

Superintendent's Student and Staff Accomplishments October 23, 2019

Message of Sympathy: On behalf of our entire Pocono Mountain School District and Board of Education, I extend my most sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Ethan Feliciano, a senior at Pocono Mountain West High School who passed away unexpectedly last week. Ethan was loved by his teachers and classmates at both the West High School and Monroe Career and Technical Institute, where he attended the Health Occupation program. We pray for Ethan, his family, friends, and teachers as our school community copes with this terrible loss.

Whenever there is the death of a child within our community, our students and staff have trouble grieving, understanding and coping. We had crisis counselors available at the West High School last week, and Dr. Wade and his team are working with their school counselors to provide continued grief counseling for our students, faculty and staff as needed.

PDE Safe Schools Grants: Last week we received notice that Pocono Mountain School District will receive one of only 14 School Resource Officers grants awarded by the PA Department of Education for School Safety. The grant is for \$60,000 to use toward our SRO needs. We applied for two other grants, but did not receive those grants. We continue to seek out grant funding whenever it is available to us. We have two grant applications due to the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency by November 4, for safe schools initiatives and mental health and trauma-informed services for students.

EHS Band at NYC Veterans Day Parade: The Pocono Mountain East High School band will participate in the New York City Veterans Day Parade on November 11. This is the 100th anniversary of the parade. Our East band will be one of the largest bands marching in the parade.

Pride of the Mountain Week: This week is our Pride of the Mountain week leading up to the East versus West football game on Friday evening at 7 p.m. The game will take place at the Home of the Cardinals stadium on our Swiftwater Campus. The winning team will be awarded the Pride of the Mountain trophy to display at their school until next year's game.

Tomorrow morning, we have a Pride of the Mountain breakfast planned for both football teams in the East High School cafeteria.

Also, please tune into the FM 96.7 Gary in the Morning Show tomorrow morning from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. Gary will be broadcasting live from our East High School library. During the show he will interview our students, teachers and administrators to highlight a number of the wonderful programs and opportunities we offer to students in our schools. Thank you to the Pocono Mountain Visitors Bureau for sponsoring the live radio broadcast from our school. Thank you to Senator Scavello, who has graciously opened up his 30-minute radio segment with Gary to talk with our student artists and art teachers about our amazing visual arts programs. Also, thank you to the Gary in the Morning Show for its continued support of our District and HYPED.