

Village School retains Faculty Cup as H.F.E.E. raises more than \$10,000

The HFEE and the Holmdel School System hosted the *Battle of the Faculties* on April 26th and it will live long in the memory!

Mayor Eric Hinds kicked off the event in front of a noisy sold-out crowd of close to a thousand parents and children from all four Holmdel public schools. Families waved specially-ordered towels in school colors as they cheered their teams of teachers who were vying for the coveted Faculty Cup.

High School Principal Bill Loughran, who usually runs the event, was sorely missed, but TV Production teacher Brian DeNovellis was a terrific replacement emcee, although he sometimes had to fight to be heard above the frantic screams of the crowd!

Competitive events included lip-synching, egg toss, three-legged race and a tug of war. Art Howard, Principal of Satz School, was a standout by singing as Ariana Grande. But it was Village School led by Principal Brian Schillaci and Assistant Principal Jessica Vierschilling that retained the Faculty Cup which is proudly on display in the Village School office.



Photo: Assistant Principal Jessica Vierschilling and Principal Brian Schillaci with the HFEE Faculty Cup

Parents were unified in their enjoyment of the event: *"I truly think Battle of the Faculties is the best school event of the year", "Battle of the Faculties rocked, these kids love their teachers so much, and our kids are over the moon after Village's victory!"*

Students too: *"The teachers were really funny lip-synching to those songs"; "I lost my voice I was shouting so much!"*

Mayor Hinds: *"I was honored to participate in an event that brought the families of our Holmdel school district together. Hearing and watching children of all ages cheering on their teachers and principals, showing support for their individual schools was truly inspiring!"*

Assistant Superintendent Dr Robert McGarry: *"At a time when our students and staff are so intensely focused on tests, scores and ratings, it's a joy to instead focus on things like the number of push-ups or sit-ups one can do or how much pie a staff member can eat!" "Holmdel staffers not only work hard but also play hard for the district."*

Village School Principal Brian Schillaci: *"We are very proud of our teachers who trained hard for the event and excited for all of our students and families who were cheering the Village team! It was a great event and we are looking forward to the "three-peat" in 2016!"*

Vincent Cheng, HFEE Chair of the Organizing Committee: *"This event was so much fun! Thank you to all the teachers, custodians, administrators, Roseanne Wriedt for organizing the snack bar, parents and the Indian Hill PLG for donating to the snack bar, the many HFEE volunteers who staffed the event, the Police and Fire Departments for keeping people safe, and finally to all the people who attended!"*

HFEE is delighted to report that more than \$10,000 was raised. The money will go towards the mini-grant program and the initiative to supply a Chromebook to every second and third grader.

The Holmdel Foundation for Education Excellence is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit that enhances the educational experience for children in the Holmdel school system.