

Cape May elementary named Lighthouse District

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — The state Department of Education has recognized Cape May City Elementary School as one of seven schools in the state achieving academic growth in English language arts and mathematics with a diverse student group.

The DOE recognized the school as a Lighthouse District "for illuminating the path toward academic growth and student success. The Lighthouse District Initiative is a result of conversations with many

educators, families, community members and students who encouraged the state to focus on growth."

Lighthouse Districts have demonstrated student academic progress as a result of setting high academic standards, using assessment data to identify each and every student's needs, and working tirelessly to provide the necessary educational supports.

School Superintendent Victoria Zelenak said the award was based on student growth in the school during the past three to four years based in part

on data from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) tests. She said becoming a Lighthouse District was also based on the diversity of the student population and a figure of more than 50 percent of students receiving a free or reduced-cost lunch indicating a low-income group.

Zelenak said the mobility of the school's students, with a number of children coming from Coast Guard families, was recognized. She said those students stay in the school an aver-

age of two years.

New Jersey educational standards are rigorous, Zelenak said.

"What they learn in the Cape May school, they spread through the whole country," she said.

The DOE stated the school outpaced other schools with student growth. Zelenak said the attendance rate at the school was 95.2 percent.

"We get the results of the PARCC tests and analyze them thoroughly to see what the students need," she said.

Zelenak said curriculum

is adjusted and extra help for students is provided where needed. She said it was determined students were weak in fractions, so more time was spent on that instruction.

The DOE is asking Lighthouse Districts to be models for other school districts. Zelenak said she would be meeting with superintendents from other Lighthouse Districts looking at programs to recommend to other districts.

"Lighthouse Districts show what types of academic gains are possible when visionary, instruc-

tional leaders, dedicated educators, and supportive board members work together on behalf of the children in their community," New Jersey Education Commissioner Kimberley Harrington said.

Zelenak attributes a great deal of success to the school's active District Evaluation Advisory Committee, which meets regularly and helps determine what the students in Cape May need to succeed. The district then adjusts their focus within their teacher evaluation and professional learning system.

Substation raises concerns

Continued from Page A1

pound will not generate additional runoff from the site because of those storage areas we're providing in the compound," he said.

Distribution engineer Greg Domsic said building the substation at another location would increase the impact exponentially, including obtaining rights to land, constructing infrastructure and a need for higher-capacity lines.

Atlantic City Electric engineer Mike Picucci said the process has included meeting with neighborhood residents, the informational meeting, an application to the city's Historic Preservation Commission and filing for state permits. He said the utility would apply to the city's Zoning Board in early 2018.

"The schedule would be to start construction fall of

2018," Picucci said.

He said construction would take place during two winters to avoid work during the tourist seasons.

"It's mainly for reliability. There's only one transformer there, we're putting a second one," Picucci said. "We're also putting in what's called a ring bus, which allows you to transfer power between the two different transmission lines automatically."

A mobile transformer would be set up on a lot across Elmira Street to allow part of the substation to be de-energized.

Shade Tree Commission Chairman Jay Schatz said the power substation was in existence before new homes were built in the neighborhood. According to a fact sheet issued by Atlantic City Electric, the current substation was built in 1909 and upgraded

in 2001.

He said the utility planted a number of Leyland cypress trees to hide the substation from view. Schatz said the trees can grow to a height of 20 feet in eight to nine years. The substation will disappear from view as trees grow on the site, he said.

Neighborhood resident Ken Murphy asked if the project had to satisfy state Department of Environmental Protection or Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations.

Combs said the increase in impervious coverage being generated by the project was so minimal that the utility was not required to comply with state storm water-management regulations.

"Under FEMA, the flood hazard elevations for this area are driven by tidal water," he said. "You're not required to control rates of discharge of storm water because you're really not impacting the tides with storm water runoff."

Civil engineer Tom Lucas, of Adams, Rehmann & Heggan Associates, said the property would have curbing to keep water from running off the site, funneling it into the on-site storage. He said work on the substation would not help solve road flooding issues that already exist.

Susan Coan, region vice president of Atlantic City



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

Residents question Atlantic City Electric engineers during a meeting concerning the power substation the utility plans to build at Elmira and Bank streets and Venice Avenue. Many are concerned that the construction will exacerbate flooding in the area.

Electric, said all plans would be presented to the city's Historic Preservation Commission and Zoning Board.

"We're sure they're going to give us feedback and suggestions, and we'll work with them to get the approvals we need and to satisfy their concerns," she said.

Ross said when the substation site was expanded in 2001, the application stated Atlantic City Electric would be liable to control flooding from the last expansion.

"Nothing happened in 15 years to mitigate this flooding problem," he said. "What's to make people think you're going to do it now?"

Picucci said the city admitted a problem exists with the municipal drainage in the area.

"If you took this substation away, you would still have flooding," Combs said.

Coan said the 2001 agreement states Atlantic City Electric would be responsible for flooding that occurs from its facility into the area.

Murphy asked if the utility had concerns the area of the substation was being served by a city-owned, nonfunctioning pumping system.

Picucci said the city stated it would look into the situation and provide a solution.

"They have not given us a timeline or commitment

to do that," he said.

Water flows from Bank and Elmira streets, with Venice Avenue being the point where it collects, Picucci said.

He said water also collects due to the Bank Street parking lot being raised years ago.

According to a fact sheet provided by the utility, the substation serves 7,100 power customers in Cape May, West Cape May and Cape May Point. The new control building would measure 40 feet by 80 feet and have a height of 30 feet. The fence line on the property would be expanded to accommodate new equipment. Existing landscaping on the site would be removed and replaced with new trees.

The second transformer would significantly cut the risk of a wide-scale outage. Two new distribution feeder lines would further improve reliability by reducing the number of customers served by a single feeder and provide more flexibility in transferring customer load if warranted.

According to the fact sheet, new switchgear would allow the utility to switch customers to alternative feeder lines in the event of an outage and reduce the frequency and length of outages.

TIDES : Nov. 8-15, 2017

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
8	10:51	11:32	4:16	5:16
9	11:52		5:15	6:19
10	12:40	12:59	6:23	7:24
11	1:50	2:08	7:33	8:26
12	2:58	3:13	8:41	9:25
13	3:58	4:12	9:45	10:17
14	4:51	5:05	10:42	11:05
15	5:38	5:11	11:33	11:48

MOON PHASES

Last quarter, Nov. 10 • new moon, Nov. 18

Cape May City Recycles

DON'T JUST DO IT...DO IT RIGHT!

Do Recycle

CANS & BOTTLES

Glass Bottles
(green/brown/clear)

Aluminum Can
Steel (tin) Cans

Plastic Bottles #1 thru 7

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Computers & TV's

RIGID PLASTICS

Help maintain the quality of recyclables sold as secondary raw material. Place for recycling collection only the items listed under "Do Recycle."

Do Not Recycle

The Following Items are NOT ACCEPTED for Recycling Collection and must be Placed in Trash.

PAPER PLATES & PAPER CUPS, ALUMINUM FOIL & ALUMINUM PIE PLATES, POTS & PANS, MIRRORS, WINDOW GLASS

WE DO NOT PICK UP BRANCHES. TAKE BRANCHES TO RECYCLE YARD.
CHRISTMAS TREES PICKED UP AT CURB WITHOUT DECORATIONS UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2018

Yard Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30am - 3:15 & Sat. 8am-noon-closed Wed.

Please Remember ...

All Cape May City properties are entitled to a once a week curbside pickup of recycling.

This includes: Bottles, Cans, Plastic and Glass Jars, Newspapers, Corrugated Cardboard, Office Paper, Junk Mail and Magazines

- Please do **NOT** use plastic bags for anything.
- Recycling will **NOT** be picked up if it contains any type of contaminant



PAPER SHREDDER AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

Labels for Recycling Containers are available on request or can be picked up at City Hall or Recycling Office located at the Public Works Complex on Canning House

Any questions call the Cape May City Recycling Office at 609-884-9570

Cape May Star & Wave

CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE (ISSN 519-020)
Volume 163 Number 45

Published weekly by Sample Media, Inc.,
801 Asbury Ave., #310, Ocean City, N.J. 08226

Published Weekly (52 times a year)

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: By mail for \$39 a year; \$70 for two years; \$20 for six months.
Periodical Postage at Cape May Court House, N.J. and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to the Cape May Star and Wave,
P.O. Box 2427, Cape May, N.J. 08204.

161 Years Old • 1854-2015

The Name You Know.
The Insurance You Trust.
Come Visit Our Cape May Office!



For all your insurance needs

J. BYRNE
INSURANCE

Home, Auto, Marine, Business insurances

Multiple options mean you get the best rate

Five Cape May County offices to serve you

More than 70 years of exceptional service

jbyrneagency.com | 609-522-3406
917 Madison Ave., Cape May, NJ 08204

