

Superintendent's Student and Staff Accomplishments November 1, 2017

Message of Sympathy: On Monday night, we lost one of our students from the Pocono Mountain West High School as a result of a tragic accident along Route 196. I speak for our entire district and our school board as I express my deepest and most sincere sympathy to the family of David Essington. David was a senior at the West High School. He was a very talented singer who was active in both Chorus and Urbane. David was also a very hard working student who was on his way home from his part-time job at Kalahari when this accident occurred. We pray for David and the members of his family as they deal with this very tragic loss.

We had crisis counselors available in our West High School yesterday and will make them available for as long as needed to help our students, faculty and staff.

Senator for a Day: Thirty students from Pocono Mountain East High School participated in a Senator for a Day seminar sponsored by State Senator Mario Scavello. The seminar at Northampton Community College offered the students the opportunity to role-play as a State Senator in a mock legislative session.

West High School Community Service: Students from the West High Student Council's Community Service Committee visited The Mountain Center in Tobyhanna to bring "A Day of Literacy" to two Head Start classes. The high school students read the book "Giraffes Can't Dance" and had many fun activities planned for the pre-school children to go along with the book, including Pin the Tail on the Giraffe and making animal hats. Each Head Start student was provided with a copy of the book to take home with them to promote literacy in early learners.

Unique Canned Food Drive: The East High School National Honor Society held a door decorating contest for Halloween. Students could bring in canned food items to get points for their homeroom and to allow them to vote on a different door for best design. Mr. Kier's homeroom collected the most cans, and Ms. Jacobi's door won the prize for best door. Both homerooms received a bagel breakfast. More than 2,000 cans were collected and will be delivered to a local food pantry.

Cavalcade of Bands: The East High School Marching Band placed first at the Cavalcade of Bands Tournament held at Whitehall. Their score of 81.95 puts them in 3rd place of 13 bands in the Patriot division, the largest division in the Cavalcade circuit.

Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief: Mr. Pensyl and I presented a check to the American Red Cross on Thursday, October 26, for \$10,070. 58, with the fund dedicated to Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief efforts. The donations were raised through a District-wide dress down day for staff and students. You may remember that on October 4, I presented a check for \$10,562,81 to the Fill-Up-The-Truck Hurricane Relief effort to help Texas and Florida. I am very proud of the generosity of our students, staff, faculty and administrators who in just two dress down fundraisers donated a total of \$20,633.39 to help hurricane relief efforts.

Bucket Returns to East: Congratulations to the Cardinal football team on their big win against Pleasant Valley in the 57th Bucket Game. The East Cardinals brought the Old Oaken Bucket home and will proudly display it in the school until next year's matchup.

District 11 Girls Soccer: Congratulations to the Cardinal Girls Soccer team on their big win against Pleasant Valley in the District 11 Class 4A quarterfinal. Also, this season East senior, Taylor Caridi, set a new school girls soccer record in career goals, and she set the single season record for goals. Taylor was also selected as an EPC 1st Team All-Star. In addition, East senior, Kayla Argen, set a new school girls soccer record for career assists, and she set the single season record for assists. Kayla was also named to the 2017 Pennsylvania Female All-State Team.

District 11 Field Hockey: Congratulations to the Cardinal Girls Field Hockey team on their big win against Stroudsburg in the District 11 Class 3A quarterfinal.

District 11 Football: Congratulations to the Panther Football team on making the District 11 playoffs for the first time in the school's history. The Panthers will take on Stroudsburg on Friday, November 3, at 7:10 p.m., at Stroudsburg High School.

Pride of the Mountain: Last week was an exciting week for the District as we established a new football tradition and friendly rivalry between our East Cardinal and West Panther football teams. We held the first annual Pride of the Mountain breakfast for the two teams where we unveiled the new Pride of the Mountain Trophy and the first Pride of the Mountain t-shirts, which were given to each player. On Friday night, the Cardinals and the Panthers played hard to be the first team to win the Pride of the Mountain trophy and bring it home to their school for the year. Congratulations to the Panthers on winning the game and the trophy until next year's matchup. Also, I'd like to thank Coordinated Health for their sponsorship of the t-shirts and Friday night's game.

Upcoming Events:

Next week our schools will be honoring our veterans through numerous classroom projects and assemblies. We will be providing a list of the Board with a list of assemblies they may wish to attend.

Recognition:

Tonight, the School Board and I would like to recognize Pocono Mountain East High School senior, Brett Wagner. Brett is the first East High School golfer to qualify for the PIAA State Golf Championship. Mr. Brian Fitzpatrick, the East High School golf coach is here with Brett and his parents. Throughout the Fall golf season, Brett was a medalist in every match, earning first place in each match. Brett's season average for competitions was 72, even par.