

Superintendent's Student & Staff Accomplishments September 20, 2023

PM East High School Update: Sixty-six Pocono Mountain East High School seniors participated in a senior sunrise event on Friday, September 8th. Seniors gathered at the Cardinal stadium at 5:30 a.m. to make connections with their classmates and enjoy the beautiful sunrise, Krispy Kreme donuts and Panera Bagels. Ms. Allhouse, Ms. Defazio, Ms. Shanaberger, Mr. Gilroy and Mrs. Toleno enjoyed making some great memories with the seniors.

Leader Academy: East High School Peer Support students are partnering with Chick-Fil-A again this year in the Chick-Fil-A Leader Academy. The kick-off event for the 23-24 Chick-Fil-A Leader Academy took place after school on September 19th. Students participated in leadership activities and enjoyed chicken sandwich meals from Chick-Fil-A. Students are excited about the opportunities offered through Leader Academy.

Meet Your Teacher Night: East High School hosted Meet Your Teacher Night on September 19th. Parents enjoyed the opportunity to meet their child's teacher and gain a better understanding of the concepts their child will learn throughout the school year.

PM West High School Update: Pocono Mountain West High School senior, Ayden Rowe, was named a National Merit Scholar semi-finalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for his high school academic record and his performance on SATs. Congratulations to Adyen for earning this accolade.

Athlife Update: Forty West High School Athlife athletes went to Clear Run Intermediate School to participate in their Kick-Off PRIDE Carnival on Friday, September 15th.

Prowling Panthers Opening Day Efforts: The Prowling Panthers from West High School traveled to CRIS on Wednesday, August 30th to play music and help welcome the students into the new school year.

PM East Junior HS Project ABLE: On Monday, September 18th, Project ABLE came to East Junior High School to start off the school year. Project ABLE stands for "Acceptance By Learning Experience." The Project ABLE

event enabled participants to increase their knowledge and experience with various disabilities by setting up a series of stations that simulated particular disabilities. Participants progressed through each station to learn about and become sensitized to some of the barriers encountered by persons with disabilities. Participants experienced simulated disabilities in the areas of mobility loss; manual dexterity challenges; visual disabilities; and learning differences. This interactive, hands-on experience goes to the heart of the E in PRIDE, empathy. One student involved commented that "It really made me see how hard it is to have a learning disability, or to just not be able to use my hands and legs." The rest of the 7th grade will have this experience next week.

Swiftwater Elementary Center Update: Swiftwater Elementary Center is proud to announce that for the 2023-2024 school year, the following intramural clubs will be available for our students. They include: Little Cardinals Book Club, SEC Computer Club, Books and Braids, SEC Kindness Club, SEC News, SEC Rockstars and the SEC Media and Yearbook Club. Many students will have the opportunity to join these clubs to enhance their school experience. Club advisors have planned many activities for SEC students to enjoy. SEC hopes to partner with other buildings to serve its school community in a variety of ways.

Specialty Committees: Swiftwater Elementary Center's Staff Specialty Committees are up and running for the 2023-2024 school year. Recently, the School Wide Positive Behavior Support Committee met to discuss a variety of programs to benefit our students. One area the SEC School Wide Committee is focusing on is "safety on the school bus." SEC and Swiftwater Intermediate School partnered in developing a variety of incentives for students grades K-6 in both buildings. This initiative will start with making positive connections with bus drivers and sharing a system using positive behavior cards with students making safe choices on the school bus. A meeting was held with representatives from SIS, SEC and East Transportation to discuss goals for the school year. A bus driver social will be planned to connect with the schools' bus drivers. SEC and the district are looking forward to a safe and successful school year.