

HIB - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
2012-2013

- Facilitated Staff In-Service Training on NJ Anti-Bullying Law/Policies/Procedures.
- Facilitated Training for All Students on NJ Anti-Bullying Law/Policies/Procedures.
- Respect Week: Challenged Mr. Kelly's class to develop public service announcements (PSA) on anti-bullying; PSAs were developed, filmed and broadcasted on Channel 77 for the community. PSAs were entered into a film contest in Essex County; NHS won Top Anti-Bullying PSA.
- "Tom's Story," a PSA developed by students last year, was honored at a conference and earned the Best Documentary PSA Award for its anti-bullying message.
- GSA, Gay Straight Alliance, facilitated a "Chain of Respect" in which students and staff participated in sending positive messages to others on "links" of paper. These links were then developed into a chain to demonstrate the bond of kindness in the high school. This chain was displayed around the main office throughout the year.
- GSA held a "Stand Up to Bullying Day" in which students and staff wore shirts to demonstrate their unity in anti-bullying efforts.
- GSA held a candlelit vigil to honor Matthew Shepard and the lives of other people who lost their lives to bullying. In addition, they hosted a chalk walk in which the beautiful messages and artwork of students was honored outside of the high school during October, to remind students the importance of respect and kindness.
- A District-wide parent program called "What It Takes to Raise a Healthy Teenager," was facilitated by Mr. Cappello and Mrs. Cassilli. This workshop included mood disorders, substance abuse, healthy relationships, and anti-bullying prevention, as well as HIB laws and procedures.
- NHS Guidance Department sends out bullying resources to parents through Naviance and the Guidance Gazette, as well as utilizing posters to promote anti-bullying efforts and individuality.
- NHS Library had a display on anti-bullying, as well as promoting books to raise awareness about respect, tolerance, and individuality.

- Key Club facilitated “*Random Acts of Kindness*” activities during the month of October and throughout the year. In addition, students demonstrated acts of kindness through volunteerism and community service projects.
- Internet Safety Club presented peer-to-peer discussions on Cyberbullying.
- A list of Bullying/Cyberbullying resources was distributed by Theresa Hrubash to all staff for implementation in classroom discussions/curriculum.
- Computer Applications Classes developed and distributed cyberbullying newsletters, as well as a permanent bulletin board memorializing students who died as a result of cyberbullying.
- Health classes discussed harassment and healthy relationships among peers, as well as promoting counseling as an effective strategy in dealing with problems.
- History Department infused respect/tolerance into curriculum through the study of various events in history.
- English Department utilized various novels (i.e. “*To Kill A Mockingbird*,” “*The Scarlett Letter*”), to teach lessons on social ostracism and prejudice, and infuse those lessons into curriculum.
- Dr. Michael Fowlin assembly on stereotyping, diversity, and anti-bullying presented to high school students.
- John Morello assembly called, “*I Am Not DIRT*,” an anti-bullying assembly presented to high school students.
- The Improbable Players presented to high school students about negative family dynamics and the impact of such on students’ socialization and decision-making.
- Flash Mob Event through “*HOPE for Nutley*.” A resiliency-building event designed to promote positive community relations and provide cohesion against negative influences.
- “*Project Pride*” Inmates share personal decisions that impacted their lives permanently. Discussions involve how to make good decisions and treat others with respect and dignity.

- In an effort to utilize a teachable moment, the Affirmative Action Officer at the high school provided assignments to many of the aggressors named in HIB Incidents. These assignments were then reviewed by members of the School Safety Team and discussed with the aggressors in an effort to change behaviors long term.

GSA, Gay Straight Alliance Club Activities 2012-2013

September - Officer's meeting and first Open Club meeting

October - Week of Respect / Positive Paper Chain activity

November - Candle Light Vigil / Chalk Walk

December - AID's Awareness / Santa Grams

January - Weekly Meetings

February - Equal Love Valentine's Day Bake Sale

March - Planning for "*Pink Out Day*"

April – "*Pink Out*" / Above Bullying Day

May- "*Day of Silence*"

June- Spring LBGT Movie Night / Candle Vigil

HIB – AFFIRMATIVE ACTION - JOHN H. WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
2012-2013

JOHN H. WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Week of Respect Activities (October 1-5):
 - PA announcements acknowledging the Week of Respect as per the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and the district's new HIB policy.
 - Aretha Franklin's "*Respect*" played each morning prior to Period One.
 - "*One School, One Goal - Be Bully Free*" Lesson conducted in each 7th and 8th grade Social Studies class.
 - Media specialist displayed books on respect and character education.

- School Violence Awareness Week (October 15-19):
 - Moment of silence on October 15th during AM announcements in honor of anyone who has been a victim of violence.
 - A daily suggestion to improve the school climate was made during AM announcements.
 - Detective Padilla of the Nutley Police Department's Juvenile Unit was a guest speaker during each physical education/health period on October 17 and 18. He focused on defining common forms of school violence and means of preventing such acts.

- Student Orientations (September 11 and September 14):
7th and 8th graders informed all students on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and the district's HIB policies and procedures.

- Student Assistance Coordinator presentations (each marking period):
Presentations on HIB in each 7th grade health class.

- Character building lessons:
Conducted in each subject area throughout the year.

- S.T.A.N.D. Club sponsored activities:
 - Designed and developed the Week of Respect banner, “*One School, One Goal: Bully Free.*”
 - Created “Ones” pennants from the “*One School, One Goal: Bully Free*” lesson during the Week of Respect.
 - Made violence prevention posters for School Violence Awareness Week.
 - “*Put a Little Love in Your Heart: Mix It Up Day*” on February 27, 2013. Prior to entering the cafeteria during lunch periods, students received a random number. An equal number of students were assigned to each lunch table. Students were required to introduce themselves to peers they usually do not sit with and answer five questions from a list of predetermined questions. The goals of *Mix It Up Day* were to break down the barriers between students and improve relationships among groups so there are fewer misunderstandings that can lead to conflicts, bullying and harassment. Flyers were hung and PA announcements were made to promote the event.
 - “*Melt Away the Hate, And Let’s Tolerate Day*” on May 9, 2013. Students were encouraged to wear clothing representing their nationality or ethnicity. By recognizing, accepting, and respecting the differences among fellow students and staff, the goal was to maintain a safe school climate free of prejudice and discrimination toward others. Flyers were hung and PA announcements were made to promote the event. Students who wore clothing representing their nationality / ethnicity received a free ice donated by Nutley’s Rita.
 - Members conducted a bullying awareness program for fourth grade students at each elementary school on June 10 and 12. Fourth graders viewed and discussed the HIB related skits written, rehearsed, and performed by S.T.A.N.D. The NHS TV class taped and edited the skits.

- Essex County Bar Association’s Disability Awareness Essay Contest (February):
Students submitted entries for the essay contest.
 - Topic:** *Why do some children with disabilities not get invited to social events such as sleepovers and parties? What can you, your friends, your school, the community groups in which you are involved and your town do to increase the inclusion of children with disabilities?*

- Camfel Productions’ “The Pledge” (March 28, 2013):
The character-building, three-screen program, *The Pledge*, was viewed by all students. The whole school assembly motivated students to make a positive difference in the world around them with their words, actions, and attitudes. *The Pledge* challenged students to make a commitment to building others up rather than tearing them down. Follow up discussions were held in each classroom at the conclusion of the program. This program was sponsored by the Nutley Municipal Alliance.

- HOPE Committee’s “Ultimate Flash Mob Dance” (April):
Nutley residents, young and old alike, were encouraged to participate in this community character building program. Students learn a choreographed dance over several weeks during the month of April for a chance to be filmed as part of the “final product” which will be presented at the Township of Nutley’s Fourth of July Civic Celebration. The featured song called *What I Am*, from recording artist Will.i.am, was chosen for its lyrics which promote self-esteem and a positive attitude.
- “Bullied: A Student, a School, and a Case that Made History” (May 1):
In an assembly, seventh graders viewed and processed this documentary developed by the Southern Poverty Law Center on May 1st. *Bullied* chronicles one student’s ordeal at the hands of anti-gay bullies and offers an inspiring message of hope to those fighting harassment today.
- “What Does it Take to Raise a Healthy Teenager in Today’s World” (May 2):
This parent workshop facilitated by Joseph Cappello and Lisa Cassilli addressed the following topics:
 - adolescent development
 - trends among teenagers (HIB, mood related issues, self-harming behaviors, substance abuse)
 - parenting strategies
 - parental awareness
 - resources

DISTRICT WIDE

- HIB Training (throughout the year):
The district Anti-Bullying Coordinator conducted ten training sessions for new staff on the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and the district’s HIB Policy which included instruction on preventing HIB on the basis of protected categories and other distinguishing characteristics.
- New Jersey Child Assault Prevention (April and May):
 - Elementary CAP training for Grade 1-3 teachers on February 15, 2013.
 - Elementary CAP District Wide Parent workshop on April 23, 2013.
 - Elementary CAP presentations for Grades 1-3 conducted in April and May.
- Zippy (February)
The district received a grant from Montclair State University to fund the Zippy program. Zippy is a program targeting children ages 5-7 with focus on promoting emotional development, coping with loss and conflict, and reducing bullying and mistreatment of others. The district wide program implemented by all kindergarten teachers and counselors began in February and continued throughout the year.

HIB - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
2012-2013

Multi -Cultural Day

- At Radcliffe School, we will celebrate Multi-Cultural Day on June 3rd. Every door will have a map of the country of their choice. Photos, music, artwork, books, and projects pertaining to that country will be displayed, and or performed in the classroom. In addition, some classrooms will invite parents in to speak about their native country.
- Lincoln School did a Multi-Cultural Day activity on March 12, 2013. Doors of the classrooms were decorated in different countries with facts and customs researched by the students. Classroom teachers used a fiction text based on that country to make connections with story elements and real life cultures. Students in the building were encouraged to walk around to the different classrooms to learn about the customs of their favorite characters in literature. In addition, Lincoln held a Literacy Night where parents and students returned to the school in the evening to participate in various language art areas, which centered around our multi-cultural theme.
- Spring Garden School presented its Second Annual International Children's Film Festival. Each grade level chose a foreign children's movie to view with the class. Activities revolved around not only the geography and history of the country from which the film originated, but also the elements and themes presented in the film's plot.
- Yantacaw School is having a special event the week of June 12th entitled, "Waterways of the World." Each grade level is researching a river from around the world. Bulletin boards are going up containing research that the children have gathered about life in the countries where their rivers are located. The culminating event will be a "regatta" outside, where each class will display a boat to be viewed by the rest of the school. The boat will represent life on their river.
- Washington School's annual Multi-Cultural Day celebration will be held on June 12, 2013. All classes will study a country, its' geography, history, and culture. Classes will create a display of their country and the entire school will participate and view these displays. Throughout the year, Washington School has participated in several multi-cultural events. Classes held International Food Days; these events gave students the opportunities to share and experience a variety of ethnic food. In December, classes studied Christmas and how it is celebrated around the world. Students also studied, wrote reports, and gave oral presentations learning about many countries and their cultures.

- **District “*Week of Respect*”**
- **“*Violence Awareness Week*”**
- **PTO Presentation-Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying**
- **“*Mix It Up Day*”** - Foster respect and understanding in the school while encouraging students to meet new people.
- **Career Day**
- **Parent Workshop** - Helping children learn emotional regulation and developing empathy.
- Throughout the year SAC/Counselor facilitated and worked with teachers to present lessons/activities promoting character building among the students.
- **Literacy Night**
- **Zippy’s Friends** - Present power-point to parents program for Kindergarten to introduce feelings, empathy and ways to deal with these emotions.