



# MORRIS HILLS REGIONAL DISTRICT

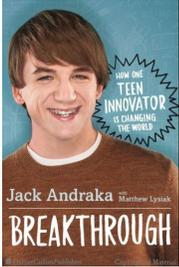
SUPERINTENDENT of SCHOOLS  
James J. Jencarelli 973.664.2291

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT  
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION  
Nisha Zoeller, D. Litt. 973.664.2293

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR  
& BOARD SECRETARY  
Joann Gilman Auricchio 973.664.2281

SUPERVISOR OF  
HUMAN RESOURCES  
Peter Lazzaro 973.664.2297

Dear MHRD Community,



It is hard to believe that we are in our 8th year of the District-Wide Summer Read. With your help and support year to year, this vision has become a sustainable reality and as a result, we have been able to create some wonderful opportunities for our students and staff. I thank you for your continued support and effort to make the District-Wide Summer Read an exceptional experience year after year.

The Morris Hills Regional District's Summer Read Program is founded on the belief that encouraging and inspiring students to read year-round is a key element in the development of lifelong learners. In an effort to replicate the past success of the program and continue to promote a communal experience in our buildings and across the district, we will continue to maintain the District-Wide Summer Read Program for all students attending Morris Hills High School and Morris Knolls High School.

With the support of the faculty, administration, local book stores, and public libraries, all students entering grades 9-12 in September 2018 will be required to read the same book. Teachers, administrators, and parents are all encouraged to join in as well. I am proud to announce the 2018 District-Wide Summer Read will be the inspirational memoir *Breakthrough: How One Teen Innovator is Changing the World* written by Jack Andraka with Matthew Lysiak.

This year's choice caught my eye for its uniqueness and versatility. It is my hope that you will be as inspired as I was after reading the memoir. *Breakthrough* is the profoundly moving story of Jack Andraka who was just 15-years old when he invented an inexpensive, early-detection test for some aggressive forms of cancer. Harper Collins describes the memoir as:

*"...not just a story of dizzying international success; it is a story of overcoming bullying and depression and finding the resilience to persevere. His account inspires young people, who he argues are the most innovative, to fight for the right to be taken seriously and to pursue their own dreams. Do-it-yourself science experiments are included in each chapter, making Breakthrough perfect for STEM curriculum. But above all, Jack's memoir empowers his generation with the knowledge that we can each change the world if we only have the courage to try."*

Jack's merit in his field is signified by the 2012 Intel ISEF Gordon E. Moore Award, the 2012 Smithsonian American Ingenuity Youth Award, first place in the 2014 Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge, and the 2014 Jefferson Award among other various honors and accomplishments. Most importantly to me and the purpose of our District-Wide Summer Read Program, is the work Jack does speaking to audiences around the world about his personal story, his struggle with depression, LGBT issues, and his ideas for combating bullying, suicide prevention, and STEM education reform.

Jack is currently a student at Stanford University studying electrical engineering and public policy while serving on the faculty at the Stanford Anesthesiology Summer Institute. More information about Jack and his story can be accessed by visiting his [website](#). Jack will also be visiting the Morris Hills Regional District Community in early October 2018 to speak to students about his experience as well as theirs having read his memoir.

**Please be advised that there will be additional summer reading titles and assignments for students enrolled in International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement courses and freshman entering the Academy for Math, Science, and Engineering attending the summer program.** These assignments will also be posted on the [district website](#) once they are finalized. Local libraries and bookstores will receive notification of all summer reading requirements so they may stock their shelves accordingly.

I appreciate your support as we continue this initiative. Reading is important for all students year round regardless of age or placement. It promotes lifelong learning and reading the same text among 3,000 individuals - students, faculty, administration, and parents alike - creates community and a common ground upon which to begin a new school year.

Additional information regarding the District-Wide Summer Read as well as all summer reading assignments will be provided through the students' English teachers in both high schools as well as in the middle schools prior to the close of the school year. It will also be disseminated via Naviance through the Guidance Office and will also be available on the district and school websites.

Thank you again for your unwavering support. I hope you enjoy this year's adventure.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Toriello  
District Director of Instruction  
Language Arts

***“Excellence in Education”***

**MORRIS HILLS HIGH SCHOOL**, 520 West Main Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866 (973) 664-2309  
**MORRIS KNOLLS HIGH SCHOOL**, 50 Knoll Drive, Rockaway, NJ 07866 (973) 664-2209