

Advocating for Healthy Lifestyles in Your School

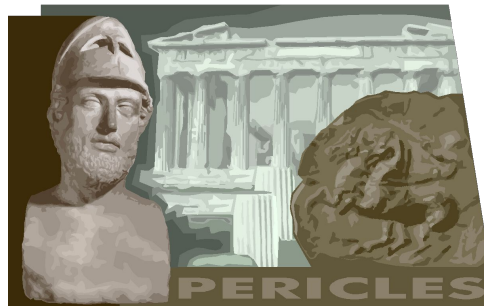
NJAHPERD Annual Convention

JoAnn Doherty, Marybeth Beichert, Jennifer Sullivan
Joseph Przytula, Jairo Labrador, and Belinda Jimenez

February 28, 2017

*Just because you do not take an
interest in politics
doesn't mean politics won't take an
interest in you!*

- Pericles



New Jersey Legislative Process

- New Jersey General Assembly
40 Districts/2 Assembly Members= 80 Members
- New Jersey State Senate
40 Legislative Districts/1 Senator= 40 Senators
- Bills must be passed by both houses of the legislature and signed into law by the Governor

NJAHPERD State Issues

- Recess Bill

- Bill Numbers: A-2469 (Peterson/DiMaio/Jasey/Wimberly/S-1144 (Turner/Diegnan)
- Requires minimum 20 minute daily recess period in public elementary schools (K-5)

- Teacher Certification

- NJAHPERD will advocate for legislation that requires elementary school teachers in NJ (K-6) to possess the appropriate endorsement to their teaching certificate to teach health and physical education in New Jersey (A-3964 Jasey/Caputo/Muoio/S-2323 Turner/Diegnan). Existing teachers will be grandfathered.

State Issues (cont'd)

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- Replaces No Child Left Behind Act

- School Health and Physical Education included in ESSA, on same level as other academic subjects; states and school districts will now have access to significant funding for health and physical education programs

- Update NJ Drivers Education Testing Requirement

- Many NJAHPERD members teach drivers education courses in their local schools. Driver education testing requirements have not been updated since 2011. NJAHPERD is working to ensure that the testing requirements are updated and adopted by the NJ Department of Education and Motor Vehicle Commission (“MVC”).

What Are We Looking At?

Local Level:

- NJ law requires every public school student in grades 1-12 to receive **150 minutes** of health, safety and physical education **per week** (N.J.S.A. 18:35-7,8).
- Recess Policy: advocate to require a minimum of 20 minutes daily recess in grades K-5. Recess time should **not** be included in the 150 minute instructional time requirement.

School Policy Change

Discuss Issue/Advocate with:

- Your Supervisor
- Your Principal
- PTA (Parents)/Fellow Teachers or Administrators
- Local School Board of Education



Never in my wildest dreams could I
have imagined that we would have to
defend children's right to play.

Nancy Carlsson-Paige • Artist: Lance Hunter



Taking Action



- Follow education issues in the Legislature and at State Board meetings
- Get to know your local public officials: set up a meeting, invite him/her to a school event and then contact them on important issues
- Attend your local school board meeting
- VOTE! Volunteer for elections and campaigns
- Stay involved with your association (NJAHPERD and NJEA)

Educate - Advocate - Organize



Join your Legislative Action Team – LAT - a network of NJEA members who communicate legislative and political information to elected and appointed decision makers and to other NJEA members. They advocate for public education and organize members to take action when needed.

Effective Advocacy

HOOK

Name, Town, School

LINE

Personal Story

SINKER

The “Ask”

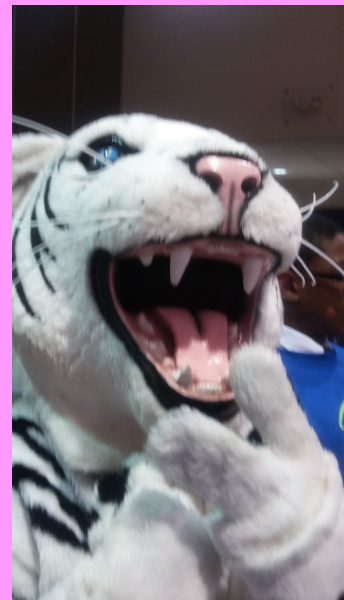
**A political system does not change
because something is right, moral or
just!**

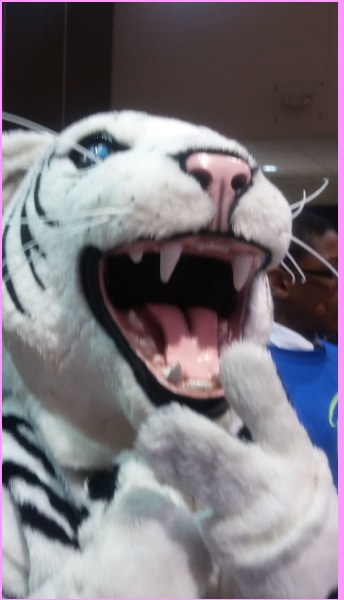
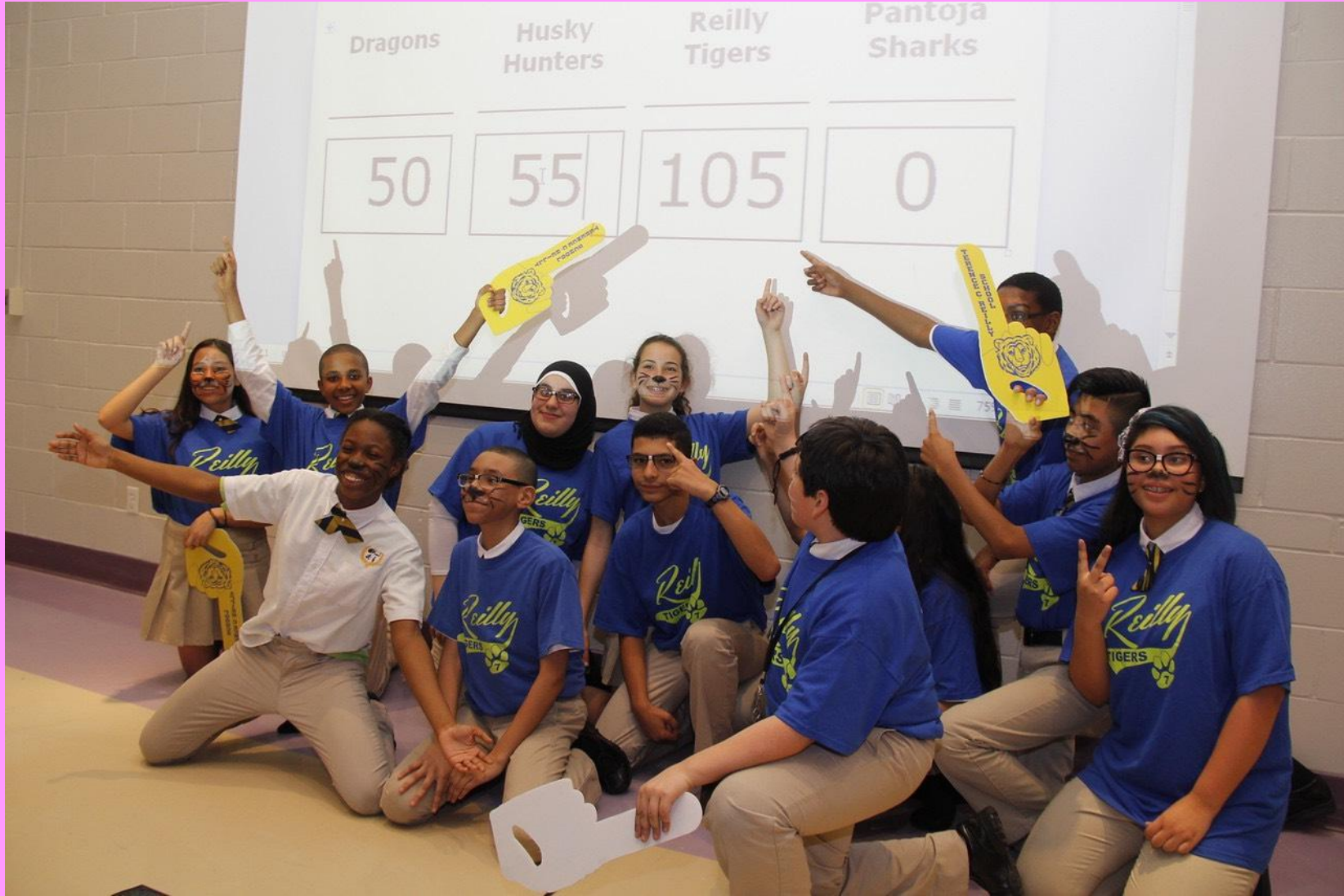
**Political systems (including school boards)
change because not changing creates more
problems than changing!**

**As Frederick Douglass said:
*“Power concedes nothing without a demand!”***













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