

POTTSTOWN PRIDE

ACADEMICS AND ACTIVITIES
PARTNERS FOR EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE



FALL 2023

Our Mission: *Prepare each student, by name, for success at every level.*



POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

POINTS OF PRIDE

FALL 2023



Student activities are an integral part of our educational program. Co-curricular programs are not only a way for students to have fun, but also a valuable educational tool. Activities provide an opportunity for all students to participate and help build community recognition and identity. Co-curricular activities are designed to instill school pride and teach life-long lessons. They support the academic mission of the school district and promote citizenship and sportsmanship. The activities program is a testing ground for the physical and emotional development of our young people.

IT IS BETTER TO BUILD STRONG CHILDREN THAN TRY TO REPAIR ADULTS.

For more information about Pottstown School District, visit our website at www.PottstownSchools.org or call 610-323-6274.

Pottstown School District is proud of its past and confident of its future.

Go to <http://www.pottstownschoools.org/AlumniPages.aspx> and then click on any of the highlighted years. The yearbooks provide an engaging narrative into the proud history of Pottstown. One can go as far back as 1914 to see the interest and fashion of the day. Pottstown School District may be one of a few districts in the country to provide this unique feature as a way of sharing community pride in our schools. Pottstown High School has over 20,800 graduates who have gone on to distinguish themselves in every field of endeavor and given us reason to say *Proud to be from Pottstown*. It is an honor to share this look back to younger days with our graduates. We are not posting our most recent yearbooks because the High School still has some hard copies for sale. Not every yearbook is posted. The missing years are listed on the website. If anyone is willing to lend us one for scanning, please contact John Armato at 610-323-6271 / 484-256-7491 or jarmato@pottstownk12.org.

We Are Pottstown!!!

Pottstown Makes Its Voice Heard

Pottstown School District hosted an event sponsored by Power Metro that heard Pottstown students, teachers, parents, administrators, school board members and citizens send a personal message to legislators about the harm the lack of fair funding has caused our community.

Learning Studio a Path to Success

The mission of the Pottstown School District is to prepare each student, by name, for success at every level. The Beech Street Learning Studio is designed to support the individual needs of some of our students, who would benefit from an alternative method of schooling. It has turned into a powerful tool for goal attainment with 20 graduates this year and graduating 62 students since its inception. Graduation is only one of the goals of the program. This year, 5 students have been assisted with obtaining employment, 11 students were accepted into a post-secondary program and 4 students who have obtained certifications that will assist in post-secondary employment.

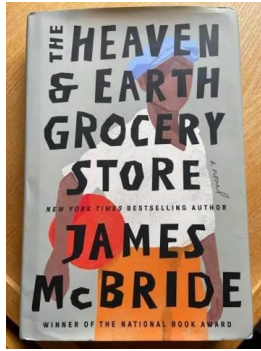
Congratulations to the newest Beech Street Learning Studio grads:

- ❖ Gianna Allen
- ❖ Jamila Blake
- ❖ Michael Davis
- ❖ Summer Rivera



Pottstown a central character in new James McBride novel

Author researched town and interviewed the neighborhood residents.



Mr. Rodriguez goes to Harrisburg



Pottstown School District Superintendent Mr. Stephen Rodriguez traveled to Harrisburg to testify at the House Education Committee. He continues to advocate for our community and for fair funding which will bring added resources for our students. His testimony begins at the 1 Hr 12 Min time mark on the video.

Rodriguez still fighting for more level-up school funding



Although the core of Pennsylvania's state budget has been adopted, still to be resolved is the matter of "level up" funding for the state's 100 poorest school districts which, for Pottstown Schools, meant more than \$1 million in state funding last year. So, while trying to get the district ready for another school year, Superintendent Stephen Rodriguez made time to make his way to Harrisburg Aug. 10 to testify before the House Education Committee about why that extra funding is needed, and the benefits previous "level-up" funding is already providing to Pottstown students.

School Supplies Donation

The physical therapy department of Premier, orthopedic specialist donated school supplies to the district. Many of our new teachers at induction had opportunity to take supplies for their classroom.



PHS grads give students clean cut start to school year

A fresh haircut and new school supplies in hand is a great way to get a new school year off to a positive start. Thanks to Pottstown High School grads **Tony Betts Jr., Tiffany Betts, Corey Sowers** and all of the barbers at Blade's Edge over 100 Pottstown students received a haircut and school supplies to start the first day of school. Over the years, Tony and the Blade's Edge team have made a positive contribution to our schools and community. Other members of the Blade's Edge team are Erick Dominguez, Colee Ruckle, Chelly Blenz and Arturo Deleaver. They are role models for civic responsibility and community commitment. Thank you for giving us another reason to say, proud to be from Pottstown.



Three Strikes and Your Off

When the bus company that provides transportation for some of our students unexpectedly reduced the number of routes that they provided, it caused concern for both students and parents. Superintendent Stephen Rodriguez immediately called a Town Hall meeting to hear concerns and brainstorm solutions. Within a matter of days, he was able to work with the transportation company and various community organizations to reestablish additional transportation options for students. Students who ride the fare paying bus must now sign a three strike and your off contract.

The Buses are Running

When the bus company that provides transportation for some of our students unexpectedly reduced the number of routes that they provided, it caused concern for both students and parents. Superintendent Stephen Rodriguez immediately called a Town Hall meeting to hear concerns and brainstorm solutions. Within a matter of days, he was able to work with the transportation company and various community organizations to reestablish additional transportation options for students.

FOOTBALL

Football Conference Media Day



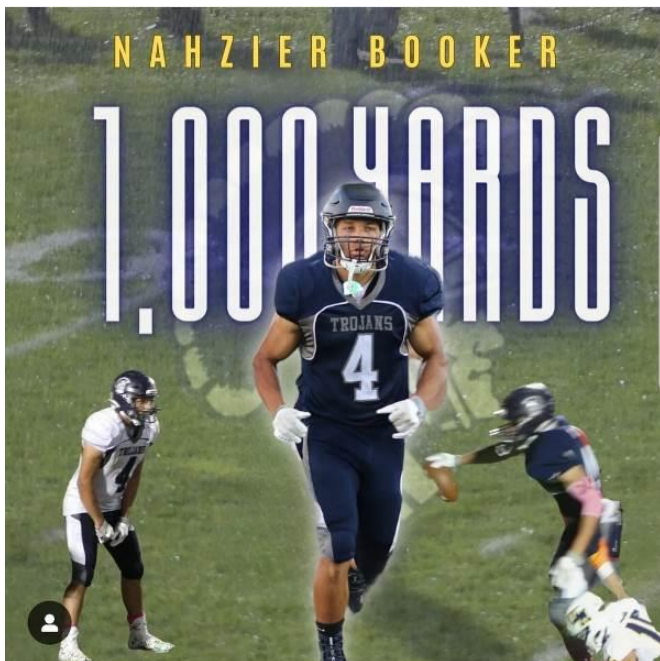
The annual Pioneer Athletic Conference football media day was held last week. Click on the 54 minute time mark to see the interviews with Pottstown head coach, Mr. Levert Hughes and some of the Trojan players. Special thanks to Pottstown Community Television for broadcasting the show.

Trojan football looks at rebuilding foundation

Rebuilding the championship tradition at Pottstown is a task **Levert Hughes** knows can't be accomplished overnight. But in his second year at the helm, Hughes hopes to continue building on the foundation established in 2022. His coaching staff contains several members of the last Pioneer Athletic Conference Championship team at the school (2002), and that familiarity is paying dividends in the Trojans' 2023 preparations.



Nahz can "Book it"



Trojan Proud of Pottstown High School student athlete **Nahzier Booker**, working hard in the classroom and on the field. Hard Work Pays Off with a 1,000 yard rushing season. A true team player he won't take credit for the achievement. He said, "I couldn't have done it without the youngest offensive line in our conference." If you see him, please congratulate him on this achievement and for being an outstanding representative of our school and community.

“Adam Sabuacak Player of the Game Award”

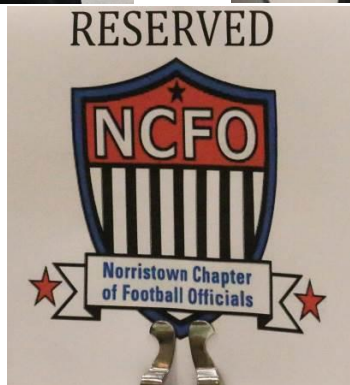
Adam Sabuacak was a 2001 graduate of Pottstown High School. He earned four varsity letters as a player for the Trojans and after graduation was one of our most loyal fans. Adam passed away in the spring of May 2009 and in his memory each week the high school football team will be naming the "Adam Sabuacak Player of the Game."

Winners for the 2024 Season:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| ➤ September 8 - Harriton | - DiMark Lyons |
| ➤ September 15 – Executive Charter | - Nahzier Booker |
| ➤ September 22 – Pottsgrove | - DiMark Lyons |
| ➤ October 13 – Pope John Paul | - Nahzier Booker |
| ➤ October 20 – Upper Merion | - Offensive Line: |
| | Caden Nihart, Mikell Williams, Zaheim |
| | White, Ikeem Wolloh, Kingston Allen, and |
| | Jose Charriez |

Mayes Shows The Way

Congratulations to Pottstown High School student-athlete Dillon Mayes for being honored by the Norristown Chapter of Football Officials with the good sportsmanship award. Dillon is a highly competitive student-athlete who helped lead his team to their first district playoff appearance in eight years. Head coach Levert Hughes said, “Our student-athletes recognize that they are representatives of our program, school, and community. Learning to play with honor, pride, and good sportsmanship are basic lessons that can be learned by taking part in athletics. Knowing that the officials refereed hundreds of games and came in contact with thousands of athletes makes this an extremely significant recognition for Dillon and our entire community.” Thank you for giving us another reason to, say proud to be from Pottstown.



Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference First Team All-Division Frontier- Offense

- **Nahzier Booker**

Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference First Team All-Division Frontier- Defense

- **Nahzier Booker**

Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Second Team All-Division Frontier- Offense

- **Kingston Allen**

Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Second Team All-Division Frontier- Defense

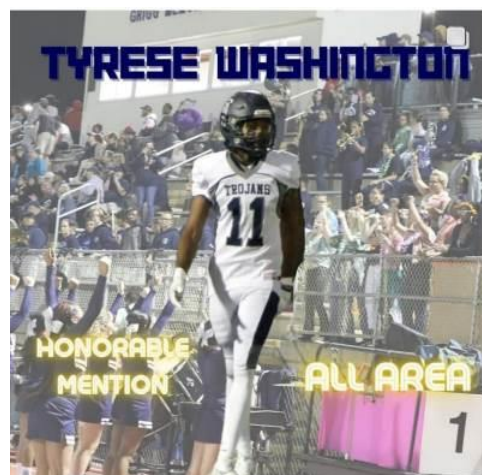
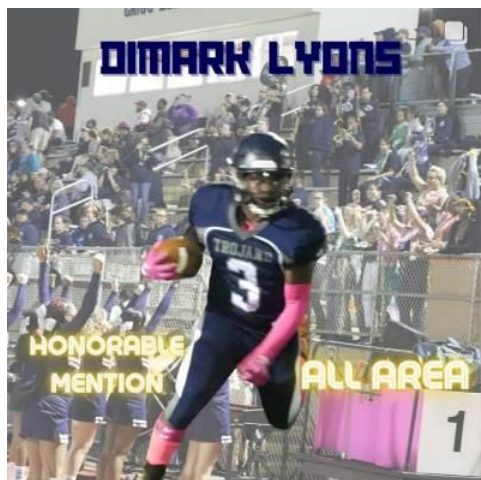
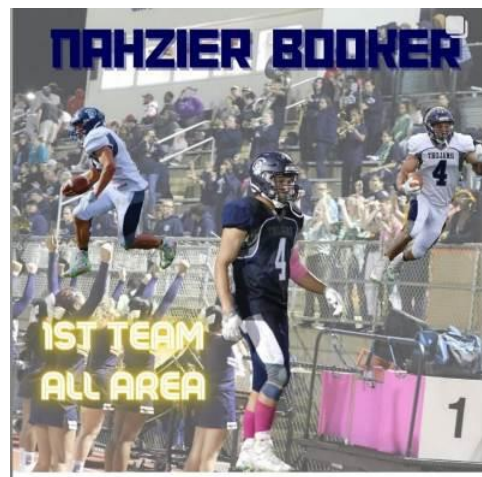
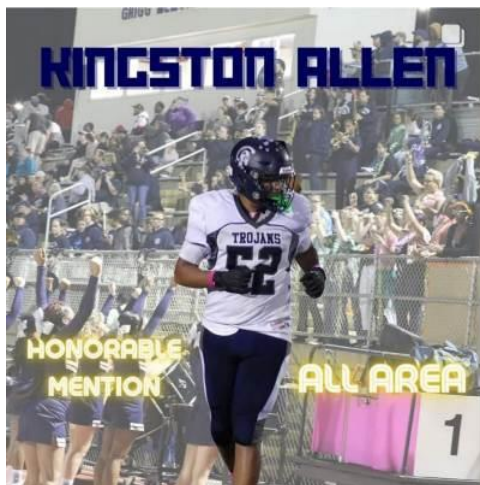
- **Tyrese Washington**
- **Josiah Pugh**

Named to The Mercury All Area First Team - Offense

- **Nahzier Booker**

Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team

- **Kingston Allen**
- **DiMark Lyons**
- **Dillon Mayes**
- **Tyrese Washington**



Football Players Senior Night Photos:



Jefferson Alvarez Lobos



Nahzier Booker



Kydair Cotton



Marcus Fowlkes



Mekhi Jones

Football Players Senior Night Photos:



Dimark Lyons



Dillon Mayes



I'samaad Moreau



I'samir Moreau

PRIDE

Football Players Senior Night Photos:



Javien Rolle



Tyrese Washington



Izaiyah Wilkerson



Kharee Woodson

PRIDE

Football Cheerleaders Senior Night Photos:



Football Cheerleaders Senior Night Photos:



Kaniyah Cotton

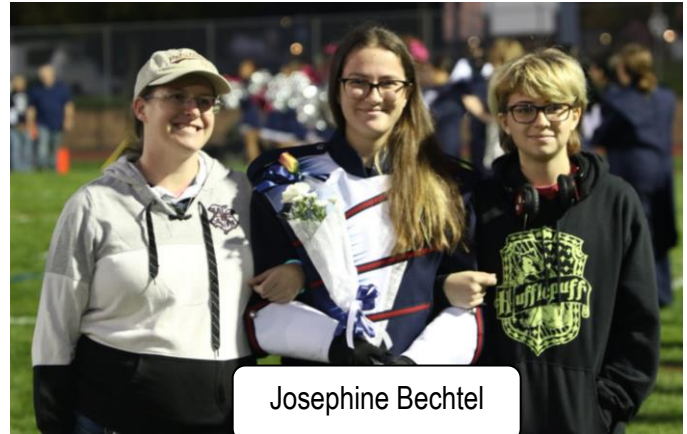


Heaven-Lee Tate



Chloe Weiss



BAND Senior Night Photos:

BAND Senior Night Photos:

Makenna Franey



Jonathan Moser



Ethan Yost

GIRLS' FIELD HOCKEY

Girls' Field Hockey Senior Day Photo:



Grayce Morton



Susan Summerville



TaNiyah Washington

BOYS' SOCCER

Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference All Frontier Division First Team

- Mujahid Corbitt

Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference All Frontier Division Second Team

- Da'Shon Barnes

Named to The Mercury All Area Boys' Soccer Honorable Mention

- Mujahid Corbitt
- Da'Shon Barnes

Boys' Soccer Senior Day Photos:



GIRLS' SOCCER

Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Frontier Division – Second Team

➤ Daniela Castillo

Girls' Soccer - Senior Day Photos:



Mackenzie Campbell



Keiara Lesley



Brynn McClune



Helen Ortega

Girls' Soccer - Senior Day Photos:



CROSS COUNTRY

Senior Day Cross Country Photos:



GIRLS' TENNIS

Senior Day Girls' Tennis Photos:



Elizabeth Adedeji



Layla Bearden



Helena Swiderski

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Girls volleyball history in the making

Congratulations to the student athletes and coaches of our PHS girls' volleyball team. In their initial year of participation in the Pioneer Athletic Conference, they have put in a lot of hard work, and it is beginning to pay off. The JV team made history by recording the first ever program victory a 15-13 tiebreaker win over Norristown. The excitement, pride, sense of accomplishment and joy could be seen in their faces. They are learning valuable life lessons about how to achieve success.



Girls' Volleyball Senior Day Photos



PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE ALL ACADEMIC TEAM

The value of participation on sports teams goes way beyond developing athletic skills. The Pioneer Athletic Conference demonstrates its commitment to academics and citizenship by recognizing an All-Academic Team and a Citizen Athlete at the end of each season. One athlete from each Fall Sports Team is named to represent their school. Our Fall sports honorees are:

- Boys' Cross Country - Adam Alaoui
- Boys' Soccer - Steven Jimenez Gomez
- Cheerleading - Emily Castillo
- Girls' Field Hockey - Grayce Morton
- Girls' Soccer - Savannah Richards
- Girls' Tennis - Elizabeth Adedeji
- Girls' Volleyball - Tara Morgan
- Football - Marcus Fowlkes

PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE **FALL CITIZEN ATHLETE AWARD**

Mujahid Corbitt

Girls Wrestling coming to Pottstown

Pottstown continues to expand its co-curricular opportunities for student participation. The high school and middle school will both sponsor Girls Wrestling teams this year. Pottstown has become one of over 150 school districts in the state of Pennsylvania who sponsor Girls Wrestling. The past several years Pottstown has had some outstanding girl wrestlers who had to compete on the boys' team. With these new programs our student athletes will be able to compete in a comparable setting. Please share this with our students and help encourage participation in all of our co-curricular activities that provide students with healthy activities that build interpersonal skills beneficial to real life success.

WHY WRESTLE

- It's Fun
- Be part of a team
- Promote personal responsibility
- Develop mental and emotional resilience
- Teaches proper nutrition
- Develop leadership skills
- Teaches discipline, and accountability
- Brings people together from all backgrounds and cultures
- Promote self-mastery and focus
- Teaches self-defense
- Opportunity for travel, and to further education



**GIRLS
WRESTLING
CAMP**

*This is the Inaugural Season for
HS & MS Girls Wrestling Team!
No experience / equipment
needed.*

**FREE
GRADES
7TH - 12TH**

**LOCATION : WRESTLING
FIELD HOUSE**
(White Building inside the Stadium - Use
Bottom Gate - Rear of Middle School)

TIME : 3:30PM - 5:00PM

WEDNESDAY
OCT 11th, OCT 18th, & OCT 25th

*Please contact Michael Hewitt at
mhewitt@pottstownk12.org for questions*

BAND

They are the Champions

In the world of drum and bugle corps, there is no better than the Reading Buccaneers. Pottstown High School alumni, current student and music staff members all contributed their talents to the Buccaneers world championship honors. Competing at the Drum Corps Associates World Competition held in Rochester New York, the Pottstown contingent helped secure the championship. Performing in the show “Can’t Stop, Won’t Stop” were former student Ceaira Worrell-Tillman, along with present student Taylor Maguire. Current Pottstown, marching band, staff members Mikaya Vangelo and Megan Fox also contributed their talent to the on field performance. PHS band staff Chris Liounis and our very own PHS marching band director, Daniel Higgins provided guidance and instruction to the organization. Higgins said, “I am excited and thrilled with becoming world champions, and I am proud of the contribution that members of the Pottstown School District have provided. We are truly helping to prepare our students for future success at every level.”

The Redding, Buccaneers, drum and bugle corps is a non-for-profit, education, oriented, musical organization, dedicated to providing its members with a unique performing experience. The Buccaneers are a charter member of the drum corps associates. (DCA) and compete annually for the DCA championships. Additionally, they perform in various venues, including parades, exhibitions, concerts, and field shows.



PHS Woodwinds Rock the House

Pottstown High School Trojan Woodwind Ensembles, under the direction of Ms. Nancy Mest, were invited to the Pennsylvania School Board Association leadership conference, held at the Kalahari Resort in the Poconos. They were featured as part of the "Student Showcase". Their performance received a standing ovation. Thank you for representing our school and community and giving us more reason to say, Proud to be from Pottstown.

Student performers were:

- Jayden Bell
- Brianna Bui
- Bat Endy
- Taina Santiago
- Sida Villain
- Garrett Shope
- Ariana Wilson
- Aniyah Wells



Strike up the band!

Trojan Proud of the members of the PHS marching band, their Director Mr. Daniel Higgins, all of the support staff and family members of the music association, who contribute their talents, efforts, and energy into the production of the shows. In addition to performing at football games recently, the Trojans have been on the road to band cavalcades at Boyertown and Owen J Roberts. Thank you for giving us another reason to say, proud to be from Pottstown.



PHS Marching Band "The Higgins Report"

Pottstown High School has a long tradition of outstanding marching bands. This season, under the direction of our director Mr. Daniel Higgins, the band sets a new standard of excellence.



The Marching Trojans competed in the Cavalcade of Bands American A Division championships hosted at Hatboro Horsham High School. Out of 17 total bands, Pottstown placed 8th overall. Perhaps an even greater accomplishment, the band came in 3rd place overall in the area of "Field Music". Without a doubt, this was their strongest performance of the season.

This was their final performance of their 2023 show "Here I Go Again". It was a wonderful season of huge growth for our ensemble. 16 of the 42 band members were brand new to marching with 7 having never even been in band before. The band was under new student leadership: Head Drum Major Carice Peart, and Assistant Drum Major Tyler Broughton. Both were crucial in the band's success.



We would like to thank seniors: Jon Moser, Tyler Broughton, Ethan Yost, Bat Endy, Josie Bechtel, and Makenna Franey for their years of work and service with the marching band.

In addition to Cavalcade of Bands, the band began performing in the Pennsylvania Marching Band Coalition and attended the PAMBC Season Finale at Manheim Township HS. Despite being an extraordinarily rainy few months, the Trojan Band delivered and entertained audiences through all conditions.

The Marching Band has one more performance this year. They will be performing at the Pottstown Schools Music Association Craft and Vendor show on November 18th.



STAFF and DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

October was identified as the World Mental Health Month. Awareness of mental health can lead to more conversation, an increase in understanding and acknowledgement, a rise in more resources and support, and ultimately bring about change.

The month of October was also a time to recognize and bring awareness to several causes, such as depression awareness, mental illness awareness, and mental health screening. To end the month, the Student Services department utilized Halloween as an opportunity to spread awareness by symbolically wearing crayons to represent resiliency. Crayons can break for many reasons, such as applying too much pressure, being mishandled, excessive use, lending them to unreliable hands, or even receiving them already broken. But, the message that we are spreading is that crayons can break, but [Broken Crayons Still Color](#).



**"WHAT DOES IT MEAN WHEN BROKEN
CRAYONS STILL COLOR?"**

Making a Difference

Congratulations to Pottstown School Board member, **Deborah Spence**, on being recognized by the Wings of Victory, Outreach Corporation, for her hard work and dedication to the community. She exemplifies the meaning of volunteerism, and her passion to help guide others on their journey to self-sufficiency and personal success. At a fundraising dinner, attended by hundreds, to support affordable housing for the unhoused, Spence received a heart shaped award emblematic of her personal commitment to our community. In receiving the award, she expressed her gratitude and said this is not just an accolade, it is a reminder of our shared humanity and the power of giving. Let's keep painting our town with the colors of compassion and the brushstrokes of unity. Together we are an unstoppable force of good.



Super's Award for Super Student

"Think big and work hard!", are words that Pottstown High School Senior **Layla Bearden** uses to guide her preparation for the future. Recently, she was recognized at the Pottstown School Board meeting with a Superintendent Award, recognizing her achievement as being named, National African American Recognition Award by Collegeboard. Take a minute to view this video and you will know it's another reason we say, proud to be from Pottstown!



ELEMENTARY

Rock 'n' Roll Friday at Franklin

Franklin Elementary school principal, Mrs. Kramer, greets students and congratulates them on “rolling in” on time, helping to promote good school attendance. Teachers and students all working together to help deliver on our school district mission to prepare each student by name for success at every level.



Lincoln Elementary Awarded the Leslie Freese Betz Award for 2022/23

In 2020 the Leslie Freese Betz Award was established by her family. Leslie, a PHS Alumni of the Class of 1988, passed away on January 16, 2020. Her family wanted to keep her memory alive and offered an award in her name. Each year, the family presents \$500 to one of the four Pottstown School District Elementary Schools. This award will rotate each year.

The 2022/23 award was presented to Lincoln Elementary School. Lincoln was able to purchase two benches for the outdoor learning center as is shown in the pictures. Also pictured are Mrs. Freese, Leslie's mother and Mrs. Boyer, Principal of Lincoln Elementary School.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Leslie Freese Betz Scholarship can do so by sending their contribution to the Foundation for Pottstown Education 230 Beech Street Pottstown PA 19464. Please mark that the contribution is in support of the Leslie Freese Betz Award. The 2023/24 award will be presented to Franklin Elementary School.



Building a Solid Foundation at Barth

At Barth Elementary everyone is working at the district mission, to prepare each student, by name, for success at every level. Barth's pre-K class has already learned six letter names, and sounds through the Foundations Program. Last week they had fun making those letters in many different ways... with wooden pieces, magnetic stamps in clay. They were proud of their letter creations, and we are proud to say they are from Pottstown.



It's Picnic Time at Barth

At Barth they took advantage of beautiful weather to invite families to enjoy a lunch picnic with teachers and students. Everyone enjoyed the weather, the food and opportunity to talk to one another. Building stronger family school relationships that will be the foundation to student success.

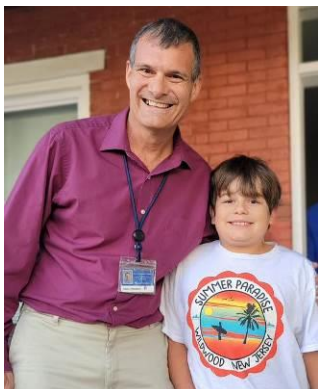


Taxi Please

These lucky Rupert fourth graders got "Principal Taxi Service" as a "caught being good" reward. Principal Mr. Matt Moyer, taxied them to class this morning and they got to sit in the special chairs all day. Building a culture of positive school environment and good citizenship includes recognizing and rewarding positive student behaviors.



If you are a student at Rupert Elementary School and you hear a knock on your door at home, you may find you are being visited by principal, Matt Moyer, and teachers from school. Every month the **Rupert. I'MPACT team (I am Pottstown Action Team)** goes out into the community to meet their students and families to celebrate student effort and achievement. Building strong relationships by engaging the community in the school district mission to prepare each student by name for success at every level.



National Walk to School Day

Walk a mile in my shoes

Lincoln Elementary principal, Calista Boyer, along with the school's teachers joined students and family members to celebrate National Walk to School Day. Mrs. Boyer and staff met students and families at the Spray Park and then walked to school. Enjoying a beautiful day, taking time to appreciate their surroundings and sharing conversation to get to know one another are some of the benefits of living in a walkable community.



Barth Staff Enjoys Lunch Courtesy of Community

Thank you to community organizations Pottstown Community Action (PCA), Pottstown NAACP, Pottstown, chapter of the national association for the advancement of colored people NAACP, Family Advisory Council (FAC), Genesis Housing & local churches for the teacher appreciation luncheon at **E.B. Barth Elementary School**. Engaging the community will help lead to student success. There was lots of delicious food enjoyed by all and tables full of donated school supplies that will be well used in the classroom. Couldn't help but notice all of the Pottstown High School grads who have returned to Barth Elementary, and serve as role models for the next generation of future leaders. Pottstown is a small community that has learned the value of working together. One Goal One Team One Town Proud to be from Pottstown



You have the Skill we have the Treats

Trojan proud of PHS students, in the Early Childhood Education program and their teacher Naimah Rhodes. They combined developing an event that allowed them to gain valuable experience, working with small children while at the same time, creating a fun experience where children were challenged to use physical skills and problem-solving techniques. All of the games required children to use physical skills and problem solve how to achieve success in each event to be rewarded with traditional Halloween candy. Shout out to the Trojan Man twins for lending their support to another community activity.



Pre-K Students Enjoy New Playground Equipment



Students at our North End Early Learning Center will find some new playground equipment that will provide a stimulating, safe and educational environment for them to improve their motor skills, increase their strength, and also have the opportunity to experiment with music. (in other words, go have some fun). The students took part along with district administrators in the grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony. The project which was funded through a pre-K counts grant and will provide students new opportunities to challenge their physical and problem-solving skills. Immediately after

the ribbon was cut students gave their field test approval of the new equipment. PS - an adult or two had to be reminded that the equipment was for student use only.

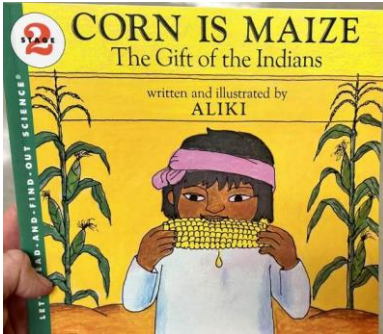


Reading: "Strings Attached"

Students at Lincoln Elementary School were happy to find out that sometimes there are "strings attached" to reading books at home. Principal Calista Boyer challenged students in September to read a total of 500 books by the end of the 1st marking period. A tally of student logs showed 575 books read. Their reward was to SILLY STRING Mrs. Boyer. More proof that reading and learning can be fun.



Barth students get a feel for and taste of history



At Barth Elementary School students in Mrs. Kathy Eagle's class got a feel for and a taste of history as they helped celebrate Native American History Month by reading "Corn is Maize", which taught students how corn grows and how important it was to Native Americans. It was definitely a hands-on learning experience as students finger painted their own corn and sampled Comanche Fried Corn.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School Football Team Scores for Community

Pottstown Middle School student athlete members of the football team are learning they can score on the field and in the community. As they continue their preseason training Coach Gary Allan, his staff, and players are taking time to show appreciation and say thanks to the school and community by completing community service projects. In August they did landscaping to help prepare the middle school campus for the opening of school. Recently after practice they helped to beautify the grounds at First Presbyterian Church. Coach Allan said, "I am proud of our young men who have made a commitment to excellence on the field and to serve our community."



Student Athletes Must Earn the Privilege to Play

Our Pottstown Middle School student athletes are learning valuable life lessons. In order to participate on a team, students must maintain required academic standards, have a required attendance standard, and maintain a good discipline record. They must achieve successful performance in all three areas in order to earn the privilege to participate on the team. Today on campus our girls' soccer team played with pride, honor and good sportsmanship in their game with Perkiomen Valley. The football team ended the season with a 14-0 victory over Upper Perkiomen and the cheerleading squad brought their enthusiasm and support to our teams.



Off-campus the cross-country team had a strong showing at the championships with **Leyna Johnson** leading the way with 11th place finish, **Lucy Zuniga** was 13th and **William Rose** placed 12th in the boys' race. Over 150 middle school students participate in our fall sports programs and are learning they have to earn their way. Our student athletes are representatives of our school and community and give us reason to say proud to be from Pottstown.



Middle School Choir Salutes Veterans

The Pottstown Middle School Choir directed by Lori Hoshaw helped to honor our country's veterans. Choir member Audrey Muriel sang the Star-Spangled Banner to open a veteran's appreciation dinner held by Pottstown Elks Lodge #814. "Our choir entertained the audience with their rendition of God Bless the USA." Ms. Hoshaw said, "I am proud of our students using their talents to help honor our veterans who have sacrificed to help preserve our freedoms. This is an opportunity for them to learn about civic responsibility first hand."

Members of the choir include: Audrey Muriel, Aidan Conrad, Ashirah Still, Da'Rya Davis, Sebastian Haberle, Peyton Coale, Destiny Trejo, Morgan Hine, Cheyanne Gillenwater, Jason Horton, Carla Horton, Abbey Jennings, Erin Alessi.



HIGH SCHOOL

PHS Trojan Shop Grand Opening

The Marketing class at Pottstown High School hosted the grand launch of the Marketing Trojan Shop under the supervision of marketing teacher Mr. Ronald Davenport. Students worked to build a product list, by examining data from the previous year and conducting student-teacher questionnaires. The business underwent extensive renovations, during which the students made new decorations and signs to brighten the space. The opening was a big success thanks to many people who helped promote it. The marketing shop was created to give level 2 and 3 marketing students practical business management experience. The students will need to develop their ability to handle change, deliver excellent customer service, and understand the components of creating an excellent product mix for their target market.



Boot Camp to Band Camp

Pottstown High School senior **Jon Moser** will have an interesting answer to the typical first day back from school question: what did you do over the vacation? Fort Jackson US Army training base in South Carolina was Moser's home away from home for 10 weeks of basic combat training during the summer. Along with all of the other civilian volunteers he learned combat skills, such as land navigation, medical care, marksmanship, and other military skills. Moser graduated along with the other volunteers, well trained, disciplined, physically, fit and motivated. Jon returned to the halls of PHS, where he traded his combat gear in for the set of drums, he plays as a member of the marching band and the headgear he uses as a member of the wrestling team. Jon said, "Camp was a challenge, but my activities at PHS such as the band, the school musical, wrestling, academic and CTE classes prepared me well for basic training. I was happy to get back home to see family and friends and enjoyed my first night under the lights at band camp."



[CBS puts spotlight on PHS student](#)

CBS News paid a visit to PHS to shine the spotlight on **Colin Plank**.



2024 PHS Homecoming Court



Brooke Thomas was crowned Queen and Tyrese Washington crowned King



2024 PHS Homecoming Court



Megan Cannell & Adam Alaoui



Angelina Chhern & Jonathan Moser



Chloe Weiss & Tyrese Washington



Emily Castillo & Tyler Broughton



Brooke Thomas & Christian Toland



2022 Homecoming Queen and King
Krista Leinbach & Adam Green

Honor Society inducts new members

Pottstown High School National Honor Society welcomed seventeen new members at an induction ceremony held in the Davenport Center for Performing Arts. During a candle lighting ceremony, the four pillars that are the foundation of the organization were described: scholarship, service, leadership, and character. In order to be considered for membership students must not only have high academic standing, but demonstrate accomplishments in the areas of leadership, character, and service. Membership is a positive reflection on the students themselves, their families, school, and community. They give us another reason to say, proud to be from Pottstown.

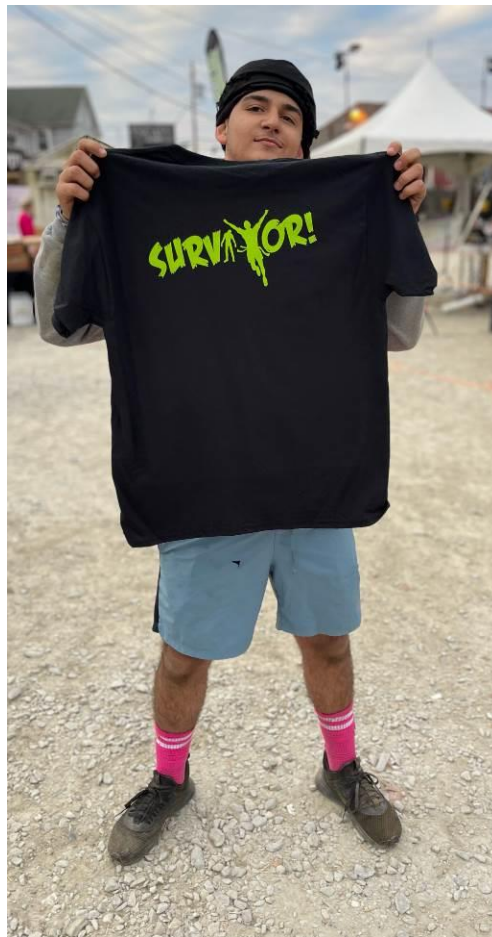
New members are:

- ❖ Ava Alessi
- ❖ Triniti Rhodes-Fisher
- ❖ Annasophia Chhern
- ❖ Natalie Shope
- ❖ Wesam Elgendy
- ❖ Allyana Sykes
- ❖ Jayanna Hill
- ❖ Emely Villegas
- ❖ Aliyas Hudson
- ❖ Cianne Wells
- ❖ Arek Javage
- ❖ Ariana Wilson
- ❖ Colin Plank
- ❖ Isabella Wright



Trojan Men put it on the line for Breast Cancer Awareness

The brave members of the Trojan Nation show no fear when it comes to supporting worthy causes. They took the Zombie 5k Run Field of Screams challenge to support the PA Breast Cancer Coalition. Team Trojan Man included, the leader of Trojan Nation high school teacher Dave Woodley along with Trojan Men **Hamed Al-Muhtaseb** and **Mohammed Selmi**. Runners set out with the goal of surviving the zombies running around the 3.5 mile course! Unfortunately, Hamed was the only Trojan Man to survive without getting infected! Regardless of the results, the Trojan Men had a great time supporting the PA Breast Cancer Coalition. Trojan Proud of our students and staff for showing their civic responsibility. Another reason to say, Proud to be from Pottstown.



THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS

- **On the Road to Reading** - Thanks to a donation of books from the Pottstown chapter of the NAACP our elementary students will be able to select books to take home and keep as part of their personal library. Chapter members, Sandy Bauer, her husband Bob along with Pottstown NAACP president Johnny Corson, hand-delivered the first installment of books which students will select from and add to their personal home library. Pottstown Proud of the partnerships and community engagement which support programs like this that benefit our children and help prepare them for future success. What a better reason to say, proud to be from Pottstown.



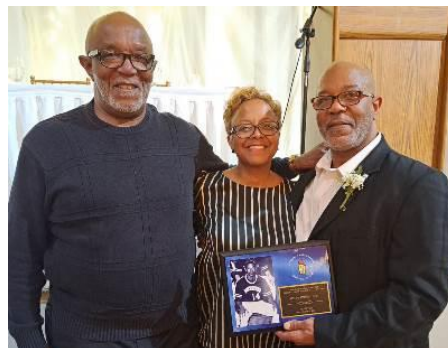
The 45th Annual Tri County Area Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Trojan alumni, **Kasey (Mock) Eckroth** and **Willis Whitehurst** who were inducted into the Tri-County Area Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

- ❖ **Kasey (Mock) Eckroth – PHS Class of 2010** – During her outstanding career at Pottstown HS (2007-2010) she set the PAC girls' lacrosse record with 318 goals, with 119 coming in her senior season. She was The Mercury Lacrosse Player of the Year in 2010, and All Philly Area 1st Team. She then got a full scholarship to Syracuse University where she was a standout on defense. She helped the Orange win the Big East Championship in 2013, and they made three Final Fours. She was named the following year at SU: All Academic Big East (2011-13), All Academic ACC (2014), and 2nd Team All ACC (2014). After college she played on the U.S. Women's National Team (2014-15). She has since coached Lax at various levels including high school and college.



- ❖ **Willis Whitehurst – PHS Class of 1982** – He was an outstanding all-around athlete at Pottstown HS before graduating in 1982. He earned 9 letters (4 baseball/3 football/2 basketball). He was the QB as a senior helping lead the Trojans to a 9-2-1 record, capped off with a shutout over rival OJR 19-0. He was named All ChesMont that year. He was a PG in hoops guiding the Trojans to a 20-5 record earning the #1 seed in District I. He played SS in baseball and was known for his slick fielding and steady bat. He was named All ChesMont SS. He skipped college and got drafted by the Kansas City Royals playing Minor League ball for a few years. He had 46 RBIs and hit .285 during his career. After his playing days, he joined the U.S. Army and proudly served his country.





FALLEN TROJANS



The Pottstown School District is proud of the members of its Trojan family and will honor its deceased alumni by recognizing them and their accomplishments in our "Fallen Trojans" section. Anyone wishing to have alumni recognized should provide appropriate information to:

John J. Armato, Director of Community Relations,
230 Beech Street, Pottstown PA 19464 or email jarmato@pottstownk12.org.

- **Forrest Bruce Buck** - Class of 1950 - was known for his dedication and hard work, serving in the Army for 2 years. He was a proud member of the military community. After his military service, Forrest embarked on a successful career as a pattern maker and arborist. His expertise and craftsmanship were highly regarded in his field.



- **Merrill "Mac" Shirey** - Class of 1955 - was the husband of Jane A. (Reichelderfer) Shirey of 66 years. Born in Pottstown, he was the son of the late Malcolm C. Sr. and Anna (Sninski) Shirey. Mac enjoyed fishing, hunting, and gardening. He was an accomplished athlete in high school who excelled in baseball, football, and basketball. He was entered into the Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame for his team's 48-0 record at Pottstown High School. He was also inducted into the Tri-County Area Hall of Fame in 2005. Mac will be remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather who had a great sense of humor.



- **Jason Joseph Andrew Walker** - Class of 2004 - was the beloved son of Deb (Churchill) Gratzinger and Fred Walker. Jason graduated from Pottstown High School in 2004, and enjoyed fishing, camping, and spending time with his family.







- **Anne Focht Embody** graduated from Pottstown High School in 1948, and attended Stevens College in Columbia, MO, where she graduated with an Associates Degree from their Aviation Program. One of Anne's proudest accomplishments was getting her pilot's license at age 17 after first flying solo at 16, an interest she shared with her father. Anne returned to Pottstown, she set her sights on working for The Firestone Co. (Plastics Division) and ultimately served as Executive Secretary to Mr. Roger Firestone. Anne was married to Walt Seavers until his death in 1977. After retiring from Firestone, Anne moved to Stone Harbor, NJ where she began a second career as a supervisor in the Tax Collector's office.





FALLEN TROJANS



- **[Ursula M. \(Harmansky\) Frain](#)** - Class of 1964 – 77, was the wife of the late Harry R Frain. Ursula was born in Salz, Austria and became a United States citizen at the age of four. She studied at both Ursinus College and Montgomery County Community College. She was well known in the Pottstown area as one of the owner/operators of Sheridan's News located on South Hanover Street. People went out of their way to come into Sheridan's to enjoy her cooking. Ursula was a generous person who was always there for others when they needed help.
 
- **[Pastor J. Ken Kirk](#)** - Class of 1954 - was the husband of Sandra L. (Miller) Kirk, with whom he shared 67 years of marriage. Born in Pottstown, PA, on April 5, 1936, Ken was the son of the late Kenneth and Anna (Syphard) Kirk. Ken graduated from Pottstown High School and attended Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades in Media, PA, to become a tool & die maker. Ken previously owned Miller and Mohler, Inc., in Pottstown, which specialized in equipment leasing of video game machines, pinball, jukeboxes, and pool tables. At the age of 40, Ken was divinely called to ministry and founded Hopewell Community Church in Pottstown, where he faithfully served as a pastor for many years. His enduring commitment to living for the Lord led him to his present position as a pastor at New Beginnings Global Ministries in Pottstown, a role he continued until his passing. Pastor Ken's compassion, wisdom, and spiritual guidance touched the lives of many in the community.
 
- **[Charlotte \(Banyai\) Reifsneider](#)** – Class of 1949 - 92, of Spring City, wife of the late James R. Reifsneider, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, October 31, 2023. Born in Limerick, she was the daughter of the late Julius and Gertie (Lightcap) Banyai. Charlotte enjoyed working for Curchoe's Flowers in Pottstown. She helped manage the Limerick Deli before retiring. She enjoyed bird watching and spending time in the Poconos.
 
- **[Mary Lou \(Wanner\) Mitchell](#)** – Class 1949 - widow of W. Jesse Mitchell, was born in Pottstown and was the daughter of the late Leon Marty Wanner and Dorothy Mae (Reifsnyder) Wanner. After graduation she went on to work as a secretary for Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. Mrs. Mitchell was a member of Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Boyertown. She was a member of Melody Maids Chorus Group in Pottstown and Boyertown Area Choral Association.
 



FALLEN TROJANS



- [Donald Henry Mace](#) - Class of 1951 - was the husband of Suzanne Eileen Mace, with whom he shared 68 years of marriage. He was born in Pottstown, the son of George K., Sr. and Mary (Zezenski) Mace. He was a graduate of Lancaster Bible College. He was the proud business owner of Don Mace Signs for 63 years in Pottstown. He crafted beautiful award-winning hand-lettered, carved, and neon signs throughout his career. He was also a proud Korean War Veteran of the US Army. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal as well as the Good Conduct Medal. He continued to serve in the Army Reserves for an additional 8 years.



- [James \(Jim\) D. Himes](#) - Class of 1963 - was the son of the late C. Douglas Himes and Madeline (Weikel) Himes. Jim was an accountant for more than thirty years and an Air Force veteran.





FALLEN TROJAN STAFF



- **Bonita "Bonny" Louise (Yoder) Barnhill**, was the wife of William D. Barnhill for 42 years.



Born in Pottstown Hospital on September 18, 1951, she was a daughter of the late Richard A. and Dorothy E. (Ploppert) Yoder. Bonny had lived most of her life in Stowe, Audubon & Pottstown. She was a 1969 graduate of Saint Pius X High School and a 1973 graduate of Kutztown University. Her most recent employment was with Iron Mountain as a customer service representative. After

college she worked at Sacred Heart Elementary School as a teacher. In addition, she worked at MOS/Commodore Semiconductor in quality control as a Supervisor, with the Boy Scouts of America as a District Executive & as a Den Leader with Pack 99, and a customer service representative for Comcast. Bonny was a **Pottstown School District Board Member** and a member of the Penn Oaks Quilt Guild and the Boyertown Quilt Guild.

- **Doris E. (Schmuck) Reed** passed away on September 27, 2023, after a short stay at The



Villages Regional Hospital in Florida. Doris was born in Pottstown, PA on April 15, 1936, to Arthur and Anna (Reinert) Schmuck of Stowe, PA. Along with her parents, she was predeceased by her loving husband of 63 years, George "Rip" Reed, and her sister, Joanne Reynolds. Surviving are daughter, Donna Hiryak, wife of Peter, and son, David Reed, husband of Anita, grandchildren Ryan Frey, husband of Sara, Ashlee Frey, Kristen Reed, Chelsea Pavone, wife of Christopher, and Kyle Reed. She is also survived by great-

grandson, Blaise Frey and great-granddaughter, Riley Pavone, two step-grandsons, Eric and Dane Hiryak, as well as sister, Barbara Amole, and brother Arthur Schmuck, Jr. Upon graduation from West Pottsgrove High School, Doris worked for Firestone T&R Company and the **Pottstown School District Business Center**, retiring in 1995 at which time they moved to Florida to enjoy their retirement. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in her memory to New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Road, East Greenville, PA 18041. A private memorial service will be held.

FALLEN TROJAN STAFF

- [Thomas A. Palladino](#), 81, husband of Carol J. (Renninger) Palladino, passed away Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 at the Phoenixville Hospital with his loving family by his side. He was the son of the late Angelo and Mary (Morello) Palladino. Thomas was a veteran of the U.S. Army. After being honorably discharged, he worked for his family, Palladino Brothers, for seven years as a heating serviceman. He later received his B.S. Degree from Temple University and was a **teacher at Pottstown High School for 25 years**. After his teaching career, Thomas went on to be a District Judge for 18 years. Thomas was



active in the Pottstown community. He was a member of St. Gabriel's Church of the Sorrowful Mother in Stowe, a Fourth Degree Knight with The Knights of Columbus, a member of the Elk's Lodge #814 of Pottstown and St. Gabriel's Lodge of Stowe. He was also a member of West End Fire Company. Thomas served 24 years as a Commissioner for West Pottsgrove Township. Community government was his passion. In his leisure, Thomas enjoyed spending time with his beloved family, golfing, supporting Pottsgrove athletics, rooting for Notre Dame football, and using his vast handyman knowledge to help anyone who asked. Along with his wife, Thomas leaves his memories to be cherished by his children: Michelle L. Kazmierczak (husband Jeff), Pamela A. Palladino-Neff (husband Rick), Scott T. Palladino (companion Jennifer Hayes), and Steven A. Palladino (wife Jenna). He is also survived by a sister Ann Freese (husband Edward) and two grandchildren, Jade Kazmierczak and Aria Palladino. For Thomas, family meant everything. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Gabriel's Church, 127 Jefferson Street, Stowe, PA 19464.

- [Gene Louise Whistler](#), born January 5, 1942, in Chestnut Hill, PA, daughter of Brandon Whistler and Louise (Henning) Whistler, passed away at the age of 81 on Friday, August 25, 2023 at home with her family in Lansdale, PA. Gene attended East Stroudsburg State College and earned her Masters degree at West Chester University. She was a celebrated coach and teacher of physical education and health in the Pottstown School District until her retirement in 1996. She had a lifelong love of sports that carried all the way from her days playing field hockey with



her sister, Judy, at Springfield Township High School to playing and watching tennis throughout her life. She mentored countless student athletes and coached teams in field hockey, basketball, and tennis. In addition to her passion for sports, especially tennis, Gene also loved reading and art, and was an artist in her own right. She enjoyed traveling west to New Mexico and Oregon to visit her family, and was dedicated to spending time nearly every year at the shore. Gene was deeply connected to her community and made friends wherever she went, fostering these relationships into life-long friendships. She was involved in her church, Gwynedd Square Presbyterian, and generously supported many causes. Gene was predeceased by her partner, Janet Harvey, and sister, Judy Weideman. She is survived by her brother, Ain Whistler, and by her loving cousins, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren. She is remembered with love by her many friends and family. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made for the benefit of the Pottstown High School women's sports program to the Foundation for Pottstown Education, 230 Beech Street, Pottstown, PA 19464.



ALUMNI



- **PHS Grad Named to Lead Spalding University Lacrosse Team** – Congratulations to Trojan 3-sport standout athlete [Shannon Witzel](#) who has been named the Head Women's



Lacrosse Coach at Spalding University in Louisville Kentucky. A graduate and member of Towson University Hall of Fame, Shannon has over 11 years Division 1 coaching experience. Her hard work has paid off and gives us another reason to say, proud to be from Pottstown.

- **PHS grad a star on the rise** - [Justin Foster](#), Pottstown High School, class of 2007, was honored as a rising star by HousingWire's rising star program which recognizes industry



professionals who have become leaders in their respective fields. They help run major corporations and are the entrepreneurs building tomorrow's future. Foster has been a star on the rise from his high school days as president of the National Honor Society and Corps Commander of the school's Air Force Junior ROTC program.

He continued his education at West Chester

University where he earned a bachelor of science degree in management as an undergraduate he was the Director of the Student Union and a fraternity president. He interned at Lockheed Martin and moved on to the DuPont corporation, where we met his wife. Their executive responsibilities have relocated the family several times, including Arizona, New Jersey, Maine, North Carolina, Germany, and most recently, New Jersey, where he was appointed to fill a seat on the local school board. He is the youngest executive officer of the Radian Group, a mortgage and real estate service company based in Philadelphia. As senior vice president of the Human Resources division he is responsible for leading critical functions that assure delivering on the promise of ensuring stable affordable and equitable home ownership. Over the last year, Foster and his team have achieved progress in expanding diversity, equity and inclusion efforts and educating employees, customers, and stockholders on the importance of closing, the home ownership, gap for communities of color and other underrepresented communities. Prior to his present position, he was chief diversity officer at DDL, a global financial service institution with operations in 30 countries with 5000 employees. When asked to share some of the things he has learned on his road to success he said, your journey is a series of choices, both big and small. Each decision you make is like a brushstroke on the canvas of your future. It's easy to attribute it to external factors, but true growth comes from recognizing you have the power to shape your own path, take responsibility for your choices and watch how they paint your picture of destiny. While classrooms are where we learn facts and figures, education goes beyond those walls, it is in the wisdom, care, and guidance of Pottstown, teachers, and staff, that we find the lessons that shape our character. They are the mentors, who impart not just knowledge, but valuable life skills that will serve us well beyond our school years. Proud to say I'm from Pottstown.

- **PHS Grad shares research findings** - Pottstown High School graduate and now Dean of Students at Pottstown High School, **Dr. Jaime Parris**, was one of the featured speakers at the Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Institute Workshop, sponsored by the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation. Dr. Parris shared some findings from his study on the perceptions and experiences of young African-American males in underserved public schools. He provided valuable insight that will help educators provide quality educational experiences for students.



- **Grad pinning down success** - **Trenton Clifford** Pottstown High School class of 2012, is well on his way to pinning down success. He is a 2017 graduate of East Stroudsburg University with a bachelor of arts degree in political science. While at East Stroudsburg, he was a member of the wrestling team, served as the Public Relations Director of the Political Science Club, and a member of the Debate Team. He is a recent honors graduate with a master of arts in political science and a member of the National Political Science Honor Society with a GPA of 3.73. He has built his success on goal setting, establishing both short and long-term goals. His next goal is to enroll in law school. Short term, he hopes to become a criminal defense attorney, and move onto magistrate judge. His long-term goal is to become a political representative and advocate for the black community, people of color and indigenous groups. He shared some lessons he learned with the students of PHS. Prepare yourself for a lot of things that won't go your way. The road to success is never a straight line, but strong perseverance, discipline, and self-accountability will aid you in reaching your goals. Through my personal experiences I have learned that you can either feel sorry for yourself about what you can't or couldn't do or you can use all options and then some to navigate through those unexpected roadblocks. I give all the credit for any success to my parents, my close friends, as well as my coaches for the support and opportunities to reach this point in my life. Go Trojans.



- **PHS Grad's Road to Success from Town to Big Cities** – The road to success for



Destiny Williams, Pottstown High School class of 2020 has taken her from our small town to Washington DC to attend Howard University, where she is a senior majoring in business. Her summer was spent in New York City at the worldwide headquarters of Estee Lauder, interning with the e-commerce division of the international cosmetic company, manufacturer of beauty care products. At Howard university, she is active in the Marketing Association Club, Black Retail Action Group, and executive leadership program for the Howard School of Business. Destiny has received the ROSE scholarship, YWCA, Rising Star Award, Pottstown, Juneteenth scholarship, and the Theodore Hagan School of Business Scholarship. While at Pottstown High School, she took part in the theater program, tennis, marching band, choir and National Honor Society. She credits her mother, Denise Williams for providing her with the inspiration and guidance that has encouraged her to

succeed. As for her days as a PHS student she said I am grateful for the many opportunities I was given to participate in so many activities. The theater program instilled a self confidence in me that I take everywhere I go.

- **PHS Grad Prepared for Success** – **Christian Albert**, Pottstown High School class of



2021 is living up to the district mission, to prepare each student by name for success at every level. Elected Class President he was an honor student that excelled in cross country and track. As a third-year student at Howard University he has earned dean's list honors with a 3.53 GPA, majoring in Human Performance with a concentration in Sports Medicine and a minor in Chemistry. Active on campus he, is a member of the Sports Medicine Society, Physical Therapy Club, Haitian Student Association and Genesis Model Club. Christian's message to the students of PHS, the struggles along the way, are only meant to shape your purpose. PHS taught me the importance of overcoming adversity and has helped me on my journey to success.

- **PHS Grad's Principles Lead Him to High School Principal - Eric Zipay**, Pottstown High School 1998 graduate credits his teachers and coaches for helping him develop a set of principles that have helped him on a 21-year career to become a successful educator, coach and administrator. He was recently named the principal of Simon Gratz High School in Philadelphia. He graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2003 with a major in business education and a minor in computer science. He has earned two master's degrees. He was a starter



on the IUP rugby team that competed at the division one level and participated in the final four national championships. After college he joined the teaching staff of Simon Gratz High School, and has been there for 21 years during that time, he has been a teacher, athletic director, coach, assistant principal and now principal. Head football coach for 16 years his teams amassed 117 wins and five public league championships. He's responsible for helping develop a foundation for students built on excellence in academics, community service, and athletics. His message to PHS students is to build a solid foundation, making sure to have the right circle of friends and mentors around you, as well as build the habits for a healthy and productive future. If your habits and friends aren't moving in a positive direction, have the

confidence to step back and change. Change takes courage and must be faced head on. Zipay credits much of his success to the experiences as a young person in Pottstown, he said, there were struggles and challenges, but overcoming those made me better equipped to face anything. You have to know how to get back up, overcome adversity, and work with others. I was fortunate to have teachers and coaches, who supported me and made a difference in my world; people like Mr. Sparagana, Goodhart, Armato, Mick, Wallace, Thomas and Morton were all mentors who I knew had my back, but they were also there to hold me accountable when I got off path.

- **Class of 2003 – 20th Reunion**



- PHS grad's journey from student to teacher** - It was just five short years ago that **Anthony (Moot-Moot) Wiggins** received his diploma from Pottstown High School. Enrolled in our Early Childhood Education program he was an honor student. Anthony also excelled outside of the classroom as an outstanding football player, championship wrestler, and star in the high school musical. He went on to Millersville University where he was a member of the wrestling team and graduated with honors. Anthony will begin his professional career as a fourth-grade teacher in the Pequea Valley school district. Pottstown High School's early childhood education program serves as a foundation for future educators, who will serve as positive role models to future generations. Anthony said, "I would like to thank everyone who has helped to guide and support me. PHS provided me with a solid foundation for success. I will forever be a Trojan at heart."



- From PHS grad to Ph.D** – Pottstown High School class of 2012 graduate, **Vaughan Shirey** is another example of Pottstown School District mission to prepare each student by name for success at every level. He holds a B.S. from Drexel University in Environmental Science. Dr. Shirey earned a PhD in biology (ecology, evolution and animal behavior) from Georgetown University. He is currently a conservation research fellow at the University of Southern California. Read about his work [here](#). He successfully defended his PhD research this summer on the effect of climate change on cold adapted butterflies in North America. His research included multiple field season trips to polar and alpine regions in order to document and conserve butterflies. His work is now published in some of the top journals in the field. In speaking to him, Vaughan credited a lot of his success to teachers at PHS, including biology teachers, Justine Donnelly and Paul Castanzo, as well as computer science teacher, Laura Luzeski; he dedicated his thesis research to his life science teacher at Pottstown Middle School, Michelle Andre. Vaughan Shirey, another reason to say, proud to be from Pottstown.

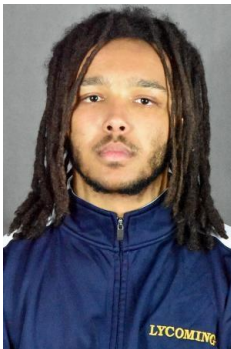


Dr. Vaughn M. Shirey
PHS '12

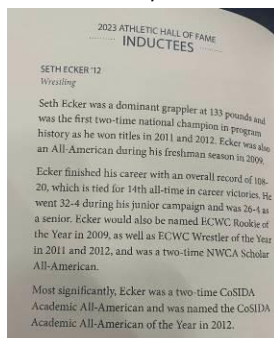
- **Alumni move on to the next level** - Trojan Proud of **Malachi Jones**, who is continuing his academic and athletic career attending Keystone college. Pottstown School District has helped prepare him for success in the classroom and on the mat. His hard work will pay off with a successful career and a leadership position in the community. He started his college wrestling career on a successful note by winning his first collegiate match.



- Trojan proud of **Devon Green** continuing his academic education and wrestling career at Lycoming College. He is well on his way preparing to be a future community leader. He is putting the lessons he learned in the classroom and on PHS wrestling and football teams to help him on his journey to success.



- Trojan Proud of **Seth Ecker** being inducted into the Ithaca College Hall of Fame. He is living proof that every second counts and hard work pays off. Goal driven and laser beam focused in the classroom, on the mat, and in the workplace.





We Are Pottstown ...

Stay connected with all of the friends of the Pottstown School District with this exclusive membership. Learn about what is happening with the Foundation for Pottstown Education with the newsletter, stay connected to updates and news through social media, engage in networking and career opportunities at special Pottstown Pride Society events, and much more. Together we will build a better community and continue to provide opportunities for the children of Pottstown School District. Be sure to stay tuned to social media and www.foundationpottstowned.org for the Pottstown Pride Society page as we grow. We would love for you to share your successes along the way to help encourage those who follow you. Together we provide opportunities for children of Pottstown.

Pottstown Pride Society

Yes, I'm Interested in More Info

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Graduate of Pottstown? If so, Class of _____

Employer: _____

Pottstown Interests: _____



WE ARE POTTSTOWN!

Return to: Foundation for Pottstown Education
230 Beech Street
Pottstown, PA 19464

Learn more about Pottstown schools – visit www.pottstownschoools.org and register for our FREE email information service.