

Sterling High School

KnightLine



Congratulations Class of 2018

By: Donovan Gomez



Valedictorian
Cajetan O. Ejianreh



Salutatorian
Grace E. Carchidi

On June 19th, we gathered to say “see you later” to the class of 2018. After a fun four years here at Sterling, you have blazed your path, and your presence will be dearly missed. The halls fell silent on that fateful day when you walked out of the school, no longer as high schoolers, but as graduates ready to make your impact on the world. A big impact it shall be too, with some headed off to the military, some to continue their education, and some to join the workforce, they will all find their own way in the world as determined knights.

You will blaze your way across the world, and you will make your marks. At graduation, the wise words of the famed writer F. Scott Fitzgerald were shared.

“For what it’s worth...it’s never too late, or in my case too early, to be whoever you want to be. There’s no limit. Start whenever you want. You can change or stay the same. There are no rules to

this thing. We can make the best of the worst of it. I hope you see things that startle you. I hope you meet people who have a different point of view. I hope you live a life you’re proud of, and if you’re not, I hope you have the courage to start all over again.”

Whatever direction you take, just remember we are always with you and supporting you. Best wishes graduates, and always remember, GO KNIGHTS!



Pete Marlys Named Sterling Teacher of the Year

By: Hannah Crane



Perhaps the greatest honor that can be given to an educator is “Teacher of the Year.” Sterling takes this award as an opportunity to thank a very deserving staff member annually. The students can also participate by nominating their favorites. This year, the award was rightfully given to Sterling alumni Mr. Pete Marlys, a history and law teacher for the past 13 years. Along with inspiring many students in his classes, Marlys is also the head coach for the varsity boys soccer team and JV coach for girls softball. His involvement at Sterling allows him to be well known and well respected throughout the whole school. Although he did not know, he wanted to be a teacher until college, Marlys’ impact on his

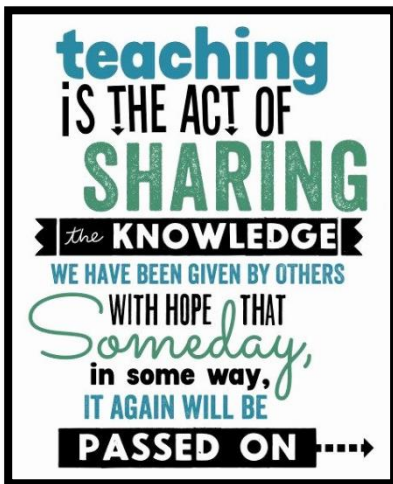


students has also inspired several high students to pursue a career in the field.

This year, the Law and Public Safety three class, taught by Marlys, took the curriculum for the course in a different direction. The students took part in an initiative to increase school safety and improve the all-around atmosphere of the school. The efforts are easily regarded as a success because they were able to accomplish many things throughout the past several months. In particular, there is now a mentor program in the making and set to be in place for the upcoming school year. In an interview, Marlys stated that the impact he has watched his “LP3” students make (thanks to huge help from him) through their mock trials, the student safety efforts, and the introduction of the mentor program have been the highlight of this year for him.

Mr. Marlys has the ability to connect with all different kinds of kids, shy or outgoing, driven or slacking. He’s able to take them out of their shell and help them to reach their abilities both on the field and in the classroom. He said that it’s important to know that not all students can be approached the same. “Some need tough love, some need a pat on the back.” Although not everyone can be taught the same way, he hopes that each individual student he has impacted has developed “the courage to go for your goals and the work ethic needed to achieve them.” Marlys is seen as more than just a teacher to many students because he is there for them whenever they need him. His favorite soccer team, Liverpool, has gifted him the valuable message “You’ll never walk alone,” one that he repeats and proves often to his students.

Although Marlys may not have expected to win the honor, many of his coworkers knew that he was a shoe in. After his years of service to the community, Mr. Marlys definitely proved he was worthy of the recognition. Despite his outgoing, inclusive attitude towards everyone, Marlys claims to dislike the spotlight. He said that although he wasn't exactly "comfortable with the attention, [he] was definitely honored and humbled to be nominated and selected." Marlys was a standout candidate for the selection of Teacher of the Year 2018, and he will definitely continue to serve our school and community well as the school year draws to a close. Mr. Marlys, thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the Knights!



By: Nicole Carney

This past school year saw Sterling's third year using the Stop!t app, and it continues to see growing success. The app was created as a digital tool to ensure the safety of students, achieved by giving the students themselves a platform to raise their concerns and communicate with those with the power to provide help. Students can report incidents of bullying and harassment and alert possible threats from their peers, all with complete anonymity. This anonymous system of reporting has shown great success, as it allows students to be only as involved in an incident they feel they need to be, and don't fear retribution from bullies as they would otherwise.

Sterling receives around a hundred reports a year from concerned students. This has greatly improved the atmosphere of the school as students feel that they are being heard and cared for. Sterling has investigated the reports they receive and encouraged the continued use of the app. Stop!t has fostered a trust between students and administration, making Sterling

a safe, accepting place for everyone.

In that regard, Sterling has expanded the original use of the app, to great effect. More recently, students have used the app for not only reporting bullying, but raising concern for their peers. Seeing the success of the school in regards to the Stop!t app, students have begun to use it for a wider array of issues. Reports now include concerns for the well-being of students, who their classmates think should be checked on by the school counselor or trusted adult. The app has given an opportunity for empathy, with classmates able to more easily see each other taken care of. Though this may not have been the original intention of Stop!t, it is a welcome addition that will hopefully become more prominent in the future.

Students who wish to make their school a better place are encouraged to download the app. All reports are completely anonymous, and easy to submit. It is a chance for students to help their administration and their peers, as many others have done so far. Sterling is very proud of their success with the Stop!t app, and will continue to use it in the future.



A Message from the Superintendent

Sterling High School successfully completed Phase I of major construction projects during Fall 2018. Phase II Construction Projects will begin on July 1, 2018 with a new water main, upgrades to the Foods Classroom, and new security doors. Additional projects include relocation of the soccer, sub varsity baseball and practice football fields.

There are plans for major changes on Warwick Road in front of Sterling High School which include new water and gas lines, new directional pattern and replacement of the curb. Sterling High School and the Borough of Somerdale will team up to create a new sidewalk parallel to Warwick Road. All of the related Warwick Road projects should be complete by September 2018. These improvements will contribute to increased safety for all of our students and stakeholders.

Class of 2018 Scholarships

The Class of 2018 was offered over 9.1 million dollars in scholarships. This is an increase of over \$1 million from the previous year. Congratulations to the Class of 2018, their parents and our supporting staff!!

0% Increase for 2018-2019 School Budget

The Board of Education proudly approved a 0% tax increase for the 2018-2019 school budget. Only three times in the last 10 years has Sterling High School's Board of Education increased the tax levy. If you have any questions about our current budget, please call me at 856-784-1287.

Sterling High School Athletic Hall of Fame 2018

Congratulations to the following alumni who will be inducted to the Sterling High School Athletic Hall of Fame on October 14, 2018 at The Palace in Blackwood NJ. Please contact Mrs. Jeanette Dean if you are interested in attending by calling 856-784-1287.

Individuals

- Donnie Miller Class of 1970
- Joe Miller Class of 1994
- Maureen McCann Class of 1989

Championship Teams

- 1974 Football
- 1965-1966 Boys Basketball
- 2003 Baseball

Strategic Planning 2016-2021

Strategic Planning will continue in 2018-2019. I appreciate all the work students, staff, administration and parents have done to set measurable goals to improve the district. Please visit our website for an updated list of our Strategic Action Plans.

From the Principal's Desk

By: Matthew Sheehan, Principal



The second semester of the 2017-18 school year offered many changes, challenges, and accomplishments. There were weather issues, Super Bowl VII and Eagles Championship Parade, Senior Trip, safety and Pre-prom assemblies, Prom, Spring Spirit Week activities, an outstanding Spring Musical, and a phenomenal spring sports season.

I hope that every student and staff member takes time to reflect upon their school year. The Seniors may be contemplating their exciting life after Sterling: Graduation, summer recess, and college or careers plans. Underclassmen may be considering their own successes, challenges, and future plans. Additionally, the underclassmen will have to consider life at Sterling as building leaders. A year older. Hopefully a year wiser. Should I run for class office? I am going to be taking over leadership in my club, activity, or sport? Sterling staff consider what worked, what didn't, and how can I become a more effective teacher? The maturation and development process continues. Setting goals and working towards achieving them is paramount to being successful in school, career, and in life.

Sterling High School experienced many accomplishments this Spring. Congratulations to Mr. Marlys on being recognized as the Educator of the Year. This honor was well-deserved as Mr. Marlys is an outstanding teacher, coach, advisor, and role model. The Spring Musical Bring It On was an outstanding display of talent, dedication, and team-work. Sterling athletics teams won four team championships this spring and more important, were disqualification free for the entire varsity school year. This accomplishment is a testament to the fine parenting, coaching, and player discipline. Senior Madison Coppolino, a multi-time sectional and state champion, was honored by the Colonial Conference's Liberty Division Scholar-Athlete of the Year. I cannot think of a better representative of Sterling High School than Maddie.

I would like to close by saying thank you to the Class of 2018. Your leadership in and outside of the classroom was unbelievable. The support of the Super Fans at every event was noted and appreciated. You have certainly raised the bar of future classes and you made Sterling a better place for everyone. Best of luck to the Class of 2018 on your future endeavors.

School Safety is Top Priority

By: Olivia Baldino

Because of traumatic events of the past, a new age has erupted honing in on the importance of safety in schools and in general. Debates over the necessary steps to protect students and faculty have caused an uproar in opinions and strategies with no clear answer. One thing can be certain: Sterling High School is taking every precaution they can to provide a safe learning environment for students and staff alike. From the installation of the Sielox system to the automatic locking of doors, our school has gone above and beyond others to keep everyone comfortable and secure. That being said, many have raised concerns about what other steps could be taken in order to further secure the school.

At a meeting the school administration held for the community about school safety, many parents brought up some additional suggestions for improving school safety. The ideas of metal detectors, color-coded IDs, and increased police presence were brought up along with others. While these may be valid points, Sterling wants to maintain an environment of safety and improve aspects of learning not turn the school into a prison. Students have agreed with both extremes, expressing opinions of too many precautions and too few. Many kids feel that IDs are more of a burden than a safety feature, but we understand that they are meant to help not hurt. Others feel that IDs should be more regulated rather than simply glanced at. In a similar light to how the parents at the meeting felt, students have differing opinions because of different vantage points from which we view the situation. Sterling can't make everyone happy; however, they can and do listen.

A new initiative that a group of Sterling students is taking on focuses on what safety means in the students' eyes. In the general opinion, as far as physical security measures go, Sterling High School is extremely protected and have systems in place that alert police and the entire school in seconds of a dangerous situation. The problem that is hiding in the dark, we found, is located inside the school boundaries not with outside forces. The students here have a lack of knowledge of their resources, which may seem insignificant but can have harsh consequences. Mental health is a big issue in teens all over our country, but the problem is largely ignored. Sterling has a plethora of professionals who were trained to deal with that very issue, but many who suffer from a mental health disorder don't know where to go or if there is a place to go. We are focusing on educating our school on just how many people

within our walls are fully capable and want to help them. Another goal is to make additions onto the people-you-can-turn-to list. By creating more and more resources for those who need guidance, we are decreasing the number of students left behind or lost in the white noise of everything else.

When it comes down to it, no one can guarantee the safety of anyone 100 percent of the time. You either have to completely remove yourself from the area in which you feel there isn't enough security or realize that anything can happen even with every preventative measure taken. We enjoy the right to deny searches and seizures without reasonable suspicion because there is a line between security and privacy that cannot be crossed, as is true here. Schools could implement metal detectors and have policemen in every hallway, but that would violate the privacy of students and bring a sense of fear instead of prevent such a feeling. Of course not everyone feels this way, but most people delight in actively exercising their rights. We should consider ourselves fortunate to live in a community where so many people care about the safety of others, but more importantly where schools listen and change policies to adhere to the wishes of the people with the goal in mind of a safe and welcoming learning environment.





Hall of Fame

By: Mary Sierk

On February 11th, two Sterling alumni were inducted into the South Jersey Basketball Hall of Fame. One of them is Jessica Copskey DePrince, a graduate of Sterling from 2001 and the other is John R. Wilson, a graduate of the class of 1983. This is a great honor that has been bestowed on them for their wonderful work and dedication to the sport of basketball and for their accomplishments during their high school and college careers.

The South Jersey Basketball Hall of Fame was started by Albert Carino in 1980, when he recruited Doug Frambes, a sports writer for the Courier-Post and Riverside High School coach, to help him create and chair a committee. Frambes then recruited Walt Burrows, Stan Mroz, George Pims, Dick Carpenter, Jack Harte, Al Mattern, Charlie Nash, Bill Thomas, and Bob Viaggiano to help him set down the rules for the selection process as well as the format. The first year of induction, 1981, was all-male, but that changed to include females the very next year with the addition of Bob Kenney and Ginny Whitaker on the staff. After five years of being the Chairman of the Selection Committee, Frambes retired to being an ordinary committee member and Viaggiano stepped up to the plate. Then Dick Carpenter was Chairman, until 1996 when Harry Beaudet became the new one until 2014 when a former Sterling coach, Bill Hiltner, became the most current Chairman. He and the rest of the

committee have chosen two Sterling alumni to now be inducted into the Hall.

Jessica Copskey DePrince is someone who has made history during her time at Sterling with her ability in basketball. She started all four years of her high school career, amassing 2,991 points, and leading the team to victory for two Group 2 titles as well as the Tournament of Champions, making history as the first team from South Jersey to win. She did this under the legendary coach, Bill Ulrich, and impressed many. With her on the team, Sterling was recognized by USA Today as 17th ranked in the country for women's high school basketball. She also managed to secure the individual titles of State Player of the Year for 2000 and 2001, Tournament of Champions MVP of 2001, All-Region for 2001, and later on the NJ All-Decade Team. She then went on to start for the Drexel Dragons in her freshman year of college and even made the All-Rookie team, but due to an unfortunate injury in her sophomore year, she was unable to play the rest of her college years. Now though, she works in the Medical Device Industry in the Greater Philadelphia and New York area, raising her beautiful daughter, 9-year-old, Gracie.

John R. Wilson is a man who was an exceptional athlete and leader for his team. Graduating in 1983, Wilson started varsity his freshman year and was made captain for the next three. He made All-Conference for three years and All-South

Jersey his senior year and was considered the "All-Time Boys Scoring Leader" his senior year, averaging about 24.9 points per game and placing second in South Jersey for scoring. As well as being an exceptional athlete, Wilson was exceptional academically as well, being in National Honors Society his junior and senior year, carried an A average, and was elected Vice President for student council his senior year. For these honors, he was inducted into the Sterling Regional High School Hall of Fame in 1989. After his time at Sterling, Wilson continued excellence by attending University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business and earning a Bachelor's degree. He continued to play basketball for them and was named 'Most Inspirational Player' in 1985 and 'Most Improved Player' in 1986. During his time there, the team managed to win the Ivy League title in two of the four years and go to the NCAA championship all four. Now he is married with three daughters, Kayla, at fourteen, Ava, eleven, Jalisa, eight, and Aliyah, seven, and has a very successful business called Penn Services. His business was named "Business of the Year" by the City of St. Louis.

Sterling is very proud of these amazing athletes and is glad that they are getting recognized for their amazing accomplishments both at Sterling and after. These two athletes are exceptional and deserve this great achievement and wish the best of luck to them in their current and future endeavors.

Interacting with the Community

By: Jocelyn Shinseki

Within these last few months of the 2017-18 school year, the Interact Club has held many events and participated in community activities. In February, we sent numerous Valentines to the residents of Laurel Manor. In March, we prepared for our main two events of the year: the Senior Citizens' Tea and Prom. We got together to discuss our themes for both events, ultimately deciding to have a nice, simplistic design for the Tea and a Mexican theme for the prom. With the funds we raised through selling candles, we were able to purchase decorations and food in preparation.

On April 14th, we held our Senior Citizens' Tea with around 80 attending. We socialized with those present, offering them either tea or coffee in addition to fruits and danishes. Afterwards, thanks to Sterling High School's theater group, we were able to provide those at the tea with complimentary tickets to see their amazing production of Bring It On.

As another month passed, we continued to prepare for the Senior Citizens' Prom, having meetings in discussion of this as well as congratulating Interact members of their recent accomplishments, from receiving

Student of the Month to being accepted to be a part of the Rotary's week-long leadership program in late June at Stockton University.

On May 25th, we held our annual Senior Citizens' Prom with around 100 attendees. We served those present Mexican cuisine and joined them on the dancefloor, learning a lot of dance moves from them. We socialized with them, learning more about their lives and gaining many new life lessons. Because this event runs longer than all of the others, after serving and cleaning, we were able to enjoy ourselves and ultimately have a great time.

We also were able to continue to help out in our community by assisting with Lindenwold's Food Drive monthly, spending our time packaging and delivering food for those who are in need of it.

In these months, we have helped out our community, whether it was through providing them with food or bringing a smile to their faces. While it is sad to see many of our members graduate this year, we know that those left will continue to serve the Sterling community as passionately as them.



Easter Egg Hunt



Sterling High School Radio



2018 Inter district Art Show



Bring It On, Spring Musical

