

## **Superintendent's Student and Staff Accomplishments September 18, 2019**

**Metropolitan Museum of Art Field Trip:** Pocono Mountain West High School Advanced Placement Studio Art and Art History students went on a field trip to experience the Metropolitan Museum of Art's 5,000 years of art exhibits on September 5.. Students were fortunate enough to view the final week of the Costume Institute's Camp exhibition. The field trip supplemented the students' course curriculum.

**Arts Festival:** Four student musicians from Pocono Mountain West High School participated in the 42nd annual Celebration of the Arts Festival in Delaware Water Gap on September 8. Junior Andrew Dey, and seniors Isabel Valenzuela, Marissa Kane, and Hope De Jesus performed in the COTA Student Jazz Ensemble made up of students from 5 local high schools.

**Constitution Day:** Yesterday, Pocono Mountain schools observed Constitution Day. All schools viewed a short video on Constitution Day. In addition, Ms. Fogg-Sicignano, a West High School Social Studies Teacher, took a group of students to Philadelphia to participate in Constitution Day activities at the National Constitution Center and in a Town Hall meeting with Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch.

**Outstanding Visual Arts Community:** I am very proud to announce that Pocono Mountain School District has received endorsement by the Pennsylvania Art Education Association as an Outstanding Visual Arts Community. This award recognizes the importance of the district's visual arts programs during the 2018-2019 school year. The award recognizes schools and districts across Pennsylvania for their commitment to visual arts education opportunities for all students PK-12. The award acknowledges that Pocono Mountain's Visual Arts programs are rigorous and inclusive, highly assessable and highly visible. Only 57 schools were selected across Pennsylvania for this recognition.

**Start of School:** I'd like to thank our transportation department, parents and entire school community for their patience these first few weeks of school while we made adjustments to get all of our buses running on time for the afternoon runs. This was the most challenging for our elementary schools and special needs bus runs, because it takes several days for our students establish a routine of getting on the right buses in a timely manner. Our buses are now departing on time from all of our schools at the

end of the school day. We may still experience some intermittent school bus delays due to unexpected traffic- or construction-related issues we can't route around or prevent.