

## Superintendent's Student & Staff Accomplishments May 15, 2024

**West High School Update:** The Pocono Mountain West Symphonic Band participated in a Pennsylvania Music Educators Association- Music Performance Assessment (MPA) at East Stroudsburg North High School on April 25th. The band performed their repertoire for a panel of judges and then were judged on how well they read a piece of music for the first time. The band received the highest rating of Superior in both categories.

Jazz Festival: The Pocono Mountain West Jazz Ensemble participated in the Delaware Valley High School Jazz Festival on May 3rd and won an award for having the Best Saxophone Section. Junior Nicholas Gesualdi also received an 'Outstanding Soloist' award for his alto saxophone feature of the song *My Funny Valentine*.

MCTI West Students of the Quarter: The following West students were identified as outstanding students of the quarter at MCTI: freshmen Adam Elias and Davin Egan, sophomore Melissa Lovell, senior Daniel Juchnicki, junior Jaidy Funes Solis, and sophomores Sarrinna Longos, and Matthew Friedman.

Law Day Creativity Contest: Two West High School students were selected by the Monroe County Bar Association Law Day Committee as recipients of awards for this year's Law Day Creativity Contest. Congratulations to sophomore Addison Nat, who was awarded Second Place for her color pencil drawing, and senior Kayla Bonsenor who was awarded Third Place for her digital illustration.

**Great Music News from East Junior High School:** The East Junior High School Cardinal Carolers and Glenwood Jazz Ensemble performed at the "First Fridays" event in Mount Pocono on Friday, May 3rd. This event was put on by the Borough, where the community was invited to attend and enjoy free food and great music.

The East Junior High School Glenwood Jazz Ensemble also was adjudicated at East High School on May 11th. They performed and competed with high school bands from around North East Pennsylvania. The Ensemble received a rating of Outstanding. Dr. Wetzel from Moravian University was quoted as saying, "I am very impressed with the power and consistency of your sound, especially for junior high musicians!"

The East Junior High School Cardinal Carolers will be performing at the "Spring into Happiness" event at Citizens Bank in Mount Pocono this Saturday, May 18th at 12:50 p.m.

**East High School Update:** Congratulations to East High School junior, William Sobolewski for winning 3rd Place in The High School Esports League Spring 2024 Tournament for Super Smash Brothers Ultimate. This was a National level tournament and William competed in the Platinum Bracket against the NCCA Rookies from Newton College and Career Academy in Covington, Georgia.

Volleyball All Star: Congratulations to East High School Junior Class President Nick Ingrassia. Nick was named as one of the EPC Boys Volleyball 3rd Team All-Stars. This is the first All-Star recipient in the school's volleyball program history.

**Unified Track Championship:** The East High Unified Track Team recently captured the Greater Lehigh Valley - Pocono Region Conference Championship. The team earned a spot in the

Regional Championships at Daniel Boone High School on Wednesday May 15th. Congratulations to Coach Marianne Paige and these super athletes and coaches.

Seniors Jada Harris, Latrell Washington, Grace Farley and Oliva Dudley have all been on the team since the first season of competition in the spring of 2021.

### **Tobyhanna Elementary Center Envirothon Champs:**

Tobyhanna Elementary Center Envirothon teams once again won the 5th & 6th grade Monroe County Junior Envirothon

1st Place went to TEC's: Cactus Makes Perfect team, and 2nd Place went to TEC's Handy Hampsters team. TEC's Easy Treesy won the Invasive Plants competition, Handy Hampsters won the Trees competition, and Cactus Makes Perfect won in Ponds and in the Animals competitions.

**West Junior High One School One Book:** West Junior High School is working on their first ever One School One Book Initiative and coming together to read the book, *Restart* by Gordon Korman. The story is about a boy who's been a bully and hanging out with the wrong friends gets a new start after a memory-loss-inducing accident. But can someone really change who he is, or will the old him merely come back over time? Together the school is reading through chapters and answering daily trivia questions as they go along.

### **Swiftwater Elementary Center supports East Mini-Thon:**

Swiftwater Elementary Center is proud to share that in 2019, SEC started their Mini-Mini THON. This year, the staff and students participated in a dress up day to kick off the Quarters for the Kids drive. On Monday, May 6th students and staff members dressed in Hawaiian themed clothes to mirror the theme that the East High School used for their Mini Thon. During the week, students could vote with quarters for the staff members to get a whipped cream

pie in the face. The staff members with the three heaviest containers were Ms. Desiree Brown, Mr. Jared Krehely, and Officer Joe Surovcik. Each of these volunteers got a whipped cream pie in the face by a very special SEC kindergarten student.

This year SEC raised \$1,434.70 that was donated to the East High School's Mini Thon. In six years, SEC has raised an incredible \$7,410.53. Thank you to the SEC School Community.

**Additional Report:** Dr. Sweeney, and Clear Run Intermediate School Principal Amy Haynes and Teacher Jason Smith are here to discuss the new Purple Star Schools program.