

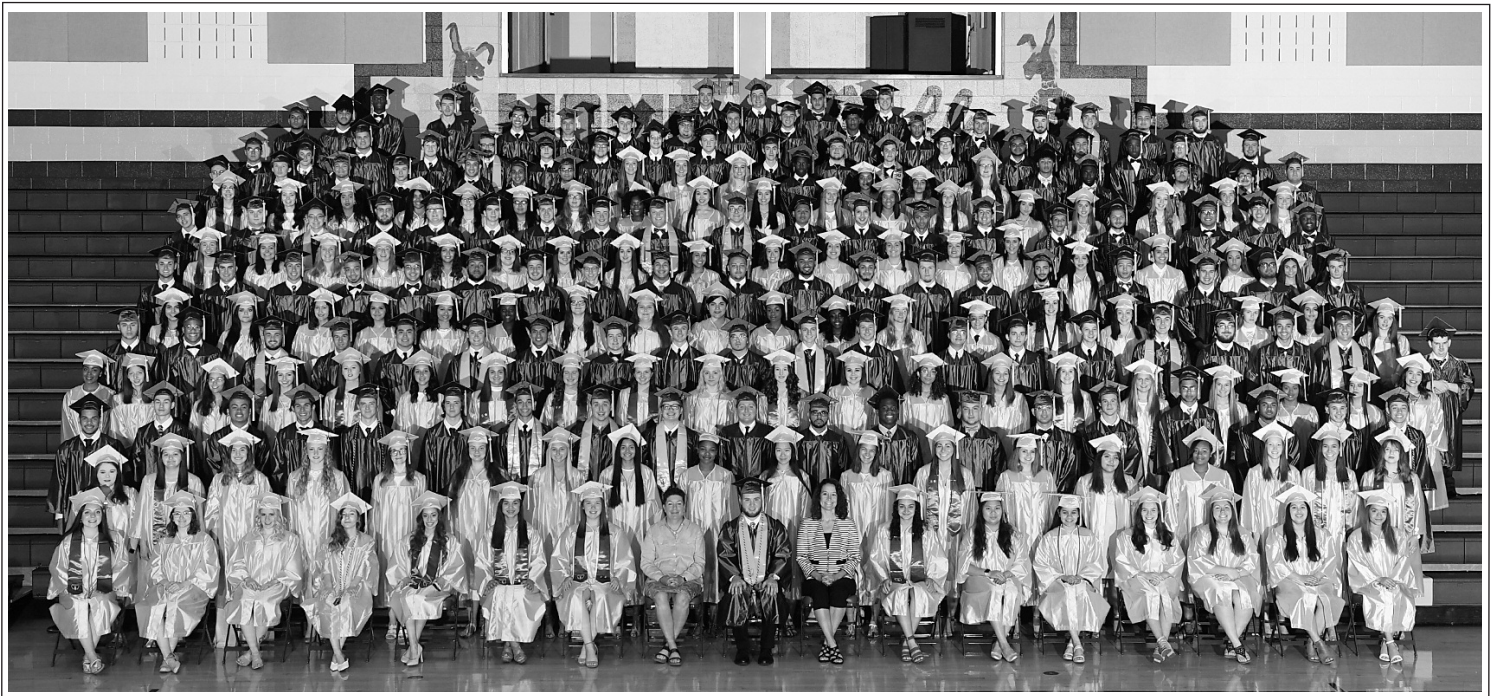


SUMMER 2018

**MUHLENBERG**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**news**

LAURELDALE, PA



## Congratulations Muhlenberg HS Class of 2018

Commencement for the graduating Class of 2018 was held on Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at the Santander Arena. The 285 graduates in the Class of 2018 have excelled in academics, athletics, the arts, and community service. The Class of 2018 has earned 3.1 million dollars in scholarship monies to various universities and colleges across the United States. 81% of this graduating class will be attending universities, colleges, community colleges, technical and trades school, or the military. 41% of the Class of

2018 are first generation college students. 30% of the Class of 2018 attended the Reading Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center. 35% of the seniors who attended RMCTC will be entering the workforce in the area in which they studied over the last 3 years.

On behalf of the administration and faculty of Muhlenberg High School, we wish the Class of 2018 the very best as they enter this new chapter of their lives.



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**Dear Muhlenberg School District Community Members:**

This is an exciting time for the Muhlenberg School District. Our Blueprint for Success and newly introduced Action Plan are generating momentum and results for our children. Projects are being completed and nearing completion across the physical plant of the District. Our renovated Blue Center is now housing our Special Education Department with updated access and efficiency. Additionally, the Technology Department has state-of-the-art offices and resources to serve our growing District. Also, a portion of the Blue Center houses one of the many offices for our Buildings and Grounds staff to provide specific services to efficiently reach each building. Updates and security entrances to the Muhlenberg Middle School and Muhlenberg High School are underway with the Elementary Center slated to begin next year. Currently, the District is introducing new synthetic athletic fields to provide multi-dimensional opportunities for our children in health, physical education, athletics, and the Air Force JROTC program.

Since the *Blueprint for Success* was presented for strategic investment and learning opportunities for our children, and the subsequent *Action Plan* which was updated in May of 2018, a dynamic environment for growth is emerging in our community. You will see in this summer edition incredible stories which are meaningful to the welfare of the mere existence of why we exist. This existence is to empower, promote, and support the children of this magnificent community. Specifically, our first year

AFJROTC program provided academic, character and discipline pathways for over 140 students at our high school. Also, you will find tremendous articles relating to our central initiatives of the District embracing the importance of literacy.

Teachers have successfully, with a collaborative spirit, piloted, interacted, and chose comprehensive programs to augment instruction in literacy, math and science. Our students now have access to technology in meaningful ways linked to our newly chosen programs. Our high school is back-filling higher education components so our children are acclimated to the rigors of higher education and career pathways.

We live in a world that is changing at a pace like no other in the history of humanity. Our work to equip children for a life of challenges is comprised not only of learning in school but of developing the spirit and character of each child entering our District. Our work is clearly cut out for us as we must always research and investigate ways to improve. Perhaps Sir Winston Churchill's words of October 29, 1941 are so appropriate for 2018: "*Never give in. Never give in. Never, never, never, never – in nothing great or small, large or petty – never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense.*"

I wish you the very best within the spirit of the Muhlenberg School District.

*Dr. Joseph Macharola*  
SUPERINTENDENT

“Never give in.  
Never give in.  
Never, never, never,  
never – in nothing  
great or small, large  
or petty – never  
give in except to  
convictions of  
honor and  
good sense.”  
*Sir Winston Churchill*

**MUHLENBERG  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Dr. Joseph Macharola  
Superintendent  
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## Novel Engineering Challenge

MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER

In the Novel Engineering unit, students engaged in engineering design through the novel, *Poppy*, by Avi. Students became engineers, solving problems and designing projects as they strove to help the clients, who were the novel's characters. Students pulled information from the text to scope problems and set constraints as they engaged in engineering design to help their clients by designing and building a solution that will fit their clients' needs.

Teachers from MEC voted on their favorite three projects. The MEC level competition

winners were: 1st Place: **Nicole Ratajczak, Briana Tejada, and Amerlys Diaz** with the Poppy's Stupendous Swing, Ladder and Crate, 2nd Place: **Gelany Isa Taveras, Trevor Walter and Christopher Rivera** with the Porkmobile and 3rd Place: **Gavin Kohl and Avin Sebastian** with the Piercing Spike Tank.

Students also entered the Tuft University Novel Engineering Challenge. Congratulations to **Gelany Isa Taveras, Trevor Walter, and Christopher Rivera** for winning one of the Fan Favorite Awards for the Tuft's Engineering Challenge. Their project, called the Porkmobile, is currently featured on Tuft's website.

[www.novelengineeringchallenges.org/2017/11/10/mec-b4-the-porkmobile/](http://www.novelengineeringchallenges.org/2017/11/10/mec-b4-the-porkmobile/)

## UNICEF for Puerto Rico

This year, fourth grade students in **Mrs. Hornberger's** and **Mrs. Haas'** classes chose to carry UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) boxes while they went out for trick-or-treat on Halloween night. Some students have family members living in Puerto Rico, and they were concerned about their welfare due to the devastation left behind by Hurricane Maria; therefore, students decided an easy way to help was to raise funds specifically for the relief effort. In just one evening, students raised \$160, all of which was sent to UNICEF. UNICEF works to save children's lives, defend their rights, and help them fulfil their potential.

MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER



## Another Literacy Pilot? YES!

We are getting really good at conducting pilots to support our Central Initiatives in the Muhlenberg School District. During the 2015-2016 school year, we participated in two reading program pilots to find the product that best fit the needs of our students. Our teachers were involved from start to finish and overwhelmingly voted for *McGraw-Hill, Wonders*, for our ELA classrooms K to 6. We are now in our second year of implementation and could not be any happier with the selection. We have seen growth in all grade levels, building our students

### MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL

into stronger readers. The integration of *Wonders* has refined and updated our Literacy curriculum to better align with 21st Century expectations. As our 6th graders were preparing for their final semester at C.E. Cole, finishing two strong years implementing *Wonders*, we had to ask the question, "How to continue our successful Literacy journey?" The answer is simple, another ELA Pilot!

During the 2017-2018 school year, our 7th and 8th grade ELA teachers participated in two pilot programs to continue the support of our Literacy Initiative and continue the success of our K to 6 Reading program. We had a few obstacles to climb compared to the K-6 pilot. Only two grades were involved and our Reading and English teachers are in separate classrooms.

**Mr. Ebert**, Muhlenberg Middle School Principal, along with **Mrs. Amy Chiarelli**, our district ELA Implementation Coordinator, worked with sev-

eral companies. They arranged a showcase day for a panel of teachers and administrators last summer. From that day, our contenders emerged: McGraw-Hill, Study Sync, and Pearson, My Perspectives.

Our 7th grade teachers piloted *Study Sync* and our 8th grade teachers, *My Perspectives*. We used professional development days for the program representatives to train our teachers, and we gave our teachers the opportunity to visit the other pilot classrooms. With the support of **Mrs. Chiarelli** and our 7th/8th grade Literacy Coach, **Mrs. Jenn Doyle**, the teachers were able to fully integrate both pilots into the ELA classrooms. We conducted a mid-year review of both pilots, to give teachers the opportunity to rate their program through the process. The teachers voted for the program that best fit the needs of our students on Friday, March 23. The "winner" was revealed on Monday, March 26.

The Muhlenberg Middle School ELA teachers selected *Pearson My Perspectives*, by a complete shutout 12-0! Starting in the fall of 2018 *My Perspectives* will be the primary resource that is implemented in all 7th and 8th grade ELA classes!

We are thrilled for the opportunity to continue moving our Literacy Initiative forward, and to give our students every opportunity for success.

By **Cathy A. Shappell**  
Literacy and Language Arts Supervisor

### The 15th Annual Muhlenberg High School Multi-Class Reunion

We welcome classes of the 50's, 60's, 70's, and 80's

Saturday, September 15, 2018  
EVERGREEN COUNTY CLUB

From 12 noon until closing. \$3.00 cover.

Need more information? Contact: Bill Sandel 610-921-2620 or sandel2003@comcast.net

## Science Pilot: Teachers select FOSS

Following on the heels of successful pilot programs in English Language Arts and Mathematics, this year we piloted inquiry-based Science programs. Twenty-one teachers in grades K-8 participated in the pilot study. The programs that were under consideration are FOSS (Full Option Science System) from the Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California, Berkeley, BBS (Building Blocks of Science) from Carolina Biological Supply Company, and STC (Science and Technology Concepts) from the Smithsonian Science Education Center. Each pilot participant taught one physical science unit from FOSS and one earth and space science unit from BBS in grades K-5 and STC in grades 6-8. Pilot teachers received one full day and two half-day trainings from each publisher. Pilot teachers, after experiencing each program, determined which one best met the needs of Muhlenberg science students.



On Tuesday afternoon, March 20, teachers from Muhlenberg Elementary Center and C. E. Cole Intermediate School attended a reveal party to learn the identity of our new science program. Pilot teachers evaluated each program according to these nine criteria: (Ease of Planning; Ease of Use of Materials, Structure, Organization, and Flow of Individual Lessons; Conceptual Understanding: The Development of Understanding of Scientific Ideas; Application: Opportunities for Students to Use Scientific Practices Flexibly in Multiple Contexts; Alignment to PA Core Science Standards; Use of Technology to Promote Student Learning; and Quality of Professional Development Offered by Company Representatives). By more than a two to one margin, teachers selected FOSS.

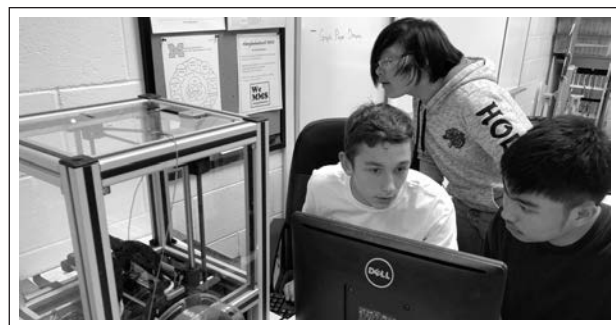
With the adoption and implementation of FOSS, an inquiry-based, hands-on science program, Muhlenberg students in grades K-8 will acquire a solid foundation upon which to continue learning through their high school years where inquiry-based learning is taking place with the use of Vernier probeware and technology.

By **William Tobin**

## Lab Equipment Enables Science Teachers and Students

Last spring, the district purchased new laboratory equipment from Vernier Software and Technology that included sensors and probes along with hardware devices and software that enable Muhlenberg students to collect, analyze, and interpret scientific data. In Biology, students used pH probes to help identify mystery liquids and oxygen sensors to measure enzyme catalysis. In Chemistry, students used temperature probes to study the melting of ice and the freezing point of para-dichlorobenzene. In Physics, students used force sensors and motion detectors to observe static and kinetic energy. In environmental science, students used moisture probes, pH sensors, and temperature probes to study soil. General physical science students used force sensors to study friction. This laboratory instrumentation is enabling our science teachers to inspire scientific curiosity in students and to engage them in rich scientific investigations.

By **William Tobin**





## Muhlenberg School District's New Math Program, enVision2.0

The end of February brought us to the close of the fifth month of full implementation of the *enVision* math program from kindergarten through Algebra 1. We now have consistency for our students as they progress through the math program at Muhlenberg until they reach the high school level. Besides providing consistency, the *enVision* math program provides our teachers with a user-friendly resource from which to provide instruction to students.

In addition, professional development has been offered to the teachers from several sources. Representatives from *enVision* publisher, Pearson, have come in to work with our math teachers on getting the most out of this program. Teachers explored topics such as how to utilize the *enVision* program to differentiate to meet the needs of every learner and how to use the digital or hands-on resources to teach for conceptual understanding. Besides the textbook representatives, our teachers also had the opportunity to attend presentations from two of the *enVision* authors, **Eric Milou** and **Jonathan Wray**. These presentations focused more on mathematical practices and strategies and provided excellent up-to-date methods on how to work with math students to create mathematical thinkers and problem solvers in the 21st century.

By **Lois Dieterly**

## Reading is Fundamental (RIF) at MEC



*Pictured from left to right:*

**Lillie Mulutzie, Sandra Gerhart (UGI volunteer), Josiah Peart, Michele Delong (UGI volunteer), Evan Mayo, Arnita Crawl (UGI volunteer), Riley Torres**

A book can inspire a child to become a lifelong learner.

Muhlenberg Elementary Center provides all first grade students with RIF (*Reading is Fundamental, Inc.*) books throughout the school year. During the months of October, January, and May, the students attend a book distribution where each student selects one free book of their choice. The students are able to select from a wide variety of genres at each distribution to find their “good fit book.”

RIF is the nation’s oldest and largest non-profit children’s literacy foundation. Its purpose is to help young readers discover the joy and acquire the habit of reading. Since 1966, RIF has provided over 412 million books to 40 million children across the United States. RIF has collaborated with UGI Utilities, Inc. since 1991

**MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

to help sponsor the literacy events in local schools. During each Muhlenberg Elementary Center RIF distribution, a plethora of volunteers from UGI Utilities, Inc., a natural gas and electric utility headquartered in Reading, PA, give their time to help our first grade students. In addition to volunteering, UGI Utilities, Inc. has helped bring reading to life with a character named “*The Reading Wizard*” who makes a guest appearance in the fall to our elementary school each year. Muhlenberg Elementary Center appreciates the partnership with RIF and UGI Utilities, Inc. to provide stellar literacy events three times each school year for our first graders!

## Year Two of Wonders Implementation is Underway

The 2016-2017 school year was an exciting one for our elementary and intermediate ELA classrooms. The adoption of McGraw-Hill's *Wonders*, has provided a comprehensive resource that enables our district to build a strong foundation of early literacy skills in our younger grades and complex reading skills in grades three to six. Spring 2017 PSSA ELA



### MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER C.E. COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

scores and end-of year benchmark testing data indicate growth in all grade levels.

To build on the successes of our first year, we have restructured the role of our elementary and intermediate reading specialists. In kindergarten, each classroom receives 30 minutes of targeted foundational skill support. In grades one through six, reading specialists and grade level teachers work together as co-teachers to better address the needs of our students. Before, reading specialists provided isolated support in pull-out settings. With the co-teaching model, both specialists and teachers are able to provide focused skill support in small group and application to grade level core text within the classroom setting.

This year it has been our goal to provide our ELA teachers with professional development on using classroom benchmark, and PSSA data to make informed, instructional decisions to best support all of our students. In October, teachers worked with 2017 PSSA and fall benchmark data to determine instructional needs for core instruction and foundational skill development. November sessions focused on building writing and response to reading skills and developing scaffolding strategies for grade-level texts. In January, **Dr. Tim Shanahan**, Premier Literacy Educator and a contributing author of McGraw-Hill, *Wonders*, shared oral language development strategies with our primary teachers and reading comprehension differentiation strategies with our 3rd through 8th grade teachers. Dr. Shanahan's sessions reinforced our district literacy goals as he challenged teachers to understand their students' needs in working with grade-level text in ELA and content areas. We look forward to seeing the continued growth and success of our students.

## Ready. Set. Read!



*Submitted by Amy Arnold,  
Reading Specialist at the  
Muhlenberg Elementary Center*

During the 2017-2018 school year, the United Way continued to sponsor the Star Readers Program through their Ready. Set. Read! Initiative for Second Graders at MEC. Fourteen Second Grade students met with their tutors at the Muhlenberg Community Library where they received one-to-one tutoring for one hour a week after school. The children loved the individualized attention and really appreciated how generous the tutors and the United Way have been to them!



On April 23, an Earth Day Event was held for gifted students in the Muhlenberg Middle School library. Coordinated by **Ms. Searfoss** and high school senior **Brooke Reinhart**, students from the middle school and high school came together to listen to lectures from local professors and participate in a craft that demonstrates a fun and functional outcome of recycling. Alvernia biology professor **Dr. Stober** spoke to the gifted students about environmental sus-

tainability. He encouraged the students to be proactive in reducing their carbon footprints and consider their roles in the fate of the earth. **Dr. Tribe**, who teaches chemistry at Penn State Berks, explained the benefits and dangers of fracking. After asking questions of the guest speakers, students made bird feeders out of milk cartons recycled from the school cafeteria. **Brenna**, a seventh grader, brought bird seed for everyone to take home for their feeders.

## High School Students Network with Professionals



The students in the picture front to back are:  
 1st row: **Maren Garner, Taylor Wilson, Kyarah Fernandez, Shawnaleh Cada**  
 2nd row: **Samantha Weitzel, Nina Disabella Kristian Kemp, Olivia Scheipe, Amanda Pilat, Crystal Almanzar**  
 3rd row: **Nicolas Wentworth, Nicolas Miller, Sydney Walker, Cole Hadley, and Francisco Alba**

On March 9, 2018, nine young women and six young men from Muhlenberg High School attended the Annual Youth Leadership Program, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce at PSU-Berks. The students had the pleasure of learning about how to cash in on their passion. Approximately 100 professionals from the county were in attendance. This Conference offers 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: *Failure is part of the Journey, Where the World of Work is Heading, Financial Aid, and Personal Finance*, were some of the sessions that the students attended. The conference encourages young men and women to pursue their career goals.





## Olympic Readers Club

The Olympic Readers Club (ORC) is a student-run group advised by **Ms. Jullien Searfoss** at Muhlenberg High School. The club, which was founded three years ago by current seniors, is welcome to anyone who loves to read.

The ORC held their third annual Harry Potter Night in February. It was another successful night filled with magic, and was open to students from all Muhlenberg buildings. 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, creating your own Hogwart's crest, and tasting wizard food! For all the chess lovers, **Mr. Collins** was there to play students in a magical game of wizard's chess. **Mrs. Wenzel** ran the Hogwarts library and had books for students to borrow. Ms. Searfoss was seen dashing through the halls while club president Luisa Suarez helped make sure the night ran smoothly along with assistance from all the club members!

*Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* played on the big screen. This fundraiser was held for the club to participate in

the 5th annual Reading Olympics competition on April 27 held at the BCIU. Everyone involved had a wonderful time, and the OR club did a fantastic job and raised over \$900! Everyone is already excited for Harry Potter Night next year which will tentatively be held on February 15, 2019! Hope you can join in on the magic!

The third annual Harry Potter Movie night was an even bigger success than the last two. As our magical night progressed, our fascinated muggles participated in wand making, face painting, playing chess, potion making, and enjoying homemade creative snacks. By the end of the night, we raised a total of \$976 to go towards the Reading Olympics competition! We just want to thank everyone who continues to come

and show their support and love for reading. Hope to see you at our 4th annual movie night next year! Read on Muggles!

The club also takes part in a competition every year. Students must read from a list of forty-five books and then are questioned on their content. This year, the competition was held on April 27 at the BCIU, with three teams from Muhlenberg competing. Overall, the teams scored 4th, 6th, and 7th place and won half of the door prizes available. The day concluded with a fun celebratory lunch.

*Olympic Readers Club students made wands to sell for Harry Potter Night.*





## A “Unique” Experience

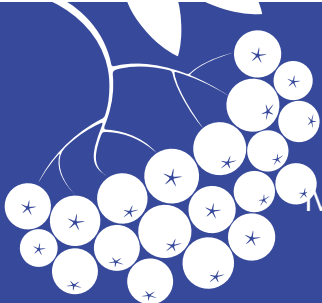


When our xenial neighbors at Unique Pretzel Bakery learned that we were honoring the winners of the Winter WOW Frolic Challenge, they demonstrated incredible largesse by presenting delectable pretzel gifts to all winning students. It was a phenomenally “unique” experience since the WOW that same week just happened to be “unique!”

**Gifts Galore & More Craft Fair**  
Saturday, October 27, 2018  
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**MUHLENBERG SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Sharp and Frances St., Laureldale, PA





# ART NEWS



The high school art department had a banner fall and winter with students winning several awards in area shows. **Mrs. Nan Forrer's** Advanced Painting and Drawing class made their annual field trip to Nolde Forest to tour and

## MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

take photographs of this beautiful local state park. As the first project in their Landscape unit, students turned their photographs into original oil paintings. Nolde Forest, in partnership with the Art Plus Gallery in West Reading, sponsors an art contest grades K-12 throughout the county. They receive over one thousand entries and MHS is proud to announce that our own **Amanda Fonseca** took first place and **Shawnaleh Cada** took second place in the high school division.

Our second venture into art competitions was to enter several works in the Yocum Gallery Jr/Sr High county juried show in Wyomissing. A juried show means that only a select number of works are accepted into the show and then awards are given out from that small group. **Mr. Seisler's** two Advanced Placement Craft students, **Aykila Watson** and **Leah Nye** both had their sculptural works accepted into this prestigious show. **Claudia Smith**, an Advanced Placement Painting student of Mrs. Forrer's, had two of her mixed media works accepted and her "Lava Flow" piece took an overall third place in the show.

We are very proud of these students and all our young artists as they find their artistic voice in our high school program.



## Looking for Crafters and Vendors

For more information, email: [muwcraft@gmail.com](mailto: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



**Caldonia Carmello**  
2017-18  
Accomplishments  
in Music:

- County Band
- County Orchestra
- District Band
- District Orchestra
- Region Band
- Region Orchestra
- State Wind Ensemble



**Joel Evans**  
2017-18  
Accomplishments  
in Music:

- County Band
- County Chorus
- County Orchestra
- District Band
- District Chorus
- District Orchestra
- Region Band
- Region Chorus
- Region Orchestra
- State Orchestra
- Berks County All-Star Jazz Band



First Place Percussion  
Award in the RMF  
Scholarship program.

## Two Qualify for State Musical Ensembles

Juniors **Caldonia Carmello** and **Joel Evans** qualified for PMEA (Pennsylvania Music Educators Association) state ensembles this school year. This is the first time in MHS history that two students have qualified the same year. This year's state convention and festival took place at Lancaster McCaskey High School.

### MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

Their journey began the first Saturday of December 2017. Cally and Joel auditioned for and made the PMEA district band and orchestra. At the district festival they auditioned for and made the PMEA region band and orchestra. At regions, they auditioned for and were accepted into two different state ensembles. Cally was selected for the state Wind Ensemble and Joel, the state Orchestra. Upon arrival at state auditions, both students auditioned for all-east and national festivals that will take place next school year. Results will be released early next school year.

Cally was selected to the Wind Ensemble as one of only thirteen clarinet players from the entire state. The ensemble performed five selections under the baton of **Mr. Michael Fansler**. Mr.

Fansler is a Professor of music and director of bands at Western Illinois University. The Wind Ensemble performed works by Morton Gould, Charles Ives and others. Music performed by these ensembles is professional level. Their performance was nearly flawless and the audience gave them a rousing standing ovation at the end of their selections.

Joel was selected as one of only five percussionists from Pennsylvania in the PMEA State Orchestra. Percussionists in the orchestra have to master all of the orchestral percussion instruments: timpani, mallets and battery instruments (snare drum, cymbals, etc.). Their conductor, **Raphael Jimenez**, is the director of Orchestras at the famed Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio. The orchestra splendidly performed two significant pieces that are rarely heard on concert programs: Spartacus Suite No. 2 by Aram Khachaturian and the Suite from Merry Mount by Howard Hanson.

Cally and Joel have represented Muhlenberg extremely well this year with their fine musical endeavors. Good luck on your musical journey!

## Musicians Represent Muhlenberg

Musicians from Muhlenberg High School have done an outstanding job representing our district again this year! Students from Muhlenberg have been or will be part of eleven different honors ensembles this school year. Congratulations to all of our honor musicians!

### MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

The distinguished musicians are:

**County Band:** **Aneudy Melendez** (trumpet), **Nick Spease** (trumpet), **Brooke Schlott** (clarinet), **Sarah Soriano** (clarinet), **Caldonia Carmello** (clarinet), Bobby Miller (Euphonium), **Joel Evans** (percussion)

**County Orchestra:** **Sarah Soriano** (clarinet), **Caldonia Carmello** (clarinet), **Joel Evans** (percussion)

**County Chorus:** **Angela Bagenstose**, **Joel Evans**, **Janalyn Gonzalez**, **Eric Heim**, **Sarah Manderbach**, **Aneudy Melendez**, **Bobby Miller**, **Noah Rothenberger**, **Jareth Schmehl**, **Nicholas Spease**

**County Jazz Band:**  
**Aneudy Melendez** (trumpet),  
**Joel Evans** (drum set)

**PMEA District 10 Band:**  
**Sarah Soriano** (clarinet),  
**Caldonia Carmello** (clarinet),  
**Joel Evans** (percussion)

**PMEA District 10 Orchestra:**  
**Caldonia Carmello** (clarinet),  
**Joel Evans** (percussion)

**PMEA District 10 Chorus:** **Joel Evans**, **Eric Heim**, **Julia Mackey**, **Aneudy Melendez**, **Bobby Miller**, **Noah Rothenberger**, **Nicholas Spease**

**PMEA District 10 Jazz Band:**  
**Aneudy Melendez** (trumpet)

**PMEA Region V Band:** **Sarah Soriano** (clarinet), **Caldonia Carmello** (clarinet), **Joel Evans** (percussion)

**PMEA North East Region Orchestra:**  
**Caldonia Carmello** (clarinet),  
**Joel Evans** (percussion)

**PMEA Region Chorus:** **Joel Evans**

## Muhlenberg Middle School Music News

This year has been quite eventful and successful for the music students of Muhlenberg Middle School.

### MUHLENBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL

Berks Junior County Chorus auditions were held at Governor Mifflin High School in February. Eighteen students from MMS were selected for the ensemble: **Raina Stephenson** (soprano 1), **Brooke Weister** (soprano 1), **Kayla Setley** (soprano 1), **Nicole Arias** (soprano 1), **Alexis Martin** (soprano 2), **Sri Oruganty** (alto 1), **Mikayla Garl** (alto 1), **Pablo Cheveres** (alto 1), **Sophia Cornelius** (alto 2), **Tiara Best** (alto 2), **Nick Taveras** (tenor), **Cristian Batista** (tenor), **Matthew Abadam** (tenor), **Bobby Cornelius** (tenor), **Nick DiSabella** (tenor), **Timmy Dietrich** (bass), **Darian Bornmann** (bass), and **Kyle Hernandez** (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), **Cristian Batista** (clarinet), **Sarah Love** (clarinet), **Sierra Shade** (clarinet), **Timmy Dietrich** (French horn), **Quan Hoang** (trombone), and **Christian Dunlap** (trombone).

These students proudly represented MMS at the Berks Junior County concert on April 7 at Muhlenberg High School. Thank you for your continued support of these students' musical endeavors!

This year, we had two middle school students qualify for the Berks County All-Star Jazz Band. **Timmy Dietrich** (trumpet) and **Quan Hoang** (trombone) performed with other outstanding jazz students from around Berks County. As a part of Berks Jazz Fest, the band opened for the

U.S. Navy Commodores on April 10 at Muhlenberg High School and Berks Bop Night at the Double Tree Hotel in Reading on April 11.

**Alexis Martin** (9th grade) was selected for PMEA District 10 Chorus which was held at Blue Mountain High School from January 25 – 27, 2018. She performed as a soprano 2 alongside over 200 other students from seven counties. Congratulations, Alexis! We are so proud of your accomplishment!

## AFJROTC: A Year in Review



As we complete our first year at Muhlenberg High School it is appropriate that we take time to reflect on our accomplishments and look forward to our challenges. The year started with 141 enthusiastic cadets who really did not know much about what they signed up for. The senior leadership was thrust into a position which they had no training for and did a remarkable job. They quickly molded 141 students into a team that believed in Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in Everything they did.

They established goals one of which was to complete 2500 hours of community service. They not only met the goal they exceeded it and with the upcoming events will accumulate about 2800 community service hours. We were active and accomplished many events. The cadets listed their highlights which follow:

### **Car Wash fundraiser:**

Some cadets actually learned how to wash a car.

**Parades:** Temple Halloween, Reading Christmas (we won 3rd place in our division) and the Armed Forces Day Parade in West Reading where our Color Guard has been asked to lead the parade.

**Trick or Treat at C.E. Cole,** and Trunk and Treat at City Hall in Reading.

**Adopt a Family:** cadets out of their pockets donated \$1000 and purchased gift cards at Giant so a family from each of the schools in Muhlenberg could have a great Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner.

### MUHLENBERG HIGH SCHOOL

**Veterans Day breakfast** and the Veterans dinner and dance at Wilson High School.

**Curriculum in Action Trips:** the first semester we went and visited the PA Air National Guard at Harrisburg and this semester is a trip to the Air and Space Museum in Washington DC.

**Assisted the Vietnam Veterans** with a Bingo night at the VA hospital in Lebanon.

### **Numerous Color Guard events:**

Citizenship Ceremony at the Berks County Courthouse, Berks Bar Association Luncheon, Reading Phils game, as well as all home football, baseball and softball games.

**Teacher Appreciation Week car wash.**

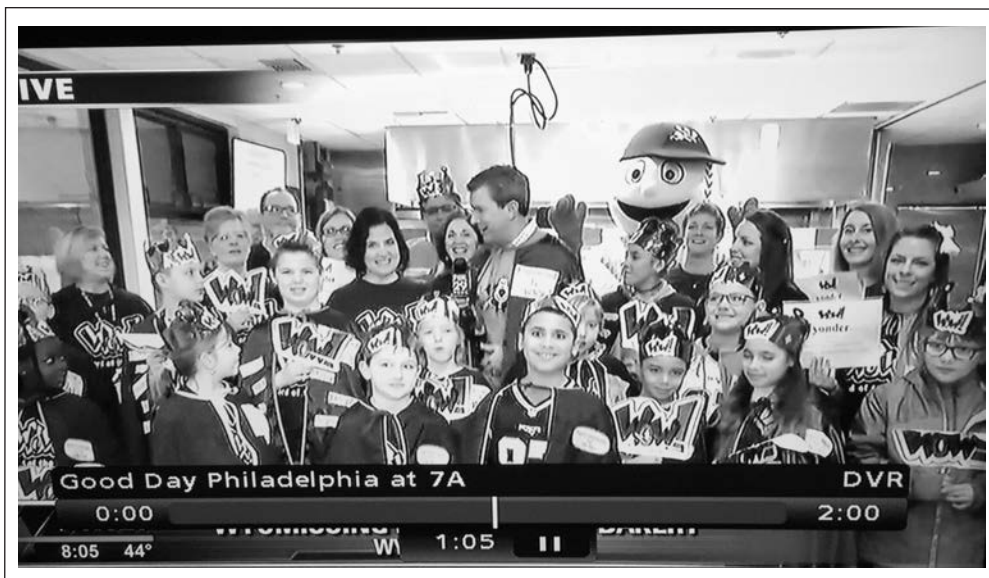
**Orienteering team, Archery team, Trick Rifle Drill team, and Sabre team.**

**Ushers** for Mary Poppins play and the Navy Band concert.

**Dining Out:** attended by 265 people where our cadets received over 400 ribbons and 22 National Awards.

**Summer Leadership School** at the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina.





## WOW on Fox 29!

We were honored to participate in a Fox 29 News broadcast with television host **Bob Kelly** at the invitation of Berks County philanthropist extraordinaire, **Hamid Chaudhry**. When Mr. Chaudhry, owner of Wyomissing Restaurant and Bakery, was notified about this unique opportunity, he graciously contacted Muhlenberg School District to offer us the chance to showcase our Word of the Week program.

In the early morning hours of January 22, after an incredible Philadelphia Eagles win over the Minnesota Vikings, students, families, and staff gathered in WOW capes, crowns and fervent enthusiasm to share our WOW with

MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER  
C.E. COLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

the City of Brotherly Love and its neighboring counties. After a scrumptious complimentary breakfast, students sang and cheered as Mr. Kelly along with Mr. Chaudhry donned their WOW capes on Fox 29 News with gusto! A serendipitous bonus of the day was having WEEU Radio host Mike Keller, air his regular Monday WEEU WOW broadcast live with us as well!

## Biomechanics Day at Penn State Berks



On April 11, 30 Muhlenberg High School Human Anatomy, AP Biology, and Gifted students attended The National Biomechanics Day at Penn State Berks. Our students attended sessions on the motion of the spine, musculoskeletal biomechanics (a cadaver lab), a fluids lab, an occupational therapy session, and a CGI technology lab. The opportunities for students to interact with Penn State educators extended beyond this one day. Any MHS student who applies to PSU Berks between August and November – and attended Biomechanics Day – will have their application fee waived. In addition, there are two research opportunities for high school students over the summer. The Muhls had a wonderful day exploring all of the opportunities PSU Berks has to offer!



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# RESIDENT

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**Deadline for next newsletter is  
 September 4, 2018.**

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It is the policy of the Muhlenberg School District not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, and national origin in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Inquires regarding compliance with Title IX should be directed to the office of the assistant superintendent, Title IX Coordinator, Muhlenberg School District, 801 Bellevue Avenue, Laureldale, PA 19605, telephone (610)921-8000, or to the Director of Civil Rights , Department of Education,



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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.

**SCHOOLBOARDMEMBERS**

- OTTO W. VOIT, III , PRESIDENT
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