

Superintendent's Student and Staff Accomplishments April 4, 2018

PM West Make-A-Wish: The Pocono Mountain West High School Student Council Community Service Committee hosted a beach themed Wish Party and Reveal for 4 year old Giovanni, a Make-A-Wish Kid from East Stroudsburg, on March 23. At the party, Giovanni and his family learned that they will be traveling to Key West in May to fulfill Giovanni's wish to spend time in the Florida Keys. The West High School hosted their 15th annual Make-A-Wish fundraiser during the month of March to help raise funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Since 2004, West students have raised more than \$31,000 to help grant the wishes of local children.

STEM Design Challenge: Congratulations to the Swiftwater Intermediate School STEM team of sixth graders Elizabeth Hensel, Leena Moore, Olivia Dudley, Grace Farley, and advisor Matt Pero, who won Second Place out of 28 teams in the grades 6 to 8 category of the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 STEM Design Challenge. Pocono Mountain School District sent several teams from Clear Run Intermediate School and SIS to this Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math competition.

Spring Bus Evacuation Drills: All of our schools practiced bus evacuation drills on March 23, where students exited the bus from the rear door. Students practice bus evacuation drills twice each year to ensure they know how to safely evacuate from a school bus in an emergency.

Art Competition: Pocono Mountain West High School Senior, Angelina Kimmins, is a finalist in the Lowell Milken Center of Unsung Heroes 2018 Art Effect Unsung Heroes Art Competition for her portrait and impact essay on inventor and actress Hedy Lamarr. Angela and the other finalists represent 10 percent of the total entries received from students in grades 6-12 from across the world. The winners will be announced soon. The grand prize is \$5,000.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters Donation: Pocono Mountain West High School students raised \$1,145 to donate to the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids sake fundraiser.

Upcoming Events:

Team Kim Dress Down Day for LLS: Pocono Mountain School District will participate in the Team Kim Dress Down Day Competition for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society on Friday, April 6. The competition will determine which school district in Monroe County raises the most money through its April 6 dress down day fundraiser to help fight blood cancers. All funds raised will be donated to LLS. Anyone wishing to help PMSD win this competition for a worthy cause may make a donation at any of our schools.

PA State Finals for Odyssey of the Mind: Pocono Mountain School District will have the honor of hosting the PA State Finals for Odyssey of the Mind on Saturday, April 7, from 7:30 a.m. until approximately 7 p.m. on the Swiftwater Campus. Competition events will take place in the Pocono Mountain East High School, Pocono Mountain East Junior High School, and the

Swiftwater Intermediate School. There will be 179 teams from across Pennsylvania competing in this creative problem-solving event. We have nine teams from Pocono Mountain who will compete for the chance to represent the state and our District at the World Finals at Iowa State University May 23-26. We anticipate we will be welcoming nearly 1,200 students and between 3,000 and 4,000 guests to our District and the Poconos on Saturday.

Letter from Mrs. Watto and Sons: The Board and I received a very heartfelt and moving letter of thanks from Mrs. Watto and sons Stephen, David, Michael and Edward that I will have posted to the Board agenda under the Superintendents Report for the public record.