

POTTSTOWN PRIDE

ACADEMICS AND ACTIVITIES
PARTNERS FOR EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE



SPRING-SUMMER 2021

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



POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT POINTS OF PRIDE SPRING-SUMMER 2021



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.pottstownschoools.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 19,000 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.

If you like to see pictures of our students, staff and community taking part in our many activities, the Pottstown School District website is the place to go. We are fortunate to have two outstanding photographers Emily Overdorf and Kerry Kline lend their talents to helping tell The Pottstown Story and thanks to our webmaster Carol Brightbill, a [link to galleries](#) of event pictures for your viewing pleasure has been created.

Rodriguez Outlines How Pennsylvania's Unfair Funding Shortchanges Pottstown Schools



Stephen Rodriguez has been speaking out against Pennsylvania's unfair school funding system for years.

Governor Wolf joins push for charter school reform at Pottstown High School



Superintendent Rodriguez Advocates To Build Strong Economy

Pottstown School District Superintendent Stephen Rodriguez serves as the president of the PLUS (Pennsylvania League of Urban Schools) Caucus of PASA, (Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators). Read his latest newsletter, explaining how support of education helps build for a strong middle class. A complete collection of his monthly newsletters can be found on our [district website](#).

Rodriguez: Pa.'s unfair school funding system costs local taxpayers

Pottstown schools are in the Top 10, but not in a good way. For the past six years, since Pennsylvania adopted a "fair funding formula" for education that it does not fully use to fund education, Pottstown has been among the top ten most underfunded schools in the commonwealth.

State Rep Ciresi Calls for Special ED Charter Funding Reform

Our State Representative Joe Ciresi says, the system in which Pennsylvania pays charter schools for special education is broken. Read his op-ed article in Evan Brandt's Digital Notebook Blog.



Pottstown Joins Rally For Fair Funding

Advocates say Pa.'s \$3B surplus puts fair school funding in reach.



[YouTube link](#) to interview with Pottstown School Board member Mrs. Laura Johnson

More than a year since [Pottstown School District schools](#) were closed, all students who choose to will be welcomed back into classrooms Monday March 22, 2021.



Middle school plays role in COVID fight



Pottstown Middle School was the site where 501 Pottstown citizens received their lifesaving dose of the COVID vaccine. Read all about how community effort and partnership resulted in safeguarding the health of our community.

School Board Committee Host Meet The Candidate

The Pottstown School Board Committee for Public Relations and Community Engagement, chaired by Mr. Raymond Rose, hosted a "Meet The Candidate Night." Six individuals who seek election to the board were invited to take part in a "get to know you" format which was moderated by Mercury reporter Mr. Evan Brandt. Mr. Rose said this event was an opportunity to engage the community and give them an opportunity to understand the issues and learn the positions of the candidates.



FIRST DAY BACK – MARCH 22, 2021

Barth Elementary School



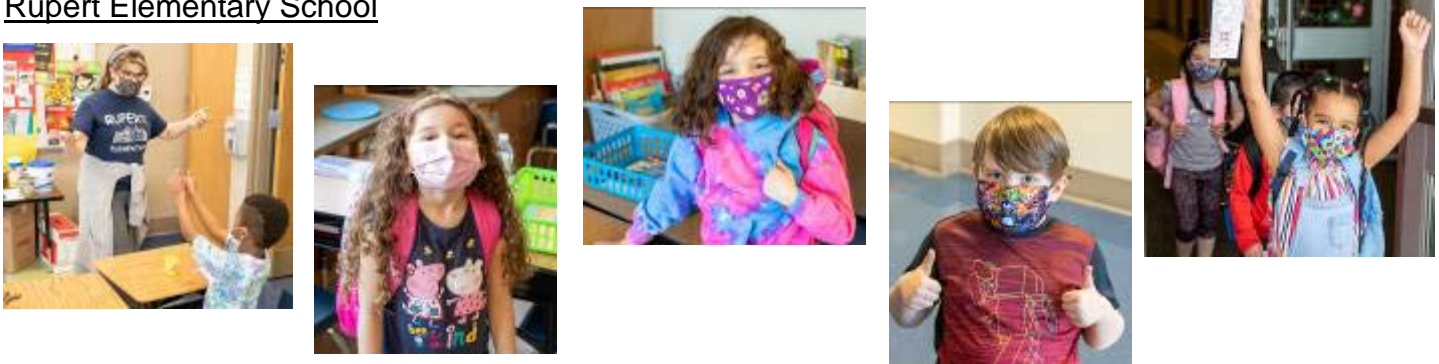
Franklin Elementary School



Lincoln Elementary School



Rupert Elementary School



POTTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

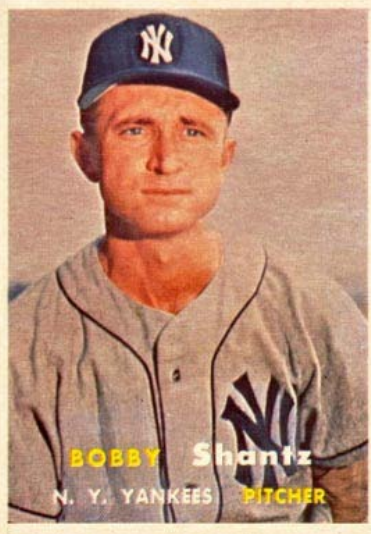


Godspell was the first major musical theatre offering from three-time Grammy and Academy Award winner, Stephen Schwartz (Wicked, Pippin, Children of Eden), and it took the world by storm. Led by the international hit, "Day by Day," Godspell features a parade of beloved songs, including "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord," "Learn Your Lessons Well," "All for the Best," "All Good Gifts," "Turn Back, O Man" and "By My Side." A small group of people help Jesus Christ tell different parables by using a wide variety of games, storytelling techniques and hefty doses of comic timing. An eclectic blend of songs, ranging in style from pop to vaudeville, is employed as the story of Jesus' life dances across the stage. Dissolving hauntingly into the Last Supper and the Crucifixion, Jesus' messages of kindness, tolerance and love come vibrantly to life. Boasting a score with chart topping songs, a book by a visionary playwright (John-Michael Tebelak) and a feature film, Godspell is a sensation.

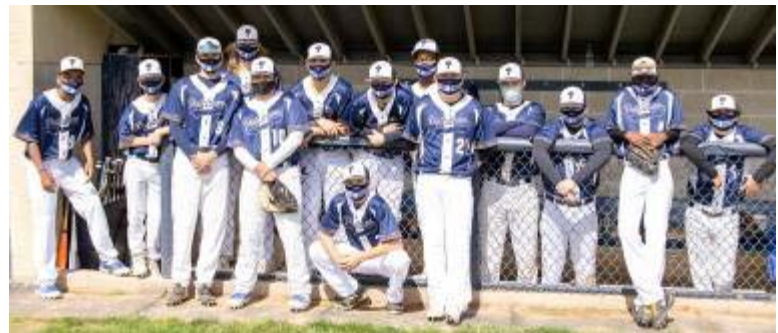


BASEBALL

[Mr. Bobby Shantz](#) will be making his annual appearance at Shantz Field on Monday, May 10th at 3:30 for the game between our Pottstown Trojans and Perkiomen Valley Vikings.

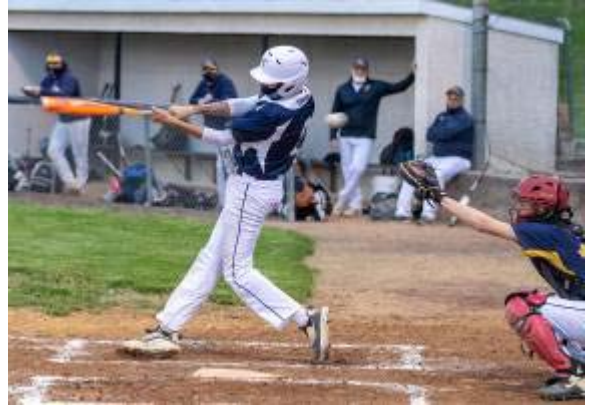
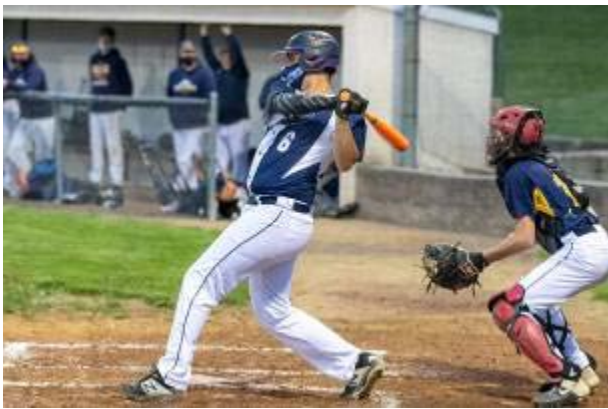


Photos from Bobby Shantz Day:

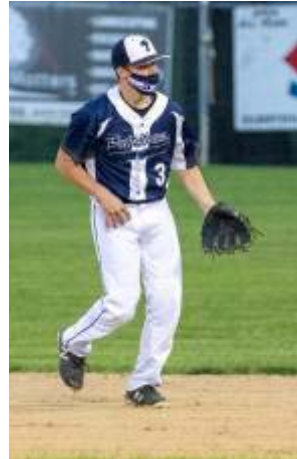
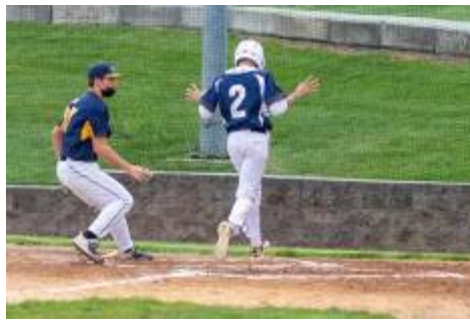
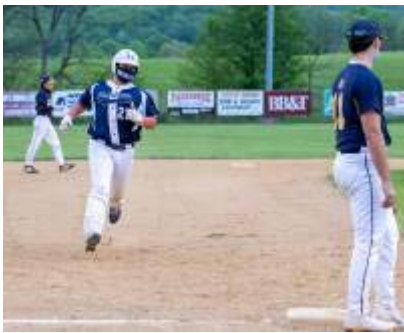


POTTSTOWN

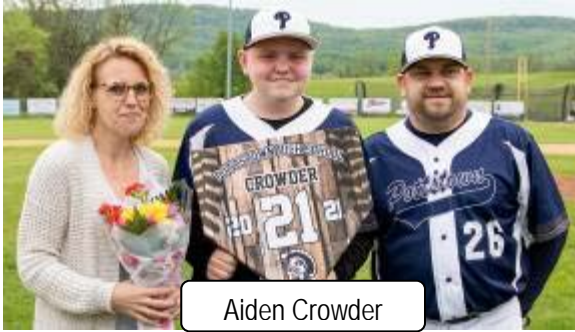
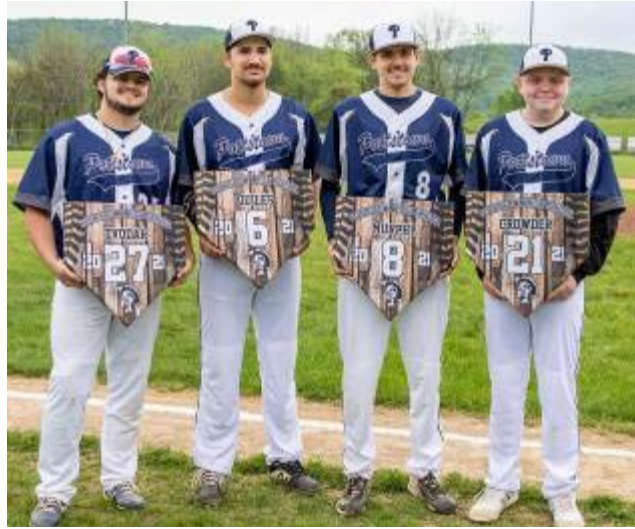
T R O J A N S



J A N S



Baseball Seniors:



Aiden Crowder



Dylan Murphy

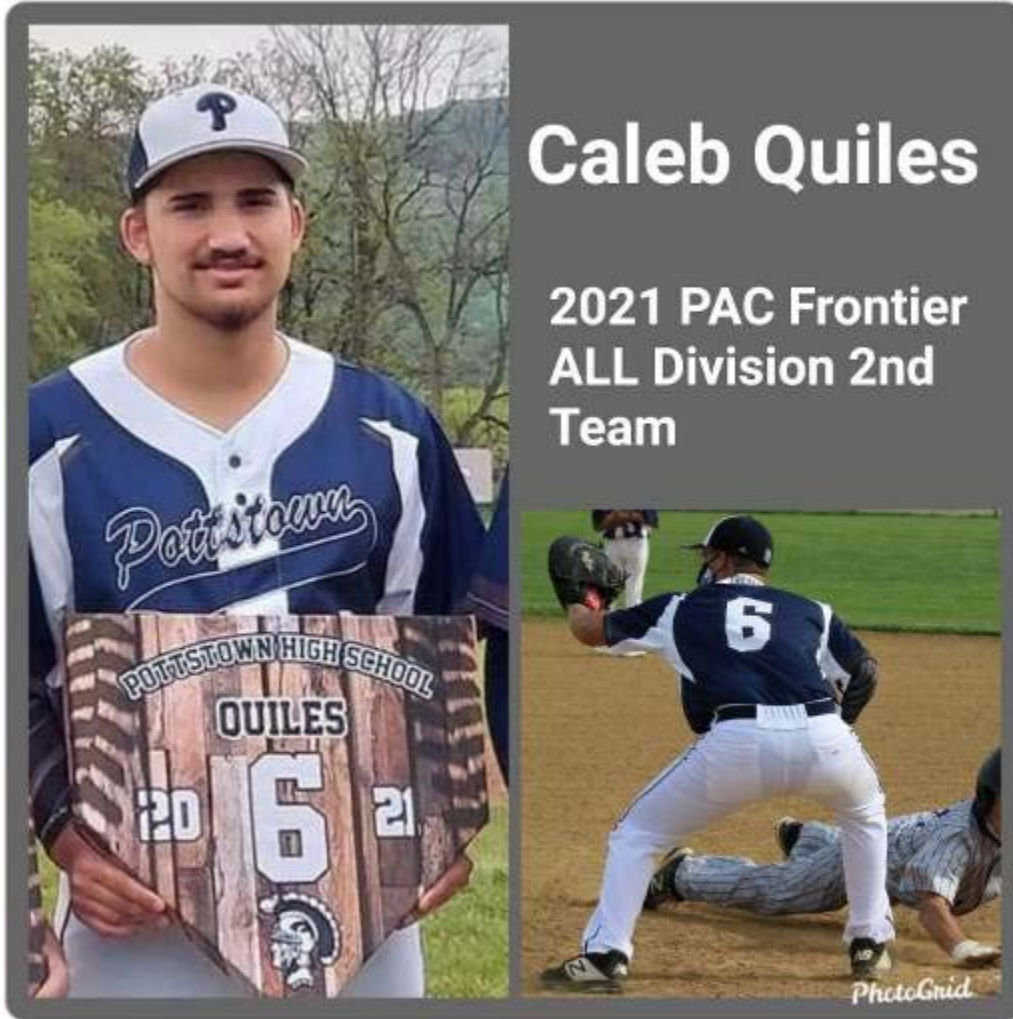


Caleb Quiles



Kevin Zvodar





Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team

- Caleb Quiles

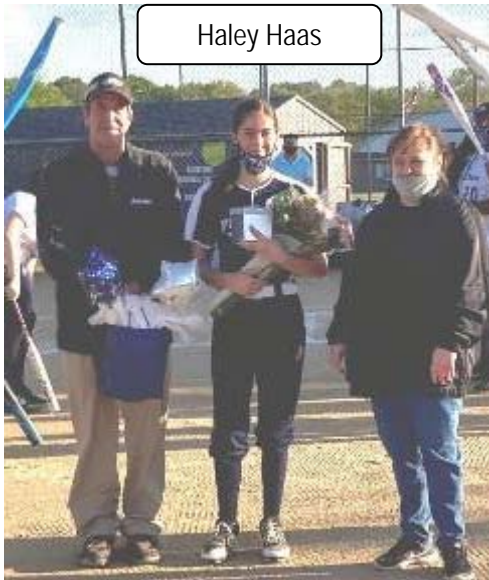
Softball Seniors



Adriana Araujo Juarez



Sanaa Fleet



Haley Haas



Faith Roach



Michelle Villagomez

Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team

- Haley Haas



GIRLS' LACROSSE




Named to the Pioneer Athletic Conference Second Team Frontier Division

- Destri Roye
- Taetum Robbins


**PAC FRONTIER ALL
DIVISION 2nd TEAM**



Destri
Roye



LACROSSE

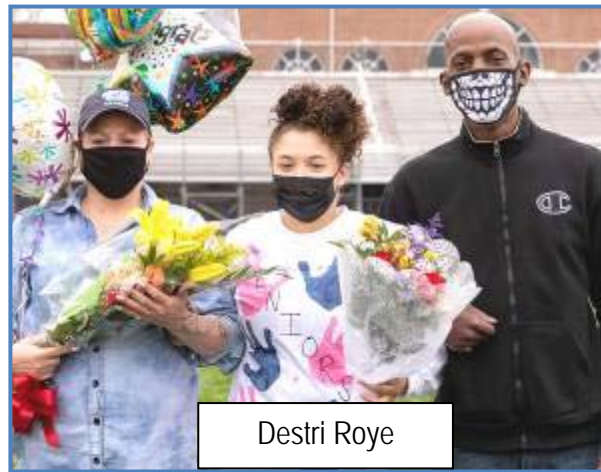


Taetum
Robbins

Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team

- Taetum Robbins
- Destri Roye

Lacrosse Seniors



BOYS' TENNIS

Tennis Senior Night:



Kishan Patel



BOYS' and GIRLS' TRACK

Congratulations to PHS senior track stars Darius Smallwood and Jahzeel Watson, their performance at the PIAA District I Track Championships earned them a place at the state championships. Darius ran a 1:55.05 time in the 800 meters for a 3rd place finish and Jahzeel cleared 6'-1" in the high jump to place 5th. They will both represent the Trojans at Shippensburg University in the state championships. They are excellent examples of true student athletes who excel on both the track and in the classroom.



Smallwood/Watson Bring Home State Medal

Congratulations to PHS Trojan seniors Darius Smallwood and Jahzeel Watson on their outstanding performances at the PIAA State Track Championships. Jahzeel's jump of 5'10" earned a 7th place finish in the high jump. Darius was crowned state champion in the 800 meter dash with a time of 1:51.91. His time was not only good for 1st place but gave him a new Pottstown High School record in the 800. These two young men have not only set new marks in track for future Trojans to aspire to, but have distinguished themselves in the classroom and as outstanding community citizens. Their hard work has paid off and has given us more reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



PAC ALL-CONFERENCE TRACK TEAM

**Darius Smallwood
800 Meters**

**Jahzeel Watson
High Jump**

Named to The Mercury All Area First Team – Boys' Track

- Darius Smallwood
- Jahzeel Watson

Named to The Mercury All Area Honorable Mention Team – Boys' Track

- Ethan Masewicz

Congratulations to Darius Smallwood, Pottstown High School Class of 2021. Darius earned national honors at the [National Scholastic Athletics Foundation Outdoor National Track Meet](#) held in Eugene Oregon. With a time of 1:52.55 in the 800 meter race he placed 6th in the nation.



Another example how Hard Work Pays off. Thanks for giving us another reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



[Smallwood Mercury Area Male Athlete of Year](#)

Darius Smallwood capped his scholastic athletic career at Pottstown by ascending the loftiest of heights this spring. The Trojan senior stood on the top step of the medal stand at Shippensburg University after winning the PIAA Class AAA 800-meter run one month ago - an accomplishment that also cemented his selection as The Mercury's 2021 Track & Field Male Athlete of the Year.



Boys and Girls Track Seniors



Boys and Girls Track Seniors



Jamaal Pratt



Darius Smallwood



Sincere Strimpel



Jahzeel Watson

Boys and Girls Track Seniors



PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE ALL ACADEMIC TEAM

**ALL ACADEMIC
TEAM**

Boy's Track - Darius Smallwood

Girl's Track - Julianna Figueroa

Tennis - Kishan Patel

Lacrosse - Iyesah Belgrave

Softball - London Trout

Baseball - Gabriel Hicks



PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE CITIZEN ATHLETE AWARD



**CITIZENSHIP
AWARD**

**ASHLEY
WELLER**

**GIRL'S TRACK
AND FIELD TEAM**

MUSIC

Pottstown School District's Music Education Program Receives National Recognition

Pottstown School District has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education, for the 6th year in a row. Now in its 22nd year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Pottstown answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

Since the passage by Congress in 2015 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and a stated emphasis on a well-rounded education, many school districts have re-committed to music and arts education programs and found that in this time of a national pandemic, provides a valuable way to keep students engaged in school. ESSA provides designated funding for well-rounded educational opportunities through Title IV Part A Student Academic Success and Achievement grants. NAMM Foundation research has revealed that these grants are being widely used by school districts to address instructional gaps in access to music and arts education.

Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music: After two years of music education, researchers found that participants showed more substantial improvements in how the brain processes speech and reading scores than their less-involved peers and that students who are involved in music are not only more likely to graduate high school, but also to attend college as well. Everyday listening skills are stronger in musically trained children than in those without music training. Significantly, listening skills are closely tied to the ability to: perceive speech in a noisy background, pay attention, and keep sounds in memory. Later in life, individuals who took music lessons as children show stronger neural processing of sound: young adults and even older adults who have not played an instrument for up to 50 years show enhanced neural processing compared to their peers. Not to mention, social benefits include conflict resolution, teamwork skills, and how to give and receive constructive criticism.

About The NAMM Foundation

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its approximately 10,400 members around the world. The foundation advances active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving and public service programs. For more information about The NAMM Foundation, please visit <https://www.nammfoundation.org/>.

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

Barth Elementary School - Grade 3

Caleb	Allen
Julian	Blackman
Tyrone	Briggs
Brielle	Brinkley
Janelis	Caban-Mercado
Brianna	Di Chiara
Christian	Ferguson-Massey
Justice	Ford
Kaderine	Franco-Donis
Dallas	Fry
Zamora	Gibbs
Julian	Granozio
Joseph	Grauber
Isabella	Johnson
Jazaya	Jones
Lily	Kinzel
Ayva	Kletzing
Jayden	Mattis
Elijah	McKay
Anthony	Ritschard
Jacqueline	Santiago
Armani	Starling
Jerimiah	Tucker
Aaniyah	Williams
Jacqueline	Wilson
Essence	Wright

Barth Elementary School - Grade 4

Joiah	Astacio
Amelia	Diehl
Grace	Eby
Miya	Kletzing
Madison	Llewellyn
Kaylee	Lowman
Maliyah	Newman
Meredith	Pope
Elizabeth	Reyes
Danielle	Trabucco
Sienna	Tshikalu
Jasmyne	Upchurch

Franklin Elementary School - Grade 3

Edward	Adamski
Isabella	Amador
Ares	Broussard
Emma	Campbell
Adelynn	Coles
Noah	Conbeer
Jordan	Diehl
Patrick	Galamba
Isabella	Garcia
Callie	Harper
Kaylee	Howard
Hannah	Jaycox
Ky'Ayer	McCalvin
Kendall	Miller
Blake	Milner
Ky'Manii	Morrison
Landon	Nhim
Gabriella	Ortiz
Kenzie	Pallay-Williams
Chase	Pittman-Bookard
Nicholas	Romano
Berlin	Sheckleford
Elayna	Soos
Ashirah	Still
Oliver	Trout
Elizabeth	Wasylkowski
Jeremi	Wesley
Aiyanna	Zipay

Franklin Elementary School - Grade 4

Julietta	Aguilera Macias
Emma	Allen
Kimberly	Chhern
Eric	Clay
Paul	Donohie
Alivia	Edde
Dustin	Gallagher
Alexandra	Green
Evan	Krestel
Noah	Moser
Conner	O'Hara
Elizabeth	Reazor
Edward	Sloss

Lincoln Elementary School - Grade 3

Noah	Applegate
Lily	Beach
Jacob	Blackwell
Amir	Brice
Nehemiah	Burgess
Amiliya	Conrad
Reagan	Culbreath
Jaxson	Dziewit
Shane	Eddy
Owen	Gofus
Layla	Grant
Ava	Gulbish
Aaron	Kahn
Anthony	Law
Jo'Scirah	Miller
Liam	Moser
Colby	Moyer
Chandler	Peaco
Feby	Perez Domingo
Hayden	Rhoades
Alexis	Seidle
Jacob	Strobel
Layla	Williams

Lincoln Elementary School - Grade 4

James	Ashley
Mason	Berry
Lucien	Fair
La'Daveia	Haddock
Calliope	Hall
Jaelyn	Hoefel
Justin	Horne
Brianna	Jenkins
Clara	Johnson
Qahira	Jones
KateLynn	Kearney
Oliver	Leonard
Cole	McLaughlin
Gianna	Miles
Anthony	Miller
Lexi	Oswald
Joseph	Pollock
Joshua	Reifsneider
Thomas	Rose
Angela	Ross
Makenna	Wright

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

Rupert Elementary School - Grade 3

Devonte	Barnes
Aidan	Branagh
Lyla	Caraballo
Kirsten	Douglass
Devin	Harkin
Josiah	Jackson
Sevoughn'	Jones
Shaniyah	Knapke
Cynia	Lucky
Jahmai	Molina Lorenzo
Audrey	Muriel
Julianna	Pickens
Caelan	Singer
Haley	Soto
Sidney	Spiece
Jolayah	Sutton
Kaidon	Terpoilli
Ezrah	Wilkerson
Amara	Young

Rupert Elementary School - Grade 4

Rania	Ait Lqol
Da'Jour	Barnes
Nery	Castillo Chavez
Samuel	Colon
Kellen	Douglas
John	Elwanger
Salese	Ervin
Christian	Fisher
Landon	Ford
John	Gantert
Leyla	Gibson
Jasmin	Guardado Vasquez
Murielle	Guerrier
Michael	Hallinger
Amiyah	Hill
Logan	Johnson
Ayden	Ketterer
Mason	McCray
Elizabeth	McKenzie
Aiden	Ondik
Demtri	Rector-Horton
Alexander	Reyes-Jones
Isabella	Rurode
Aurora	Schwartz

Rupert Elementary School - Grade 4

continued

Anna	Siar
Ryan	Stilwell
Owen	Thornton
Corey	Wallner
Laila	White
Jaden	Williams
Mathius	Williams
Nicole	Young

PMS - Grade 5 Distinguished Honors

Savana	Bauman
Jacob	DuVal
Maya	Elgendy
Autumn	Fair
Briannah	Freeman
Felicia	Fry
Dah'mir	Goings
Starr	Gratz
Lillian	Green
Gabriel	Hampton
Kendra	Howard
Levi	Jaycox
Iyanna	Johnson
Leyna	Johnson
Shambria	Johnson
Ezra	King
Kamryn	King
Kaelyn	Kline
Nathan	Knabb
Brianna	Long
King	Lucky
Alejandro	Maldonado-Rivas
Jaelynn	McCray
Lola	Milner
Jaxen	Nihart
Aubrey	O'Blosser
Ayden	Olvera
Casey	Perry
Catherine	Pineda Penate
David	Pinos-Castillo
Makaila	Plummer
Royer	Rodriguez
William	Rose
Bradley	Saylor
Krystal	Saylor
Avaiiyah	Scurry
Damien	Stonestreet
Zaniyah	Trott-Wright
Zachary	Waters
Za'Mirah	Whitley
Alanna	Yancy
Dennis	Yost
Lucy	Zuniga

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PMS - Grade 6 Distinguished Honors

Dimitrus	Alston
Ryan	Amole
Alyssa	Broughton
Brianna	Bui
Edgar	Castillo
Cheyenne	Flamer
Jude	Mull
Oliver	Pineda-Penate
Abigail	Santiago

PMS - Grade 7 Distinguished Honors

Jaxon	Barron
Leah	Blackwell
Annasophia	Chhern
Michelle	Cocar Paredes
Mairelys	Concepcion
Hugo	Costa
Isabella	Deluca
Lily	Felix
Saniyah	Fox
Damion	Fry
Lily	Garber
Chase	Harrington
Jayanna	Hill
Arek	Javage
Josiah	Lamar
Amelia	Maldonado-Rivas
Megan	McGinn
Justina	Nhim
Nevaeh	Peaco
Colin	Plank
Triniti	Rhodes-Fisher
Johan	Rivera
Skylar	Romano
Ana	Salazar Lopez
Taina	Santiago
Brighton	Scott
Mohammed	Selmi
Garrett	Shope
Natalie	Shope
Olivia	Stitt
Anthony	Suber
Allyana	Sykes
Ethan	Ung

PMS - Grade 8 Distinguished Honors

Diego	Aguilera
Ambriana	Baryeh
Cheylin	Boyer
Daniela	Castillo
Jasmine	Champlin
Olivia	Chin
Ethan	Collins
Aniyah	Crump
Lunna	Davila
Isac	Delgado
Ryan	Edde
Karli	Eddinger
Naden	Elgendy
Juan	Ferreira
Allyson	Ford
Lili	Freese
Jacob	Givens
Mahogany	Hill
Dayontae	Hoskins
Alexander	Jimenez Rosales
Aiden	Kancianic
Terelle	Lowery
Taylor	Maguire
Gianni	Mahario
Pedro	Martinez Guardado
Kai	O'Brien
Janette	Penate
Miranda	Pineda
Daniel	Pittman
Julia	Smith
Jamia	Sutton
Chase	Thornton
Aniyah	Wells
Ja-Nyai	White

PMS - Grade 5 Honors

Shahed	Aljashoubi
Dylan	Bartholomew
Meleena	Bisram
Steven	Bowen
Kaisy	Castillo
Nicole	Castillo
Noah	Clark
Peyton	Coale
Aidan	Conrad
Kylie	Covert
Phoenix	Custer
Riley	Dolhi
Chase	Drost
Erynn	Ford
London	Glenn
Maria	Guardado-Sanchez
Carmelo	Harper
Cheyenne	Hoffman
Kassidy	Jackson
Eli	Kancianic
Joell	Lamarre
Ava	Laws
Callen	Miller
Isabella	Moore
Maliya	Perez
Deston	Purnell
Malachi	Robbins
Jayden	Robinson
La'Ticea	Rodriguez
Zacarias	Rodriguez
Scarlett	Shivak
Skylar	Shivak
Semaj	Smith
Talia	Stover
Ricardo	Thompson
Nyanna	Thompson
Hayden	Tice-Carfagno
Brooke	Valerio
Marcus	Williams
Olivia	Williams

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PMS - Grade 6 Honors

Essence	Brown
Ariyana	Carr
Santiago	Castillo
Trevor	Ford
Yerlianis	Garcia De La Cruz
Cayden	Gofus
Chastelyn	Gonzalez Galarza
Gaia	Hallahan
Kyeson	Hernandez
Addison	Lafferty
Brooke	Laise
Riley	Maguire
Youssef	Mahmoud
Alexander	Marin Sanchez
Damian	Mercado
Olivia	Miller
Jaeden	Mills
Kelsey	O'Connor
Julien	Olinger
Kiriah	Parker
Zegan	Pittman-Bookard
Ashlyn	Pulinka
Jazara	Robinson
Rooney	Salazar Villanueva
David	Sanders
Ayden	Yantz

PMS - Grade 7 Honors

Christiana	Allen
Nora	Ammouri
Alivia	Boyer
Zyla	Burke
Jade	Caballero-Vega
Mariah	Covert
Royce	Dantzler Walters
Austin	Derstine
Wesam	Elgendy
Giavonnie	Gutierrez
Austin	Hampton
Ava	Heilenman
Brandon	Hughes
Rachel	Kauffman
Joseph	Kletzing
Elizabeth	LaRocca
Joao	Lima Valadares
Ana	Maldonado-Lucas
Shazia	Mendez
Omar'ia	Miller
Caden	Nihart
Maribel	Ortiz
Jade	Pace
William	Pan
Damien	Paul
Carice	Peart
Mikayla	Perkins
Nye	Powell
Kamrin	Robinson
Ziyonna	Shockley
Gabriel	Stilwell
Mackenzie	Strobel
Jaron	Verdone
Emely	Villegas
Cianne	Wells
Khabreya	Woodson

PMS - Grade 8 Honors

Patrick	Auman
Skylar	Brower
Ebony	Brown
Troy	Burrier
Jareth	Clark
Vincente	Colon
Madison	Dailey
Evan	Draucker
Jordan	Farrell
Ezriel	Felder
Imani	Galloway
Dayliah	Gans
Amirah	Graves
Jahmir	Jackson
Khaliyah	Johnson
Ty'Nera	Johnson
Brock	Klopp
Quinn	Logan
Gavin	Marmar
Reece	Murphy
Jahiem	Pratt
Barkley	Reid
Kyairah	Smith
Christopher	Thomas
Nyel	Thompson
Jadon	Wiszumerski
Andraya	Womack
Olivia	Woodley

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PHS - Grade 9 Distinguished Honors

Elizabeth	Adedeji
Adam	Alaoui
Janaiya	Baker
Natalia	Banks
Layla	Bearden
Peyton	Benfield
Nyla	Blake-Walls
Mia	Bolman
Tyler	Broughton
Michael	Calano
Eliza	Camacho
Mackenzie	Campbell
Megan	Cannell
Emily	Castillo
Angelina	Chhern
Nayianna	Clyde
Nicholas	Cohen Arena
Ava	Collier
Leilandi	Davis
Alexis	Demeter
Dominic	DiPietro
Danica	Donhauser
Dalajah	Dowling
Brittany	Endy
Regina	Fleming
Makenna	Franey
Jade	Garber
Ismaeel	Garfield
Samuel	Guardado Sanchez
Amira	Hall
Myles	Hancock
Mehki	Jenkins Glover
Julia	Kulp
Anthony	Kutsch
Baden	Landy
Diana	Leon
Keiara	Lesley
Brynn	McClune
Sarish	Mendez Rivera
Christian	Morales
Tara	Morgan
Grayce	Morton
Jonathan	Moser
Ashley	Ormston
Gabriela	Pagan

**PHS – Grade 9 Distinguished Honors
continued**

Alyssa	Pearson
Najae	Perez
Maria Guadalupe	Reyes Juarez
Savannah	Richards
Grace	Rivera
LaRayna	Rosado
Sophia	Russo
Tyler	Santiago
Devon	Smith
Makayla	Smith
Austin	Sundstrom
Brooke	Thomas
Pieter	Ung
Chloe	Weiss
Ashley	Weller
Diamond	Williams
Keshawn	Young

PHS - Grade 10 Distinguished Honors

Leilani	Alberto
Gary	Allan
Kaela	Auman
Alexis	Beckett
Eric	Berkheimer
Larry	Carter
Anaeja	Charles
Christopher	Chhern
John	Cipollini
Anna	Coale
Kyle	Corbin
Giovanni	Cordovi
Hannah Jane	Daniels
Margaret	DiPietro
Abigail	Eagle
Abdel	Elgendy
Mark	Ellison
Ganaelle	Felicien
Henry	Fetterman
Lilian	Fetterman
Derek	Gephart
Ariana	Gilmore
Keishla	Gonzalez-Galarza
Autumn	Goss
Adam	Green

**PHS – Grade 10 Distinguished Honors
continued**

Faith	Hammer
Saniyah	Harvey
Jared	Hewitt
Olivia	Hickey
Gabriel	Hicks
Krista	Leinbach
Katlyn	Levengood
William	Levey
David	Mackewicz III
Jocelyn	Malauulu
Elise	Marley
Ethan	Masewicz
Khamya	Mayo
Jordan	Mest
Mason	Miller
Kiera	Moyer
Derick	Nunez Menjivar
Rose	Oberholtzer
Joneil	Oister
Alice	Pan
Montesia	Pernell
Nicholas	Pittman
Jibrel	Pratt
Ian	Salisbury
Avery	Shope
Leah	Smith
London	Trout
Jordan	Wabish
Leigha	Walton
Serin	Warneke
Sanaa	Watson
Kasaundra	Wesley

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PHS - Grade 11 Distinguished Honors

Amber	Adamski
Noah	Bolman
Madeline	Bruton
Ramya	Carpenter
Michelle	Castillo
Jimi	Chavalaporn
Joel	Coccie
Kennedy	Cole
Calista	Daye
Joseph	DeLeo
Colin	Dellaquila
Anthony	DiPietro
Erynn	Dunning
Nada	Elgendy
Angelica	Feliciano Torres
Jacob	Fisher
Hailey	Gerrish
Beatriz	Guardado
Tyler	Harper
Summer	Hollingsworth
Gerle	Jimenez Gomez
Maria	Jimenez
JoLaila	Lamarre
Michael	Lilick
Jared	Long
Angelina	Ludy
Ja'Zell	Meade
Zachary	Mitchell
Jacob	Moser
Mackenzie	Moser
Allison	Ormston
Yasmin	Paez
Anthony	Pinos
Jesseny	Redrovan
Jessica	Rivera
Enam	Robinson
Gabriel	Roseo
Rafi	Sanchez
Skylar	Smith
Ariana	Torres
Lacie	Townsend
Jonerah	Vinson
Trinell	Watson
Daniel	Williams
Jayniana	Williams

PHS - Grade 12 Distinguished Honors

Christian	Albert
Christiana	Albert
Adriana	Araujo Juarez
Elijah	Barnes
Iyasha	Belgrave
Nadiyah	Bellamy
Synera	Brooker
Heaven	Charriez
Haile	Clayton
Christian	Coale
Katherine	Cocar
Corey	Cottman
Shameur	Delecia
Vincenzo	DeLeo
Kristin	DiPietro
Isabelle	Dupon
Zoe	Earle
Julianna	Figueroa
Logan	Franey
Lamoni	Green
Haley	Haas
CyeNyla	Hall
Nathan	Harper
Aryanna	Hernandez
Carson	Hewitt
Devon	Hill
Cynae	Hills
Jack	Hipple
Allison	Horne
Angela	Hunsberger
Jeffrey	Johnson
Marekeil	Johnson
Isaiah	Lamar
Samantha	Levey
Brianna	Lineman
Diego	Magana Jaime
Cristine	Martinez
Dylan	Maximenko
Emily	McCollum
Joseph	Misko
Dylan	Murphy
Naomi	Parson
Kishan	Patel
Caleb	Quiles
Pearce	Raegler

**PHS - Grade 12 Distinguished Honors
continued**

Robert	Raegler
Cajmeir	Robinson
Olivia	Scholl
Michael	Sheard
Darius	Smallwood
Lillian	Stirk
Raine	Thomas
Jaleinda	Thompson
Michelle	Villagomez
Omar	Villagomez
Austin	Weller
Niana	White
Hannah	Wilson

PHS - Grade 9 Honors

Dylan	Basile
Madison	Beasley
Nahzier	Booker
Jayden	Bostic
Jordan	Bowen
Mikyla	Brandon
Rosario	Clemens
Simir	Coleman
Anna	Deane
Sean	Deppen
Juleon	Gibson
Nathanael	Grant
Nijae	Grosvenor
Hannah	Ingham
Steven	Jimenez Gomez
Zen	Kelly
Mahmoud	Mohamed Ahmed
Ahnyay	O'Neal
Tabitha	Paul
Quinn	Perry
Jachob	Pusicz
Katerine	Reina
Phoenix	Rhoads
Tate	Risor
Kaley	Salazar Lopez
Rodrigo	Solis
Christian	Toland
Trinity	Wynne
Saryah	Young

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PHS - Grade 10 Honors

Sabrina	Albert
Desiree	Baker
Dawud	Barnes
Qaseem	Bruner
Justin	Castillo
Ethan	Chin
Brielle	Davis
Jamie	Freese
Spencer	Gatheca
Mackenzie	Hall
Khalea	Hamilton
Melody	Jackson
Jevohn	Jones
Krissa	Linderman
Fatima	Lopez Linares
Nassiah	Nutridge
Wilfred	Perez
Taylor	Powell
Joey	Reid
Summer	Rivera
Fredy	Rodriguez
Alianna	Samuel
Cory	Spence
Jordan	Stevenson
Joel	Suddith
Ashiyana	Thorn
Julius	Verdone-Grosvenor
Abdur-Rahman	Watson
Caleb	Yocom

PHS - Grade 11 Honors

Sierra	Coleman
Darron	Daniels
Daejenique	Garcia
Ashley	Giampetro
Makenzie	Grepps
Jonah	Grice
Jaida	Harris
Tajmir	Hines
Yassine	Mahmoudi
Shanti	Maldonado-Gonzalez
Kaleigh	Martin
Aaron	Mayes
Mohamed	Mohamed
Kamari	Moore
Patrick	OConnor
Jay	Patel
Annabelle	Poston
Jahzere	Rolle
James	Ryder
Thomas	Santiago
Hunter	Shawell
Destiny	Torres
Melissa	Walton
Jabril	Washington
Sydney	Wilkerson
Joshua	Wilson

PHS - Grade 12 Honors

Avianna	Camacho
Aiden	Crowder
Abel	Cruz
Walter	Dailey
Samantha	Deery
Matthew	Deppen
Justin	Estevez
Natalie	Fichthorn
Sanaa	Fleet-Polk
Anyae	Germany
Rebecca	Greghini-Williams
Aleisha	Irizarry
Matthew	Leshar
Dominic	Mott Gould
Jamaal	Pratt
Faith	Roach
Destri	Roye
Dominic	Stamm
Sincere	Strimpel
Eric	Thornton
Jordyn	Verdone
Jazlynn	Watson
Trinity	Wiley
Harmony	Wood
Kevin	Zvodar

STAFF

Superintendent Mr. Stephen Rodriguez is showing his support for Earth Day. An avid bike rider, he had his friend Keith Nash give his bike a "Spring Tune Up". He may have got more than he bargained for, with horns, bells and streamers, you will not miss him.

Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds John Connor with the photo bomb.



Celebrating National Library Week

As National Library week comes to a close we want to highlight our very own librarian team with a few of their favorite books. Trojan Proud of Ms. Ellis, Mrs. Roberts, Mr. Freese, Mrs. Kline and Mrs. Alutius for sharing your love of reading with students, supporting our staff with your resources, and creating a safe space to learn and have fun.



School Board Members Take Fair Funding Message To Harrisburg

Pottstown school board member Katina Bearden wants to make sure legislators in Harrisburg hear the call for fair funding of all public schools in Pennsylvania so she joined a group of advocates on the steps of the state capitol Saturday morning to share the stories of students, teachers and community members who live in underfunded school districts. She was joined by Laura Johnson, Pottstown school board member and leader of the advocacy group, Pennsylvanians for Fair Funding. They told of the few advanced class offerings and the loss of educational opportunities, losing quality educators to higher paying school districts and the tax burden placed on the community. Pottstown school district is one of the leaders in the fight for fair funding and is committed to succeeding in efforts to bring equity to all students and communities. Share the news. Join the fight.



Pottstown Superintendent Mr. Stephen Rodriguez shared some insights and lessons learned from his conversation with parents of cyber schooled children.



A CONVERSATION WITH CARING CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL PARENTS

BY STEPHEN RODRIGUEZ, CAUCUS PRESIDENT



I'd like to share a personal experience with you and point out a few lessons I learned.

About a week ago, I had an opportunity to speak with parents who have been sending their children to cyber charter school for many years. They are wonderful people who are family-oriented and great advocates for their children. They were former homeschoolers and highly engaged with their five children's education. These children are active in sports, the arts, get straight A's and take advanced courses. Any one of them could be used as a poster child for what is right and good about cyber charter school.

Yes, you read that correctly folks; you don't have to reread it.

I digress. The purpose of the conversation was that mom had concerns with the curriculum being taught to one child. She outlined some of those concerns and how the teacher was implementing the curriculum. It was a valid concern. I gave her the typical advice. Reach out to the teacher and share your concerns, reach out to the principal if that doesn't work. All educational environments that are healthy will seek out feedback and be responsive to your issues.

We quickly moved past that and into this mother's desire to run for school board. She wanted to devote some time to make things better for her younger children. She asked me how to do that, and when I informed her that cyber charter school boards are not elected but rather appointed, both mom and dad were aghast. She then asked about the public school in the municipality for which she lived (not in my district). When I told her that the two were completely unrelated and the public school has zero influence or accountability powers over their cyber charter school, again they were aghast!

Then, the questions came at a rapid pace. Our cyber charter school tells us they get less money than public schools and public schools lie all the time to protect unions; is that right? We thought that cyber charter school requirements were the same as a public school. What do you mean cyber charter schools hire private companies? How is it legal for them to make a profit off taxpayer dollars?

School choice: You are against school choice, aren't you? I thought all public educators were against school choice, right? What is Future Ready Index? What is school performance profile? What is the Fair Funding Formula? Why would a cyber charter school have less than 100% of teachers certified?

Taxpayer dollars pay for those radio commercials? Those billboards? Those Internet ads, T-shirts, school bags, and TV spots? Cyber charters can keep the money they don't use? They get pandemic relief money? That's not ok!

This wonderful couple walked away with a very different and better informed view of the complicated state of education. What are the chances they won't share this new-found knowledge with others? Slim.



Lessons Learned:

- Most parents, most citizens are far less informed than we realize.
- Many people are not informed by newspaper articles or school board meetings.
- Dialogue takes time; it's inefficient, but it is equally long-lasting and effective at informing parents and citizens.
- This conversation did not happen in my office or at a basketball game. It's also not the first time I've had such conversations with parents. As a devout Christian, people from totally different points of view from mine on education will engage me because of that commonality.
- We all have such commonalities. Use them!

PLUS CAUCUS OF PASA

CHARTERS DON'T PLAY BY THE SAME RULES

- Exempt from special education funding formula
- Exempt from teacher evaluation requirements
- Have fewer certified teachers
- Run by private boards of directors



CHARTER SCHOOLS PERFORM POORLY

Charter students perform worse than district students on state assessments. All 14 cyber charter schools are on the worst performing school list.



[Rodriguez Goes To Harrisburg](#)

Pottstown School District Superintendent Stephen Rodriguez spoke on the steps of our state capitol where he acknowledged the additional funding Pottstown students will receive from the state budget that was approved and signed by the governor. He, along with other fair funding advocates, sent a clear message that there is still much ground to be covered to ensure that all children have the educational opportunities needed for success and he will continue to advocate for full fair funding.



June 29th, 2021 Press Conference Statement - Governor Wolf - Level Up Legislation

Good Morning. On behalf of the Pennsylvania League of Urban Schools, a caucus of PASA, and on behalf of the Pottstown School District, I would like to thank you, Rep. Mike Schlossberg, other esteemed members of our state legislature, Governor Tom Wolf, and the growing community of education advocates who helped to support this education funding.

Several months ago, when I was asked to speak on behalf of this proposed legislation, I said that Level Up legislation falls far short of a fully funded fair funding formula.

However, I also said that this funding may not be a touchdown, but it is a solid 'first down' because it addresses some of the inequity in our current funding structure. It is a solid 'first down' and ensures that students who need this funding most, get it first.

The way you get touchdowns and eventually win games is a series of first downs. **SO WE CAN'T STOP HERE.** Continual positive progress down the field of play wins the game for our students and our state.

Some of you may know that just last week dozens of advocates were arrested while protesting about this issue in the building behind me. Some of you may also know that on the steps where we stand, thousands of citizens have come to voice their support for their Hometown Schools and for our children. The people of our state are speaking up and taking action on this issue, **SO WE CAN'T STOP HERE.**

I am so appreciative to the Legislature and our Governor for using a bipartisan approach that spends education dollars more equitably.... where they are needed most.

For my own district, the 1.4 million dollars we will receive gets applied immediately to student programs and resources, and we are grateful. But my community has been loud and clear in reminding me that we have been underfunded by 11 million to 13 million dollars EVERY YEAR for years. Parents and Community leaders were quick to point out that while everyone wants a rainy day fund to fall back on, for students in districts like mine, it's been raining for a long time.

The 'level up' funding is a golden drop of sunshine through that rain but we must keep going. I look forward to brighter days ahead, and I know I speak on behalf of many educators and students everywhere when I say this is progress and a big step in the right direction!

HIGH SCHOOL

DECA Students Earn a Blog Spot

Pottstown High School DECA students had a successful day at the state competition. Jayniana Williams, the club's Communication Officer, prepared the press release that was picked up by Mr. Evan Brandt's [Digital Notebook Blog](#).

Submitted by Pottstown High School DECA Communications Officer, Jayniana Williams: DECA, an organization aimed at creating leaders and entrepreneurs within student bodies, encouraged its state qualifiers to compete in the Annual State Career Development Conference online. This year's Annual State Career Development Conference included students from all over the state of Pennsylvania. For the conference, competitors had to submit two role-plays and one content test. For the role-play portion, students were given scenarios that they had to respond to in a professional manner. Questions from the judges and performance indicators were key aspects of the role plays. The content test included one hundred questions that tested the competitors' knowledge in their competitive category. To keep competitors engaged in the competition, activities, workshops, games, and a fashion show were incorporated into the conference.

Ten students from Pottstown High School's DECA chapter participated in this year's state competition. Thanks to Victoria McShea and Kevin Pascal, Pottstown's DECA advisors, the students were enabled to study and prepare for their competitive events. Out of the ten competitors from Pottstown High School, three students qualified for an award. Senior Dylan Murphy, who competed in the Sports and Entertainment Marketing category was a finalist. Similarly, CyaNyla Hall, a senior, was a finalist in the Accounting Applications event. Finally, as a participant in the written event competition, Mackenzie Moser was recognized for contributing to the Gold Level certification of the Trojan Shop, a school based enterprise at Pottstown High School.



To compete in the Annual State Career Development Conference is a significant achievement. The members of the DECA chapter at Pottstown High School have continuously shown their dedication to self-improvement and leadership. This year's state competition was unique, considering that it was completed online. Nevertheless, Pottstown High School's DECA members showed that obstacles can be overcome. In upcoming years, Pottstown DECA is anticipating the entry of new members and the growth of the chapter.

Competitors included:

Iyesha Belgrave	Hospitality Tourism Team Decision Making
Faith Nichols	Hospitality Tourism Team Decision Making
CyeNyla Hall	Accounting Applications
Kishan Patel	Entrepreneurship
Jayniana Williams	Hotel Lodging Management
Jocelyn Malauulu	Restaurant & Food Service Management
Dylan Maximenko	Retail Merchandising
Tyler Boughton	Principles of Business Management & Administration
Gabe Hicks	Principles of Marketing
Mackenzie Moser	Personal Financial Literacy

Thanks to Principal McCoy and her team of administrators and teachers the Class of 2021 will be able to show their Trojan Pride with yard signs placed in front of their homes. It was all hands on deck to assemble and personally deliver to each member of the Class of 2021. What a great way to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



[Bachman Announces STEM Academy Acceptance](#)

Pottstown High School engineering teacher Mr. Andy Bachman had a big smile on his face when he announced congratulations to PHS student Nada Elgendy for her acceptance to the Exelon STEM Summer Leadership Academy.

He said, "This is an exciting learning experience that will help guide Nada's future plans."

The Exelon STEM Leadership Academy is designed to give young women in high school hands-on experience in STEM, energy, and sustainability. This experience: Engages and prepares students to consider STEM academic & career paths; Builds STEM knowledge and skills; Practices leadership, communication, and presentation skills; Provides students access to authentic experiences at STEM institutions and Exelon energy facilities; Expands students network with others who are interested, pursuing, and working in STEM fields.



PHS Engineering Students Earn State Award and Blog Recognition

Congratulations to PHS Engineering students and their teacher Mr. Andy Bachman on earning fourth place in the statewide Governor's STEM Challenge. Read all about it in Mr. Evan Brandt's [Digital Notebook Blog](#) and you will have another reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



PHS Students Earn Honors In State STEM Competition

A team of Pottstown High School students took on the potentially economically devastating problem of the Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF) facing Pennsylvania. The team of Nada Elgendy, Abdel Elgendy, and William Levey, along with teacher /advisor Andrew Bachman, entered the 2021 PA Governor's STEM Competition, with the goal of providing a workable solution to one of Mother Nature's problems. They submitted the design, and research to the Governor's STEM competition in April. Their research and design efforts earned them a 4th place finish in the statewide competition. To combat the SLF infestation, scientists recommend scraping egg sacs off tree trunks in the affected area with a card. However, scraping and effectively collecting egg sacs poses challenges. The team designed the Spotted Lantern Fly Egg Sac Mitigator (SLFESM). The SLFESM allows homeowners and community members to mitigate SLF by safely, easily, efficiently scraping and collecting. The SLFESM allows for scraping, smearing, or smashing the egg sacs. They submitted the design, and research to the Governor's STEM competition in April. The Governor's STEM Competition challenges student teams from across the state to research, design, and present a device or project that can make the quality of life better for Pennsylvanians by accomplishing a series of practical tasks that can fulfill real-world needs.

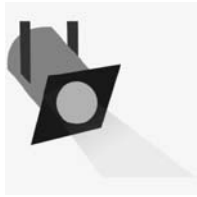
This year's theme was "Improving Pennsylvania Through STEM". During the school year, teams of students designed and built solutions to real-world problems. Teams were required to work with a member of their local community, a business, or an educational entity to help create an authentic experience while also providing opportunities to learn more about careers in STEM.

Our team overcame the added challenges caused by distancing due to COVID and learned a great deal about how to coordinate efforts in order to solve problems. It is an experience that will serve them well in the work world, said Mr. Bachman. Click on the links below:

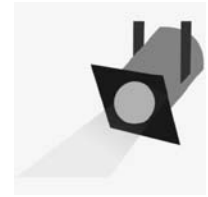
[SLFESM](#)

[Proposal](#)

[Homemade SLFESM](#)



Senior Shout Out Spotlights



- ★ Congratulations to Pottstown High School Senior **CyeNyla Hall** on receiving a full ride from the

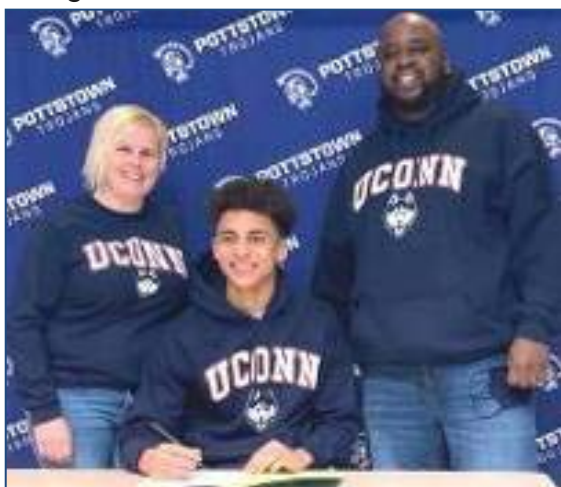


Questbridge National College Match to Haverford College. To become a finalist, students had to demonstrate financial need as well as academic excellence. Questbridge offers a binding, full-ride to college. CyeNyla said, "Haverford stood out to me for its close distance from home, amazing programs, small, suburban setting, and excellent academics. In addition to my full-ride Questbridge scholarship, I also received the Horatio Alger State Scholarship which awards a total of \$10,000 distributed for four years."

- ★ Congratulations to **Christian Albert** on signing his National Letter of Intent. Christian will attend Gwynedd Mercy University majoring in Business and participating in Cross Country and Track. He is a three-sport athlete and a Distinguished Honors student. Albert was elected class president and is the 2020 Homecoming King.



- ★ Congratulations to **Darius Smallwood** on signing his National Letter of Intent. Darius will



continue his education at the University of Connecticut with a major in Pre-Sports Management. He plans to be a part of the track team as a mid-distance runner. He is a four-year Distinguished Honors student and an All-Academic Conference Athlete. He was a two time state cross country qualifier and placed 1st at the PAC Championships in the 800m race.

- ★ Congratulations to **Naomi Parson** on being awarded a \$1,000 Pennsylvania Association for College Admissions Counseling Scholarship!!



This scholarship was established to recognize outstanding academic achievement, as well as leadership, strong character, and commitment to serving one's community. Naomi is involved in the musicals (The Wiz, The Little Mermaid, Hairspray, Seussical, and Godspell), cross country, track and field, girls tennis, Student Government, and Interact Club. She is considering pursuing a career in either journalism or mathematics at Haverford College.

- ★ Congratulations to **Julianna Figueroa** for winning the Emma Turner Senior Scholarship! She won \$3,500 towards her Drexel University account! She was chosen based on her community service, school activities, her personal and educational goals revealed in her essay. She will attend Drexel in the fall majoring in communications.



- ★ The Foundation For Pottstown Education has helped generous donors honor the memory of family members and promote interest in careers by creating five new scholarships for PHS graduates. Read about them in Mr. Evan Brandt's [Digital Notebook Blog](#).

- The Ellen Eisele Be the Change of Tomorrow Award - awarded to Heaven Charriez
- The Leslie L Freese-Betz Award – awarded to Harmony Wood
- The Linford F. Moyer and Family Scholarship - awarded to Darius Smallwood

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Class President
- Varsity Basketball
- Varsity Track & Field
- Varsity Cross Country
- Deca

My Post High School Plans:

Plans to Attend Howard University, going in as an Undecided Major

Career Goal:

To become successful

Favorite PHS Memory:

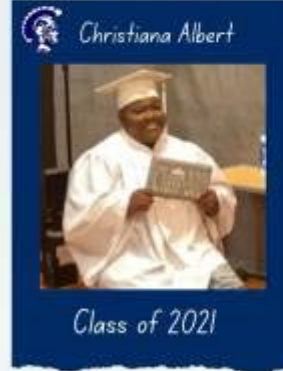
Getting excited during the pep rally's

My Positive Influence:

Every Teacher and Staff I've encountered during High School and my friends and family

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Track & Field for 2 years
- Basketball for 3 years
- Stage crew for 2 years
- Loves to draw and make new friends

My Post High School Plans:

Plans on attending Cheyney University and majoring in Biology.

Career Goal:

To become a Dentist

Favorite PHS Memory:

Going to Ms. Rhodes class after school and hanging with her and some friends and having a good time in Trojan troops .

My Positive Influence:

Someone who has been a positive influence on me during my school years would have to be Mrs. Bowers , Ms. Johnson and Ms. Rhodes

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Varsity soccer (freshman year)
- Varsity softball (10th-12th grade)
- Choir
- National Honor Society (10th-12th grade) became NHS treasurer in 12th grade.

My Post High School Plans:

Attend the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg and major in nursing

Career Goal:

Get my BSN and specialize as a Pediatric Nurse. Hopefully one day work at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia :)

Favorite PHS Memory:

Pep rally's, and going to the Mutter Museum with my Anatomy class

My Positive Influence:

My Mom, Mrs. Cherneskie, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Mohr

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- NHS Vice President
- DECA
- Student Council
- Scenery and Stage Crew
- Lacrosse

My Post High School Plans:

Attending Duke University to major in International Comparative Studies before hopefully attending law school

Career Goal:

Become a successful lawyer or politician

Favorite PHS Memory:

DECA States, Spirit week, Mini thon, and the musical

My Positive Influence:

My teachers, coaches, friends, and family

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

School Activities:

- Girls soccer team
- Team manager for boys basketball
- Level 3 ECE student

My Post High School Plans:

After graduation I will be attending Cheyney University where I was offered a full academic scholarship. I will be majoring in Education.

Career Goal:

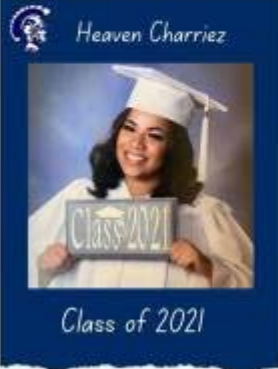
My career goal is to earn my master's degree in Education, become a teacher, and possibly work my way up to a higher position.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Planning and helping at Trunk-or-Treat in 2019, with my ECE class.

My Positive Influence:

Someone who has been a positive influence on my life is Mr. Fox. He has always encouraged me to perform at my full potential, not only in math class but also throughout life. His dedication to this school and his students has always been something I have admired.



Heaven Charriez

Class of 2021

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

School Activities:

- 4 years of AFJROTC
- National Honor Society
- DECA
- Clarinet for Band
- Dual Enrollment at Montgomery County Community College

My Post High School Plan:

I enlisted in the United States Army in July of 2020. My MOS is an Allied Tradesman Specialist (GT). I ship for Basic Training in South Carolina 3 weeks after graduation.

Career Goal:

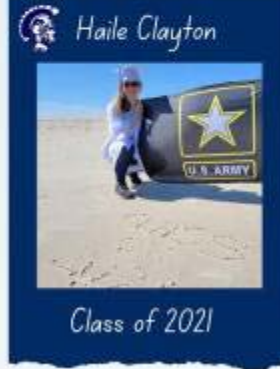
My career goal is to be in the military for 20 years until I retire and then go to school to become a JROTC instructor.

Favorite PHS Memory:

My favorite memory of PHS would have to be going to Wood Working with Mr. Jarrett and being able to express my creativity in his class.

My Positive Influence:

My mom has always been a positive influence and my role model. She has always supported me, encouraged me, and motivated me in all of my decisions, and shaped me into the strong, independent person I am today.



Haile Clayton

Class of 2021

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

School Activities:

- Yearbook Committee
- Musical Scenery Crew

My Post High School Plans:

RACC - Business Administration

Career Goal:

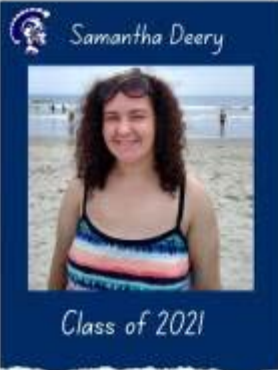
Executive Secretary

Favorite PHS Memory:

Graduation will be the BEST memory of all!

My Positive Influence:

Ms. Bowers - funny
Ms. Schollenberger - cool
Mrs. Brothers - helpful



Samantha Deery

Class of 2021

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

School Activities:

- Wrestling
- Cross Country

My Post High School Plans:

After I graduate, I plan on attending Lock Haven University for marine biology.

Career Goal:

I want to be a marine biologist hopefully working in Alaska or Maine.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Fun runs with the wrestling team. You can never anticipate where we will be running on Saturday.

My Positive Influence:

The person that has had the most influence on me has been Mr. Armato. No I'm not just saying this because he is publishing the Senior Spotlights. Mr. Armato has been a huge influence ever since my family and I moved into Pottstown. He always brightens up my day, and is one of the best coaches I have met.



Matthew Deppen

Class of 2021

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Kristin DiPietro



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Musical
- Scenery crew
- Choir
- Debate club

My Post High School Plans:

College and majoring in psychology

Career Goal:

Becoming a psychologist and working in schools.

Favorite PHS Memory:

My first musical performance. It made me feel more apart of the community.

My Positive Influence:

Parents, family, professors, and teachers

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Kaelyn Draucker



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- National Honors Society
- Varsity Cheer
- 2020 Homecoming Court

My Post High School Plans:

Thomas Jefferson University majoring in Pre-Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences.

Career Goal:

Sonographer at an OBGYN

Favorite PHS Memory:

Pep rallies, football games, and spirit week

My Positive Influence:

Mrs. Cherneskie

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Zoe Earle



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Varsity Soccer
- Varsity Wrestling
- Track and Field
- Hairspray the Musical
- Mini Thon
- National Honors Society

My Post High School Plans:

After graduation I will be attending a four year university, but besides that I'm figuring everything out one day at a time.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Going to Penn Relays, and traveling to Europe with my bestie.

My Positive Influence:

Besides my mom, Mr. Barnes, Mrs. Pitt, Mr. Baker, and definitely Mr. Armato.

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Jenna Epright



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Colorguard

My Positive Influence:

Ms. Heffelfinger and Mr. Hewitt.

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Varsity Soccer
- Varsity Wrestling
- Track and Field
- National Honor Society
- Little Mermaid Musical
- Hairspray Musical
- Seussical the Musical
- Choir
- Mini-thon

My Post High School Plans:

I will be majoring in Communications, however, I am undecided. My top options are to attend Drexel University for their amazing Co-op program or to attend Lock Haven University to wrestle.

Favorite PHS Memory:

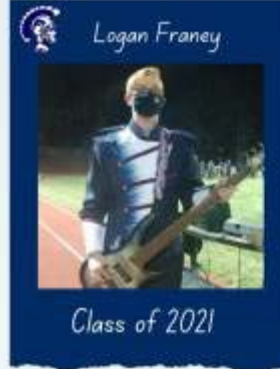
Wrestling practices leading up to States.

My Positive Influence:

Coach Wade, Mr. Armato, and my Mom

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Marching Band 9-12
- Jazz Band 11
- Concert Band 9-11
- AFJROTC 9-11

My Post High School Plans:

Attend Penn College of Technology to major in Software Engineering

Career Goal:

Join NCIS to work as a field agent and eventually open my own software engineering company.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Marching Band Disney Trip in 10th grade.

My Positive Influence:

Mrs. Pasquale, Mr. McNamara, and Mr. DiDonato.

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



My Post High School Plans:

I plan on attending Pennsylvania College of Art and Design.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Spirit week!

My Positive Influence:

My mom, my siblings, and my friends.

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



My Post High School Plans:

After graduation, I will be attending Alvernia University where I was offered an academic scholarship.

Career Goal:

My career goal is to get my BSN to become a labor and delivery nurse.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Helping out at the trunk or treat for the ECE class

My Positive Influence:

Ms. Rhodes

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Carson Hewitt



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Class officer Vice President
- Girls Soccer Team
- 2020 Homecoming Queen

My Post High School Plans:

Widener University- major undecided

Favorite PHS Memory:


Soccer games


My Positive Influence:

Mr Benfield (best teacher ever!!)

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Devon Hill



Class of 2021

Favorite PHS Memory:

English Class

My Positive Influence:

Mr. Benfield and Mrs. Rogers

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Allison Horne



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Marching Band
- Concert Band
- jazz Band

Career Goal:

Plans to get a job working with animals.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Pep Rallies, Spirit Week, Marching Band

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Aleisha Irizarry



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Makeup artist for the musicals
- 3rd-year cosmetology student

My Post High School Plans:

Go to empire beauty school to get my license and become a makeup / hair stylist.

Career Goal:

Become successful and make my clients happy and feel even more beautiful than they are.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Being with my best friend is cosmetology and doing makeup for the musical.

My Positive Influence:

My mom and sister. They have been by my side since day 1! They support me every step of the way! They are my number 1 fans!

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Diego Jaime



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Wrestling Team
- Track Team
- Tennis Team
- Golf Team
- Marching Band
- Deca

My Post High School Plans:

Attend a 4 year university for Business Administration and Management.

Career Goal:

Own a business like my family

Favorite PHS Memory:

Having to wake up early at 5am for the weekend wrestling tournaments just getting to spend a great time with great people all around.

My Positive Influence:

My mother and all my wrestling coaches always making sure I was staying on top of things in life.

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Matt Lesher



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Marching band & Concert band
- 3 years AFJROTC

My Post High School Plans:

U.S. Army

Favorite PHS Memory:

Military Ball 2019

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Samantha Levey



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Varsity softball freshman year
- Choir
- The musicals: The Little Mermaid, Hairspray, Seussical

My Post High School Plans:

I plan on attending Kutztown University with an undecided major.

Career Goal:

I haven't decided what path I want to take yet, but I have interests in the medical field.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Being a part of the choir, the musicals, and hanging out with friends in the library junior year.

My Positive Influence:

My parents, my cousin Jess and her husband Matt, Mrs. Mohr, Mr. Dipette

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Marcos Maldonado



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Level 3 Culinary Student
- Level 2 Guitar
- Woodworker

Career Goal:

My career goal is to become a top tier chef

Favorite PHS Memory:

Dirt Bike Assembly, Pep Rallies, Culinary Chop Competitions

My Positive Influence:

Mom, Chef Irick, Gordon Ramsay, Dodge Brothers

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Christine Martinez



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Scenery Crew
- DECA

My Post High School Plans:

I plan on starting my career in the medical field at Drexel University.

My Positive Influence:

I thank my family for motivating me and my friends for elevating me.

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Dylan Maximenko



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- DECA
- Soccer
- Track
- NHS

My Post High School Plans:

Attend University of Pittsburgh with a major in computer science and a minor in marketing

Career Goal:

Manage and run my own business.

My Positive Influence:

Mr. Woodley

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Emily McCollum



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Varsity Cheerleading
- Little Mermaid play
- Hairspray play
- Choir for 2 years
- Softball freshman year.

My Plans:

Will attend Monico and get my BSN

Career Goal:

Labor and Delivery Nurse

Favorite PHS Memory:

Cheering at Friday night lights football games.

My Positive Influence:

Mrs. Johnson

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Dylan Murphy



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Baseball
- Soccer
- Marching Band
- National Honor Society
- DECA
- Trojan Man

My Post High School Plans:

Attend Millersville University and major in Sports Business and play Baseball

Career Goal:

Work for a Major League Baseball organization

Favorite PHS Memory:

Pep Rallies, After school activities, being trojan man

My Positive Influence:

Mr. Woodley and Ms. McShea

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- 5 PHS musicals
- Girls Tennis
- Cross Country and Track
- Student Government
- Interact Club
- National Honor Society

My Post High School Plans:

Attending Haverford College, undecided major

Career Goal:

Help others in whatever way I can, and eventually write a book.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Going to Chick-Fil-A after tennis matches with my awesome team.

My Positive Influence:

Mr. Dipette and of course my crazy family.

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Dual Enrollment
- Senior Student Board Representative
- 4th Congressional Student Ambassador Task Force (3)
- Marching Band (4)
- Jazz Band (4)
- Concert Band (4)
- Musicals- Orchestra (3)
- Tennis Team (4)
- Student Government (4)
- DECA (4)
- Interact Club (4)
- NHS (3)
- HOSA (3)

My Post High School Plans:

Full-ride to Duke University majoring in biomedical engineering.

Career Goal:

Biomedical Engineer

Favorite PHS Memory:

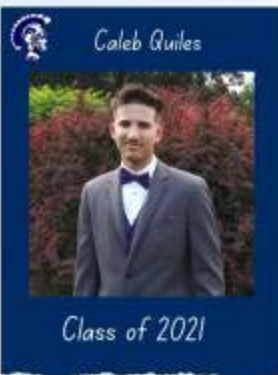
Mr. Pottstown, Musicals, DECA States, marching and jazz band competitions

My Positive Influence:

Mr. Rodriguez, Mrs. Leibold, and my teachers and club advisors

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Baseball
- School Play

My Post High School Plans:

Start at MONTCO and major in Criminal Justice, while working

Career Goal:

To become a Police officer

Favorite PHS Memory:

Making the baseball team

My Positive Influence:

My mother

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Career Goal:

My career goal is to become a certified nurse assistant (CNA). I am currently enrolling into home health aide. They are willing to give me experience and certifications in order to continue the process of becoming a CNA in the future.

Favorite PHS Memory:

My favorite memories of PHS are the pep rally's. They always brought us out of doing school work.

My Positive Influence:

Mrs. Baldwin, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Braunsberg & Mr. Delany

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Varsity Softball 9th-12th Grade
- Mini-Thon Committee
- Student Government

My Post High School Plans:

West Chester University - Majoring in Zoology/Marine Biology

Career Goal:

Zoologist / Marine Biologist

Favorite PHS Memory:

Softball Games, Spirit Weeks, Mini-Thon

My Positive Influence:

Besides my Mom and brother, Coach McKee, Ms. McShea and Trey Love

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- 3 years of Choir
- World Beat Ensemble

My Post High School Plan:

Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HCTC) in South Carolina, majoring in Construction Technology

Career Goal:

To personally own and all-female construction business

Favorite PHS Memory:

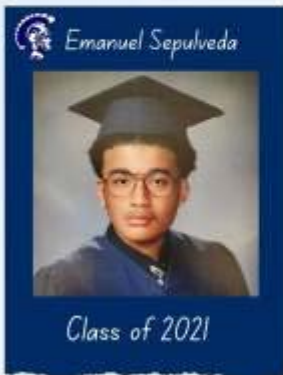
Days we did choir in the stairwell with Mr. DiPette

My Positive Influence:

Besides my mom, Mrs. Fox, Mr. DiPette, Mr. Jarrett, Mr. Fox and Mr. Barnes

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Engineering
- Wood Working/Construction

My Post High School Plans:

Plan on working for a year then attending Thaddeus Steven's College of Technology.

Career Goal:

To be an Engineer

Favorite PHS Memory:

Being in Mr. Vought's music class. Playing the drums, guitar and piano.

My Positive Influence:

My mother

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- School Musical
- Dual enrollment student

My Post High School Plans:

Become a psychology major at West Chester University and get my doctorate to open a private practice

Favorite PHS Memory:

Opening night of Hairspray the musical

My Positive Influence:

My Mom

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Field Hockey
- Lacrosse
- Level III Early Childhood Education student (ECE)

My Post High School Plans:

I will attend Millersville university and major in early childhood education

Career Goal:

Becoming an elementary teacher and having the opportunity to shape young minds.

Favorite PHS Memory:

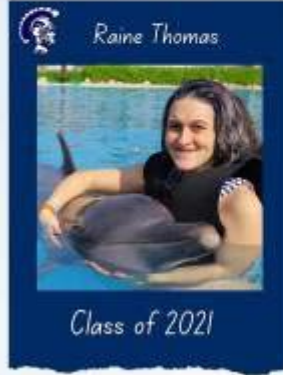
Having the chance of going around to different prek classes and working with the children

My Positive Influence:

Ms. Rhodes

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Stage crew and scenery crew

My Post High School Plans:

West Chester University, majoring in Biology: Marine Science

Career Goal:

To be an aquatic veterinarian and dolphin trainer.

Favorite PHS Memory:

Spirit week and being in classes with friends

My Positive Influence:

My mom and poppop, Mrs. Bartolucci, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. Bachman, Mr. Hewitt and Winter the Dolphin

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Varsity Cheer
- Mini-Thon
- National Honor Society
- Dual- Enrollment at MONTCO
- Student Government: Historian for 2 years

My Post High School Plans:

Attending Bloomsburg University of PA to major in PR/communications and minor in psychology

Career Goal:

Something within Public Relations

Favorite PHS Memory:

Football games and cheer camp

My Positive Influence:

Mrs. Lawrence and Mr. Barnes

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Girls soccer
- Softball
- National Honor Society
- DECA
- Health Occupation Students of America

My Post High School Plans:

Will attend Eastern University to major in nursing

Career Goal:

I will receive a BSN degree to become a pediatric nurse then work my way up to a pediatrician

Favorite PHS Memory:

Being with friends and going to Ms. Johnson's class.

My Positive Influence:

Ms. Johnson and Mrs. Cherneskie

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Omar Villagomez



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Health Tech III
- Dual Enrollment

My Post High School Plans:

Attending Ursinus College to receive my Bachelors in Biology

Career Goal:

Become an Orthodontist and have my own office

Favorite PHS Memory:

Pep rallies, Winter Ball, and Ms. Johnson's class

My Positive Influence:

My parents and Ms. Johnson

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Niana White



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Level III Early Childhood Education (ECE)
- Volunteer childcare for school plays

My Post High School Plans:

Seek employment & possibly pursue a career in education

Career Goal:

Work with special education students

Favorite PHS Memory:

School Trip to Europe Freshman year & 2019 ECE Trunk or Treat

My Positive Influence:

Ms. Rhodes, Mrs. Bowers, and Mr. Parks

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Trinity Wiley



Class of 2021

My Post High School Plans:

Attend college at the University of Tampa to major in psychology

Career Goal:

To become a clinical psychologist working in New York

Favorite PHS Memory:

Pep rallies & Night football games

My Positive Influence:

My parents, Chef Inck, Mr. Woodley and Mrs. Wilkerson has helped me grow into not only a successful student but a great person.

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

 Hannah Wilson



Class of 2021

School Activities:

- Marching Band
- Concert Band
- Flute Ensemble
- National Honor Society
- Class Officer
- Swim Team
- Yearbook
- Interact Club
- Mini-thon
- DECA

My Post High School Plans:

Attend Eastern University on an Academic Scholarship and Major in Bio-Chemistry

Career Goal:

Pharmaceutical Scientist

Favorite PHS Memory:

Winning the Powder Puff Football game my junior year.

My Positive Influence:

My Parents, my older brothers, Mrs. Donnelly, Ms. Chase, Mrs. Ermold, Mrs. Mohr, Madame Cherneskie and Mr. Benfield

Pottstown Road

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Student Gov
- HOSA
- Varsity Cheer

My Post High School Plan:

Attending Alvernia University to major in nursing with a minor in spanish

Career Goal:

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Favorite PHS Memory:

Spirit Week/Pep rallies

My Positive Influence:

Ms. Johnson

Pottstown Proud

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



School Activities:

- Baseball

My Post High School Plans:

Millersville University- Sports Business

Career Goal:

Managing and marketing sports teams

Favorite PHS Memory:

Friday night football games under the lights

My Positive Influence:

Mr. Woodley

Pottstown Proud

**Congratulations
Pottstown High School
2021 Seniors!**



Pottstown High School celebrates Senior Acceptance Day

Pottstown High School recently hosted a Senior Acceptance Day in celebration of seniors accepted to a college, trade school, military, or internship. Community businesses were asked to honor and support the graduating seniors through donations. Read all about it and view pictures from the event on [The Mercury website](#).



Pottstown High School recently hosted a Senior Acceptance Day in celebration of seniors accepted to a college, trade school, military, or internship.

Community businesses were asked to honor and support the graduating seniors through donations. Many businesses donated gift cards, clothing, tools, and gift baskets, including: Wawa, Dairy Queen, Subway, Papa John's, Old Navy, J. Crew, Auntie Anne's, Chili's, Walmart, Red Lobster, Target, Clare's, Friendly's, Trek, and Tractor Supply Co.

The Pottstown Elk Lodge donated \$75 in Visa gift cards along with the "secret" organization of community members that call themselves the "Fairy Godparents" donating a whopping \$1,375 in Amazon and Visa gift cards.

College swag was also available for students.

Students chose from a variety of colleges, including Temple, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Elizabethtown, Widener, Kutztown University, East Stroudsburg, Harcum College, Lock Haven, Alvernia, Gwynedd Mercy, Cedar Crest, Immaculata, University of Pittsburgh, Penn State, St. Luke's School of Nursing, Millersville, Williamson College of the Trades, California University of Pennsylvania, and West Chester.

The Pennsylvania National Guard, US Army, and the Air Force also donated items for the students. The event, organized by College and Career Counselor Susan Pritt, highlighted the first time most of the seniors have gathered together in many months.

Zoe Earle, Julianne Figueroa, Hannah Wilson, Kishan Patel, Naomi Parson, Iyesha Belgrave, and Christian Albert assisted in making the event special.

Senior Naomi Parson commented, "You have no idea how awesome that senior acceptance celebration was. I've never experienced something like that. Especially having gone months with only seeing two or three of my classmates, it meant so much for us."

Over \$4,000 in gift cards and merchandise were handed to the deserving students who endured the roughest year of their life thus far during the pandemic.



Pottstown High School Class of 2021 graduation in a year like no other

Perhaps the most welcome aspect of Pottstown High School's graduation ceremony Wednesday night was how normal it seemed. Yes, many wore masks for at least part of the ceremony, and the graduates were seated at oddly distanced intervals, but in the end, it was mostly a graduation like any other. And what made that welcome is that those graduating, and those who helped them get there, were doing so at the end of a school year like no other.



"Whatever your passion may be, no matter how small or silly, share that with others. Because when you do that thing that makes you truly happy, your life changes. But when you share it with those around you, the world changes."

— Naomi Parson, Valedictorian, PHS Class of 2021

Pottstown High School's 141st Commencement Ceremony

This year's class of 159 graduates adds to the list of over 20,427 PHS Trojans who have gone on to distinguish themselves in every field of endeavors. They become part of our proud past and give us reason to be confident about the future. Congratulations to them and thanks to teachers, staff, administration, school board, parents, family and community who has played a role in shaping their future.

You give us the reason to say "Proud to be from Pottstown."
No matter where the journey of life takes them - Once a Trojan, a Trojan Forever!

Class of 2021 Information

The Class of 2021 is Pottstown High School's 141st graduating class.

- Class of **159** students
 - Number of female students – **80**
 - Number of male students – **79**
- Number of students who started and completed all of their education in Pottstown – **78**
- Post High School Plans:
 - Continuing Education:
 - 4 year college/university - **52**
 - 2 year college/university - **10**
 - Trade/technical school - **13**
 - Armed Services – **7**
 - Work World – **13**
 - Other (homemaker, unemployed, unknown, etc.) – **63**
- Scholarships/Awards – total value for senior class - **\$2,271,905.00**



Naomi Parson's Pottstown HS Valedictorian Speech

Pottstown High School held the 141st graduation ceremony in Grigg Stadium. Naomi Parson gave the Valedictorian remarks. You can read them in Mr. Evan Brandt's [Digital Notebook Blog](#).

Valedictorian Naomi Parson



Salutatorian Kishan Patel



**Class President,
Christian Albert**



PRIDE



2021 POTTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PLANS

PHS Senior/Graduate	Schools accepted to:
Albert, Christian Omar	Howard/Jefferson/Gwynedd/Neumann/St. John's/Morgan State
Albert, Christiana Omarie	Lock Haven/Cheyney
Allford, DaShawn James Brown	Thaddeus Stevens
Ammouri, Seif Raheem	Thaddeus Stevens
Araujo Juarez, Adriana M	Univ. of Pittsburgh (Greensburg campus)/Bloomsburg/Alvernia/Messiah/Widener/Penn State/York/Drexel
Belgrave, Iyasha Bint	Duke University
Brooker, Synera	MCCC
Charriez, Heaven J	Bloomsburg/Kutztown/ Temple/West Chester/Cabrini/Alvernia/Chestnut Hill College/Norfolk State/Morgan State/Cheyney/LaSalle
Clayton, Haile Ann	United States Army
Cocar, Katherine Alicia	Widener/Kutztown/Edinboro/MCCC/Temple
Cottman, Corey Allen	Kutztown/Shippensburg/West Chester/Edinboro/Cheyney/Bloomsburg/Neumann
Cruz, Abel	ATC
DiPietro, Kristin Elizabeth	East Stroudsburg/Alvernia/Kutztown/Ursinus
Draucker, Kaelyn E	Thomas Jefferson/Harcum/Bloomsburg/Albright/Kutztown/East Stroudsburg
Earle, Zoe Monifa	Del Val/Morgan State/West Chester/Wilson/Cal U/Cheyney
Figuroa, Julianna Antoinette	East Stroudsburg/Drexel/Lock Haven/Albright/Arcadia/Millersville/West Chester
Flagg, Janese Mary	Air Force
Franey, Logan J	Penn College of Technology
Gatheca, Sharon Wambui	Pennsylvania College of Art and Design
Germany, Anyae A	IUP/Shippensburg
Green, Patrick	ATC
Greghini-Williams, Rebecca	IUP/Point Park/Albright/Mansfield/MCCC
Haas, Haley Frances	Penn State/Millersville/Albright/Alvernia/Hofstra/Kings College/Elizabethtown
Hall, Cyenyla IyeJhe	Haverford College
Hernandez, Aryanna Mia	West Chester/Temple/Alvernia/Albright/Ursinus/MCCC
Hewitt, Carson A	Millersville/Kutztown/Widener
Hill, Devon Maddison	Elizabethtown/Lebanon Valley
Hills, Cynae Marie	Albright/Alvernia/West Chester/Shippensburg/IUP
Hipple, Jack J	Millersville/West Chester/Lebanon Valley College
Johnson, Nevaeh McKinley	MCCC
Leshner, Matthew Scott	Army
Levey, Samantha J	Johnson and Wales/Alvernia/Kutztown/Cedar Crest/Elizabethtown/Delaware Valley/Ursinus/Edinboro
Manzanares Dinarte, Getzer Anahel	Army or Marines
Martinez, Cristine	Temple/Drexel
Maximenko, Dylan P	Pittsburgh/Duquesne/Ursinus/West Chester/Colorado State/Denver/College of Charleston
Murphy, Dylan R	Neumann/Millersville/York/Kutztown/DeSales/Albright/Lock Haven/Alvernia/Gwynedd Mercy/IUP
Parson, Naomi S	Haverford College
Patel, Kishan A	Duke
Quiles, Caleb E	MCCC

2021 POTTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PLANS

PHS Senior/Graduate	Schools accepted to:
Raegler, Pearce David	Ursinus/Pennsylvania College of Technology/RIT
Roach, Faith E	West Chester/Unity
Roye, Destri N	West Chester/Gwynedd Mercy/Shippensburg/Kutztown/Army National Guard
Selmi, Salah Fadel	ATC/UTI
Selner, Ashley Nicole	Goucher College
Smallwood, Darius A	U. Conn/LaSalle/St. Joseph's
Soto, Natacha Ali	Penn State
Spence, Austin S	West Chester
Stamm, Dominic Joseph	Automotive Training Center
Stirk, Lillian Ann	Millersville/Kutztown/West Chester/Widener/Delaware Valley
Strimpel, Sincere Kamron	Shippensburg
Thomas, Raine E	East Stroudsburg/West Chester/Ohio State/Miami/University of Rhode Island/Ohio University
Thompson, Jaleinda Maria	West Chester/Bloomsburg/IUP/ASU/UVF
Villagomez, Michelle	Alvernia/Eastern/Drexel
Villagomez, Omar	Ursinus/Drexel/Temple/Penn State (University Park)
Watson, Jahzeel D	Morgan State/Ursinus/Widener/Alvernia/Shippensburg/Kutztown
Watson, Jazlynn Telanna	Neumann/Lincoln/Cheyney/West Chester/Kutztown/Bloomsburg/Edinboro/Shippensburg/Army National Guard
Wiley, Trinity S	Univ. of Tampa/Shippensburg/Millersville/Kutztown/Bloomsburg/Mercy College/Syracuse/Alvernia/UMBC/Morgan State/LaSalle/Temple/Millersville/Indiana Univ. of Pennsylvania/Georgia State/MCCC
Wilson, Hannah M	Eastern/Ursinus/Millersville/Alvernia/Messiah
Wood, Harmony N	Alvernia/Bloomsburg/York/UVF/Messiah/U Sciences/Drexel
Zvodar, Kevin Ryan	Millersville/Penn State Berks/Susquehanna/Neumann/Slippery Rock



Pottstown Students Send Open Letter To Senator Mensch Mercury 6-18-2021

Guest commentary: Montco School Students Seek Fair Funding

By Kishan Patel and Jimi Chavalaporn ~ Pottstown High School

Kishan Patel, PHS Class of 2021, and Jimi Chavalaporn, Class of 2022, sent an open letter to



Senator Mensch. We are writing to you on behalf of our fellow students in Pottstown School District and in underfunded districts across the state. We all know the problem: More than half of Pennsylvania students and 80% of black and brown students are given less than their fair share of state education dollars. Here in Pottstown, where 67% of our peers are students of color and 68% are economically disadvantaged, we have been shortchanged by nearly \$4,000 per student each year.

Lamoni Greene heads to Nashville for national competition



When Lamoni Green heads to Nashville later this month for a national competition, she'll take with her the love and best wishes of an entire community of friends and neighbors in Pottstown.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Earth Day Project a Middle School Success

Transforming the Pottstown Middle School courtyards from what Student Council Advisor Andrea Roberts described as "Garden Nightmare" to "GardZen" was an Earth Day project success. Roberts said, "Our council had an opportunity to meet outside of zoom for the first time in almost a year and they used their time to brainstorm this project from start to finish. The plan called for a team of over 50 students, teachers, administrators, and community mentors volunteering their time on a Saturday morning to clear, redesign and spread over 15 tons of mulch to transform both of the middle school courtyards." Principal Brian Hostetler, who was on hand to lend his muscle in moving the mulch, said, "I am very proud of our students, staff and community members for coming together to support our school. Their efforts will provide a beautiful area for outdoor education."

Thanks to Mr. Evan Brandt for sharing the story of the middle school courtyard transformation on his [Digital Notebook Blog](#). Trojan Proud of middle school student, staff and community mentors.



[Story behind Pottstown Middle School's first musical is a real 'Beauty'](#)



Diana Stitt and her daughter, Olivia, a Pottstown Middle School student, share a love of musicals and Broadway.

So when Stitt, who has worked as a substitute teacher in the district, realized the middle school didn't have the money to put on a spring musical— a staple of every other middle school in the region that she knew— it bothered her. "I decided to change that," she said.

Stitt got permission from the district to apply for a Disney grant that enables poorer schools to perform their shows without having to pay the licensing fee. Enter stage left, "Beauty and the Beast Jr." — a shortened adaptation for younger students. Even so, Stitt, who is a candidate for the Pottstown School Board, had no idea of the problems she might face.

Working around COVID restrictions, she auditioned the kids outside, in front of the school. She held rehearsals in the school parking lot, where she taped X's six feet apart on the pavement.

When school sports programs started up again in January, she got permission to move the theater production inside as well. Recognizing that facial expressions are key to acting, she got clear plastic masks for the actors. But then there was an issue with the microphones. The middle school had an array hanging from the ceiling, but that was more for choral performances. The equipment wouldn't pick up individuals, Stitt said.

When Johnny Corson, president of the Pottstown branch of the NAACP, learned about the latest glitch, he wanted to help. "Sometimes, people just need to know that they are somebody," he said. "I thought it would be good for their self-esteem. Not everyone is an athlete. We wanted to cheer them on. We wanted them to feel good about themselves." He knew others would want to help as well. The NAACP, the Pottstown Rotary Club, and a separate group of local business people donated \$500 each for a system of 16 wireless headset microphones that will be donated to the middle school afterward.



Olivia Stitt as Belle and Jahiem Pratt as Gaston

"We generally support children's education and literacy. Actually, anything to help kids is big in Rotary," said Brooke Martin, president of the local group. "Plus, it's something that can be used in the years to come to create a strong program."

"I can tell you," Stitt said, "45 students are a lot happier today because of what these groups did." Stitt found that the students— stagehands, actors and more—coalesced beyond what anyone expected. They supported each other and cheered each other on. "Kids that might never be friends with each other have become friends," she said. As she wrote in the program, "Theater friends become family, and I have seen this happen during our production. Every one of these actors is supporting and encouraging — even when they are in a 'teenager' mood!" Several kids involved in the production are on the autism spectrum. Some have anxiety and depression issues. "The play has given them an outlet." Through GoFundMe, more than \$400 was raised for costumes and sets, which she built herself.

Corson's son Matt, a paraprofessional who works with district students who have emotional or behavioral issues, lent his theatrical expertise, joining the group as producer. Johnny Corson's love of theater began when he was in fourth grade and played a Polynesian kid in the all-district musical, "South Pacific." The next year, he was a craps shooter in "Guys and Dolls." And so on. When he heard that the middle school wasn't doing musicals because of funding issues, "I was crushed," he said. "It brought me back to when I was in high school and there was talk about cutting the music program and the arts program. Back then, our group came together and went to a school board meeting and stood our ground."

"Speaking personally, it helped me to get over self-confidence and self-image issues," Johnny Corson said. "To put yourself out there and not be worried about the judgments that may come. It teaches you to be comfortable with public speaking, with improvisational skills. You learn teamwork." Kids are "getting wrapped up in a character that is totally different from their everyday life. You can learn sympathy from that," he said.

Jahiem Pratt, an 8th grader who plays Gaston, said the production "gives off good energy. There's a lot of negativity in the school. This brings out the goodness. Everyone gets along."

Stitt's daughter Olivia, a 7th grader, plays Belle. "I just like sometimes pretending to be a different person," she said. "It helps me get out of my head."

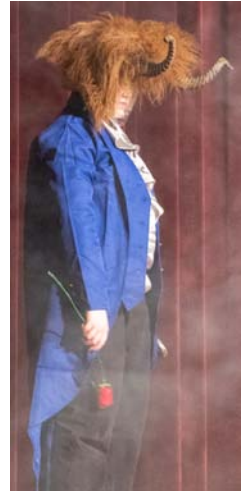
Opening night is Friday, May 7, at 7 p.m. Additional performances are May 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 2 p.m. and May 14 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Because COVID restrictions mean the auditorium can only be at 20 percent of capacity, tickets were only available through cast members. But now that cast members have put in their orders, a limited number of tickets are available for the public. Email Stitt at dstitt@pottstownk12.org or call her at 610-657-6842.

Meanwhile, the group is performing a filmed version to be streamed online. Those who can't get tickets — or grandparents who don't live nearby — can buy a ticket, pick from among a few dozen scheduled times, and watch on their computers.

To order a streaming ticket, go to <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/50249>.

Photos from Beauty and The Beast – Middle School Musical



[Middle School Students Perform In All Star Event](#)

Congratulations to Pottstown Middle School students specially selected to participate in 2021 All-Star Honor String Orchestra and All-Star Honor Band virtual performances, recently released to video. The annual programs are sponsored by Reading-based musical instrument supplier and education company [Zeswitz Music](#). Representing [Pottstown](#) in the honor band were: Brianna Bui, 6th Grade, Flute; Aiden Kancianic, 8th Grade, Baritone; Taylor Maguire, 8th Grade, Trumpet; Colin Plank, 7th Grade, Percussion; and Garrett Shope, 7th Grade, Clarinet. Students prepared and performed the piece "Escape From Thunder Mountain" by Scott Watson. A special thanks to Pottstown directors Nancy Mest and Katie German for their guidance, leadership and inspiration.

A second round of congratulations to our middle school music students who were selected to play in the All-Star Honor Band sponsored by Zeswitz Music. Today they were the topic of Mr. Evan Brandt's very popular [Digital Notebook Blog](#). Thanks to Mr. Brandt for helping to tell the Pottstown Story and sharing another reason we say Proud to be from Pottstown.

ELEMENTARY

Rupert Elementary School – I'MPACT

"Even a pandemic didn't stop us from recognizing our students!! The hour we spend visiting our students and recognizing their achievements brings joy to our team, the students, and their families!" - Matthew Moyer

On Thursday, 3/25/2021, the Rupert Elementary I'MPACT team visited the homes of its students. The team went out to visit students from each grade level to congratulate them and their families, and to acknowledge student successes during the 3rd Marking Period. I'MPACT is an acronym for I'm Pottstown Action Community Team. Its mission is to "Celebrate Learning" with positive communication of activities happening at school through the building of relationships with community members. The team makes door-to-door visits to surprise students and their families with certificates of achievement, yard signs, and I'MPACT Winner shirts. Students are congratulated for their hard work, citizenship, and positive behavior. The I'MPACT Team consists of teachers, support staff, and administrators from Rupert Elementary School.

I'MPACT Winners for the 3rd Marking Period:

- ★ Kindergarten - Blaine Powell and Bryce Powell (Our first Twin I'MPACT Winners!)
- ★ 1st Grade - Emiliana Pearson
- ★ 2nd Grade - Aiden Rhoads
- ★ 3rd Grade - Cynia Lucky
- ★ 4th Grade - Mathias Williams

Members of the Team in attendance for the visits: Principal: Matthew Moyer; Staff: Kerry Kline, Tracy Comacho, Laurie Gresko, Cindy Bartolucci, Beth Burkheimer, Amanda Walsh, Kelsey Hultz, Lindsay Hogan, Jaime Parris, and Molly Callaghan. Photo Credit Kerry Kline:



Miss Kelsey Hultz,
Emiliana Pearson, and
Miss Amanda Walsh



Bryce Powell



Mathias Williams
and Mr. Matt Moyer



Mathias Williams
and Miss Lindsay Hogan



Mr. Jaime Parris
and Cynia Lucky



Cynia Lucky and her Mom

[New Rupert Elementary mural celebrates 90 years of public education](#)

It has been said that "Art has the power to transform, to illuminate, to educate, inspire and motivate." We hope this will be the case with Rupert Elementary School's new mural. As I look around Pottstown I see so many wonderful examples of art. There are beautiful trees, wonderful architecture, and fantastic art pieces all over town, just to name a few.



POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 FOURTH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

Barth Elementary School - Grade 3

Caleb	Allen
Layla	Ballard
Brielle	Brinkley
Cielo	Del Angel
Justice	Ford
Julian	Granozio
Joseph	Grauber
Zy'Aire	Johnson-Brinkley
Ayva	Kletzing
Jayden	Mattis
Benjamin	Moser
Jacqueline	Santiago
Tysheed	Wright

Barth Elementary School - Grade 4

Dakota	Bobo-Brown
Aziyah	Brown
Natasha	Clemens
Amelia	Diehl
Layloni	Dunn
Grace	Eby
Emily	Gonzalez Tello
Issac	Hansberry-Hicks
Alonna	Kacanda
Miya	Kletzing
Madison	Llewellyn
Aayden	McCain
James	Philippsen
Meredith	Pope
Elizabeth	Reyes
Ali	Thornton
Danielle	Trabucco
Jasmyne	Upchurch
Isabella	Wagner

Franklin Elementary School - Grade 3

Edward	Adamski
Ares	Broussard
Jordan	Bryant
Emma	Campbell
Adelynn	Coles
Noah	Conbeer
Jordan	Diehl
Zeriah	Fairel
Patrick	Galamba
Sebastian	Haberle
Callie	Harper
Gavin	Harris
Kaylee	Howard
Hannah	Jaycox
Isaac	Kancianic
Ky'Ayer	McCalvin
Kendall	Miller
Blake	Milner
Ky'Manii	Morrison
Landon	Nhim
Gabriella	Ortiz
Kenzie	Pallay-Williams
Catherine	Pena
Chase	Pittman-Bookard
Nicholas	Romano
Jamilyn	Rudnicki
Shane	Sands
Jose-Luis	Santuario
Berlin	Sheckleford
Analise	Snowden
Elayna	Soos
Ashirah	Still
Peyton	Tinson
Oliver	Trout
Elizabeth	Wasylkowski
Jeremi	Wesley
Ohave	Wolloh
Aiyanna	Zipay

Franklin Elementary School - Grade 4

Julietta	Aguilera Macias
Emma	Allen
Eric	Clay
Karen	Cocar
Paul	Donohie
Dustin	Gallagher
Miguel	Govea-Pimentel
Chakotay	Hammer
Justin	Hughes
Evan	Krestel
Alberto	Lugo Sanchez
Noah	Moser
Conner	O'Hara
Christian	Quiles
Elizabeth	Reazor
Javon	Richardson
Typhanie	Samsel
Edward	Sloss
Haiden	Wade
Seth	Yannessa

Lincoln Elementary School - Grade 3

Lily	Beach
Jacob	Blackwell
Amir	Brice
Nehemiah	Burgess
Amiliya	Conrad
Layla	Grant
Ava	Gulbish
Mariah	Laboy
Anthony	Law
Liam	Moser
Colby	Moyer
Chandler	Peaco
Feby	Perez Domingo
Hayden	Rhoades
Alexis	Seidle
Layla	Williams

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 FOURTH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

Lincoln Elementary School - Grade 4

Calliope	Hall
Jaelyn	Hoefel
Justin	Horne
Thomas	Inthaphone
Clara	Johnson
Qahira	Jones
KateLynn	Kearney
Tariss	Lacey
Oliver	Leonard
Cole	McLaughlin
Gianna	Miles
Lexi	Oswald
Joseph	Pollock
Joshua	Reifsnieder
Thomas	Rose
Makenna	Wright

Rupert Elementary School - Grade 3

Devonte	Barnes
Aidan	Branagh
Lyla	Caraballo
Corbin	Daub
Kirsten	Douglass
Aaliyah	Dubost
Devin	Harkin
Josiah	Jackson
Sevoughn'	Jones
Shaniyah	Knapke
Audrey	Muriel
Julianna	Pickens
Caelan	Singer
Haley	Soto
Sidney	Spiece
Draycin	Strimpel
Jolayah	Sutton
Kaidon	Terpoilli
Ronan	White
Amara	Young

Rupert Elementary School - Grade 4

Rania	Ait Lqol
Kristy	Calle
Samuel	Colon
Kellen	Douglas
Kassidy	Drost
John	Ellwanger
Salese	Ervin
Christian	Fisher
Landon	Ford
John	Gantert
Leyla	Gibson
Jasmin	Guardado Vasquez
Murielle	Guerrier
Michael	Hallinger
Amiyah	Hill
Logan	Johnson
Ayden	Ketterer
Alexander	Lichtfuss
Mason	McCray
Damin	Meade
Aiden	Ondik
Alexander	Reyes-Jones
Isabella	Rurode
Aurora	Schwartz
Anna	Siar
Jayden	Sluzenski
Ryan	Stilwell
Simone	Thornton
Kelly	Villagomez
Corey	Wallner
Laila	White
Mathius	Williams
Nicole	Young

PMS - Grade 5 Distinguished Honors

Dylan	Bartholomew
Savana	Bauman
Meleena	Bisram
Jacob	DuVal
Autumn	Fair
Felicia	Fry
Dah'mir	Goings
Lillian	Green
Gabriel	Hampton
Carmelo	Harper
Cayden	Hayes
Levi	Jaycox
Leyna	Johnson
Ezra	King
Kamryn	King
Jaelynn	McCray
Aubrey	O'Blosser
Catherine	Pineda Penate
Makaila	Plummer
Royer	Rodriguez
William	Rose
Bradley	Saylor
Krystal	Saylor
Avaliyah	Scurry
Damien	Stonestreet
Zaniyah	Trott-Wright
Za'Mirah	Whitley
Marcus	Williams
Dennis	Yost
Lucy	Zuniga

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 FOURTH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PMS - Grade 6 Distinguished Honors

Dimitrus	Alston
Adel	Ammouri
Gavyn	Bennett
Alyssa	Broughton
Essence	Brown
Brianna	Bui
Ariyana	Carr
Edgar	Castillo
Jamir	Chavous
Glennedale	Fegeley
Cheyenne	Flamer
Youssef	Mahmoud
Oliver	Pineda-Penate
Abigayle	Santiago
Dillin	Thong

PMS - Grade 7 Distinguished Honors

Christiana	Allen
Jaxon	Barron
Leah	Blackwell
Zyla	Burke
Annasophia	Chhern
Michelle	Cocar Paredes
Isabella	Deluca
Austin	Derstine
Saniyah	Fox
Damion	Fry
Elizabeth	LaRocca
Ana	Maldonado-Lucas
Amelia	Maldonado-Rivas
Justina	Nhim
Caden	Nihart
Maribel	Ortiz
Nevaeh	Peaco
Colin	Plank
Nye	Powell
Triniti	Rhodes-Fisher
Johan	Rivera
Kamrin	Robinson
Ana	Salazar Lopez
Taina	Santiago
Garrett	Shope
Natalie	Shope
Mackenzie	Strobel
Anthony	Suber
Allyana	Sykes
Ethan	Ung
Cianne	Wells

PMS - Grade 8 Distinguished Honors

Diego	Aguilera
Patrick	Auman
Ambriana	Baryeh
Cheynin	Boyer
Daniela	Castillo
Olivia	Chin
Ethan	Collins
Aniyah	Crump
Lunna	Davila
Isac	Delgado
Ryan	Edde
Naden	Elgendy
Allyson	Ford
Lili	Freese
Jacob	Givens
Mahogany	Hill
Jessalynn	Hine
Gabriella	Horne
Alexander	Jimenez Rosales
Gianni	Mahario
Reece	Murphy
Janette	Penate
Miranda	Pineda
Diamyn	Rainey
Julia	Smith
Christopher	Thomas
Aniyah	Wells
Ja-Nyai	White

PMS - Grade 5 Honors

Shahed	Aljashoubi
Kaisy	Castillo
Nicole	Castillo
Peyton	Coale
Ariel	Cortes
Kylie	Covert
Mason	Dana
Anthony	Dennis
Chase	Drost
Erynn	Ford
Briannah	Freeman
Karla	Gandaria-Miguel
London	Glenn
Maria	Guardado-Sanchez
Kassidy	Jackson
Shambria	Johnson
Eli	Kancianic
Nathan	Knabb
Ava	Laws
King	Lucky
Alejandro	Maldonado-Rivas
Audra	Masewicz
Lola	Milner
Isabella	Moore
Ayden	Olvera
Casey	Perry
Deston	Purnell
Zacarias	Rodriguez
Astrid	Schreur
Scarlett	Shivak
Skylar	Shivak
Cassandra	Smith
Talia	Stover
Jamir	Straite
Angel	Suber
Ricardo	Thompson
Nyanna	Thompson
Darriss	Tinson
Destiny	Trejo
Brooke	Valerio
Zachary	Waters
Amyah	White

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 FOURTH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PMS - Grade 6 Honors

Ryan	Amole
Imani	Brown
Santiago	Castillo
Zealean	Cortes
Alicia	Cranford
Ayla	Folly
Cayden	Gofus
Chastelyn	Gonzalez Galarza
Bryan	Guerrier
Gaia	Hallahan
Kiara	Jackson
Lenai	Jackson
Addison	Lafferty
Maya	Lilick
Riley	Maguire
Jude	Mull
Kiriah	Parker
Sean	Robbins
Christopher	Rose
Yamiraha	Sahad
Rooney	Salazar Villanueva
David	Sanders
Alejandro	Suber
Ivan	Ubaldo
Crystal	Williams
De'Vayah	Williams
David	Wilson
Ayden	Yantz
Floyd	Young

PMS - Grade 7 Honors

Nora	Ammouri
Marcus	Andrews
Mairelys	Concepcion
Hugo	Costa
Mariah	Covert
Namika	Delgado-Cruz
Wesam	Elgendy
Nevaeh	Foster
Lily	Garber
Jacob	Granozio
Chase	Harrington
Jayanna	Hill
Brandon	Hughes
Arek	Javage
Carly	King
Kendyll	King
Joseph	Kletzing
Josiah	Lamar
Joao	Lima Valadares
Megan	McGinn
Shazia	Mendez
Damien	Paul
Carice	Peart
Zaila	Redden
Skylar	Romano
Brighton	Scott
Mohammed	Selmi
Gabriel	Stilwell
Arian	Tinson
Joseph	Torres
Jaron	Verdone
Khabreya	Woodson

PMS - Grade 8 Honors

Kaylee	Allan
Jasmine	Champlin
Angelica	Cruz
Madison	Dailey
Evan	Draucker
Juan	Ferreira
Alexander	Garber
Jayden	Gilmore
Crystal	Gonzalez Guardado
Amirah	Graves
Yusef	Jackson
Ty'Nera	Johnson
Terelle	Lowery
Taylor	Maguire
Gavin	Marmer
Pedro	Martinez Guardado
Kai	O'Brien
Daniel	Pittman
Barkley	Reid
Jesus	Rojas-Romero
Kyairah	Smith
Francesca	Sparacio
Nyel	Thompson
Dillina	Thong
Chase	Thornton
Jadon	Wiszumerski

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 FOURTH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PHS - Grade 9 Distinguished Honors

Elizabeth	Adedeji
Adam	Alaoui
Natalia	Banks
Layla	Bearden
Peyton	Benfield
Nyla	Blake-Walls
Mia	Bolman
Tyler	Broughton
Michael	Calano
Eliza	Camacho
Mackenzie	Campbell
Megan	Cannell
Emily	Castillo
Nayianna	Clyde
Nicholas	Cohen Arena
Ava	Collier
Anye	Crawford
Leilandi	Davis
Alexis	Demeter
Dominic	DiPietro
Danica	Donhauser
Dalajah	Dowling
Navarro	Fischer
Regina	Fleming
Makenna	Franey
Christopher	Fuentes
Jade	Garber
Ismaeel	Garfield
Nijae	Grosvenor
Samuel	Guardado Sanchez
Myles	Hancock
Mehki	Jenkins Glover
Julia	Kulp
Brynn	McClune
Christian	Morales
Tara	Morgan
Ashley	Ormston
Gabriela	Pagan
Alyssa	Pearson
Kiersten	Pennypacker
Najae	Perez
Maria Guadalupe	Reyes Juarez
Phoenix	Rhoads
Savannah	Richards

**PHS - Grade 9 Distinguished Honors
continued**

Tate	Risor
Grace	Rivera
Tyler	Santiago
Devon	Smith
Austin	Sundstrom
Brooke	Thomas
Pieter	Ung
Chloe	Weiss
Diamond	Williams

PHS - Grade 10 Distinguished Honors

Leilani	Alberto
Kaela	Auman
Alexis	Beckett
Anaeja	Charles
Christopher	Chhern
John	Cipollini
Anna	Coale
Kyle	Corbin
Hannah Jane	Daniels
Margaret	DiPietro
Abigail	Eagle
Abdel	Elgendy
Mark	Ellison
Ganaelle	Felicien
Henry	Fetterman
Lilian	Fetterman
Derek	Gephart
Ariana	Gilmore
Keishla	Gonzalez-Galarza
Adam	Green
Faith	Hammer
Saniyah	Harvey
Jared	Hewitt
Olivia	Hickey
Gabriel	Hicks
Mary-Joan	Hogan
Katlyn	Levorgood
William	Levey
David	Mackewicz III
Jocelyn	Malauulu
Elise	Marley
Ethan	Masewicz
Khamya	Mayo

**PHS - Grade 10 Distinguished Honors
continued**

Thomas	McGinn
Jordan	Mest
Kiera	Moyer
Derick	Nunez Menjivar
Rose	Oberholtzer
Joneil	Oister
Alice	Pan
Nicholas	Pittman
Jibrel	Pratt
Fredy	Rodriguez
Ian	Salisbury
Avery	Shope
London	Trout
Leigha	Walton
Serin	Warneke
Kasaundra	Wesley

PHS - Grade 11 Distinguished Honors

Noah	Bolman
Madeline	Bruton
Ramya	Carpenter
Michelle	Castillo
Jimi	Chavalaporn
Joseph	DeLeo
Colin	Dellaquila
Anthony	DiPietro
Erynn	Dunning
Nada	Elgendy
Angelica	Feliciano Torres
Jacob	Fisher
Keyora	Frazier
Daejenique	Garcia
Hailey	Gerrish
Beatriz	Guardado
Tyler	Harper
Jaida	Harris
Summer	Hollingsworth
Gerle	Jimenez Gomez
Michael	Lilick
Angelina	Ludy
Kaleigh	Martin
Ja'Zell	Meade
Zachary	Mitchell
Jacob	Moser

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 FOURTH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

**PHS – Grade 11 Distinguished Honors
continued**

Mackenzie	Moser
Allison	Ormston
Yasmin	Paez
Anthony	Pinos
Rafi	Sanchez
Skylar	Smith
Ariana	Torres
Destiny	Torres
Lacie	Townsend
Jonerah	Vinson
Trinell	Watson
Daniel	Williams
Jayniana	Williams
Joshua	Wilson

PHS - Grade 12 Distinguished Honors

Christian	Albert
Topanga	Brooks
Heaven	Charriez
Haile	Clayton
Christian	Coale
Corey	Cottman
Aiden	Crowder
Walter	Dailey
Vincenzo	DeLeo
Kristin	DiPietro
Zoe	Earle
Julianna	Figueroa
Logan	Franey
Kamrin	Gatlin
Lamoni	Green
Patrick	Green
Haley	Haas
CyeNyla	Hall
Nathan	Harper
Aryanna	Hernandez
Devon	Hill
Tajmir	Hines
Jack	Hipple
Allison	Horne
Angela	Hunsberger
Aleisha	Irizarry
Jeffrey	Johnson
Isaiah	Lamar

**PHS – Grade 12 Distinguished Honors
continued**

Matthew	Lesher
Samantha	Levey
Joseph	Misko
Deanna	Moyer
Dylan	Murphy
Naomi	Parson
Kishan	Patel
Tylaisha	Phillips
Pearce	Raegler
Robert	Raegler
Destri	Roye
Darius	Smallwood
Lillian	Stirk
Raine	Thomas
Michelle	Villagomez
Omar	Villagomez
Jazlynn	Watson
Austin	Weller
Niana	White
Hannah	Wilson
Harmony	Wood

PHS - Grade 9 Honors

Janaiya	Baker
Dylan	Basile
Madison	Beasley
Nahzier	Booker
Nicole	Boughter
Jordan	Bowen
Vinicius	Candido Santana
Angelina	Chhern
Rosario	Clemens
Simir	Coleman
Avery	Dimino
Naeem	Dover
Juleon	Gibson
Amira	Hall
Steven	Jimenez Gomez
Anthony	Kutsch
Baden	Landy
Grayce	Morton
Jachob	Pusicz
Katerine	Reina
LaRayna	Rosado
Sophia	Russo
Kaley	Salazar Lopez
Rodrigo	Solis
Christian	Toland
Ashley	Weller

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020-2021 FOURTH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

PHS - Grade 10 Honors

Sabrina	Albert
Dawud	Barnes
Eric	Berkheimer
Larry	Carter
Ethan	Chin
Giovanni	Cordovi
Brielle	Davis
Alisia	Doane
Tye	Elliott Moore
Jamie	Freese
Spencer	Gatheca
Mackenzie	Hall
Melody	Jackson
Jihad	Jeter
Jevohn	Jones
Krista	Leinbach
Fatima	Lopez Linares
Mason	Miller
Wilfred	Perez
Javon	Redd
Jayden	Roach
Danielle	Rubincam
Alianna	Samuel
Blaze	Sensinger
Seth	Shelton
Leah	Smith
Cory	Spence
Jordan	Stevenson
Jordan	Wabish
Josiah	Wilson
Caleb	Yocom

PHS - Grade 11 Honors

Mia	Bumbarger
Kennedy	Cole
Darron	Daniels
Calista	Daye
Storm	Gatheca
Jonah	Grice
Jose	Hernandez
Maria	Jimenez
Ahmir	Jones
JoLaila	Lamarre
Debra	Laulu
Jared	Long
Tryniti	Mott Lewis
Patrick	OConnor
Annabelle	Poston
James	Ryder
Thomas	Santiago
Hunter	Shawell
Max	Smith
Dasia	Thornton-Bey
Melodie	Velez
Jabril	Washington
Nerissa	Yost

PHS - Grade 12 Honors

Abel	Cruz
Samantha	Deery
Shameur	Delecia
Natalie	Fichthorn
Anyae	Germany
Janelle	Jefferson
Nevaeh	Johnson
Makayla	Karcher
Diego	Magana Jaime
Getzer	Manzanares Dinarte
Emily	McCollum
Perry	Minor
Caleb	Quiles
Cajmeir	Robinson
Michael	Sheard
Dominic	Stamm
Jordyn	Verdone
Jahzeel	Watson

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS

- [Team Effort Calls for Giant Blog](#) - Covid has caused communities to face tremendous health and food security challenges. Both Pottstown and Pottsgrove have been fortunate to receive a big assist from our local Giant Food Market. Read all about it in Mr. Evan Brandt's Digital Notebook Blog.



- [Foundation for Pottstown Education](#) – 2021 Spring Newsletter
Please click on the link above to view the Foundation's newsletter.



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 Trojan" 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@pottstownsd.org.

- **Daniel Robert Matalavage Sr.** - Class of 1961 - was the husband of Mary Ann (Edleman)



Matalavage. Born December 5, 1942, in Shenandoah, PA, he was the son of the late John E. Matalavage Sr. and Frances C. (Piaskowski). He started his 38 year career as an apprentice in The Mercury's pressroom, later becoming press room manager; a position he held until the facility closed in early 2001. Dan enjoyed cruising with close friends, cooking, fishing, and relaxing at his vacation home in the mountains. He was an avid fly fisherman and enjoyed tying his own flies.

- **Mary Hegedus** - Class of 1952 - was the daughter of Michael and Ella (Repovsky) Hegedus.



She was employed by Dana Corporation as a data administrator until her retirement in 1984. Mary was dedicated to Holy Trinity Church, and was an active member of the Slovak American Women's Guild. Being blessed with numerous nieces and nephews, she was totally devoted to them, cheering them on in their sports of tennis, basketball, baseball and lacrosse.

- **Charles Richard Hayer** - Class of 1947 - was born at home at the top of the steps at



176 Manatawny Street in Pottstown, he was the son of the late B. Franklin Jr. of Stowe and Mary Jane (Levengood) Hayer of Rattlesnake Hill. Charlie graduated Penn State University (State College, PA) in 1951 where he studied Economics and Political Science. He worked for many years as an insurance inspector and managed a sub-office of the Retail Credit Company for much of his married life. He was fortunate to retire at the age of 59 and lived more than 30 years as a retiree.

- **Nancy R. (Drumheller) Diener-Spohn** – Class of 1955 - 84, of Pottstown, PA, wife of the late Richard



Diener and George H. Spohn Jr., died Sunday at the home of her son, Lower Pottsgrove Twp. Born in Pottstown, PA, she was a daughter of the late Harold I. Drumheller and the late Bertha P. Drumheller. Nancy was Pottstown High School graduate. She was employed by Pottstown School District working in the cafeteria for many years. She was a member of Ringing Hill Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary and helped with Bingo night. She loved knitting and crocheting and was a former roller skating champion. She volunteered at

Ringing Rocks Elementary school and was proud to be able to have taught several of her grandchildren how to swim.

- **John “Moe” Lewis Barber Sr.** - Class of 1956 - was husband of the late Mary L. (Saunders) Barber. He was the son of the late William Dennis Barber Sr. and Catherine Agnes (Lewis) Beasley. Born July 4, 1937, John attended Delaware State University and graduated in 1961 with a degree in Business Education. He was an avid sports fan who enjoyed playing and watching basketball. The other sport that he loved to watch and play was golf. He caddied for Brookside Country Club for many years. He was proud and supported the young African American Athletes and enjoyed watching them thrive in their talents. John retired from being a purchasing agent for Graterford Prison.



- **Ronald H Bailey (“Beetle”)** - Class of 1962 - Fiercely proud of his Alma Mater, Ron attended basketball games of the Pottstown Trojans long into his adult life and holiday meals were always scheduled around his expected return for Pottstown’s football game against Owen J Roberts on “Turkey Day.” He was drafted during the Vietnam War and served as a Sergeant E-5 in the US Army. He was a 3rd shift tire builder at Firestone, and picked up part-time hours at a full-service gas station owned by John Kuback. Once the local Firestone plant closed, he took over the garage, which became Bailey’s East End Texaco, formerly located at the corner of High and Beech Street.



- **Andrew Vincent Olock** – Class of 1964 - 74, was a son of the late Andrew and Ida (Yannessa) Olock. Andrew was a real estate broker and the owner of Olock Realty in Pottstown for over 25 years. He was a U.S. Army veteran and served as a Training Sergeant for the 2nd Armored Division “Hell on Wheels” in Ft. Hood, TX, during the Vietnam War. Andy was a devout Christian and spread the word of Jesus every day; he was a longtime member of St. James Lutheran Church in Pottstown. A lover of music, he met many of his favorite musicians working as “The Chairman” of backstage security at the former Valley Forge Music Fair.



- **MaryAnn (Buckwalter) Woods** - Class of 1958 - was the daughter of the late Jacob and Mary (Ryan) Buckwalter and wife of the late Larry J Woods. She attended Millersville University. MaryAnn worked as an unemployment specialist of the Department of Labor. She loved playing bridge, arranging flowers, gardening, crafting, and having lunches with her friends. But most of all, MaryAnn loved her grandchildren and followed their activities.



- **Shelba J. (Mathias) Detri** - Class of 1940 - was the wife of Anthony T. Detri. Born in Morysville, PA, she was a daughter of the late Ralph C. Mathias and the late Lena (Grofe) Mathias. Shelba, as a PHS student she was a musician, sang with the Melody Maids, and was a drum majorette. She was employed by the former Mrs. Smith’s Pie Co., later Kellogg’s as an office director for 25 years, retiring in 1999. She was a member of Saint Gabriel Catholic Church, and was a judge of elections for West Pottsgrove Township. Shelba was an avid golfer, skier, sports enthusiast and loved to travel.



- **Charles E. "Mike" Griesemer** - Class of 1956 - was the husband of the late Doris Jane (Saylor) Griesemer. Born in Pottstown, he was the son of the late Irvin L. and Mary (Egolf) Griesemer. Charles worked for DANA Corp. for 32 years as a tool grinder and was a US Navy Veteran. He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and a lifetime member of Pottstown Moose Lodge #369. He loved bowling and was a member of the American Bowling Association. He also loved to golf and was in many golf leagues.



- **Peggy Davis Jones** – Class of 1965 - of Pottstown, PA passed away Sunday June 6, 2021. She was born May 9, 1947, in Clover South Carolina. She was the daughter of the late Ruth & Colinzo Davis of Pottstown, PA. Peggy retired from Nordstrom's in King of Prussia after working there over 25 years. Peggy enjoyed attending bible study and spending time with family and friends.



- **MaryAnne L. (Lessig) Decker** - Class of 1954 - was a daughter of the late Spencer B. Lessig and the late Lillian (Usher) Lessig. She attended Millersville State Teachers College and graduated from Ursinus College with an associate's degree. She was employed in the credit office of the former New York Store, Pottstown for 8 years, and was the assistant credit manager with the former Kiwi Brands of Douglassville, for 30 years, retiring in 1999. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Pottstown. She was a Past Worthy Matron of Schuylkill Chapter #338 Order of Eastern Star; Past President of the Elks Doe Club, Pottstown.



- **Dmitri Carl Piechota** – Class of 2013 - age 26, of Pottstown, passed away on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. He was born in Phoenixville, PA, on September 30, 1994, the son of Edward J. Piechota and Valerie A. Yost of Pottstown. Dmitri was a lifelong resident of Pottstown. He attended St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Boyertown. He was a former employee of UPS Freight where he earned his CDL and was currently working with Old Dominion Freight Lines. He volunteered his time with Preston's Pantry, Boyertown Area Multi-Service, and the Salvation Army. He enjoyed working on computers and software engineering.



- **Scott Coyle** – Class of 1994 -



FALLEN TROJAN STAFF

Once a Trojan, Always a Trojan

- **Linford F. Moyer**, 94 was the devoted husband of Violet M. Moyer for 72 years and an exemplary



father, grandfather and great-grandfather. His life was marked by his Christian faith and a cheerful radiance. Born in New Hanover Township in southeastern Pennsylvania in 1926, "Lin" was the son of Franklin E. Moyer and Alice R. Moyer. In his early years Lin attended a one-room school that housed eight grades, with two students in his grade. He began his lifelong career in public education at 16, while still a student at Pottstown High School, working after school and on Saturdays in the business office. During World War II, Lin served in the United States Navy as an aide to the Executive Officer aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Princeton. After the war

in 1946, Lin returned to work for the Pottstown School District, while also attending night school at Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, where he earned a degree in business. He married his wife Violet J. (nee Moyer) of Boyertown, Pennsylvania in 1948 and their son, Bruce Linford, was born in 1952. Lin quickly rose through the ranks of the Pottstown School District to become Assistant Superintendent for Business and served the district for 37 years. During his tenure, the district experienced growth and expansion, and Lin oversaw the design, financing and construction of four elementary schools and a new senior high school, as well as the renovation of all the district's schools. He saved taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars through innovative management practices, including the start-up of a sophisticated data processing center that was ahead of its time, earning revenue for the Pottstown School District through its services to many other school districts, municipalities and governmental authorities throughout Pennsylvania. His reputation as a skilled business administrator won him national recognition, electing him president of the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials in 1964 and the Association of School Business Official International in 1977. In 1980, Lin became the first full-time executive director of the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO). Under his leadership, significant increases in school business training programs and association membership were witnessed. Lin's vision also led to the creation of the first statewide money market fund for school districts in Pennsylvania and the first in the nation. Following his retirement from PASBO in 1987, Lin served as vice president of Cadre Consulting Services, a national firm providing cash management services to school districts across the country. Throughout the 53 years spanning Lin's professional career, he was widely known for his integrity, intellect and his warmth in working with people. A tireless public servant, Lin also was an active volunteer and leader in numerous church and civic groups, including the governing boards and committees of New Hanover Lutheran Church in Gilbertsville, Pennsylvania and First Presbyterian Church in Vero Beach, Florida. He enjoyed playing tennis and all kinds of games, traveling and spending time with his family and celebrating their achievements. His personal motto was "Get Organized!"

- **James Corum, Jr.** - age 93 passed away on April 28, 2021. Jim was a man of integrity who had a



warm engaging personality. He always had a smile and kind greeting for all he came in contact with. Without question, he was Mr. Pottstown Tennis. Jim was a high school tennis coach, a career coach in the high school guidance department and was one of the founders of the Greater Pottstown Tennis Association. He was a tireless advocate for the district and community.

ALUMNI

- ◆ **Alyssa Dultz** - Pottstown High School Class of 2018 is living up to the school district's mission of "Preparing each student by name for success at every level". She is a junior with a double major in Political Science and History at Moravian College. A Dean's List student, she is a United Student Government Representative and a member of the President's Council for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Alyssa is also the leader of the Sexual Awareness and Violence Prevention Committee. Her commitment to social justice includes roles as Secretary of the Political Awareness Coalition and Social Media Lead for the More Than A Hound Diversity Committee. Alyssa knows how to make every second of the college experience count and her hard work is paying off with success at the next level.



- ◆ **Reilly Owens** - PHS grad Class of 2019 is living up to the Pottstown School District mission, of being prepared for success at every level. She is a sophomore at Gwynedd Mercy University majoring in Early Childhood Education and a member of the Women's Lacrosse team. Recently she was elected one of the team captains. Reilly has proven herself a leader on the field and in the classroom. Hard work pays off. Thanks for giving us another reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



- ◆ **Nyles Rome** - PHS Class of 2017 is a 2021 graduate of University of Virginia. He double majored in Anthropology and Global Development Studies. He graduated with Honors as a Blue Ridge Scholar. Nyles worked as a researcher in both the Departments of Public Health Sciences and Neurobehavioral Sciences. He co-authored an academic article in the Global Public Health Journal. While attending school his activities included; Black Student Alliance, club wrestling and Center for Global Health Equity. He plans to move to Washington D.C. where he has a job in management consulting. In his high school days as a member of the PHS Trojan Wrestling Team he had to select his Words of Wisdom for the season. Nyles' words included: "Rome was not built in a day." He is well on his way to a bright future. Thanks for giving us another reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



- ◆ Pottstown High Girls Lacrosse has had a history of outstanding players. Thanks to Coach Brandy Scherer for sharing news of a few of our alumni presently displaying their talents while earning their college degrees:

- [Ebony Reddick](#) helped lead the Notre Dame College team to their first Mountain East Conference Championship with a 14-10 victory over Frostburg State University and was named as a first team All Conference player.



- [Reilly Owens](#), a sophomore majoring in Early Childhood Education at Gwynedd Mercy College, was named to the first team All Atlantic East Conference at the goalie position.



- [Abigail Krause](#), a Dean's List student majoring in Culinary Nutrition at Johnson & Wales, is a member of the Great Northeast Athletic Conference Championship team that just qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships.



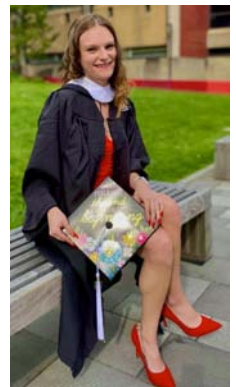
- ◆ A special tribute was paid to [PHS 1943 graduate SGT. Anthony J. Marchione](#), who was the last American serviceman to give his life in service to our country during World War II. Pottstown marks Memorial Day with reverence and ceremony.



- ◆ **Beth Ann (Sipple) Kersten** – Class of 1989 - was the valedictorian in 1989. In October, her national anatomy and physiology lab manual was launched by [TopHat/Bluedoor](#). She spent 4 years researching, writing, creating art, etc. This publication is in addition to her national Human anatomy and physiology lecture text book with McGraw-Hill and the custom anatomy and physiology I lab manual that she authored for her institution (State College of Florida). Congratulations to PHS Class of 1989 Beth Ann Sipple on her publication of “The Essentials of Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory Manual”. Read all about it in [Mr. Thomas Hylton's post](#) on his website, Enlightened Leadership. More proof that Hard Work Pays Off and another reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



- ◆ **Keirsten and Alexandra Hickey** – Classes of 2019 and 2017 (respectively) – have demonstrated they learned a lesson they heard while students at PHS ~hard work pays off. Keirsten is an up and coming junior at Gwynedd Mercy University majoring in occupational therapy. She was named to the spring semester dean's list. Keirsten is also a member of the American Association of University Women, Black Student Union, Pride Alliance and New Student Orientation Program. After graduation she hopes to become a pediatric occupational therapist. Alexandra is a recent graduate of Temple University with a Bachelors of Psychology degree. She is returning to her home in Pottstown to serve our community as a preschool teacher at the YWCA. We are Trojan Proud of all they have accomplished and know that their hard work will continue to pay off in positive contributions to our community. Thank you for giving us another reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.



- ◆ **Jacob Eagle** – Class of 2020 - was named to the [President's List at Cabrini University](#) for the spring semester. Being named to the list requires a GPA of 3.9 or higher completed in a minimum of 12 standard credits. He is majoring in Computer Science with a Business focus and is a member of the baseball team, playing first base and designated hitter. While in high school as a member of the baseball team and the Trojan Man Club, Jake learned hard work pays off in the classroom and on the field. Thanks for giving us another reason to say Proud to be from Pottstown.





A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Often times when we approach the end of something, we reflect on what has occurred. I am finding myself doing this currently as we approach the end of our Foundation's fiscal year. The one word that has been used time and time again to describe this year is unprecedented. What does that really mean?

Miriam Webster defines unprecedented as having no precedence, novel, unexampled. So, what was so novel about this past year for our Foundation? To answer this question, I am going to go back longer than 12 months. Let's go back and start with March 2020.

For the first time in our history, our donors responded to a specific call to action, the need for electronic devices for the students in the Pottstown School District. As you recall, one out of every four students did not have access to electronic devices that were needed to continue their education on line. YOU answered this call by contributing \$307,712 enabling

the purchase of 880 devices.

When the schools were closed due to the pandemic, some of our students did not have meals as many of them relied on the Pottstown School District to provide them with two meals per day. With the school closed, the food could not be distributed for a few weeks. YOU answered this call by donating funds to support a food drive initiated by Mrs. Mc Coy at the high school until the schools could restart the food distribution program.

When the school libraries were not open to access books for the students to continue their reading, YOU provided the funds to purchase electronic books that enabled our students to access and read online.

These are just three examples of "unprecedented" acts that YOU helped fund. During these 14 months, YOU provided \$860,057 in donations during this "unprecedented" time to help level

the educational playing field for the Pottstown School District. At the end of the 2020/21 fiscal year, you will have provided funding of more than \$500,000 per year for two years in a row, an "unprecedented" accomplishment.

In our August Newsletter, I will share the annual report for the fiscal year 2020/21. This is just a teaser of things to come.

Lastly, I apologize to all of you who feel that the word unprecedented is overused. It is unprecedented that I use it so often. Thank you all for all that you do to help our 3,200 students in the Pottstown School District. We appreciate your support and hope that you continue to support our students as we move forward.

Joseph W. Rusiewicz II
Executive Director

FOUNDATION FOR POTTSTOWN EDUCATION RESTRICTED FUNDS POLICY

All funds donated to the Foundation for Pottstown Education are used to support programs and services that enrich the education of the students in the Pottstown School District. As there are expenses in the administration and overseeing of the funding pro-

cess, 90% of the funds given as restricted contributions, other than to the Scholarship account, are used as the donor requests with 10% being used for the administrative costs. 100% of gifts given to the Scholarship account are deposited in the assigned scholar-

ship. An administrative fee of 10% is applied from only the realized gain of the scholarship investments at the end of the fiscal year.



FPE HOSTS 5th ANNUAL SPECIAL EVENT



The Foundation for Pottstown Education held its 5th Annual Special Event on Saturday May 1, 2021 in conjunction with the Pottstown High School Musical, Godspell. Seventy-five guests of the Foundation joined us in celebrating the success of the past year and enjoyed the talents of our high school students.

The event started with a program showcasing the impact that the Foundation has had on the students, alumni, district and community. Special guest speakers shared their thoughts how the Foundation has made an impact in leveling the educational playing field for the Pottstown School District.

Sue Yocom, Special Events Chair for the Foundation welcomed everyone for attending. Recognizing what the past year had seen, she thanked the guests for attending the event even through masks and social distancing we were able to host this fund raiser. Other committee members include, Kenil Patel, Lori Pence, Elizabeth Peters and Alison Scott.

Mr. Robert Decker, PHS Mathematics Teacher and PHS Musical Producer and Stage Manager introduced the cast of Godspell. He shared that the Foundation has been a sponsor of the musicals for five years and this year helped to make the live streaming of the event possible.

Pottstown High School Alumni and Class of 2017 members, Nyles

Rome and Kenil Patel relayed their experience in the Early College Program, a program which pays tuition, up to 30 credits at Montgomery County Community College, for PHS students during their junior and senior years. Both thanked the Foundation and its donors to enabling the students to earn college credit and get a head start on their college degree.

Mrs. Amy Francis, President of the Pottstown School District Board of Education shared that the Foundation was instrumental in the Chromebook distribution to the students this past year during the school closure for the pandemic. Amy indicated that in the 2019/2020 academic year the Foundation and its donors contributed more than \$411,000 to support programs, equipment and scholarships for the District and its students.



Mr. David Kraybill, President of the Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation not only congratulated the Foundation and District for stepping up to provide Chromebooks for the students but also the donors of the Foundation for helping to bridge that gap. He also stated that the work is not done and will not be done until there is equitable distribution in

the funding of our schools

Mrs. Andrea Roberts, Librarian of Pottstown Middle School and two of her students discussed the impact that the Foundation makes on students. Andrea shared that the Foundation provided funding to the Library to purchase podcast equipment. This equipment will teach the students how to communicate in a thoughtful way and to a broader audience. Two of her students shared one of their podcasts on diversity of our students.

Foundation Executive Director Joe Rusiewicz closed the program by sharing the impact that the donors have made on the district and students. Since 2015 donors have provided funding to make \$1,110,000 in programs, services, equipment and scholarships available to the 3,200 students in the Pottstown School District.

Our guests were then treated to the talents of our student actors, band and stage crew of Godspell. The production was under the direction of Mr. Christopher Sperat. The talent of our students was truly showcased in this performance as all of the actors were on stage the entire performance.



PRODUCER LEVEL SPONSORS:

This year's cast included:

Naomi Parson
Tyler Broughton
Devon Smith
Josephine Bechtel
Peyton Benfield
Kristen DiPietro
Makenna Franey
Robert Raegler
Jonathon Moser
Mackenzie Moser
Christian Toland
Sophia Russo
Dasia Thomton - Bey



*thank
you*

The event wrapped up with a takeout dinner catered by the Pottstown Culinary Arts students and Chef Steven Irick. A soul food meal was provided and consisted of shrimp, salad, fried catfish, bar-b-que chicken, rice and red beans, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, rolls and a cheesecake finished off the feast.

A great time was had by all and thanks to our donors, more than \$11,000 was raised to help continue our mission. Special thank you to our event donors

Exelon Generation and Tompkins VIST Bank, our lead Producer Sponsors

Our Stage Manager Sponsors: Fox Rothschild, Glocker and Company Real Estate and Insurance, O'Donnell Weiss and Mattei PC, Styer Real Estate, Tri County Area Federal Credit Union, Victory Bank and Wolf Baldwin and Associates

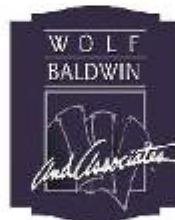
STAGE MANAGER SPONSORS:



Fox Rothschild LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



STYER
REAL ESTATE
2089 Pottstown Pike
Pottstown, PA 19465
610.469.9001
www.styerrealestate.com



Attorneys-At-Law



REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE



O'Donnell, Weiss & Mattei, PC.

www.owmlaw.com
610.385-2300



2021 ELEMENTARY AWARD RECIPIENTS

BARTH ELEMENTARY



FPE Citizenship Award	Meredith Pope
FPE Citizenship Award	Ayden McCain
Helen Pavitt Award	Ali Thornton
Stuart Best Award	Grace Eby
William Engle Award	Grace Eby
William Engle Award	Danielle Trabucco
William Engle Award	Meredith Pope
Gail Bensinger Award	Traci Bruton

FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY



FPE Citizenship Award	Julietta Aguilera Macias
FPE Citizenship Award	Edward Sloss
Helen Pavitt Award	Alexandra Green
Stuart Best Award	Emma Allen
William Engle Award	Evan Krestel
William Engle Award	Elizabeth Reazor
William Engle Award	Emma Allen
Gail Bensinger Award	Franklin Activity Fund

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY



FPE Citizenship Award	Lexi Oswald
FPE Citizenship Award	Joshua Reifsneider
Helen Pavitt Award	Qahira Jones
Stuart Best Award	Clara Johnson
William Engle Award	Thomas Rose
William Engle Award	Cole McLaughlin
William Engle Award	Clara Johnson
Gail Bensinger Award	Mrs. Sarah Rizzuto
Alan O'Care Award	Calliope Hall
Alan O'Care Award	Lexi Oswald

RUPERT ELEMENTARY



FPE Citizenship Award	Laila White
FPE Citizenship Award	Ryan Stilwell
Helen Pavitt Award	Michael Hallinger
Stuart Best Award	Ryan Stilwell
William Engle Award	Aiden Ondik
William Engle Award	Nery Catillo
William Engle Award	John Ellwanger
Gail Bensinger Award	Rupert Elementary

POTTSTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL



Alan O'Care Award	Ava Vilain
Alan O'Care Award	Gabriella Horne



WAY TO GO!

THE HILL SCHOOL STUDENT PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL SUPPORTS FPE WITH GRANT



The Foundation for Pottstown Education was recently awarded a grant to support pod cast equipment in the Pottstown Middle School by the Hill School Student Philanthropy Council.

The grant totals \$579 and is earmarked to fund podcast equipment that will be housed in the Pottstown Middle School Library.

The Hill School's Student Philanthropy Council (SPC) was established in 2008-09 thanks to a generous donation by the late Mr. Charles Frank III '59 P '88 '90 and his wife, Betty.

The Franks wanted to establish the program at Hill to enable Hill students to carry out their shared belief that young people should volunteer their time and efforts to benefit their communities that will then establish lifelong philanthropic interests.

In 2012, through the Franks' leadership and the generosity of several other donors, The Student Philanthropy Council became an endowed program at the School with the establishment of The Student Philanthropy Council Endowment in honor of Kay and David Dougherty (Hill's former headmaster from 1993-2012 and his wife). Each year, the SPC awards \$16,000 worth of grants to local non-profit organizations to help fund those entities' programs (see below). Each fall, interested organizations are encouraged to submit a grant application to the SPC. Throughout the school year, the members of SPC have weekly meetings evaluating each proposal. The proposal for the podcast equipment came to the Foundation from Pottstown Middle School Librarian, Andrea Roberts. Podcasting is necessary at the MS as it is the end result of everything that the teachers and administrators try to accomplish in daily lessons. While podcasts create an end result, the process is really where the magic happens. While teachers offer guidance along the

way, the students are the ones who are creating the important content that they will be speaking to, leaning how to edit. Learning that mistakes are ok and rethinking is part of the process. Podcasting is not only about speaking, but about listening as well.

The Foundation and the Pottstown School District are truly thankful to the students in the Philanthropy Council for their support and their donation.

"Of the projects identified for the elementary, middle, and the high schools, the Council was most excited about the middle school STEAM lab. Providing an area of creativity and collaboration is essential given the impact the pandemic has had on student connection."

PHS AWARDS 91 SCHOLASHIPS TO THE CLASS OF 2021

On Tuesday May 11, 91 Scholarships were presented to the graduating seniors of the Class of 2021. More than \$50,400 was presented in the form of cash scholarships to 49 separate seniors. The donors of the Foundation for Pottstown Education provided the funding for 49 of these awards totaling \$38,250. Three more awards will be presented during the graduation ceremony to the Class Valedictorian and the Salutatorian bringing the total cash awarded to the seniors from the Foundation donors to almost \$40,400.

The awards were presented virtually with the students, families and friends being able to view the announcements on a Facebook live presentation. Pottstown Senior High School Principal, Mrs. Danielle McCoy was the moderator for the ceremony which also had donors, community members and staff of the School District and Foundation for Pottstown Education as the presenters of the awards. This is the second year that the ceremony was held virtually.

The Foundation donors also provide funding for 35 Elemen-

tary School and two Middle School awards. These awards will be presented at separate events with recipients to be announced at a later date. Combining the Senior, Middle School and Elementary School awards, the Foundation provides 88 awards totaling \$42,400 for the 2020/2021 academic year.

Congratulations to this year's award recipients and best of luck to the Class of 2021. For a complete list of the Senior Awards see page 6 in this newsletter.

2021 SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

William F. Lamb Scholarship	Allison Horne
Earl Strom Financial Aid Scholarship	Austin Spence
Elizabeth Wells Award	Austin Spence
Stanley Davenport Award	Austin Weller
Elizabeth Wells Social Studies Scholarship	Caleb Quiles
Dee Gondal Memorial Scholarship	Carson Hewitt
Nelson Burnett Memorial Scholarship	Christian Albert
Richard J. Ricketts, Jr. Scholarship	Christian Albert
Joseph G. Rinaldi Vocational Technical Scholarship	Christina Albert
Elizabeth Wells U.S. History Award	Cyenyla Hall
Linford F Moyer & Family Scholarship	Darius Smallwood
Arms Family Business Technology Award	Dylan Maximenko
Leon H. Seeders Scholarship	Dylan Murphy
Calvin J. Swavely Mem. Scholarship	Harmony Wood
Earl Strange Award	Hayley Haas
Earl Strom Financial Aid Scholarship	Heaven Charriez
Stephanie Miller Mast	Heaven Charriez
The Ellen Eisele Be the Change of Tomorrow Award	Heaven Charriez
Guy Sperat Family Award	Jack Hipple
Howard Brown Athletic Scholarship	Jahzeel Watson
Jared Bentley Award	Jahzeel Watson
Henry A. Arms Award	Jamal Pratt
Class of 1944 Scholarship	Jazlyn Watson
Joan A. Herpst Pomponia Scholarship	Juliana Figueroa
Pottstown Alumni Wrestlers' Scholarship	Julianna Figueroa
Marguerite and Earl G. Ewing Award	Kaelyn Draucker
Dr. Ray E. Feick Scholarship	Katherine Cocar
Ruth & Lorin Leister Prizes Award	Kishan Patel
Excellence in Math Award	Kishan Patel
Myra Forrest Early Promise Award	Kristen Dipietro
Arms Family Early Childhood Education Program Award	Lillian Stirk
Frerichs Family Scholarship	Lillian Stirk
Edmund & Robert Hedgepeth Memorial Scholarship	Lilliana Quintero
Nancy S. Heifer School Nurse Academic Award	Michelle Villegomez
Excellence in Math Award	Naomi Parson
Frank D. Heifer Arts Award	Naomi Parson
Robert C. & Virginia B. Shultz Award	Naomi Parson
Ruth & Lorin Leister Prizes Award	Naomi Parson
Alan O. Care Memorial Art Award	Natalie Fichthorn
Edmund & Robert Hedgepeth Memorial Scholarship	Nicole Rubach
George S. Ralston Humanities Award	Olivia Scholl
Excellence in Computer Science Award	Pearce Raegler
William J. Schinstine Scholarship	Robert Raegler
Alan O. Care Memorial Art Award	Sharon Gatheca
Touchdown Club Award	Sincere Strimple
Robert C. & Virginia B. Shultz Award	Vincenzo DeLeo
Detar Family Award	Zoe Earle
Leslie Freese- Betz Award	Harmony Wood

LUCKY 13—THE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM COHORT VIII COMPLETES PROGRAM



Thirteen Pottstown Senior High School Class of 2021 have completed the Early College Program in conjunction with the Montgomery County Community College. These students were selected in their sophomore year at Pottstown High School based on their Grade Point Average, extracurricular activities, attendance and essay to enroll in the program which provided tuition for up to 30 credits during the two year program. The Foundation also funds the textbooks for the classes.

This is the eighth cohort to complete the program. The students in the Class of 2021 earned a combined total of 280 credits over the past two years. Through the generosity of our donors, our Foundation was able to provide these students with more than \$60,000 in tuition and textbook costs at MCCC. The actual tuition of these 280 credits would have been \$318,228 if they took the courses at the colleges that they have committed to attend this coming fall.



Congratulations to the following students from the Early College Program Cohort VIII:

STUDENT

Haile Clayton
 Kristin DiPietro
 Kaelyn Draucker
 CyeNyla Hall
 Emily McCollum
 Dominic Mont Gould
 Kishan Patel
 Raine Thomas
 Jaleinda Thompson
 Michelle Villagomez
 Omar Villagomez
 Austin Weller
 Harmony Wood

COLLEGE

US Army enlisted
 MCCC
 Thomas Jefferson University
 Haverford College
 MCCC
 Thaddeus Stevens College
 Duke University
 West Chester University
 Bloomsburg University
 Eastern University
 Ursinus College
 MCCC
 Alvernia University

MAJOR

Allied Tradesman Specialist
 Psychology
 Pre-medical Imaging
 Economics
 Nursing
 Technology
 Biomedical Engineering
 Biology Marine Sciences
 Communications
 Nursing
 Biology
 Graphic Design
 Nursing

FOUNDATION FOR POTTSTOWN EDUCATION RECEIVES FUNDING TO PROVIDE FIVE NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation for Pottstown Education's Scholarship Fund has had a tremendous growth this past year adding five new scholarships for the graduating seniors of Pottstown High School. Two of the five were awarded for the first time to the Class of 2020, one additional award was offered to the Class of 2021 and two more awards will be added for the Class of 2022.

These awards are the Ellen Eisele Be the Change of Tomorrow Award and the Leslie Freese Betz Award were awarded for the first time to the Class of 2020. This year the Linford F. Moyer and Family Scholarship was added to these two awards. For the Class of 2022 the Judith Allean Wolf, Class of 1958 Scholarship and the Moyer Performing Arts Award will be presented for the first time.

The Ellen Eisele Be the Change of Tomorrow Award was established by Wes and Rachel Eisele in honor of Wes' mother, Ellen as she retired from 29 years of teach-

ing, 26 of which were in the Barth Elementary School in the Pottstown School District. Ellen retired at the end of the 2019 academic year. She is an Alum of Bridgewater-Raritan West High School, in New Jersey. After high school, Ellen attended Kutztown University.

This award will be awarded to a graduating Pottstown School District student(s) who demonstrate the following criteria:

- Their actions and behaviors reflect strong integrity and character.
- They demonstrate kindness towards their peers, school and community.
- They possess leadership qualities.
- They display a positive and creative attitude.
- Their demeanor exhibits peacemaker qualities.
- They must be actively pursuing a passion.
- They must be actively pursuing higher education, a 2-year community college, 4-year

University or any tech/vocational school.

- They must graduate with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Leslie L. Freese-Betz was a proud graduate from the Pottstown Senior High School Class of 1988 and also graduated from Pennsylvania Business Institute. Leslie developed scoliosis at the age of 14, requiring a spinal fusion. While the surgery was successful, Leslie developed restrictive lung disease due to the curvature of her spine. She managed her problems quite well for many years but eventually the disease required her to be placed on oxygen. Unfortunately on January 16, 2020 Leslie received her "golden wings" and became a blessed angel to watch over the people she loved so much. Leslie's husband and families were very important to her and she always put everyone else first before herself. She touched so many people in her short time on this earth with her compassion, love, her constant



beautiful smile and infectious laugh.

Leslie's husband and family created this scholarship as they felt it would be a tremendous honor to her to continue her "gift of love and compassion" to others. This scholarship is to be awarded to a deserving student of the school she loved so much who decides to pursue a career in the medical field, with special consideration to students pursuing a four-year college education. The student must have a 3.75+ GPA. The medical field was selected because of Leslie's medical history and because the family felt this is surely what she would want. She also became an organ donor because of her passion for helping others and to contribute to researching problems similar to hers.

The Linford F. Moyer and Family Scholarship has been endowed by the family of Linford F. Moyer, a former business official with the Pottstown School District. This award will be presented annually to a senior at Pottstown Senior High School who matriculates to an accredited post-secondary education institution to study business management.

Linford Moyer, at the age of 16, began his lengthy career in the Pottstown School District working in the Business Office while still a student. After graduation from high school in 1944, Mr. Moyer served in the United States Navy as an aide to the Executive Officer aboard the U.S.S. Princeton. In 1946, Mr. Moyer returned to the Pottstown School District and attended night school at Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, earning a degree in Business. He managed the business affairs of

the Pottstown School District for 37 years, last serving as the Assistant Superintendent for Business. Recognized by his peers as a school business professional and leader, Mr. Moyer was elected President of the Pennsylvania Association of Business Officials in 1964 and President of the Association of School Business Officials International in 1977. In 1980 he became the first Executive Director of the Pennsylvania School Business Officials. Mr. Moyer passed away on April 23, 2021.

The Moyer Performing Arts Award was established by the Very Reverend Michael D. Moyer, PHS class of 1985 because he was grateful for the role that the performing arts had in his formation as a good citizen and an adult in our society. After Moyer's graduation, he attended Montgomery County Community College, the University of Maine, the Bangor Theological Seminary and Nashotah House Seminary. He is currently the Rector/Priest at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Berlin Maryland.

The Moyer Performing Arts Award will be given to a member of the graduating class who has contributed their gifts to the performing arts at Pottstown High School. The person receiving this award will have been active in at least two of the areas of performing arts – band, chorus, and drama.

The Judith Allean Wolf, Class of 1958 Scholarship Award has been endowed by Judith Allean Wolf, a member of the Pottstown High School Class of 1958. This award will be given to a graduating Pottstown School District student who will attend the Bloomsburg University majoring in

Speech and Language Pathology, Audiology or Special Education. Judy started this award as a way to give back to the Pottstown High School.

After graduating from Pottstown High School, Judy was accepted and attended Bloomsburg State Teachers College, now Bloomsburg University. Her major was Speech Pathology. She selected this major on a suggestion from her high school friend, Mary Ann Buckwalter Woods. Judith started her career in Speech Pathology in January 1962 working for the Chester County Public Schools as an itinerant Speech Pathologist. In 1965 she moved to California. After 22 years in this career, Judy resigned in 1987 from the New Haven Unified School District and then enrolled at H and R Block Tax School to begin her career as a tax preparer. She continues her private tax preparation business today.

The Foundation for Pottstown Education is thankful to these individuals and families for their generous scholarships which will continue to help level the educational playing field for the Pottstown School District. Anyone interested in further information on setting up a scholarship are encouraged to contact Joe Rusiewicz, Executive Director of the Foundation for Pottstown Education by calling 610-970-6616 or email jrusiewicz@pottstownk12.org.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN



Naomi Parson, Valedictorian

In addition to the scholarships awarded on page 6, Naomi has also received the Robert P. Smith Award and the William Hartranft Memorial Scholarship. Naomi will be attending Haverford College in the fall.



Kishan Patel, Salutatorian

In addition to the scholarships awarded on page 6, Kishan has also received the Robert P. Smith Award. Kishan will attend Duke University, majoring in Biomedical Engineering.



2020/2021 Foundation for Pottstown Education Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

Tracey Brown, PhD President
Melissa Shainline Secretary
Vaughn Zimmerman Member at Large

Georgette Howell, Vice President
Scott Detar Treasurer

John Armato
Judy Green
Stephen Rodriguez
Frank Strunk

Howard Brown
Alan Mitchell
Leticia Santiago
Sue Ann Yocom

David Charles
Kenil Patel
Alison Scott

STAFF:

Joe Rusiewicz, Executive Director

Lori Pence, Administrative Assistant



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.