

Superintendent's Student & Staff Accomplishments November 6, 2024

PSBA Student Performances: Congratulations to the three Pocono Mountain School District student music ensembles that were selected to perform at the PASA-PSBA Leadership Conference last month. East High School's Sax to the Max ensemble under the direction of Timothy Eick; West High School's Prowling Panthers under the direction of Jeffrey Mark; and East Junior High's Glenwood Jazz Ensemble under the direction of William Bock, entertained conference attendees from school district's across Pennsylvania. We are very proud of our very talented student musicians for their outstanding musical performances at the Leadership Conference.

West High School Esports: In West High School Esports news, the District 1 PIEA Smash Brothers Team of Joseph Kulick, Te'Jon Stewart, Logan Denmon, Quinton Abbot, and Michael Oke defeated Canon McMillian on October 24th by a score of 3-2. Canon McMillian has been ranked #1 in the state in Smash Brothers for the past 3 years. This is a huge victory for the West High Esports team. Congratulations to the team and team Esports adviser, Corinne Long.

Pride of the Mountain Game: Congratulations to the Pocono Mountain West Panthers on winning the Pride of the Mountain Football game on October 25. It was a great game. Both the Panthers and the Pocono Mountain East Cardinals played hard. The Panthers will keep the Pride of the Mountain Trophy at West until next year's matchup.

East High School DAV Field of Flags: Pocono Mountain East High School raised \$525 for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Field of Flags program. Each year, DAV assists over a million veterans in significant and transformative ways. In-person

assistance on military bases nationwide—helping transitioning veterans access benefits and successfully reintegrate into civilian life. Job fairs, hosted online and across the country, connect veterans with employers, tools, resources, and opportunities. DAV also works to connect homeless and at-risk veterans with care, benefits, and employment opportunities. Our School to Work class assisted by Mrs. Paige and Mr. Greeley planted 60 flags to commemorate our veterans.

Special Evening Presentation: The Pocono Mountain School District Special Education Department is hosting a Family Engagement Night on “This(Dis)Ability,” on November 7th, in the East High School Auditorium, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The presenter is Ben Hartranft, who will share his story and perspective on his life with Autism. This is a presentation you don’t want to miss. It is meaningful for everyone, but especially parents of students of all ages, who are on the Autism Spectrum. The event will include a Community Resources Table.

Veterans Day Message: Veterans Day is on Monday, so I wanted to take a moment to recognize and honor the veterans who are part of our PMSD family and those across the nation. Thank you for your service and all of the sacrifices you have made to keep America safe. We are honored to have so many veterans in our PMSD Community.

Our schools have a number of Veterans Day activities and observances planned to help students honor veterans and better understand the significance of the many sacrifices our veterans make on our behalf. The Veterans Day activities and observances at our schools begin Thursday and continue through Veterans Day on Monday, November 11th. Thank you to all of our veterans.

Additional Report: Amy Buffington, the Director of Curriculum & Instruction: Social Studies & Humanities, is here with us tonight to provide a presentation to the Board on the educational platform Magic School. We have a team of five teachers in the district who are currently using the Magic School platform.