

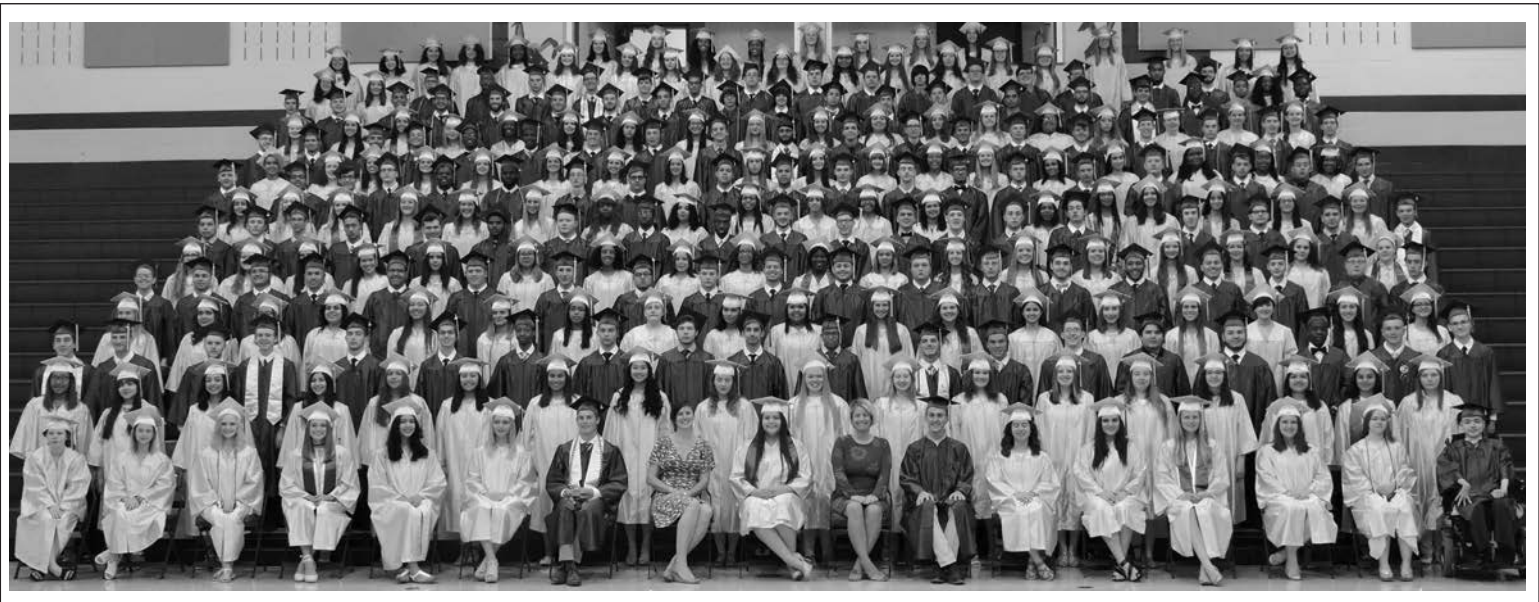


LAURELDALE, PA

SUMMER 2017

**MUHLENBERG
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

news



Congratulations Muhlenberg High School Class of 2017!

Commencement for the graduating Class of 2017 was held on June 6, 2017 at the Santander Arena. The 310 graduates in the Class of 2017 have excelled in academics, athletics, the arts, and community service. The Class of 2017 has earned 3.7 million dollars in scholarship monies to various universities and colleges across the United States. More than 80% of this graduating class will be attending universities, colleges, community colleges, technical and trades school, or the military. 37% of the Class of 2017 are first generation college students. 27% of the Class of 2017 attended the Reading/Muhlenberg Career and Technical Center. More than half of the seniors who attended RMCTC will be entering the workforce in the area in which they studied over the last three years.

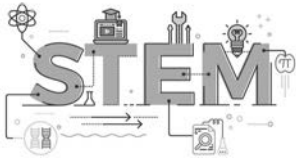
On behalf of the administration and faculty of Muhlenberg High School, we wish the Class of 2017 the very best as they enter this new chapter of their lives.



Dr. Joseph Macharola
Superintendent
 610-921-8000, Ext. 1271
 macharolaj@mail.muhsdk12.org

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MSD Programs Generate Excitement!

Dear Muhlenberg School District Community Members:

Our traditional school year has come to a close with an incredible celebration of our outstanding children. This celebration is clearly defined on the front page of our newsletter with the Class of 2017. Our students will embark into a society filled with excitement, and quite frankly, unknowns that may shape their journey in life. I am sharing with you an emphasis on the District's mission and responsibility to generate tools so our children are successful. This edition of our newsletter clearly shows the growth and emergence of programs and strategies, both new and revised, which are designed to promote positivity with emotional, mental and physical growth.

We, as a community, must embrace change from a local view point to a global perspective. This change is reflective with emerging programs such as our first year literacy program, *Wonders*, and with the completion and selection of a new math program, *enVision!* We will be entering into a newly directed pilot for the 2017-2018 school year which will engage teachers and students in science! Our high school will embark on new experiences with the United States Air Force and a competitive JROTC Program. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) strategies with hands-on experience for our children are now creatively woven into K-12 curricula. We

have invested in technology in our district resulting in one-hundred and eleven 21st Century Classrooms which are now fitted with the tools to guide instruction. Our goal is to have every necessary classroom equipped with these learning tools. Additionally, a pilot summer food service program will provide our youngsters with options and choices to promote healthy living and good nutrition. Our vision for the future is challenging and meaningful.

Your support, as a community, for our school district is greatly appreciated and valued as we address powerful expectations and learning opportunities for our children. Your children are the most important part of all of our lives. Together we will continue to focus on developing the mind, heart, and soul of our children. I wish you the very best within the spirit of the Muhlenberg School District.

Dr. Joseph Macharola
SUPERINTENDENT



Pictured left to right: Adam Gress, Benny Espinal, Hunter Mikosz, Edwin Velasco, Kylie Bibbus, Erin Franklin, Dylan Lewis, Allie Hoff, Sabrina Avanzato, Aneudy Melendez, Kaylee Olivas, Katelyn Boyer, Deandrah Rodriguez, and Nicholas Spease

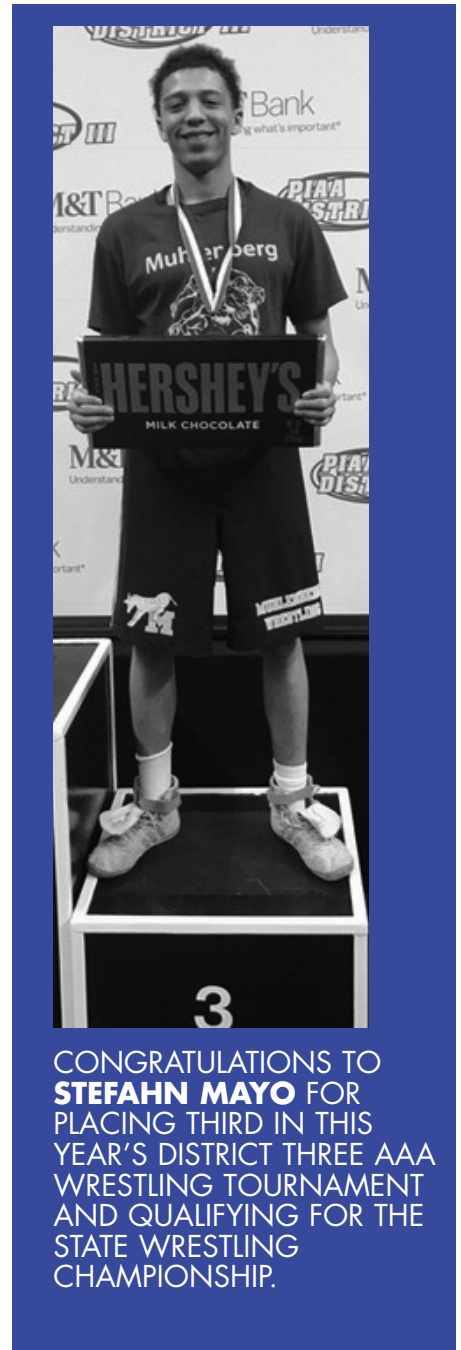
Spring College Fair 2017

Approximately 75 juniors took advantage of the opportunity to attend the 25th Annual Spring Berks County

**MUHLENBERG
HIGH SCHOOL**

College Fair on March 7, 2017. This trip was available to all juniors at MHS. The students rode the bus to Alvernia University to meet with more than 110 colleges and universities. They were equipped with questions to

ask college representatives and with a list of the colleges that would be represented. The students had the opportunity to speak to the college representatives in order to start creating a list of the colleges that they would be interested in applying to early in their senior year. At this point, the juniors should be making a list of schools that they would like to visit.



CONGRATULATIONS TO STEFAHN MAYO FOR PLACING THIRD IN THIS YEAR'S DISTRICT THREE AAA WRESTLING TOURNAMENT AND QUALIFYING FOR THE STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

THE 14TH ANNUAL MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL MULTI-CLASS REUNION

THE CLASSES OF THE FIFTIES, SIXTIES, SEVENTIES AND EIGHTIES:

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017 AT THE
EVERGREEN COUNTRY CLUB
FROM 12 NOON UNTIL CLOSING, \$3.00 COVER**

Need more information?

Contact: Sue (Deprill) Crupi 610-777-3875 or scrupi@aol.com
Bill or Jeanne Sandel 610-921-2620

Women's Day Breakfast Meeting

Students attended the March 8, 2017 Women's Day Breakfast meeting with the World Affairs Council featuring a panel discussion on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) and

MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math). The panelists were Julia Vicente, Superintendent, Wyomissing School District; Andi Funk, CEO, Cambridge Lee; Lisa Frye,

Wyomissing Area Superintendent
Julia Vicente with **Andrea Ponce**.



Left to right: **Isys Goodman**, **Luisa Suarez**, Kutztown University Chair **Lisa Frye**, and **Andrea Ponce**.

Chair of Computer Sciences and IT, Kutztown University; and Shruti Modi, Manager of Data Platforms, Penske Truck Leasing. After their discussion on women, science, technology, education and the workforce, students had the opportunity to ask the panel questions. Muhlenberg students asked excellent questions about museums and technology and about the struggles for women in their respective careers.



Third grader **Paige Heckler**, posing for the green screen.

The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo was the selected text all students K-4 read throughout Muhlenberg Elementary Center as part of *One School, One Book* this year. A plethora of

MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER

clues were added to a display case outside the LGI room to get students excited about the book. The clues included items related to the text such as a mouse, a crown, soup bowl, spoon, a princess, a spool of red thread, and sewing needle. In addition to classroom read alouds, K-4 teachers incorporated character education lessons into their Morning Meeting sessions with all students centered around topics relating to the text.

During the Read Across America Literacy Event held on March 2, 2017, the Reading Department concluded *One School, One Book*

Experience Engineering

On Friday, February 24, 2017, middle school Technology Education Teacher **Mr. Shane Shaffer** accompanied a group of 9th Grade Engineering students to Penn State Berks to participate in “Experience Engineering,” an annual

MUHLENBERG
MIDDLE SCHOOL

program celebrating Engineering Week. Muhlenberg Middle School students, along with students from several other Berks county schools, toured the Gaige Technology and Business Innovation Building and observed a robotics competition between undergraduate Engineering students. The highlight of the afternoon was an activity facilitated by **Peggy Condon-Vance**, Instructor in Engineering, where our students successfully programed a Lego Mindstorms EV3 Robot to navigate a prescribed course.



Top Row (Left to Right): **Matt Commons, Dylan Correll, Dakota Yeager, Ryan Light, Ryan Abadam, Moz Mokhtarzada, Erick Sanjuan**
Bottom Row (Left to Right): **Amy Nguyen, Mike Eberhart, Nate Perez, Adam Hiller, Cameron Gring, Avery Landrum, Kim Munoz, Waasae Ayyaz, Mr. Shaffer**



Third graders **Giavanna Santarelli** and **Gabrielle Swoyer**, practicing their weaving skills.

with various activities related to the text. Families were able to rotate to each of the activities throughout the evening. **Mr. Carey Kline** and **Mrs. Sherry Hoffman** (Food Services) prepared numerous tasty mouse treats for families. Two of the delectable treats were *Princess Pea's Blueberry Soup* and *Despereaux Gazpacho*. To go along with the tasty treats, students selected one

of the many books written by **Kate DiCamillo** to take home!

In another room, families learned to weave their own paper tapestry. Several local artists from the GoggleWorks and Reading High were on hand to show off their weaving skills and answer questions. Another activity included **Dylan Moyer** and **Haley Gardner** sharing their knowledge about rats and mice. Dylan and Haley are Muhlenberg High School students from **Mr. Rob Wolfe's** Science Club.

Next, families went on a Castle Quest around the world to check out various castles. In addition, families learned intriguing facts about author Kate DiCamillo and discovered how to launch an author study. The Muhlenberg Community Children's Librarian **Mrs. Jacki Clark**, shared programs and activities available for families. The highlight of the evening was getting a photo taken with a crown, mouse, or spoon prop using a green screen. What a magnificent way to promote literacy at MEC!



Kindergartener **Parker Collins**, checking out his new book by **Kate DiCamillo**.

2017 *Secondary Art Exhibit Winners*

Every year the Muhlenberg High School art teachers take a few students and a van full of art work to the GoggleWorks

MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

Center for the Arts in downtown Reading to set up a display of student artists' creations. All Berks County high schools participate in the Annual Berks County Intermediate Unit Secondary Art Exhibit, which was open from February 24–March 12, 2017. This county-wide participation results in more than 1,000 pieces of artwork in a variety of fine art and craft categories being submitted and displayed in the GoggleWorks galleries. It is an honor to receive any recognition from this highly competitive show and the art department is very proud to announce this year's winners:

Hugo Ramos: Honorable Mention: Black and White Photography

Zairea Sailer: 2nd place: Watercolor

Zairea Sailer: 3rd place: Watercolor

Megan Lam: Honorable Mention: Oils

Megan Lam had the additional exciting honor of being the recipient of the overall FINE ART AWARD for the entire exhibit! This is an incredible achievement and the art department congratulates Megan, Zairea, and Hugo along with all of our artists for another outstanding display at the BCIU Secondary Art Exhibit.



Zairea Sailer
Watercolor



Megan Lam
*Overall Fine Art Award/
Oils*





2nd Annual Harry Potter Night

Olympic Readers Club (ORC) held their second annual Harry Potter Night on February 10, 2017. It was another success with fun had by all

MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

who attended. Filled with magic, this event was open to students from all Muhlenberg schools. Many students were dressed in their house robes or as their favorite character! There were a variety of things to do that were Harry Potter themed, such as: getting sorted into your Hogwarts house, drinking potions, creating handmade wands, and tasting wizard food! For all the chess lovers, Mr. Collins was there to play students in a magical game of wizard's chess. The Hogwarts library had books for rent or to purchase, but Bellatrix LeStrange (aka **Mrs. Wenzel!**) was seen lurking around there all

Front row: Miss Searfoss (advisor), Emmanuella Dely, Sarah Manderbach, Rachel Gingrich, Gabby Morgalo, Angelica Lemus-Hernandez, Katie Huey, and Derek Morales
Middle row: Emma Smith, Deandrah Rodriguez, Corrine Little, Luisa Suarez, Natalie Fenner, and Megan Lam
Back row: Christian Hafer, Kevin Mayen, Zak Yakaitis, and Alex Gutierrez

night! Rita Skeeter (aka **Miss Searfoss**) was seen slinking in the corner with a quick quotes quill! "There were so many people making wands!" reported Professor Trelawney (ORC member **Rachel Gingrich**) "and the sorting table was swamped!" commented Moaning Myrtle (ORC member **Sarah Manderbach**).

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix played on the big screen and though the competition was fierce, **Nathan Taylor** won the costume contest! This fundraiser was held for the club to participate in the 4th annual Reading Olympics

competition on April 25, 2017 held at the BCIU; and, in hopes of attending a book fair in New York. Everyone involved had a wonderful time, and the ORC did a fantastic job and raised \$750! "There was so much to do, and everyone seemed to be having a great time. Students and even parents were asking if we were having one next year!" ORC president **Gabby Morgalo** said. Everyone is already excited for Harry Potter Night next year which is tentatively scheduled for February 16, 2018. Hope you can join in on the magic!

Chemistry Collaboration

Eager chemistry aficionados from C. E. Cole Intermediate School and Muhlenberg Middle School had the incredible opportunity this year to collaborate with chemistry students from Muhlenberg High School to prepare for the annual “You Be the Chemist

MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL + C.E. COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Challenge,” held at Penn State University, Berks Campus, on March 4, 2017.

Fifth graders, **Jairo Alcaraz, Isabella Coello, Elijah Foster, Alaina Heffner, Nathan Ramkissoon** and **Mason Zona**, as well as sixth graders, **Sarah Love, Shirley Smith** and **Brenna Wike**, studied and worked under the direction of **Mrs. Jarra Dennis** and high school students, **Owen Green, Dylan Okonski, Bhaavana Oruganty, Amanda Pilat, Emily Seisler, Tiffany Torres** and **Cristian Valdez**. Additionally, seventh graders, **Adrianna Aziz, Timothy Dietrich, Kyle Hernandez** and **Nhi Nguyen**, also traversed to Muhlenberg High School and worked under the direct



You Be The Chemist

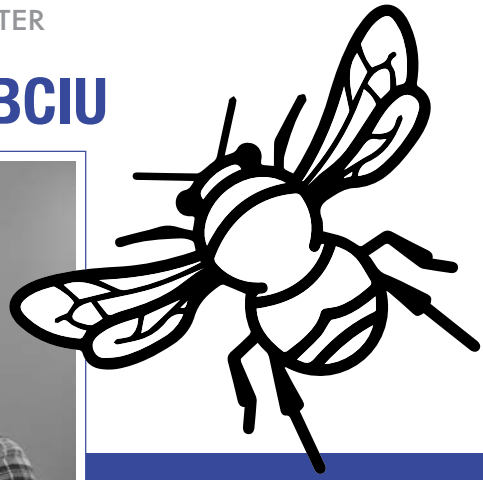


Nhi Nguyen
You be The Chemist 2017 Champion

tutelage of chemistry students, **Corinne Little, Sarah Manderbach** and **Brooke Reinhart**, to prepare for the challenge, which was sponsored by Brenntag North America, Inc. for the eleventh consecutive year in Berks County.

The chemistry protégés were required to take a qualifying exam in which the top four scorers from C. E. Cole Intermediate School and the top four scorers from Muhlenberg Middle School were to compete in the official challenge held at Penn State Berks. The students represented with gusto during the intense competition at the Perkins Student Center. Everyone was elated and cheered as Muhlenberg Middle School eighth grader, Nhi Nguyen, became the champion! Nhi moved on to represent Berks at the state competition held on April 29, 2017 at Penn State University, State College. Bravo and excelsior to all participants!

Governor's STEM Competition at BCIU



MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL



Left to right: **Stephanie Ruiz, Jonathan Heinz, Madelyn Cave, Maria Aguado, and Jacob Walter** seated behind prototypes of their "Safe-Bee" Transportation Devices.

The Muhlenberg STEM team comprised of **Maria Aguado, Madelyn Cave, Jonathan Heinz, Stephanie Ruiz, and Jacob Walter** entered into the 2016-2017 Governor's STEM competition. The directive this year was to "solve a problem in Pennsylvania using the STEM approach." Each group was given a stipend of \$500 to use in any way they deemed appropriate.

The STEM team chose to build a device that would attract bees using organic materials, house the bees for a

brief amount of time, and ultimately transport the bees from unwanted areas to be released in a less stressful environment. Their prototype of a "Safe Bee" Transportation Device was made from re-purposed materials (recycled) and had no cost attributed to it. For that reason the team was able to donate \$500 to a local bee keeping business located in Berks County, which ended up being a very unique and thoughtful idea to bring to the competition.

Outstanding Overall Program Award

For the first time, this year Muhlenberg Middle School was given the opportunity to compete in the "What's So Cool About Manufacturing" video

18 other schools from Berks and Schuylkill counties who also submitted videos for the contest.

MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL

contest held by *Dream It Do It PA*. A team of six students, **Graciella Morales, Taryn Plum, Emily Kohl, Edward Scheck, Ben McLeish, and Chris Doung**, advised by teachers **Ashlan Luft** and **Joshua Grannetino**, took the trophy this year for Outstanding Overall Program. This highest honor was given to them at the awards ceremony held at the Santander Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, March 7. More than 600 people attended the event, including

In October, Muhlenberg Middle School was paired with *Appeeling Fruit*, a local manufacturing company; and since then the team has edited over three hours of footage and condensed it into a three-minute video. This video helps give a modern view of what manufacturing is today. All contest videos, including Muhlenberg's, can still be viewed on the *Dream It Do It PA's* website dreamitdoitpa.com.

Congratulations to all of the students involved in earning this award!





Left to right: Tyus Tisdale, Saul Sanjuan, John Mora, Benny Espinal, Taylor Kauffman, Everett Hole, and Aaron Alphee



Left to right; Margaret Blatt, Bethany Stern, Alyssa Colsher, Calista Paolina, Claudia Smith, Sabrina Avanzato, Olivia Andrews, Kylie Bibbus, and Emily Nguyen.

High School Students Network with Professionals

On March 10, 2017, nine young ladies and seven young men from Muhlenberg High School attended the Annual Youth

MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

Leadership Program, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce at PSU-Berks. The students had the pleasure of hearing the Keynote Speaker **John Gilmore**, and were able to get some “Gilmore nuggets” to help them be successful.

Approximately 100 professionals from the county were in attendance. This conference offered the opportunity for young men and women to learn more about their chosen career path by attending breakout sessions with professionals in their career choice. Sessions on *Real World Challenges*, *Financial Aid*, *Personal Finance*, and *Finding Success in Failure* were some of the sessions that the students attended. The conference encourages young men and women to pursue their goals.



Gifts Galore & More Craft Fair
Saturday, October 21, 2017
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
MUHLENBERG SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Sharp and Frances St., Laureldale, PA

FREE ADMISSION

Looking for Crafters and Vendors
For more information, email: muwcraft@gmail.com

Held in conjunction with the
Muhlenberg Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast
Served from 7 to 11 a.m. in the Muhlenberg Sr. High School Cafeteria



SOCIAL MEDIA AGE RESTRICTIONS

Minimum age to open an account on **Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, ooVoo, Kik, and Snapchat** is 13.

Minimum age to open an account for **Vine, Tinder, and Yik Yak** is 17.

YouTube requires account holders to be 18, but a 13-year-old can sign up with a parent's permission.

Xbox Live requires account holders to be 18, but people younger than 18 can sign up with a parent's permission

Protect Your Kids Online

“Raise your hand if you have a cell phone, tablet, or video game system in your house,” **Pennsylvania State Trooper Megan Richards** asked a group of students from C. E. Cole Intermediate School. All twenty-nine hands in the group went up. This scenario repeated nineteen more times as Trooper Richards met with each fifth and sixth grade class at C. E. Cole. “The reality is, kids have devices that connect to the

C.E.COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Internet and if they are not careful they can put themselves at risk,” Trooper Richards explains. As adults, we have taught our children not to open the front door for strangers, but online, there is a false sense of security and often our kid's ‘friend’ online is someone they do not know and they allow them access to their personal lives online.

On Thursday, February 23, 2017, family members gathered at C. E. Cole Intermediate School to discuss with Trooper Richards ways to help protect our kids when they are online. Trooper Richards explained how technology addiction is as real as alcohol and drug addiction. When someone uses a drug, the brain releases a chemical called dopamine, which causes a reaction in the body that feels good and makes the user want to go back for more. The same areas in the brain are triggered when using electronics and the chemical

dopamine is released, making the user become ‘addicted’ to that feeling. In many ways, for children, the use of electronics can create patterns of addiction that follow them into adulthood.

Trooper Richards identified that the Federal Government has guidelines to protect children online. The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) governs websites and other online services and, in most cases, the user **MUST BE 13 YEARS OLD**. Sites like Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, ooVoo, Kik, Tumblr, and online gaming systems have User Agreements that note a minimum age of 13 for users. Parents and guardians ensuring that this age limit is enforced will reduce incidents of online bullying, intentional and accidental exposure to pornography, and threats to student safety from Internet predators. Protecting kids online is everyone's responsibility. If you have questions about how to protect your kids online, email Pennsylvania State Trooper Megan Richards at megrichard@pa.gov.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

2017 Working With Young Children Practicum

Students carrying top grades in Muhlenberg High School's Family and Consumer Science course, *Parenting and Working with Young Children*, earned them the right to participate in this year's culminating practicum at Muhlenberg Elementary Center.

This was the highly anticipated experience that put

**MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL
+ ELEMENTARY CENTER**

learning into practice, as several teachers from the elementary center allowed these high school students to become "apprentice teachers" for the day. Studied skills became real experiences that influenced these "future teachers" deeply. Said **Shawn Castillo** (one of the HS participants), "Afterward, I just couldn't get those kids off my mind!"

This rewarding experience could not have been possible without the constant encouragement of **MHS Principal Mr. Michael Mish**; the awesome hospitality of **MEC Principal Mr. Steven Baylor**, and the generous work of mega-talented MEC host teachers: **Ms. Jill McIntyre**, **Ms. Laurie Smith**, **Ms. Jessica Gunter**, **Ms. Katie Bertolet**, **Ms. Jaclyn Bellanca**, **Ms. Virginia Hornberger**, **Ms. Ashley Hyneman**, **Ms. Cristina Giampietro**, **Ms. Shannon Painter**, **Ms. Cathy Liszcz**, **Ms. Laurie Vlasak**, **Ms. Kelly Barbon**, **Ms. Morgan Snyder**, and **Ms. Catherine Leonhard**.



Shawn Castillo, Alante Bell, Jaylyn Claude, Gabriella Rojas, Anina Bell, Allysa Colsher, Janell Rhodes, Adiana Medina, Essence Figueroa and Casey Forrer prepare to tackle a day of assistant teaching at MEC.



Gabriella Rojas, grade 12, lunched with **Ms. Liszcz** in first grade.



Alante Bell, grade 11 was hosted by **Ms. McIntyre's** kindergarten class.



Anina Bell, grade 12, was hosted by **Ms. Smith's** kindergarten class. L to R **Sophia Klemm, Jayliss Medina, and Syriah McDonald**



Alyssa Colsher, grade 11, worked with Ms. Bertolet in second grade. Starting from Miss Colsher: **Emma Neuheimer**, **Skylah Kreider**, **Trishonna Slaughter**. Moving to the left side of the table: **Zachary Stoudt**, **ZyAsia Boston**, and **Leyla Garcia**.

Jaylyn Claude, grade 12, assisted Ms. Painter with fourth grade. The student is **Dante Fiorvanti**.



Ms. Bellanca's kindergarten class hosted **Casey Forrer**, grade 11. **Jayden Talley**, **Luis Vargas**, **John Coston**, **Jayce Snyder** are also pictured.



Essence Figueroa, grade 12, paired with Ms. Hornberger in fourth grade.

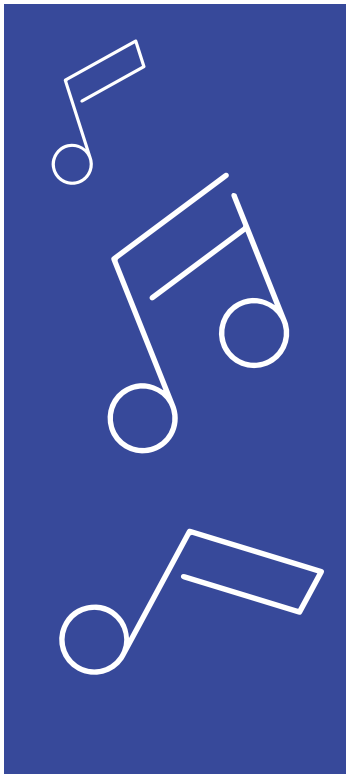


Janell Rhodes, grade 12, assisted Ms. Giampietro in second grade.

Adriana Medina, grade 11, assisted Ms. Hyneman in first grade.



Ms. Gunter in first grade hosted **Shawn Castillo**, grade 11. **Luis Pagan-Ayala**, and **Jaliah Abreu** are working.



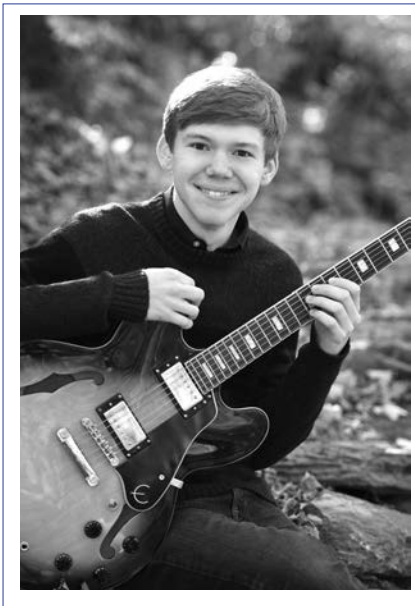
Music Department Honors

2017 has been an outstanding year for students in the MHS Music department! The following students were selected to perform in a number of PMEA sanctioned ensembles: **Julia Mackey, AJ Evans, Joel Evans, Bobby Miller, Skylar Radka, and Noah Rothenberger**. They were selected to perform at Bangor High School with the PMEA District 10 Chorus. Bobby and AJ also went on to the Region V Choral festival at Lehigh Valley Charter Arts School. **Joel Evans** was selected to perform with the PMEA District 10 Orchestra as one of only five percussionists. Joel was also selected to

appear at Oley Valley High School in the PMEA District 10 Jazz Festival. Lastly, **Hannah Shelly, Sarah Soriano** and **Caldonia Carmello**, participated in the

MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

PMEA District 10 Band Festival. Caldonia was selected from that band to participate in the Region V Band Festival at East-Stroudsburg – North High School. Both the Region V band and chorus festivals select their members from a 17 county area. Congratulations to these hard working students!



Meet Pennsylvania State Jazz Band Guitarist, AJ Evans!

Congratulations to **AJ Evans** for being selected by audition to be the guitarist for The Pennsylvania State Jazz Band! AJ, along with students from all around Pennsylvania, traveled to Erie, PA in April to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association annual music festival. AJ is a senior at Muhlenberg High School and plans on going to college to study Music Education with an emphasis in Jazz Studies. In addition to this impressive accomplishment, AJ played in the Berks County All-Star Jazz Band under the direction of **Terrell Stafford** at the Berks Jazz Fest in early April. He has also received solo awards at local jazz festivals with the Muhlenberg Spoilers and he enjoys performing around the community with his six-piece jazz combo, Mambo Combo.

Berks Junior County Chorus and County Band

Berks Junior County Chorus auditions were held at Governor Mifflin High School in February. Sixteen students from MMS were selected for the ensemble: **Brooke Weister** (soprano 1), **Devyne Valentin** (soprano 1) **Alexis Martin** (soprano 2), **Kaiya Bauer** (sopra-

MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL

no 2), **Roxsonna Janiszewski** (soprano 2), **Tiara Best** (alto 1), **Monica Velez** (alto 1), **Adiana Rivera** (alto 2), **Timmy Dietrich** (tenor), **Tyler Setley** (tenor), **Kyle Hernandez** (tenor), **Eric**



C.E. Cole Band Performs at Festival

Nine sixth grade band members from C. E. Cole performed at the Music Educators of Berks County Elementary Band Festival at Oley Valley Middle School on Saturday, March 25. After working on seven songs

C.E. COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

prior to the festival, they rehearsed that day with Guest Conductor **Dr. Scott Watson** for five hours! That afternoon they performed a concert. The participants, nominated by **Mr. Kemmerer** and chosen to play were, **Sarah Love** and **Sierra Shade** on clarinet, **Logan Kimma** on alto sax, **Yasire Hidalgo** on horn, **Michael Zerbe**, **Francesca Kelly**, **Samantha Gantz**, and **Carrie Lash** on trumpet, and **Emmanuel Lorenzo** on percussion.



Left to right. Front row: Michael Zerbe, Carrie Lash, Emmanuel Lorenzo, and Logan Kimma. Back row: Sierra Shade, Yasire Hidalgo, Francesca Kelly, Samantha Gantz, and Sarah Love

Heim (tenor), **Nick DiSabella** (tenor), **Cristian Batista** (tenor), **Darian Bornmann** (bass), and **Ben Murphy-Schmehl** (bass).

Berks Junior County Band auditions were also held in February. Eight students from MMS were selected for the ensemble: **Nhi Nguyen** (flute), **Tiara Best** (clarinet), **Ben Murphy-Schmehl** (alto saxophone), **Benjamin McLeish** (alto saxophone), **Timmy Dietrich**

(French horn) **Quan Hoang** (trombone), **Gabriella Foster** (euphonium), and **Eric Heim** (tuba).

These students represented MMS at the Berks Junior County concert on April 1, 2017 at Kutztown High School. Thank you for your continued support of these students' musical endeavors!



Muhlenberg School District has formed two Girls on the Run (GOTR) teams. One team, fifth and sixth graders, was developed at the C.E. Cole Intermediate School and the other team of third and fourth grade girls is from Muhlenberg Elementary Center. GOTR is an activity-based program for girls, empowering them to learn their potential and boldly pursue their dreams. Through confidence building lessons, a community impact project, and running, these girls set out to achieve their goals and for many, run their first 5k. To learn more about the Girls on the Run program and curriculum please visit the website: www.girlsontherun.org.

MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER +
C.E. COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Girls on the Run

Second Graders: Out of This World

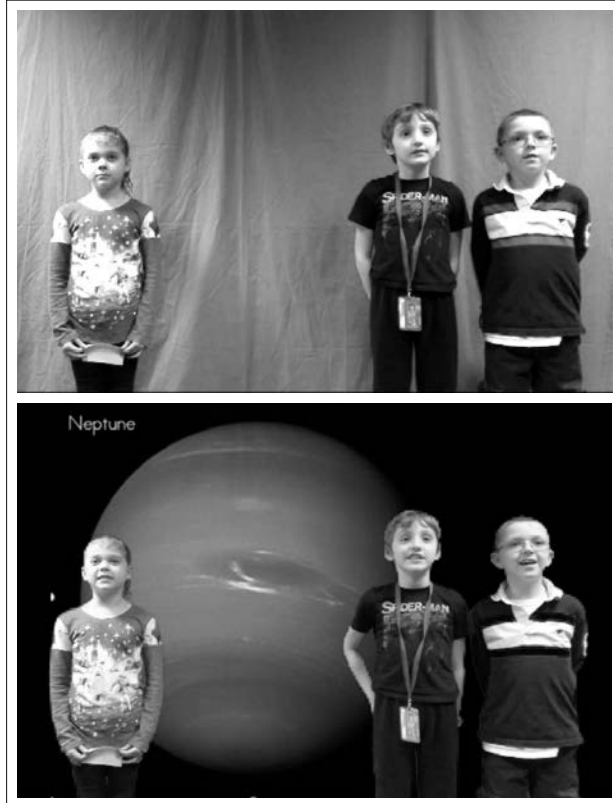
By Katie Bertolet, Jill Owen, and Dani Hettinger

You might wonder what is a green screen? Through the magic of video effects and technology, students were superimposed onto a virtual background. Green screen technology allows movie makers to place actors in fantastic landscapes or even transform the performer's body. Think about movies like

They used different apps and websites to find out more information. They used *Pebble Go*, *Big Universe*, and *Epic* to learn new facts such as their planets' position to the sun, what it looks like, what it's made of, and more. Second graders took their research and typed it on the app, *Book Creator*, accompanied by a picture of their planet.

Next, second graders collaborated with other students who had the same planet to create a script for the taping of the green screen project. Once all scripts were complete, students practiced reading, focusing on the volume of their voice, eye contact, and of course a smile!

Second graders were taped using a green screen program called *Filmora*. Second Graders reported



their facts while 'on' the actual planet! This is just one way second grade students are becoming 21st century learners.

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Forest Gump, *Alice in Wonderland*, and *Star Wars*. Each of these movies used green screen technology to enhance the visual effects.

Students from second grade Engaged Classrooms at MEC completed their own research to find out more about the eight planets in our Solar System as an extension project in our science unit.



One by One Work Day at Family Promise

By **Ana Vasquez**, grade 12 student

It feels good to do good. That's something young kids hear day in and day out. It's an important message to hear, but an even

MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

more important one to experience. *Muhlenberg's One by One Club* experienced it a while back. Run by **Mr. O'Donnell** and president, **Kaylee Roth**, the club meets once a week and works to better the local community and the world. Recently some of their members (including myself) got together to do something great.

After weeks of planning, the students embarked on what would be their first community service project of the year: helping to clean up Family Promise based in Reading, Pennsylvania. For those unfamiliar, Family Promise is essentially a place for homeless individuals to go to get food, unwind after work, and a bed to sleep in. This place has helped numerous families and, is overall, doing amazing things in the community.

However, things were getting understandably messy at Family Promise. The backyard was overgrown and the interior of the building needed some cleaning. So *Muhlenberg's One by One Club* didn't hesitate to get a group of their students together to help in whatever way they could.

Some students worked outside pulling weeds and cutting back bushes to make an outside area for the children who come to Family Promise to play, like all kids should have. Other students worked inside vacuuming and cleaning. Students brought their own supplies from buckets to gloves and worked throughout the afternoon, eating together afterward.

As someone who was there, I can attest that this wasn't work for these high school students. We weren't doing it because we had to and everyone was more than happy to be there. We laughed together and helped an amazing place become even more amazing. It was a time of comradery, coming together to do something good and it felt good. I'm proud of what this club did and feel honored to have been involved. It was awe inspiring to see so many high school students come together for such a great cause. Family Promise is such a beautiful place and I hope that what *Muhlenberg's One by One Club* did helps it shine a little brighter.

8th Grade Team Takes First Place at K'Nex STEM Design Competition

Advisers and students of the 8th grade team. Top row (left to right): Mr. Joshua Grannetino, Mr. Shane Shaffer, and Julian Sharp. Bottom row: Olivia Gehris, Taylor Cooper, and Angie DeCisco.



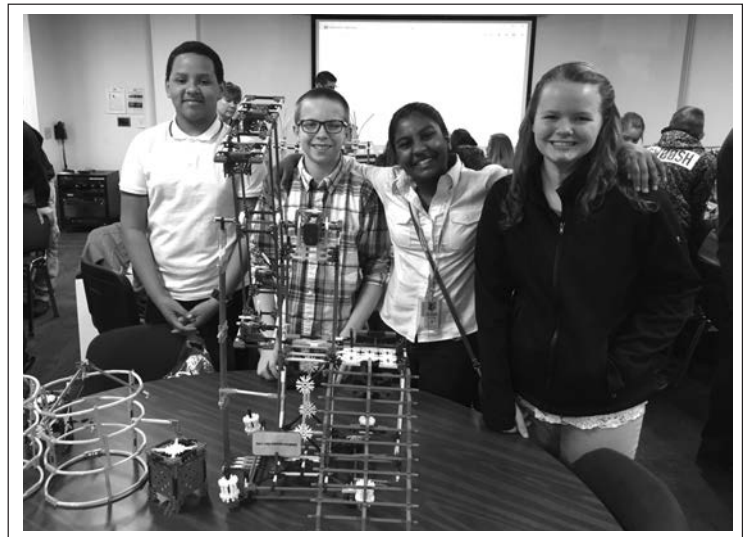
On March 23, two teams of students from Muhlenberg Middle School went to the BCIU for the K'Nex STEM Design Competition. The students on the seventh grade team consisted of

MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL

Blair Cruz, Sara Miller, Sri Oruganty, and Ryan Neuheimer. The eighth grade team were students **Taylor Cooper, Angie DeCisco, Olivia Gehris, and Julian Sharp; Mr. Joshua Grannetino and Mr. Shane Shaffer** advised both teams.

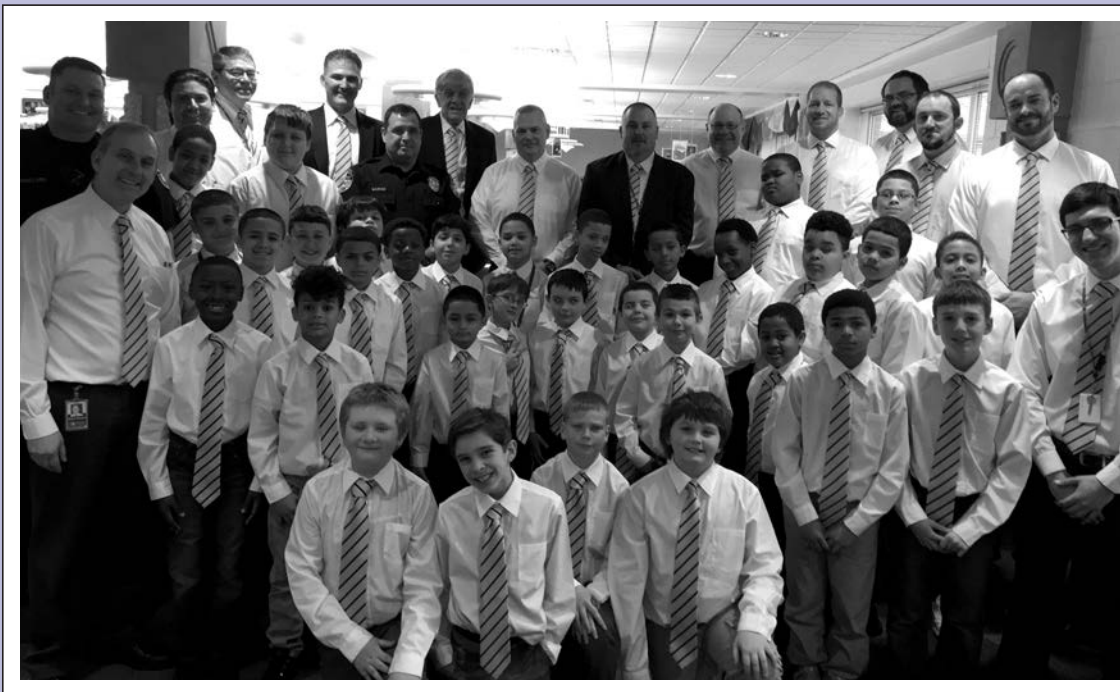
Their challenge was to design, build, and document an amusement park ride out of K'Nex and present it to a panel of judges.

Students of the 7th grade team. Left to right: Blair Cruz, Ryan Neuheimer, Sri Oruganty, and Sara Miller.



These students have been working on this project for the past few months. The seventh grade team finished fourth place, while the eighth grade team placed first out of the 24 teams that competed from other Berks County school districts. Because of their success, the 8th grade team will participate in the state competition held in Harrisburg.

Congratulations to both teams on their accomplishments!



Dapper Dudes

The Dapper Dudes Club at Muhlenberg Elementary Center was established this

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year to help a select group of fourth grade boys develop into young gentlemen who will carry themselves in a positive manner. Over the course of ten weeks, MSD adult male role models taught lessons designed to promote discipline, respect, and responsibility. Lessons focused on excelling academically, learning to set and achieve personal goals through hard work, being accountable

for behavior during school and in the community, making positive choices, and becoming productive members of society. To celebrate the completion of the nine key lessons, the Dapper Dudes and their mentors attended the first annual etiquette banquet at which seven boys received special recognition for leading by example.

Congratulations to **Amari Allen, Tyson Douglas, Miguel Fernandez, Christian Kendall, Stephen Mayo, Anthony Miller, Saul Mingucha, and Jordan Sarita** for excelling as Dapper Dudes.





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EQUIPPING, ENGAGING, EMPOWERING

MISSION: Excellence in Action

VALUES & BELIEFS

Students learn differently.

Students learn best with challenging and relevant curriculum.

Students thrive in a safe learning environment.

Teachers lead learning through passion, perseverance and personality.

Teachers create a culture of high expectations.

Teachers are inspirational role models.

Students, parents and families, the school, the school board, the community and business leaders

create partnerships that drive students success.

An informed and involved learning community is essential to the development of strong educational partnerships and quality programs.

The learning community equips, engages and empowers learners.

VISION STATEMENT

The Muhlenberg School District is committed to guiding all students on a path of excellence with active and purposeful learning experiences, a growing and comprehensive curriculum, collaborative and innovative staff and creative use of technology and resources coupled with an unrelenting desire for success.

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