



Building Strength by Working Together

June 2008



Save the dates:

- PTO Meeting in the Cafeteria at 6pm: **June 3rd**
- Science Fair in the gym from 4-6pm: **June 5th**
- Peace Day Recognition: **June 6th**
- Honorable Mention Assemblies: **June 5th and 6th**
- PTO Sponsored Fashion Show in the Gym at 4pm: **June 7th**
- Board Meeting: **June 10th**
- K-2 Terra Nova Testing: **June 9-13th**
- Final Exams, Grades 3-8: **June 12th & June 13th**
- 12 noon dismissals for students: **June 12th & June 13th**
- City Council Meeting and Awards Ceremony, 6pm: **June 13th**
- End of Year Fun Day Carnival: **June 17th**
- Middle School Dance Recital: **June 20th**
- Kindergarten Graduation: **June 25th 9:30 am**
- 8th Grade Graduation: **June 26th 6:00 pm**
- Last Day of School for students: **June 26th**
- Report Cards distributed: **June 26th**

Celebrating Rites of Passage

As we begin the last month of school, our thoughts turn to graduation, whether it is to the next grade or to the next big step in our children's educational journey - high school entrance.

It is a time when teachers, parents, and family members look forward to milestone celebrations of our children's achievement. These rites of passage are often memorialized in occasions like graduation ceremonies, during which our children are presented formally to the community as proud and accomplished graduates.

Arie Pencovici leads us to reflect on the meaning of graduation as something more permanent and enduring than a one-time ceremony. Rather than being a celebration of an ending and a beginning, it is more a process of constant growth towards realizing our short and long-term goals. As we celebrate our children this month, let's also take time to

"Graduation is only a concept. In real life, every day you graduate. Graduation is a process that goes on until the last day of your life.

If you can grasp that, you'll make a difference."

-- Arie Pencovici

remind them how important it is to make each day of learning count as a graduation to the next day of learning, and to celebrate the accomplishments that take place.

Congratulations to all our graduates from kindergarten to 8th grade, and our gratitude to staff, parents, grandparents, and guardians who have made their learning and accomplishments possible!

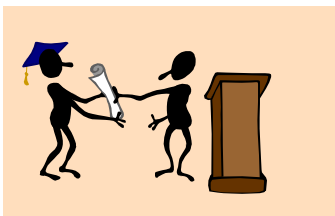
We wish you a safe and rejuvenating summer!

8th Grade Graduation Activities!

As graduation approaches, there are a number of important dates and events that we would like you to save on your calendars, and try to support and attend.

- ❖ **Monday, June 2nd:** Tickets for the 8th Grade Dance go on sale. Tickets cost \$24 and cover the cost of a buffet dinner at the Priory. The last day to buy tickets is June 17th. Mr. Patton's dress sale is still going on and new items have been added. Dresses only cost \$20!
- ❖ **Wednesday, June 18th:** Ring Ceremony at 5:30 pm in the gym.
- ❖ **Thursday, June 19th:** Field Trip to Keansburg. The trip costs \$23 and covers unlimited rides in both the land and water parks. Final payment for the trip is due on Thursday, June 12th. Permission slips will be handed out on June 2nd and must be signed and returned to homeroom teachers to grant permission for students to attend the trip.
- ❖ **Monday, June 23rd:** Graduation Dance at the Priory at 6:00 pm.
- ❖ **Thursday, June 26th:** Graduation Ceremony at Lady Liberty Academy. There will be a limit of 5 tickets per student.

We greatly appreciate the work of Mr. Patton, Mr. Kornegay, Mr. Silver, Ms Accurso, Ms Cenac, Ms Darby, and Mrs. Quinn as they devote time and energy to planning these events for our graduates!





Peace Pledge

Peace begins with me each day as I learn to...

- Seek and nurture peace within myself
- Respect the worth of all people and all life
- Accept people as they are, without judging or labeling
- Find common ground with those who seem different
- Practice peaceful solutions to problems
- Support peaceful actions by all people, including leaders
- Work for fairness and justice in my community
- Become an instrument of peace where I am

World Peace is built one person at a time.

Scholar-Athletes Show Respect and Rise! by Mr Kimble

Brandon Wright and Savonis Osei are scholar-athletes who live the core values of caring, respect, responsibility, and justice on a daily basis. They earned the scholar-athlete award at least twice during the year. Brandon earned high academic honor roll and first honors in his practice of the core values for the second and third marking periods. Also, Brandon came to school every day and on time during the third quarter. Savonis earned high academic honor roll and first honors in core values for the second and third marking period.

Many 8th grade students at Lady Liberty actively participated in the Scholar-Athlete Basket Ball Camp during recess. In addition, these participants brought in many cans of food during the school-wide Thanksgiving Day Food Drive in November.

According to Savonis, "the scholar-athlete program helped me stay focused. It helped me have something to look forward to. It also helped me pay more attention to details on how to solve challenging word problems in class." Brandon stated, "the scholar-athlete program prepared me for the state test in mathematics and prepared me to try to play on the high school basketball team."

We are proud of these rising scholar-athletes and commend them for being role models to their peers!

Cheerleaders Aim High and Shine!

On Saturday, May 31st our cheerleaders participated in the Newark Public Schools Extended Day Cheerleader competition. Our squad was proudly led by Ms Darby and Ms Turner who have worked hard and creatively with the girls all year. Their self-discipline, perseverance, and dedication led them to victory! For the third year in a row, the Cougars won the Cheer Dance Team Upper Division competition. In addition, Ajai Horne attained a first place win in the Cheer Jump competition and Briyana Bey attained a third place win in the Cheer Yell competition. We are very proud of the entire team made of the following young ladies: **Alexus Alicea; Anijah Allen; Keona Bernard; Briyana Bey; Samiyah Canada; Kayla Davidson; Enysia Fitzpatrick; Khadijah Hayes; Ajai Horne; Khafeeon Love; Jabrea Patterson; Jaryah Patterson; and Imeena Torres.** In order to be selected as cheerleaders at Lady Liberty, students need to demonstrate a commitment to working hard academically, athletically, and behaviorally, in their consistent practice of our core values. Our lady cougars represented Lady Liberty as scholar-athletes throughout the year and we commend them for their efforts.

We would like to thank all our parents, students, and staff members who have supported the team all year, and especially all those who came out on Saturday to cheer our team to victory. Lady Liberty Academy is the only charter school in Newark to be represented in the competition and the girls' supporters in the audience on Saturday were strong, numerous, and positive!

In addition to preparing for this competition, the cheerleaders have supported our basketball teams during their games this season and were featured presenters at the Charter School Rally in Trenton last month.

We are proud of you Lady Cougars! Keep aiming high and shining brightly!