm happy to announce the birth of my daughter, Sofia Maria Ramires. She was born on January 28th, 2016, weighing in at 8 pounds and 19.25 inches."

Andria Cheney says...

"She's a precious little angel sent from above, wrapped in pink and surrounded by love. Our baby girl has arrived! Stella Jaye Lewis. February 12, 2016, 7 lbs. 15 oz., and 21 inches."

Rossella DiPopolo says...

"I'm pleased to announce that my fiancé, Wagner Mateo, and I are getting married in August of 2016. Our engagement occurred in Mitad Del Mundo in Ecuador."

Peter Ayala says...

"My daughter, Amanda, verballed to play softball for the University of Tennessee. Go Lady Vols!"

If you have any news such as birth announcements, engagements, weddings, memorials, birthdays, new home purchases, or anything you would like to share, please email dias72@aol.com to be included in an upcoming issue!

Also on display this winter was the work of Archibald Motley who was a bold and highly original modernist and one of the great visual chroniclers of twentieth-century American life. He first came to prominence in the 1920s during the early days of the Harlem Renaissance.



While in the city don't miss the **Neue Gallery** on 84th St. and 5th Avenue, a German and Austrian museum of art and design. If you have seen the movie the *Women in Gold* this is where you can see the painting *Adele* by Gustave Klimt it in all its glory, and it truly is.

The **Museum of Modern Art** was described by its first director as a torpedo moving through time. Since opening in 1929, MoMA has secured its place as a pioneer collector and exhibitor of modern art-from 19th-century Post-Impressionism to contemporary installations. MoMA's collection includes painting, sculpture, drawings, prints, photography, film, architecture and design.

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The collections explore the special relationship that existed between the fine arts of Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele,



Oskar Kokoschka, Richard Gerstl and Alfred Kubin and the decorative arts created by such figures as Josef Hoffmann, Koloman Moser and Dagobert Peche, and by such architects as Adolf Loos, Joseph Urban and Otto Wagner.

Perhaps no word describes the **Metropolitan Museum of Art** as well as "encyclopedic." With nearly 3,000,000 works in its vaults that span 5,000 years, the museum can display only a fraction at a time.

There's the modern art section, Medieval art, Asian art, Near Eastern art, Greek, Roman, and Egyptian galleries. Friday after 4:00 entrance is free.

Further south in our state is the **Navesink Lighthouse, Twin Lights**, at the highest natural point along New Jersey's 127-mile Atlantic Coast. A new exhibit there is called *Seeing Stars*, but it has nothing to do with celestial navigation. It's about the American flag, in all its iconic splendor, and organizers hope it will rightfully elevate Twin Lights to be a must-see Jersey Shore attraction, stop in next time you're in the Highlands.



LESSON SPOTLIGHT - "Straw Kazoo" for 5th Grade Science

NJCCCS Science (2009) Physical Science:

5.1.4.A.1, 5.1.4.D.1, 5.1.4.B.2, 5.1.4.B.4, 5.2.4.C.a, 5.2.6.C.1-2, 5.2.8.C.2
 NGSS: Develop a model of waves to describe patterns in terms of amplitude & wavelength, and that waves cause objects to move. PS4.A

Objectives:

- identify the different pitches created by a straw kazoo
- describe how to change the pitch of a sound
- give an example of how engineers use pitch & frequency in the design of a new product

Materials Needed: scissors, straw for each student

Teacher Cost: \$1.00 for a box of straws from any dollar store

Procedure:

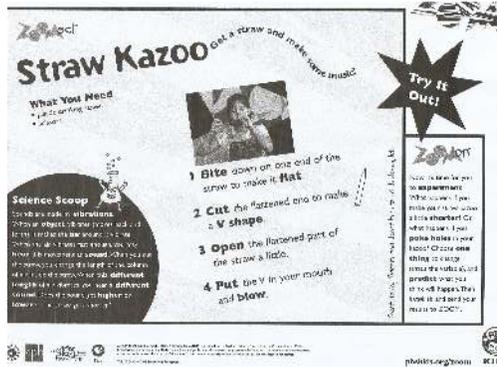
1. Flatten end of straw by biting it.
2. Cut the flattened end of straw to a point. (v shaped)
3. Put that side of straw into mouth, blow into straw, listen for sound
4. Cut a piece off the end of straw to make it shorter, repeat #3.
5. Observe the change in pitch as the kazoo is shortened.
6. Discuss observations with students.

Conclusions:

The shorter the straw, the higher the pitch. The straw kazoo produces a higher pitch when it's shorter because shorter wavelengths are being produced.

Activity Extensions:

- Have students line up in order of pitch, then graph the length of the straw vs. pitch
- Let students make small groups to make a song with their straw



TEACHER TIPS!

Data Driven Discussions!
Questions that Promote Teacher Thinking

Questions that promote teacher thinking are open-ended ; there is not one correct answer.

They are not leading, accusatory, or noseey. We ask these questions to...

- initiate a discussion and keep discussions on track
- focus on new concepts or a different aspect of a concept
- facilitate flexible thinking
- challenge the obvious
- break down complex tasks and issues
- consolidate previous discussions and experiences

Questions starters:

- What do you need to do next?
- Based on what you know, what can you predict about...?
- Does what... said make you think differently about...?
- How do you decide...?
- How does... tie in with what we have discussed before?
- Suppose... what then?
- How does this match what you thought you knew?
- What might happen if...?
- When have you done something like this before?
- What sort of impact do you think...?
- How would you feel if...?
- How did you come to that conclusion?
- How about...? What if...?
- Tell me what you mean when you...
- What do you think causes...?
- When is another time you need to...?
- What do you think the variables/ issues/ problems are?
- What were you thinking when...?
- Can you think of another way you could do this?
- Why is this one better than that one?
- How can you find out?
- How is... different (like)...?
- What have you heard about...?
- Can you tell me more?
- What else do you see?
- How does that compare with...?

RECIPE CORNER

"Good Day" Pot Roast

- 3-4 lb. eye of round roast
- 1/4 C flour
- 2 T vegetable oil
- 1/2 C Low Sodium Soy Sauce
- 1/2 C Red wine
- 1/2 C water
- 1/2 C chopped onion

Instructions: Coat beef with flour; brown slowly in hot oil in Dutch oven. Add onion and cook until translucent. Drain any excess oil. Combine soy sauce, wine, and water. Add to beef and onion. Cover and simmer about 2 hrs. Check periodically and add water if necessary.

For gravy: Combine flour and water. Add to wine mixture, and cook until thickened.

Serve with mashed potatoes, egg noodles or rice. Serves 4-6

Elaine Hudak, School # 9





Execs/Chairs/AR List - 2015-2016



School #3:

Andria Cheney
(Exec./Membership
Chair)

Cindy Mizejewski
Melinda Troise
Wendy Colletti
Sue DiGiovanni

School #4:

Michael Dias
(Communications
Chair)

Rosanne Lambrugo

School #5:

Cathy Parisi
(Executive Secretary)

Erin Rudnicki-Perri
Chrissy Romano

School #7:

Linda Adamo
MaryEllen Burns

School #8:

Alaina Chip
(Executive VP)

Scott Fabian
Jennifer Alvarez
David Muller
Mary Beth Dimone

School #9:

Anne B. Monahan
Rebecca Rotino

School #10:

Lynne Pedalino

Middle School:

Mike Mignone
(President)

Kara Suttora
(PR&R)

Peter Ayala
(Treasurer)

John Calabrese
Robert Silvera
Thomas Colli
Joe DeFlorio
Caterina Viscomi
Marie Coyle

High School:

Jimmy Russomanno
(Social Chair & High
School Liaison)

Pete Blodnik
(Pride Chair/ECEA/
Negotiations)

Laura Curran
(PD/Scholarship)

Christine Hurta
(Disability/Leaves/
Scholarship)

Deanna Arena
(BVOTE)
(Legislative Chair/
CPC)

Deanna DeGraff
(Elections Chair)

Joette Nigro
Bill Pereira
Anita Yahalom
Rob Rubinson
Mark Goodman
Joanne DeFlorio

Other Chairs: (not ARs)

Jane Holzman
(Pension Co-Chair)

Tammy Retkwa
(Pension Co Chair)

Jane Sestillio
(Evaluation Comm.
Chair)

Lauren Fazio
(Webmaster)

The BEA Retirement
Dinner is Thursday
evening June 9th @7pm.
Hope to see you there!

**The BEAT is an official
publication of the Belleville
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School # 9

The BEAT publishes seasonally via
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attained for future issues. Please
email Michael Dias with any inquiries
or ideas.

If you have any news such as birth
announcements, engagements,
weddings, memorials, birthdays, new
home purchases, or anything you
would like to share, please email
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upcoming issue!