

# POTTSTOWN PRIDE

ACADEMICS AND ACTIVITIES  
PARTNERS FOR EDUCATIONAL  
EXCELLENCE



## WINTER 2015-2016

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

## POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT POINTS OF PRIDE WINTER 2015-2016

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](http://www.pottstownschoools.org) or call 610-323-6274.

Trojan Athletes from the Wrestling and Girls Basketball teams along with students from the Middle School show their Pride as they support Downtown Pottstown and take part in the tree decorating contest One Goal, One Team, One Town. "We are Pottstown!"



## **BOYS' BASKETBALL**

### **NAMED TO THE PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION TEAM**

- Shamir Edwards
- Larry Wingo

### **NAMED TO THE MERCURY ALL AREA HONORABLE MENTION TEAM**

- Shamir Edwards
- Larry Wingo

## **GIRLS' BASKETBALL**

### **NAMED TO THE PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE SECOND TEAM:**

- Ebony Reddick

### **NAMED TO THE MERCURY ALL AREA SECOND TEAM**

- Ebony Reddick



## Senior Night Boys' Basketball Photos:



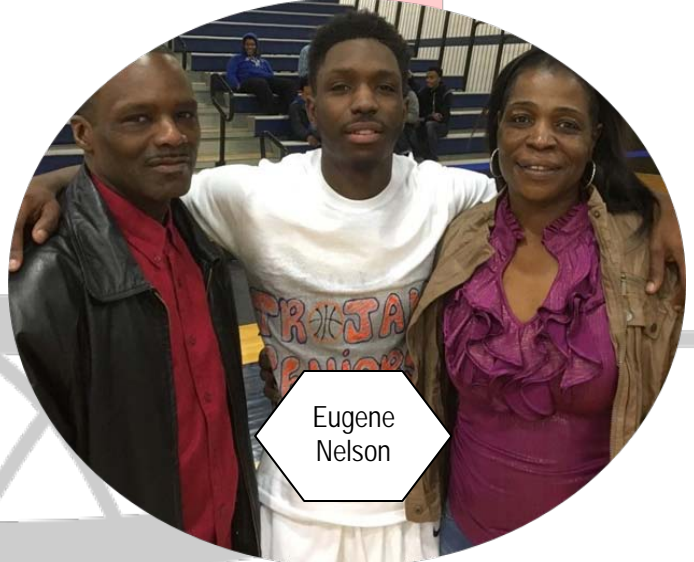
Shamir  
Edwards



Saleem  
Johnson



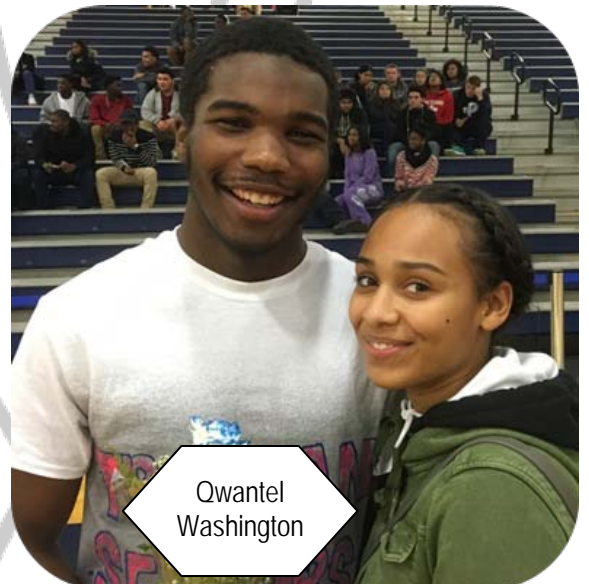
Corey  
Hall



Eugene  
Nelson



Brandon  
Tinson



Qwantel  
Washington



**Senior Night Basketball Cheerleading Photos:**





**Senior Night Girls' Basketball Photos:**



Yireh Byas



Troi Daniels



Zikia Paschall





# WRESTLING

The high school wrestling team takes time after practice to support “Trojans 4 a Cure” and “Keep Me Warm For The Holidays” at the Santa Breakfast!



and “Keep Me Warm For The Holidays” at the Santa Breakfast!

## Governor Mifflin Individual Wrestling Tournament Results – December 29 & 30, 2015:

- Team Results – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – 140.5 points
- Individual Results:
  - Bubba Gephart – 120 lbs. – 6<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Mason Pennypacker – 152 lbs. – 5<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Saddiq Ibn-Mustafah – 160 lbs. 4<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Isaiah Mayes – 170 lbs. – 4<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Ernest McCalvin – 182 lbs. – 4<sup>th</sup> Place
  - Logan Pennypacker – 138 lbs. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
  - Bryant Wise – 145 lbs. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

### Governor Mifflin Holiday Junior Varsity Tournament Individual Results:

- Anthony Wiggins – 145 lbs. – 1<sup>st</sup> Place
- Ray Bumbarger – 285 lbs. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- Austin Andrews – 152 lbs. – 4<sup>th</sup> Place



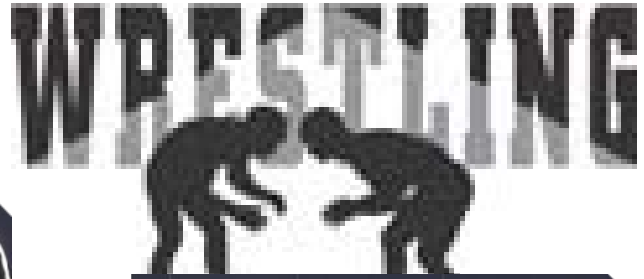
## Kennett Square Dual Meet Tournament Results:

- Trojans took First Place at the Kennett Square Dual Meet Tournament.
  - Defeated Glen Mills 63-18; Kennett 52-23, and in the finals beat Academy Park 64-18.
  - In three matches outscored opponents 179-59. Won 30 of 37 bouts for an 81% win ratio with 17 pins for an outstanding 46% pin ratio.
  - Going undefeated 3-0 on the day with 3 pins was Bubba Gephart. His last pin was a come from behind pin with 8 seconds left in the match.
  - Also 3-0 were Logan and Mason Pennypacker, Isaiah Mayes, Ernest McCalvin and Saddiq Ibn-Mustafah.
  - Jimmie Zazzi was 2-0.
  - Tyler Clifford, Alex Caballero, AJ Ecker, and Nyles Rome all went 2-1.
  - Ray Bumbarger added a pin and went 1-0.
  - Anthony Wiggins was 1-0 with a pin.
  - Isaiah Williams also helped the team by filling in for James Diamond.
  - We received compliments on both our wrestling skill and sportsmanship. We left saying, "Proud to be from Pottstown."





# Wrestling Senior Night Photos:



Conor Benfield



Bubba Gephart



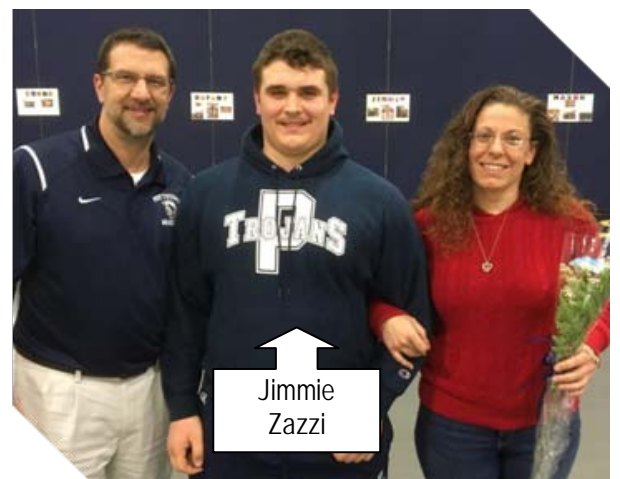
Saddiq Ibn-Mustafah



Mason and Logan Pennypacker



Bryant Wise



Jimmie Zazzi





## **New Oxford Wrestling Tournament Results - January 29, 2016:**

Congratulations to the Wrestling Team for their outstanding performance at the New Oxford Tournament. The 32 team event which is considered one of the most competitive in the state saw the Trojan Varsity place 6th with 136 points.

### **Individual medal winners were:**

- ★ Logan Pennpacker-138 lbs.-2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- ★ Bryant Wise-145 lbs.-2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- ★ Mason Pennpacker-152 lbs.-2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- ★ Saddiq Ibn-Mustafah-160 lbs.-5<sup>th</sup> Place
- ★ Isaiah Mayes-170 lbs.-5<sup>th</sup> Place
- ★ Jimmie Zazzi-285 lbs.-6<sup>th</sup> Place

### **Junior Varsity place winners were:**

- ★ Alex Caballero-126 lbs.-2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- ★ Conor Benfield-145 lbs.-3<sup>rd</sup> Place

The JV's placed 9th overall. They made every second count and their hard work paid off. Proud to be from Pottstown!





### North Penn Junior Varsity Tournament Results:

➤ The Trojans placed 9<sup>th</sup> out of 27 schools

❖ Alex Caballero placed 3<sup>rd</sup>



❖ Ray Bumbarger placed 4<sup>th</sup>



Congratulations to the Middle School wrestlers who placed in the Southeast Pennsylvania Wrestling Tournament held at Quakertown.

- Placing 2<sup>nd</sup> were Aiden Weber and Demond Thompson.
- Placing 6<sup>th</sup> were Xavier Cushman, Caleb Sargent, and Josh Doyle

### PAC-10 CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS – Feb. 2016:

Congratulations to the Trojan Wrestling team for placing 4<sup>th</sup> in the Pioneer Athletic Conference Tournament. The team scored 139 points. The three teams scoring more are all ranked in the top ten in Southeast PA. Nine of our twelve wrestlers made the medal round with eight of them advancing to the District Championships next week. For the first time in history the Trojans won more than one individual championship when Mason Pennypacker at 152 pounds and Bryant Wise at 145 were crowned champions. Logan Pennypacker placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at 138 pounds. Placing 3<sup>rd</sup> were Bubba Gephart at 120, Saddiq Ibn-Mustafah at 160, and Isaiah Mayes at 170. James Diamond took 5<sup>th</sup> at 220 pounds and placing 6<sup>th</sup> were Nate Parson at 126, AJ Ecker at 132, and Jimmie Zazzi at 285. The team represented our school and community with good sportsmanship, pride and honor.

### District I West Wrestling Tournament Results – February 2016

➤ Team Results – 7<sup>th</sup> Place with 47 points

➤ Individual Results:

- ❖ Mason Pennypacker – 6<sup>th</sup> Place – 152 lbs.
- ❖ Saddiq Ibn-Mustafah – 4<sup>th</sup> Place – 160 lbs.
- ❖ Isaiah Mayes – 4<sup>th</sup> Place – 170 lbs.
- ❖ Logan Pennypacker – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – 138 lbs.
- ❖ Bryant Wise – 1<sup>st</sup> Place – 145 lbs.



## Southeast Regional Wrestling Tournament Results

- Team Results –
- Individual Results:
  - ❖ Congratulations to Bryant Wise for qualifying for the State Tournament by placing 2<sup>nd</sup> at 145 Lbs. at the Southeast Regional Tournament.
  - ❖ Isaiah Mayes had a great weekend and placed 6th and made it clear he will be a force next year.
  - ❖ Saddiq Ibn-Mustafah wrestled well as he ended his high school career.
  - ❖ Logan Pennypacker had a hard fought overtime loss that kept him from going to states.

Logan Pennypacker represented the Pottstown Trojans and the Pioneer Athletic Conference on the District I South All-Star Team as they competed against an all-star team from the state of Delaware. Logan performed double duty for his team first taking on the Delaware State runner-up at 145 pounds and dropping a close 3 to 2 decision in triple overtime.



After a brief rest, he took on the 6<sup>th</sup> place medal winner from Delaware at 138 pounds and defeated him 5 to 0. Logan helped to lead his team to 33-16 victory.

### NAMED TO THE PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE FIRST TEAM

- Mason Pennypacker
- Bryant Wise

### NAMED TO THE PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE SECOND TEAM

- Logan Pennypacker

### NAMED TO THE PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE HONORABLE MENTION TEAM

- Isaiah Mayes

### NAMED TO THE MERCURY ALL AREA SECOND TEAM

- Logan Pennypacker
- Mason Pennypacker
- Bryant Wise

### NAMED TO THE MERCURY ALL AREA HONORABLE MENTION TEAM

- Isaiah Mayes

### NAMED TO THE DISTRICT I ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

- Logan Pennypacker
- Mason Pennypacker



## **FOOTBALL**

Named to the PAC-10 Senior Bowl Football Rosters – Game set for June 2016.

- Team Jason Powell – Norristown:
  - Brandon Tinson
  - Jimmie Zazzi
  
- Team Rory Graver – Pope John Paul II
  - Bryant Wise
  - Qwantel Washington

## **PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE ALL ACADEMIC TEAM**

- Cheerleading - Andraya Guy
- Boys' Basketball - Brandon Tinson
- Girls' Basketball - Alivia Lopez
- Girls' Swimming - London Aquino
- Wrestling - Logan Pennypacker

## **PIONEER ATHLETIC CONFERENCE WINTER CITIZEN ATHLETE AWARD**

- Mason Pennypacker

## STAFF



**Reading Eagle: Matt Carey** | Officers from the Federation of Pottstown Teachers bring books as gifts for children in the pediatric ward at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center. The officers, in bright green, are, from left, LINDI VOLMUTH, vice president; BETH YODER, president, and MIKE DI DONATO, vice president. With them are hospital administrators.

### Kids in Pottstown Memorial Medical Center get gift of books from educators

Click on the link below for a Reading Eagle story about our teachers and you will know another reason why we say "Proud to be from Pottstown."

<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/kids-in-pottstown-memorial-medical-center-get-gift-of-books-from-educators>

Congratulations to Kathy Eagle for being featured in Sunday's Reading Eagle's "In Our Schools" section. Kathy is a PHS grad; her parents, husband and now her children have all attended Pottstown schools.



*In Our Schools* is a weekly feature spotlighting teachers and administrators educating children in Tri-County schools.

#### **KATHY EAGLE:**

**I grew up in:** Pottstown, and still reside there.

**Family:** Husband, Ben; son, Jacob; daughter, Abigail.

**Education:** Pottstown High School, 1993 graduate; Kutztown University, bachelor's and master's degrees in elementary education.

**How I spend my free time:** I am an aerobics instructor at LA Fitness in Pottstown. I teach three Zumba classes as well as a boot camp class and a body works class. Exercise is a huge part of my life. I love spending time with my family. Baking is one of my favorite things to do, especially during the holiday season when it is cookie time! I spend my summers with my kids and best friend at the pool.

**Teacher who inspired me:** My kindergarten teacher at Rupert Elementary School in Pottstown, Mrs. Duttonhoffer, was the person who made me want to be a teacher. I loved going to school every day, and knew then that I wanted to become a teacher.

**Thoughts on returning to my home district to teach:** I am a homebody. I live three blocks away from my parents. I actually started my teaching career at Rupert as a Title I assistant. It was so neat that I began my career in the elementary school that I attended. Once I received my contract at the middle school, there were many teachers there that actually taught me. It was odd at first, but once I got over that, I realized how awesome it was to be a colleague to those teachers. I love teaching here. I know the schools. I know the teachers and staff. I know the town. Some of the teachers I work with now were friends of mine when I was young. Some of them "grew up" with me in the district as teachers. I have a huge feeling of "home" here.

**Funniest classroom moment:** The first 14 years of my career I taught sixth grade at Pottstown Middle School. I worked with amazing people who made me laugh on a daily basis. There are so many silly student stories that I could tell. However, the fun that I had with my team was priceless.

**If I weren't an educator, I'd be:** I would definitely own a bakery. It is one thing that I think I may attempt after retirement.

**You might not know:** Both of my parents are graduates of Pottstown High School. My dad went to Franklin Elementary and my mom was at Lincoln. My husband and I met in the Pottstown Middle School. He attended Lincoln, and I attended Rupert for all of our elementary school years. Our children, Jacob and Abigail, both attended Rupert Elementary for their entire elementary years and are now both students at the Pottstown Middle School. Needless to say, we are proud to be from Pottstown!

See more at: <http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/tri-county-in-our-schools-kathy-eagle#>



### Congratulations to Jamie Fazekas for being featured in Sunday's Reading Eagle's "In Our Schools" section.

*In Our Schools is a weekly feature spotlighting teachers and administrators educating children in Tri-County schools.*

**I grew up in:** Pottstown, and still reside there.

**Family:** Parents, Scott and Charlene Fazekas, both graduates of Pottstown Senior High School; sister, Kasey; and two nieces, Ava and Sophie.

**Education:** I spent two years at Montgomery County Community College then received my bachelor's of education from West Chester University and my master's of education from Cabrini College.

**How I spend my free time:** I enjoy getting my nails done and watching movies. I am also a fan of the TV shows "General Hospital" and "Big Brother." I also enjoy playing bingo for charities, solving word puzzles and painting at different "Painting with a Twist" locations in the area.

**Teacher who inspired me:** Mrs. Polly Weand from Ringing Rocks Elementary. She was my third-grade teacher and had an impact on me wanting to become a teacher. I still use some of the songs and things that she taught me in my own classroom, my favorite being the "Linking Verb" song.

**As a social studies teacher, the topic I enjoy teaching most is:** In third grade we study map skills, more specifically the seven continents and five oceans. The students enjoy this particular lesson. For a class activity, we blow up blue balloons, draw an equator and then place the continents in the correct place. They enjoy the balloon globes that we make - we hang them from the ceiling and they enjoy seeing them when they look up.

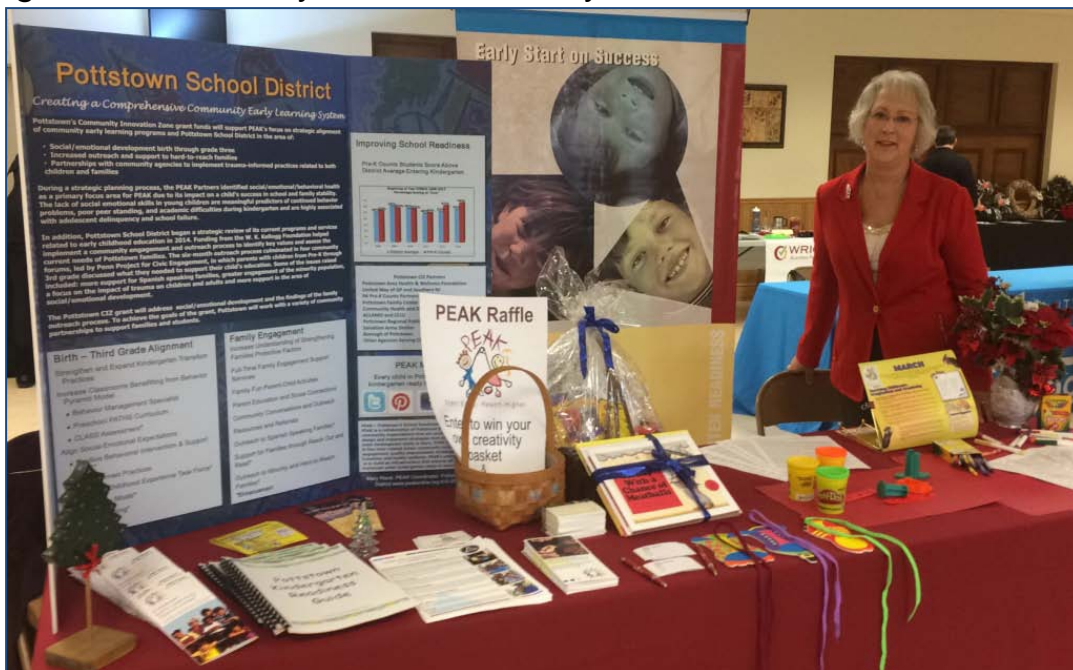


**Funniest classroom moment:** I was teaching a few years ago and I was going over directions for an activity when a little girl kept raising her hand. I wanted her to wait until the directions were given. She continued to raise her hand in the air until I finally asked her what she needed, and she said, "I just want to tell you your zipper is down!" The class started laughing and I was too, so I fixed my zipper and we moved on with the lesson. There was also a time I bent down and ripped my pants! I have many more embarrassing moments I could share!

**If I weren't an educator, I'd be:** I was recently asked this question this year at a teacher in-service, and I had a really hard time answering it. I have wanted to be a teacher since I was in third grade. I cannot picture myself doing anything else!

See more at: <http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/tri-county-in-our-schools-jamie-fazekas>

### PEAK Program tells its story at the Tri County Chamber of Commerce Holiday Expo



Congratulations to Chef Jacquelyn Mathias for being featured in Sunday's Reading Eagle's "In Our Schools"



*In Our Schools is a weekly feature spotlighting teachers and administrators educating children in Tri-County schools.*

**I grew up in:** Avondale, Chester County

**I now live in:** Spring City

**Family:** Husband, Mike Mathias; parents, Charles and Nancy Losito; sisters, Leanne Cowdright and Kimberly Musto; brother, Chazz Losito.

**Education:** Avon High School and Delaware Technical Community College

**How I spend my free time:** I enjoy hiking and camping with my husband, spending time with my dogs and running races with my sister, Kimberly.

**Teacher who inspired me:** Chef Liz Marden was my baking and pastry teacher in college. Although baking is not my favorite thing, she always inspired me to be my best, as she is a very accomplished woman chef in a man's field.

**I believe culinary arts is important in education because:** Being able to teach a student how to prepare food from raw ingredients is a skill that even if they don't go on to culinary school they will be able to use in their daily life. Showing the students how to prepare fresh vegetables and fruit, how to create a quick and healthy meal instead relying on fast food or pre-made meals will hopefully give students the building blocks to eat healthy and share those healthy eating habits with their families.

**Funniest classroom moment:** When people walk into the kitchen, they confuse me for the students because of my height. The students still laugh when people walk in and look right past me asking where the teacher is.

**If I weren't an educator, I'd be:** I always said if I did not go to school for culinary I would be a makeup artist.

**You might not know:** When I worked in industry, I would do all the ice carvings for weddings and large events.

See more at: <http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/tri-county-in-our-schools-jacquelyn-mathias>

Thank you to the employees of the Pottstown School District for your support of this year's United Way campaign. The district collected \$6,437.00 to support the United Way.





## MUSIC

The Jazz Band season opened this weekend and our Middle and High School bands made some noise at the Pottsgrove "Grove Jazz Festival" as they walked away with many awards. Thanks to Jazz Band groupie Mr. Evan Brandt you can read and hear all about it by clicking on his Mercury blog, Digital Notebook <http://evan-brandt.blogspot.com/2016/02/the-jazz-band-season-kicks-off-in.html>. As always remember to click on the blue bar at the bottom of the page to advance to the next page. After listening to our bands you will be able to say once again, "Proud to be from Pottstown!"

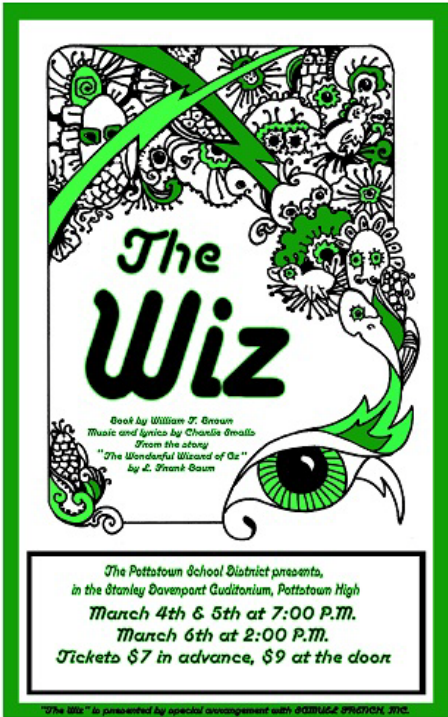
The high school jazz band performed at the "Grove Jazz Festival" held at Pottsgrove. Nick Wilson received the "Outstanding Trumpet Award."

The Pottstown High School Jazz Band received an Outstanding rating at the Boyertown Jazz Festival and Chloe Francis was recognized with the "Trumpet Soloist Award."

The Pottstown Middle School Jazz Band participated in the Boyertown Jazz Festival and received an overall rating of "Superior." They also earned awards for the "Best Saxophone, Trombone, and Rhythm" sections. Chloe Hebert was awarded the "Soloist Award" for tenor sax.



# Pottstown High School presents the hit musical... **“The Wiz”**



Click on the link below:

<http://www.pottsmmerc.com/general-news/20160215/pottstown-stages-the-wiz-as-1st-district-wide-musical-in-7-years>



Dress Rehearsal





## Participants in 2016 PHS production of *The Wiz*...

Sabrina Butler – Aunt Em	MarDaije Pearson - Dorothy	Nash Ohlinger – Uncle Henry
Nicolas Parson – Scarecrow	Gianna Kimmell - Addaperle	Zechariah Howard – Tinman
Emanuel Wilkerson – Lion	A'vondre Nascimento - Gatekeeper	Seth Thomas – The Wiz
Angel Olvera - Evillene	Matt Wood – Lord High Underling	Donny Marte – Soldier Messenger
Izreal King – Winged Monkey	Mya Pope - Glinda	

Christopher Sperat-Director	Robert Decker-Producer / Stage Manager	Tom Marsden-Vocal/Sound Director
Robert Benton-Orchestra Director	Jolie Martinez-Choreographer	Nick Yashinsky-Lighting Director
Elisabeth Yoder-Costume Design	Melissa DiBlasi-Publicist	Kyle O'Neill-Construction Manager
Amy Anderson-Accompanist	Candi Haas-Simmons-Prop./Set Designer	Diane Shofstall-Hair & Makeup

<b>Pit Singers:</b> Julia Day, Myrical Giddens, Abigail Krause, Juliana Roseo, Jordan Soler, Veronica Tirado, Matt Zipay	<b>Tornado Dancers:</b> Jaeden Beasley, Jaylin Beasley, Brittany Bosko, Desharia Bridges, Cheyenne Everette Johnson, Emily Iezzi, Eugene Nelson, Magdalena Onate, Mya Pope, Tyra Robinson	<b>Yellow Brick Road:</b> Jaeden Beasley, Jaylin Beasley, Eugene Nelson, Emily Iezzi
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<b>Munchkins/Winkies:</b> Grace Bainbridge, Josephine Bechtel, Anjalie Crosbie, Brielle Davis, Abigail Eagle, Amber Heater, Madalyn Lamperez, Ashlee Landis, Devyn Lopez, Stacey Wieand Lopez, Kylie Monger, Grayce Morton, Jonathan Moser, Mackenzie Moser, IsabellaRose Maria Mulligan, Alexandria Olvera, Gabriela Pagan, Naomi Parson, Mariana Pearson, MoniYah Person, Emily Swider, Brooke Thomas, Skyelynn Torres, London Trout, Alyse Weber, Emily Yost, Ethan Yost	<b>Crows:</b> Demar Barnes, Destiny Jeter, Reilly Owens, Kimberly Wilkinson  <b>Poppies:</b> Brittany Bosko, Mya Pope, Desharia Bridges  <b>Field Mice:</b> MaSofia Sosa, Yuliza Cruz, Kira Dixon	<b>Kalidahs:</b> Sabrina Butler, Izreal King, Donny Marte, A'Vondre Nascimento, Nash Ohlinger, Matt Wood  <b>Funky Monkeys:</b> Jaeden Beasley, Jaylin Beasley, Tori Steger, Desharia Bridges, Tyra Robinson, Johnay Crawford, Cheyenne Everette Johnson, Magdalena Onate, Eugene Nelson
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<b>Emerald City Citizens:</b> Demar Barnes, Sabrina Butler, Yuliza Cruz, Kira Dixon, Destiny Jeter, Gianna Kimmell, Donny Marte, Nash Ohlinger, Reilly Owens, MaSofia Sosa, Kimberly Wilkinson, Angel Olvera, Matt Wood, Izreal King, Mya Pope	<b>Quadling Dancers:</b> Brittany Bosko, Desharia Bridges, Emily Iezzi, Magdalena Onate, Tori Steger
<b>Emerald City Dancers:</b> Jaeden Beasley, Jaylin Beasley, Brittany Bosko, Desharia Bridges, Yireh Byas, Johnay Crawford, Cheyenne Everette Johnson, Emily Iezzi, Eugene Nelson, Tyra Robinson	<b>PSD Cameo Appearances:</b> Eileen Basham, Sally Berger, Robert Decker, Evelyn Dudonis, Tiffany Good, Laura Luzeski, Jolie Martinez, Danielle McCoy, Matt Moyer, Steven Park, Kim Petro, Dee Pettine, Christopher Sperat

<http://evan-brandt.blogspot.com/2016/03/oz-magic-casts-spell-on-foundation.html>



**Photo Collage of *The Wiz*:**





## HIGH SCHOOL

The “Trojans For A Cure” Club sponsored a pancake breakfast with Santa. Over 300 people enjoyed breakfast courtesy of Culinary Arts and over \$1,200.00 was raised to support the “Keep Me Warm for the Holidays” project which provides hats and gloves to elementary aged students.



### Trojan Man Supports Childhood Cancer Fundraiser

Trojan Man Blue and Trojan Man White, along with their sponsor Mr. David Woodley, joined over 130 other mascots as they took part in a “Mascots For the Cure” event held at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Woodley said, “I am so proud of our students who are willing to freely give of their time to help support those in need. They truly are a reason to say ‘Proud to be from Pottstown.’” Under Mr. Woodley’s leadership, “Trojan Man” has become a symbol of enthusiasm, spirit, and pride in the Pottstown School District. He is in demand at so many events that nine different students are called upon to don the uniform of “Mr. Trojan.”

The following students are honored to be Trojan Man:



- ★ Aaron Diamond
- ★ Austin Andrews
- ★ Alec Krause
- ★ Abie Krause
- ★ Anthony Wiggins
- ★ Conor Benfield
- ★ Mike Baker
- ★ Nick Parson
- ★ Steven Hewitt



Photo ID: Top – Aaron Diamond and Alec Krause;  
Middle – Mr. Woodley and Anthony Wiggins;  
Bottom – Conor Benfield and Mike Baker

<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/pottstown-high-mascots-part-of-childhood-cancer-fundraiser>

Congratulations to the Culinary Arts students who competed in the “Chopped and Cake Decorating Contest” sponsored by the National Association of Remodeling Industry-Business Industries Exchange. Kayla Wise competed in the “Chopped” competition and assisted in the “Cake Decorating” competition while Kevin Knittle and Felicity Patten took part in the “Cake Decorating” competition. They were the only high school students in the competition, all other contestants were members of the professional food service industry or post-secondary students.

<http://www.pottsmmerc.com/general-news/20160307/chopped-competition-caps-successful-pottstown-family-and-home-expo>





Health Occupations students organized and assisted in the Winter Blood Drive collecting 26 units of blood which was used to help save 78 lives. HOSA students, under the leadership of Ms. Michaela Johnson, performed various duties during the collection process.



Student Assistants were:

Destiny Willis, Breana Bodnar, Devon Clary, Zikia Paschall, Denkera Chestnut and Zechariah Howard.



## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Congratulations to the members of the middle school wrestling team who placed at the Schuylkill Valley Wrestling Tournament. They included:

- Aiden Weber – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
- Josh Doyle and Zach Griffin – both 3<sup>rd</sup> Place finishers
- Demond Thompson – 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Congratulations to the middle school jazz band, under the direction of Mr. Ben Hayes, for their performance at the “Grove Jazz Festival.” The band received the only “Outstanding” rating of the evening and both the saxophone and trumpet sections were awarded “Best in Festival.” Jacob Eagle received “Honorable Mention” for his trumpet solo and David Hicks received the “Soloist Award” in trombone.

### **Middle School Spelling Bee:**

Upon spelling the word tsunami in the 18th round, Amari Folly, an 8th grade student, became Pottstown Middle School’s annual spelling bee winner. The event took place on January 20th and was witnessed by Middle School staff and students as well as many supportive parents. The MC for the Spelling Bee was Dee Pettine and the Word Announcer/Coordinator was Kim Petro. Judges included Mary Ann Hill, Angela Wagner, and Desiree Schwoyer.

Students throughout the Middle School were initially given a test using 20 words from the Scripps Spelling Bee list. The students who spelled the most words correctly were then invited to participate in this year’s spelling bee. Students were also required to meet Scripps eligibility requirements.

Twenty-two students in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 accepted the challenge. These students included: Abigail Dise, Jacob Eames, Amari Folly, Emma Gawlas, Jordan Go, Adam Green, Andrew Green, Avery Heverly, Jalisa Johnson, Noah Kutt, Cesai Ramos, Ma'kea Regis, Jessica Rivera, Gabe Roseo, Austin Spence, Alix Stewart, Emily Weber, Oralee Wilson, Jayden Winfield, Timothy Wright, Scarlet Vallejo, and Caleb Yocom. Amari was deemed the winner after battling against runner-up Jalisa Johnson.



# ELEMENTARY

**Rupert Elementary School Fancy Friday!** Students and staff put their uniforms aside for a donation to support Operation Backpack. Everyone dressed to impress, and helped support an organization that serves our children. The effort, organized by Kindergarten Teacher Laurie Gresko, is becoming a yearly tradition that everyone enjoys. We were able to raise \$220, which was presented to Lisa Heverly from Operation Backpack yesterday.







Special to the Reading Eagle: Sandi Yanisko | Rine Strohecker's second-grade class at Rupert Elementary School in Pottstown received shoeboxes filled with gifts provided by Strohecker's friends and family.

No question in our schools we are family!  
Mr. Strohecker from Rupert Elementary School is just another example of our staff's commitment to our students.

Yes it is ok, you can say it,  
"Proud to be from Pottstown."

See the link below for some pictures from Mr. Strohecker's class.

<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/rupert-elementary-students-get-early-christmas>

### Students make every penny count!



We raised \$1,447.26 to help with cancer research!!! Rupert Elementary participated in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society "Pennies for Patients" fundraising campaign. Six classes raised over \$100.00 each and they will all receive a bronze pennant to hang in their classroom. These classes were Mrs. Paravis 2<sup>nd</sup> grade \$106.15, Mrs. Houck 1<sup>st</sup> grade \$115.26, Mr. Strohecker 2<sup>nd</sup> grade \$144.47, Mrs. Ferguson kindergarten \$149.47, and Miss Miller 1<sup>st</sup> grade \$157.44. The winning class was Miss Dotterer 4<sup>th</sup> grade class. They raised \$161.82 and will also receive a bronze pennant for their classroom and a pizza

party for raising the highest amount. Our school's grand total raised was \$1,447.26. Thank you to Mrs. Hankins for organizing our collection, and to everyone for a job well done!





**Barth staff gets in the mood for the Holiday Season:**



Happy  
Holidays!



**Rupert Elementary School - 2nd Marking Period I'MPACT Awards:**

Student who received 2nd Marking Period I'MPACT Awards:

- ★ **Jeremiah Santos**
- ★ **Adrianna Foulkes**
- ★ **Zyla Burke**
- ★ **Kaylee Allen**
- ★ **Logan Nihart**

Staff who joined us for the visit:

- Cindy Bartolucci
- Laurie Gresko
- Jenni Houck
- Sue Paravis
- Nicole Leh
- Jayne Pollock
- Nicole Valenti
- Rine Strohecker





## Rupert Elementary School – “CAUGHT BEING GOOD”

They held a mid-year “Caught Being Good Prize Give Away.” When students are caught being good, their teachers place a ticket with their name in a large bin and then names are drawn to receive prizes.



Mr. Moyer said "This was a great way to acknowledge all of the outstanding work of our students! We are planning a second large prize drawing in June!"

Superintendent Dr. Sparagana, who attended the assembly, stated: "It was indeed my pleasure to visit Rupert classrooms and interacted with students and staff. I was also fortunate to be in attendance for Rupert's Positive Behavior Support afternoon assembly. The purpose of the assembly was to acknowledge students who were 'caught being good'. The assembly was an energy charged experience where Principal Matt Moyer and the Rupert staff recognized students who were caught being good and qualified for a raffle of prizes such as: numerous gift cards, educational games, classroom helper for the day, a ride to class on the principal's chair for a day and a spectacular ride to school on a fire truck courtesy of the Phillies Fire Company. It was an excellent way to close out the day at Rupert. Congratulations to Principal Matt Moyer and the Rupert school community for, as always 'placing students first'."



## THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS

- Thank you to the members of the Pottstown Rotary Club for their donation of winter boots to the students taking part in the Rupert Elementary School “Walking School Bus” Program. Principal, Mr. Matt Moyer, said, “We were excited to have this important need met for our children right before the predicted snow. It was great to see the smiles on the children’s faces as they received their boots and tried them on.”



- Thank you to MAPFRE Insurance's Pennsylvania team, which contributed clothing and grocery gift cards to a needy family at Rupert Elementary School during the holidays. This is the second year that MAPFRE has partnered with Rupert Elementary to assist a family in need.

Pictured are: (sitting) Lori Sharpe;  
and (standing, from left)  
Mary Friedberg, Dean Styer,  
Jana Beaudoin and  
Luann Henderson.







## 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](mailto:jarmato@pottstownsd.org).

- **Jeanne Marie (Maute) Davis** - Class of 1964 – She was the wife of R. Barry Davis. Jeanne graduated from Brylon Beauty School and quickly became a well-respected stylist and salon manager in local Pottstown salons. She loved using her younger sisters and her daughters as models for all the latest styling trends of the '70s and '80s. Later Jeanne changed career paths and became a friendly face as a bank teller and customer service representative at Malvern Federal Savings Bank for over 15 years and then more recently at other local banks. Jeanne was best known for her crafting skills. She made clothes for her daughters when they were small. She loved sewing, paper crafting, sculpting and painting. Jeanne's family and friends always looked forward to her homemade holiday gifts.
- **Harry L. Keller Jr.** - Class of 1964 – He was the son of the late Harry L. and Bertha (Mauger) Keller. Harry was a member of St. James Lutheran Church. He worked at DANA Corp. for 37 years, retiring in 2002 and was a US Army veteran who served during the Korean Conflict. Harry was also a member of the Lower Merion Rod and Gun Club where he was recently a board member and a member of the Boyertown Rod & Gun Club and the Pike Township Sportsman's Association. In his younger days he was a member of the Shamrocks Boys Club of Pottstown, played and coached on various baseball teams, and loved racing his Chevy Nova at Maple Grove Raceway. He was an avid hunter and fisherman his entire life. During his later years, he enjoyed maintaining the property at Lower Marion Rod & Gun Club, helping with youth fishing contests in the area, and gardening at home. His real joy came from being a proud "Poppop".
- **Barbara Fine** - Class of 1954 – She was the daughter of Ralph and Hilma Baldwin. Barbara was a graduate of Wilson College. Barbara married Richard Fine in '57 and is survived by her son, David Fine of Fort Collins, CO.; Susan Bush of Ft. Myers, FL; and nine grandchildren. She was a substitute teacher, nursery school teacher/director, legal secretary and office manager at Richard's insurance agency. She had the personality of a saint with a smile and demeanor that was second to none. She was a loving wife, companion, mother and grandmother. Barbara loved life to the fullest, is irreplaceable and will be greatly missed.
- **Evelyn M. Van Horn (Stoudt)** - Class of 1945 - She was the wife of the late H. Edward Van Horn. Evelyn was born December 4, 1927 in Pottstown, PA. She was a daughter of the late John T. Stoudt and Florence Stoudt (Platt). She was a waitress and chef at Sunset Pharmacy and worked as a cashier at K-Mart. She was an avid fan of the Phillies and especially enjoyed the Little League World Series. She also enjoyed crocheting, reading, and spending time with her grandchildren.

- **Richard L. 'Dick' Rosendale** - Class of 1939 – He was born in Toledo, Ohio, the son of the late Charles and Helen (Ames) Rosendale. While at Pottstown High School he met Helen “Sis” Bauerschmidt, who would become his partner in 71 years of marriage. Dick studied Civil Engineering at Wyomissing Polytechnic Institute. At the outbreak of [WWII](#), he enlisted in the [U.S. Marine Corps](#) where he was Navy-trained as an F4U-Corsair fighter pilot. During the war, he served in the South Pacific, and later, was recalled to participate in the [Korean Conflict](#). He retired from the Marine Corps Reserves with the rank of Major. Dick's post-war professional employment included stints as Assistant Engineer for the Schuylkill River Desilting Project and as Construction Engineer for the U.S. Steel Fairless Hills plant. In 1955 he apprenticed with Russell Croasdale Construction of Limerick, and in 1957 he formed his own paving/excavation company, R. L. Rosendale, Inc. in the Pottstown area, which he operated until his retirement in 1989. Dick was active in numerous community organizations. He was a member of Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Pottstown. Dick will be remembered as a true gentleman, who loved life, his family, and his country.
- **Timothy J. Giangiacomo** - Class of 1977 – He was born in Pottstown, PA and was the son of the late Vincent J. and Janet (Kerr) Giangiacomo. He attended Ursinus College in Collegetown, PA and was a 1983 graduate of Albright College, Reading, PA. Timothy worked in the field of Business Management for many years in the Pottstown area. Tim loved to read, enjoyed music and history and was an avid Philadelphia sports fan.
- **Lisa R. (Hofmann) Wagner** - Class of 1981 – She was the wife of Leon Wagner, with whom she wed August 9, 2015. Born in Pottstown, PA, she was a daughter of the late Eugene Hofmann and Joan (Wager) Hofmann. She attended the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City, NY and worked as an office manager for several companies. She enjoyed having family gatherings, cooking, baking and traveling.
- **Earl H. Mock** - Class of 1945 - husband of Virginia M. (Hoagey) Mock, was born in Pottstown, PA. He was the son of the late Earl E. Mock and the late Ellen (Endy) Mock. Earl was a template maker for the former Bethlehem Steel Co. for 30 years, and Steelco, in Sinking Springs for eleven years until his retirement. He served in the Navy during World War II. Earl was a lifelong member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Pottstown where he was a former usher and greeter. He was a member for over 50 years of the Pottstown Elks Lodge #814 and was on the Drill Team for 40 years; also a member of Stitcher Lodge #254, Pottstown for over 50 years
- **Jordyn De-Shaun Stetler** - Class of 2015 - Born December 25, 1996 in Pottstown, he was the son of Heather R. Stetler and Gilbert Butts. Jordyn was in the ROTC and Construction programs in high school. For the past six months Jordyn was employed at Infra Source, working for the Laborers Union Local # 57. Jordyn loved to be outdoors, he loved hunting, fishing, and going to the cabin in Tioga County. He also liked hanging with his friends and riding his dirt bike, motorcycle and four-wheeler.
- **Margaret L. "Peggy" Alderfer** - Class of 1952 – Peggy was the wife of Jeremiah S. Alderfer. She was the daughter of the late Daniel W. and Dorothy (Sassaman) Himes. Peggy was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. While at Pottstown High School, where she was an accomplished field hockey player, leading Pottstown to its only undefeated season record. Peggy worked for 10 years at the Sunnybrook Ballroom and Colonial Room in the office, and at the age of 48 became an LPN and graduated at the top of her class.



- **Ralph "Sonny" David Mauger** - Class of 1949 – He was the husband of Lenora (McCulley) Mauger. Born in Pottstown, he was the son of the late Ralph Y. and Alice (Carl) Mauger. "Sonny" earned his Bachelor's degree at Penn State. He enjoyed working in his orchard (Mauger's Orchard) in Pine Forge his entire life following in the footsteps of many generations in this family business. Sonny enjoyed being in nature, especially fishing and skiing. He was the head of the snow making operations at the former Doe Mountain Ski Area for over 30 years. For many years he played baseball for the Pine Forge Legion Baseball Team and was Secretary of the Pine Forge Sportsmen's Club. He also kept a flock of Homing Pigeons in his earlier years and was always amazed by their agility and perseverance.
- **Deacon Reginald Saunders** - Class of 1969 – Reginald was born June 20, 1951 in Williamston, NC, he was the son of the late Stella and Willie Saunders Sr. He attended Penn State University. He worked at the Firestone Factory for over 10 years. He was also a state trooper and he served in the U. S. Army. For over 20 years, he was a member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church where he was an ordained deacon. He sang in the men's choir, served as youth Sunday school teacher, Director of Facilities Ministry, Follow-up Ministry, Brother's Keeper Ministry, and an Armor-bearer for the pastor. Deacon Saunders really loved his church. He participated in the prayer ministry in the neighborhood and he was a graduate of Rev. Melvin Floyd's Evangelism School. He was also a member of the F.O.P. His greatest passion was the love of motorcycles. Additionally, he enjoyed gardening, yard work, and flowers and loved ministering to people.



## **FALLEN TROJAN STAFF**



- **Thomas J. Work Jr.**, 74, of Gilbertsville, husband of Nancy (Good) Work, son of the late Thomas J. Sr. and Jane H. Work, went home to be with his Lord on his 74th birthday. Thomas is a graduate of the 1960 class of Hatboro-Horsham High School, a 1966 graduate of Millersville University, and a 1977 graduate of West Chester University. A 1st Lt. at Fort Knox and in Vietnam, he served in the 1st Division of the US Army and was awarded the [Bronze Star](#) for valor. Thomas worked as a social studies teacher in the Pottsgrove and Pottstown School Districts until his retirement in 1996. He also coached high school football for 40 years, most recently at Upper Perk High School. He was a member of Trinity E.C. Church, Boyertown and served as Sunday School teacher, youth group leader, and on the building committee.
- **Mary Ann T. (Szajek) Hillegas**, was the wife of the late John Hillegas Sr., who passed away in 2006, with whom she shared 49 years of marriage. Born on October 15, 1938 in Reading, PA, she was the daughter of the late Stephen Szajek and Stella Szajek (Topur). Mary Ann was a playground aide for 41 years at Lincoln Elementary School. She was very active in her church altar guild and a member of Episcopal Church Women. She also enjoyed Bible Club, book club, and the thrift shop.

## ALUMNI

- **Andrew Gazzillo** – Class of 2013 – is a junior majoring in history at Virginia Military Institute. He was recently named to the dean’s list.
- **Austin Mora** – Class of 2015 – is attending Lebanon Valley College pursuing a bachelor’s degree in music production. He recently participated in the Multi-Cultural Student Bridge Program.
- **Eliana Arroyo-Dech** – Class of 2015 – is attending York College and recently received the Alfred A. Panfile Memorial Scholarship sponsored by Diamond Credit Union.
- **Seth Ecker** – Class of 2008 - is now Assistant Wrestling Coach at Ithaca College was



named the Northeast Regional Assistant Coach of the Year by the NCAA. While at PHS he was a 4 time District Champ, 3 time state medal winner with a record of 132-17. At Ithaca he was a 2 time Division III National Champ and a 3 time All Academic All American. His senior year he was named the National Division III All Academic Athlete of the Year. He is now coaching at Ithaca and this past weekend he helped lead the nationally 5th ranked team to the Northeast Regional Championship. Seth Ecker is another reason to say “Proud to be from Pottstown!” Share the good news - <http://intermatwrestle.com/articles/16052>

Learn more about Pottstown schools – visit [www.pottstownschoools.org](http://www.pottstownschoools.org) and register for our FREE email information service.