



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ANNUAL GIVE TO GOODWILL CLOTHING DRIVE COMPETITION BETWEEN LENAPE REGIONAL
HIGH SCHOOLS KICKS OFF MARCH 7**

***High Schools Compete to See Which School Can Collect the Most Material Donations
for Local Nonprofit***

Maple Shade, NJ – (March 7, 2016) – For the fifth consecutive year, the Lenape Regional High School District will conduct an eight week clothing drive for Goodwill from March 7 – April 15 to see which school can collect the most pounds of donations per student. The school to beat—Cherokee, the four-time GIVE TO GOODWILL champion.

Each high school will have two Goodwill donation boxes conveniently located in their parking lots. Students, faculty, family and friends are encouraged to donate bagged or boxed gently-used clothing, accessories, shoes, toys, books and other small household items. Since its inception in 2012, Lenape Regional High School District students have collected 165,760 pounds of donations for Goodwill! Last year was the competition's most successful netting 56,373 pounds. Proceeds from the sale of all donated items collected fund Goodwill's job training programs and career services that help local residents with disabilities and disadvantages get to work.

This GIVE TO GOODWILL community service project is being spearheaded by students and faculty advisors from each high school in partnership with Goodwill Industries of Southern NJ & Philadelphia.

MEDIA/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: A GIVE TO GOODWILL kick-off event will be held on Monday, March 7 at Cherokee High School. Goodwill President & CEO Mark B. Boyd, Lenape Regional Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carol Birnbohm, and students and faculty advisors

will host a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10:30 am to officially christen their Goodwill donation boxes. Several Cherokee cheerleaders and members of the band will also be on site to create excitement for this annual event.

“We are pleased to once again partner with Goodwill in this friendly competition between our district high schools,” said Lenape Regional Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carol Birnbohm. “This is a wonderful way for students to learn the importance of recycling and supporting local philanthropy.”

Once a donation box is full, a Goodwill truck will empty it; count the number of bags in it; and then tally the number of pounds of donations collected. Stats will be reported regularly throughout the GIVE TO GOODWILL clothing drive competition on the District’s website (www.lrhdsd.org) and on Goodwill’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/GoodwillNJ). At the end of the eight weeks, the school that collects the most donations based on pounds per student will be crowned the 2016 GIVE TO GOODWILL champion. A plaque commemorating the victory will be presented to the winning school at the Lenape Regional High School District’s Board of Education May meeting. In addition, one student from each school will be selected to receive \$250 scholarships from Goodwill for outstanding community service.

“Collecting more than 100K pounds of donations is incredibly impactful on an organization like Goodwill,” said Goodwill President & CEO Mark B. Boyd. “Donations are what fuel Goodwill’s job training programs and career services that help local residents with disabilities and disadvantages get to work. These donations truly are changing lives for the better through the power of work.”

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About Goodwill Industries of Southern NJ & Philadelphia

Founded in 1948, Goodwill Industries of Southern New Jersey is a community-based, nonprofit organization. Its mission is to put people with special needs to work. Goodwill offers a variety of career services and employment training programs that help prepare local residents with disabilities and disadvantages for success in the competitive workforce. Through the mass collection and resale of gently-used donated items, Goodwill’s 20+ retail stores and Goodwill Home Medical Equipment Store generate the revenue necessary to fund these worthwhile programs while contributing to America’s recycling efforts. For more information on Goodwill, please call 856/439-0200 or visit www.goodwillnj.org.

About Lenape Regional High School District

The Lenape Regional High School District's four high schools – Lenape, Shawnee, Cherokee and Seneca – as well as the Sequoia Alternative Program, educate approximately 7,000 students from eight communities in Burlington County, NJ. The communities served include Evesham, Medford, Medford Lakes, Mount Laurel, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle and Woodland. The Lenape District is among the highest achieving districts in the state, with an average graduation rate of 96.4% and an average student SAT score of 1591. A leader in progressive education, the LRHSD's mission is to develop physically and emotionally healthy students who excel in an ever-changing world.