

Report Card Narratives

New Jersey Department of Education

CHERRY HILL TWP (07-0800-067)

John A. Carusi Middle School

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members:

On behalf of John A. Carusi Middle School and the Cherry Hill School District, I am happy to share with you the New Jersey School Performance Report. It provides a method for tracking our school's progress toward New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards.

At John A. Carusi, we use results from the state assessments to identify areas for growth and improvement. Of course, student achievement cannot be defined solely by performance on standardized tests. Of equal importance are classroom work and assessments, projects, oral presentations, participation in classroom discussions, participation in the arts, community service and more.

At Carusi, we have rededicated our learning community around our Mission Statement and established our key focus areas as, Passion, Perseverance and Potential. Supporting us in our mission are many initiatives which include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Homework Club and Guided Study sessions that provide students opportunities to work with certificated teachers, after school, to complete homework and practice learned concepts and skills.
2. Mathematics and Language Arts Enrichment Courses made available to those students who will benefit from an additional opportunity to gain knowledge and confidence within the area of Mathematics or Language Arts.
3. POWER (Positive Outcomes While Enjoying Reasoning) Mathematics, Language Arts, and Science are whole school activities that utilize a spiraled approach in providing practice opportunities aligned with grade level Common Core Standards.
4. The use of a Community Advisory Panel to inform decisions at the school and monitor growth aligned with annual school goals.

Carusi is truly a Community of Caring and has been honored as a New Jersey and National School of Character, the recipient of the 2014-2015 8th Grade Camden County School of Character Award, and recognized as a Bronze school by Sustainable Jersey for Schools.

As the principal, I look forward to growing as a community that is committed to having a positive impact on the climate of learning and respect for everyone at Carusi Middle School and within the surrounding community. Please contact the school to learn more about the data in this report or about the many initiatives at our school that contribute to the development of the whole child.

Respectfully,

Dr. John J. Cafagna
Principal



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