



SV Elementary School Earns Prestigious Award from International Literacy Association

The International Literacy Association (ILA) has selected Schuylkill Valley Elementary School for its 2018 Exemplary Reading Program Award, in recognition of its outstanding reading and language arts curriculum. The school triumphed over one hundred other elementary school programs in Pennsylvania to win the award, which is given to only one school in the state each year.

Mrs. Melissa Kelchner, principal, and **Mrs. Melissa Rhoads**, assistant principal, worked to shine a light on the school by researching eligibility for different awards. "I know how hard our faculty and staff works and I felt it was time for some public recognition for all of the good being done here," Mrs. Kelchner said. "We knew this would be a longshot because there is only one school recognized in each state. And we decided to do it anyway because we believe so strongly that our elementary school is a blue ribbon school."

The administrators completed a lengthy and detailed application process and were thrilled when they were notified they had earned a site visit. They prepared for the

three assessors from the Keystone State Reading Association's (KSRA) visit to the school by making available different elements of the reading program, including autistic support, supplemental reading, inclusion classrooms, WIN (What I Need) in grade levels, paraprofessional support, reading staff and reading specialist collaboration and the Reading Olympics program. "The assessors were very impressed because we eat, sleep and breathe reading here," Mrs. Kelchner explained. "We are a data-driven school and we keep our programs current so that we aren't stagnant, and every child can reach his or her potential at various developmental rates."

This summer, Mrs. Rhoads will represent Pennsylvania when she attends the ILA's annual conference in Austin, Texas to receive the award, and a contingent of administrative staff and reading specialists from the elementary school will attend the KSRA conference at Penn State University in October. In addition, the elementary school will proudly dedicate an outdoor sign proclaiming the recognition at a ceremony in June.

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION



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**SCHUYLKILL VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

929 Lakeshore Drive
Leesport PA 19533-8631

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dr. Cindy Mierzejewski
Superintendent

Mr. Michael T. Mitchell, Jr.
High School Principal

Mrs. Maggie E. Drake
High School Assistant Principal

Mr. Joshua Kuehner
Middle School Principal

Mr. Jeremy L. Crills
Assistant Middle School Principal

Mrs. Melissa Kelchner
Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Melissa A. Rhoads
Assistant Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Dawn Harris
Director, Special Education & Pupil Services

Mrs. Melissa Kelchner
Director of Teaching and Learning

Mr. Michael Billman
Director, Information Technology

Mrs. Wendy Boarder
Business Manager

Mrs. Changming Wang
Assistant Business Manager

Mr. Craig A. Strunk
Director, Buildings & Grounds

Miss Stephanie L. Deibler
Athletic Director

Ms. Robin Brightbill
Director of Human Resources

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Mrs. Nicoleen M. Kleffel

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Mr. G. Dane Miller

Mr. Alfonso F. Rossi

BOARD MEETINGS

Committees generally meet the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Board meetings are generally held the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the high school's LeRoy K. Seip room.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Administration	610-916-0957
High School	610-926-1706
Middle School	610-926-7111
Elementary School	610-926-4165



superintendent's MESSAGE

For this last letter of the school year, I was going to write about some of the things I've loved doing during the past year—things like reading to kindergartners and second graders and having lunch with high school Students of the Month. But then I realized that all of my favorite memories from the past year were the times I spent with the students of Schuylkill Valley while getting to know them all better.

So I thought, "Who wants to hear about what I did?" Instead, I asked the students what their favorite part of the school year was. Whether it was fun field trips to see a Broadway show in New York City, a tour of the Eagles locker room at Lincoln Financial Field, or adventures at 8th Grade Camp, we had tons of responses that kids loved meeting new friends, making memories and taking fun trips.

They also took a lot of pride in capturing the state championship in boys track and field, winning the district championship with the girls swim team, singing solos in the chorus and in the musicals, putting together charity events, hosting the Special Track and Field Meet, and attending leadership conferences. (Although it's not school-related, a popular favorite memory submitted was "The Eagles winning the Super Bowl," and I have to say I agree. Go Birds!)

Here are a few more favorite memories we received from students:

"Learning how to roll, cut, stamp, and glaze clay in Ms. Harle's art room. Even though I'm not an art student. Ms. Harle makes every day special."

"For the first time joining the track and field team my senior year. I never expected the warm welcome and camaraderie I received from everyone! It's shone a new light on my overall experience at SV."

"My favorite school-related memory from 8th grade was the Outdoor Education unit we did in October. It was a great three days outdoors with our teachers and peers. We really got to bond together and learn more about each other."

"It still happens every day but at lunch my friends and I all fool around and we laugh together and we have lots of fun."

"My last time cheering under the Friday night lights as a senior with all of my friends. It made me think back to how far the entire team has come since freshman year."

We all know that education is more than what you learn in a classroom. While we say goodbye to the current year, I very much look forward to another year of watching all of these students grow and learn—academically and beyond.

Have a great summer!

Dr. Cindy Mierzejewski

Superintendent of Schools

School Board of Directors Reorganization

The 2017-2018 Schuylkill Valley Board of Directors

Front row, left to right:

Mrs. Linda R. Lash, secretary;
Mr. Kevin Raudenbush, president;
Mr. George H. Mertz III, vice-president; **Mrs. Nicoleen M. Kleffel**

Back row, left to right: **Mr. Paul L. Bendigo**; **Mr. Alfonso F. Rossi**,
Mr. Robert M. Dempsey, **Dr. Jay R. Melvin**, **Mr. G. Dane Miller**



New Board Members



Mrs. Nicoleen M. (Nici) Kleffel, Centre Township, is the newest member of the district's Board of Directors. Mrs. Kleffel, along with her husband, **Mr. Bradley Kleffel**, owns Kleffel Moving and Storage Company. They are the parents of Brynley, a sixth-grade

SVMS student, and Conner, who was an eighth-grade student at the middle school before he passed away in November 2017. Mrs. Kleffel has been the president of the Schuylkill Valley Little League since 2015 and served as the vice-president of the organization and concession manager for many years. She was the vice-president of the King's Academy Board of Directors, Director of Finance with Crossroads Community Church, and a church nursery worker, greeter and counter. Mrs. Kleffel believes that education should be based on the individual, not to a test, and welcomes discussion on scaling back or eliminating some of the mandated testing. "I hope to work with our current school administration to adopt the best policies and procedures to ensure our students are best prepared for life after they leave the school district," Mrs. Kleffel said. "I hope to serve as a mentor and an example to our students, faculty and staff."



Mr. Alfonso F. (Al) Rossi, Centre Township, has been elected to the school Board of Directors. Mr. Rossi and his wife, **Mrs. Bethany Kehs-Rossi**, are the parents of three children in the Schuylkill Valley community. He is a licensed professional engineer employed for the past eighteen years as a project manager for a private water utility company. Prior to

that position, he spent eight years as an environmental consultant. Mr. Rossi holds a degree in Engineering Management from Wilkes University and has completed post-graduate coursework in business management. He has been a member of the Centre Township recreation board since 2004 and the Centre Township planning commission since 2005. He sits on the SV Elementary Act 339 Curriculum Committee, is a WatchDOG dad and career day volunteer at the elementary school, and is an assistant coach for the Schuylkill Valley Little League. Mr. Rossi's primary focus as a member of the Board will be to ensure the efficient use of resources to provide the best education for the children of our community. "I hope to build on the good work that has been done so far," he said. "I would also like to bring more focus and attention to the accomplishments of our past graduates to demonstrate to our current students what can be accomplished with a Schuylkill Valley education."

DISTRICT NEWS



The district held its second Panther Impact Award program on Tuesday, May 29, at the high school. Graduating seniors were invited to nominate a staff member who had the biggest impact on his or her academic career. The recipients were:

Mr. Gary Auker, HS technology education teacher; **Mr. Jason Bagenstose**, HS English teacher, varsity girls basketball coach, varsity girls soccer coach; **Mrs. Heather Barrett**, HS English teacher; **Mrs. Jennifer Boyer**, HS social studies teacher; **Mr. Brian Boyer**, HS track and field coach; **Mrs. Evelyn Braun**, retired HS art teacher; **Mr. Kyle Campbell**, HS varsity swim coach; **Mrs. Crystal Cammauf**, HS learning support teacher and track coach; **Miss Dana Carter**, MS

special education teacher; **Mr. Jeff Chillot**, HS math teacher, football coach and girls assistant basketball coach; **Mrs. Lisa Chillot**, HS science teacher; **Mr. Mark Chlebowsky**, HS science teacher; **Mr. Matt Cullen**, HS industrial arts teacher; **Mr. Tony Deininger**, HS music teacher; **Ms. Jessica Harle**, HS art teacher; **Miss Katie Heffner**, HS English teacher; **Mr. Mark Horrell**, HS math teacher; **Mrs. Stephanie Jacobs**, ES librarian; **Miss Kristi Kauffman**, HS wellness and physical education teacher; **Mrs. Melissa Kelchner**, ES principal; **Mr. Phil Kissinger**, HS German and social studies teacher; **Mrs. Patricia Kramer**, HS English teacher; **Mr. Mike Mitchell**, HS principal; **Mr. Tim Mogford**,

Changing Roles: Mrs. Melissa Kelchner, New Director of Teaching and Learning

Mrs. Melissa (Missy) Kelchner has been appointed as the district's new Director of Teaching and Learning. In her new role, Mrs. Kelchner will develop curriculum for all grades, coordinate professional development, oversee standardized testing, assist building level administrators in observation of teachers and paraprofessionals, and supervise the English Language Learning (ELL) program.

Mrs. Kelchner has been the principal of the elementary school since 2014. Prior to assuming that role, she was the assistant principal at the middle school and taught at

Schuylkill Valley elementary school and in the Reading school district. She started her career as a counselor at Berks County Prison. Mrs. Kelchner earned her bachelor's degree at Kutztown University, her teaching certificate at Alvernia University and her master's of Education and principal certification from Wilkes University. She has been married to her husband for 26 years, is the mother of Cassie, a recent graduate of West Chester University, and loves going to the beach and reading. In her new role, Mrs. Kelchner plans to continue to serve the district's students, staff and community. "I want to move us forward as a district by meeting the needs of students where they are and taking them where they can go," she said. Mrs. Kelchner can be reached at mkelchner@schuylkillvalley.org





HS director of academic enrichment; **Mrs. Caitlin Overman**, MS English teacher; **Mrs. Catherine Paff**, MS math teacher; **Mrs. Tracy Pawling**, HS Spanish teacher; **Mrs. Dawn Raudenbush**, Eshelman bus driver; **Mrs. Sarah Reed**, HS

guidance counselor; **Ms. Carla Reimert**, 2nd grade teacher; **Mr. Todd Reinert**, ES physical education teacher; **Mr. Bruce Roth**, HS golf coach; **Mrs. Abbey Sassaman**, HS math teacher; and **Mrs. Susan Wood**, retired elementary school teacher.

Meet Mrs. Dawn Harris, New Director of Special Education

The district warmly welcomes **Mrs. Dawn Harris** as its new Director of Special Education and Pupil Services. Mrs. Harris has been an educator and practitioner in Chester and Berks County public schools for more than twenty years. She has worked at Owen J. Roberts, Muhlenberg, Conrad Weiser Area and Wilson school districts. Mrs. Harris has taught at both the elementary and secondary levels with specific assignments in mixed category, learning support, K-2 inclusion, and as a third grade classroom teacher. Prior to coming to Schuylkill Valley, Mrs. Harris was the Elementary and Middle School Special Education Supervisor at the Wilson School District.

In her new role with Schuylkill Valley, Mrs. Harris looks forward to connecting with faculty, staff and the community. "We will be focusing on creating vertical alignment in our K-

12 Special Education programs and working to meet the needs of all learners in the District," Mrs. Harris said. "I believe that school is a place where all staff members inspire every student to become his/her best self by creating connections between classrooms and the world. It is critical that schools create relevance for students in their educational programs so that students can move forward into adulthood on their chosen paths successfully."

Mrs. Harris obtained her bachelor's degrees in Early Childhood Education and Special Education from Lock Haven University. She completed her master's degree in Educational Leadership at Alvernia University and obtained her Supervisor of Special Education Certification through the Pennsylvania State University. She is currently completing her Superintendent Letter of Eligibility Certification through California University of Pennsylvania. In addition to serving as the Director of Special Education and Pupil Services for the Schuylkill Valley School District, Mrs. Harris is also an adjunct faculty member at Alvernia



University. She is married to **Mr. Todd Harris** and is the mother of Joshua and Jane, and two canine family members, Ellie and Cesky. She loves to travel, having visited many European countries, cherishes time with family outdoors, and enjoys spending time at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. To reach Mrs. Harris, please contact her at dharris@schuylkillvalley.org



Special Track and Field Meet Held at Schuylkill Valley

Schuylkill Valley was again the host of the **Berks County Special Track and Field Invitational**, which took place on a beautifully sunny day in May at the high school's brand new stadium.

Forty-seven SV student-athletes, representing grades K–12, participated alongside visitors from Antietam, Brandywine Heights, Oley Valley and BCIU's PAL program for a total of 125 athletes. The motto for the event was "Believe in US because WE can ACHIEVE." For that day, the student-athletes were able to put the challenges they face every day on the "back burner" and just experience the joy of running, jumping and throwing. All abilities were welcomed and celebrated by upper class buddies and student helpers who supported the athletes throughout the day, and by teachers, classmates and friends who visited the stadium during the events. Special thanks to **Miss Dana Carter**, a special education teacher at the middle school, who organizes all the moving parts for this event each year.

To view a video depicting SV participants and their placement in the meet. Click in this box.

For a list of student-athletes, buddies and sponsors, please click in this box.

<https://youtu.be/fCnsW9BJFqk>



High School Students of the Month and Year Awards

On May 8, junior and senior students were honored with Student of the Month and Student of the Year awards presented by the Central Berks Lions Club and the Bern Township Lions Club. Students were selected based

HIGH SCHOOL

on their academic performance, co-curricular participation and volunteer service.

Junior students of the month and year, from left: **Molly Weidner, Allyson Rea, Elysia Davila, Liz Heffner, Mikayla Davis, Charanya Birabaharan, Scott Horning** (Junior Student of the Year), **Alexis Szymczyk, Emily VanderSleen**



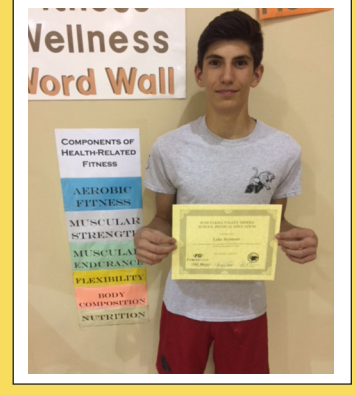
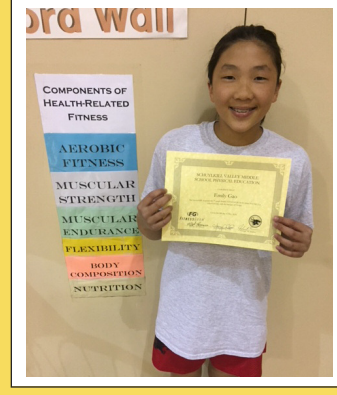
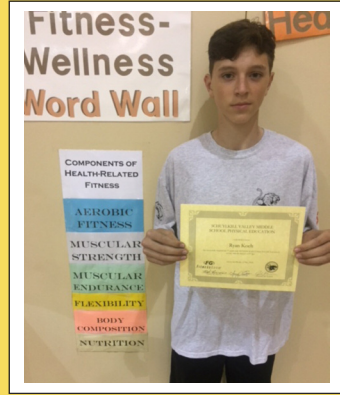
Senior students of the month and year, from left: **Kasey Bubel, Mary Brooks, Connor Becker, Zachary Bevans, Lucas Horrell, Donald Ballou, Liz Clement, Joe Jardine, Colby Stichter, Olivia Jenkins** (Senior Student of the Year)



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fourth Grade Chorus Leads Crowd in National Anthem

The fourth grade chorus, led by elementary music teacher **Miss Sarah Kreider**, sang the National Anthem before the Fightin' Phils baseball game on May 22 at Schuylkill Valley night at First Energy Stadium. Students from all three Schuylkill Valley school buildings were also recognized before the game.



Gabrielle Keith, 6th grade, **Ryan Koch**, 7th grade, **Emily Gao**, 7th grade, and **Luke Seymour**, 8th grade, set new school records in the PACER test this year.

Middle School Students Set New Records For Fitness Goals

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students in **Mr. Nicholas Pirrocco's** Physical Education class performed the aerobic capacity FITNESSGRAM 15-meter PACER Test and Push-Up Test in May. The PACER test measures an individual's aerobic endurance. During the fitness unit, students learned about and targeted the main health-related components of fitness (aerobic/cardio fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance and flexibility). Throughout the school year, students develop these components during their warm-up, in preparation for the fitness assessment measures, as well as their overall wellness.

This year's champions in the tests are as follows:

PACER Test (*designates new school record)

6th Grade Female:

Gabrielle Keith, 75 Laps*

6th Grade Male: **Bradley Harris**, 87 Laps

7th Grade Female: **Emily Gao**, 74 Laps*

7th Grade Male: **Ryan Koch**, 97 Laps*

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8th Grade Female:

Megan Ehrnfeldt, 57 Laps

8th Grade Male:

Luke Seymour, 117 Laps*

PUSH-UP Test

6th Grade Female:

Annie Gao, 50 push-ups

6th Grade Male:

Aiden Moyer, 48 push-ups

7th Grade Female:

Charlotte Baumgard, 32 push-ups

7th Grade Male:

Landon Weaver, 65 push-ups

8th Grade Female:

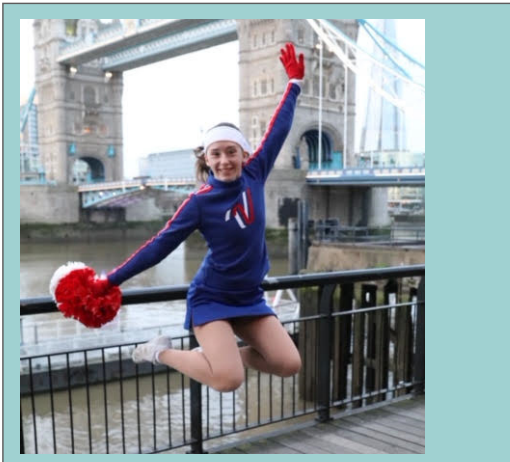
Megan Ehrnfeldt, 45 push-ups

8th Grade Male:

Brian Harris, 40 push-ups

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

High Schooler Brings American Cheer to Great Britain



Junior Hannah Riggins, daughter of **Donald and Marian Riggins**, Ontelaunee Township, was one of 1,200 cheerleaders from across the United States selected to participate in the Varsity Spirit Cheer Tour on New Year's Day, 2018, in London, England. Tryouts took place last summer at Pine Forest Universal Cheerleaders Association Cheer Camp in Honesdale, Wayne County. Five Schuylkill Valley cheerleaders, including sophomores **Madison Calleja** and **Lillian Werley**, Hannah, and seniors **Christian Flammer** and **Kailey Rajnath**, were chosen for the All-American Team. Hannah was the only one who made the trip to London. There she led a cheer in front of Parliament, visited London Bridge and toured Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace.

Last fall, the high school cheerleading team competed in the PIAA state contest and the middle school cheer team won the Berks County competition. We proudly congratulate our student-athletes for their accomplishments in this strenuous, dynamic sport!



Student Claims First Prize in State Competition

Takoda Hartman, 12th grade, son of **Tom and Lynn Hartman**, Bern Township, won first prize out of fourteen competitors in Diesel Technology in the State Skills USA competition held in Hershey in April. Takoda is a student at BCTC in the Diesel Technology program. As the Pennsylvania state champion, Takoda will compete in the National competition in Louisville, KY in June. We are proud of your accomplishment!

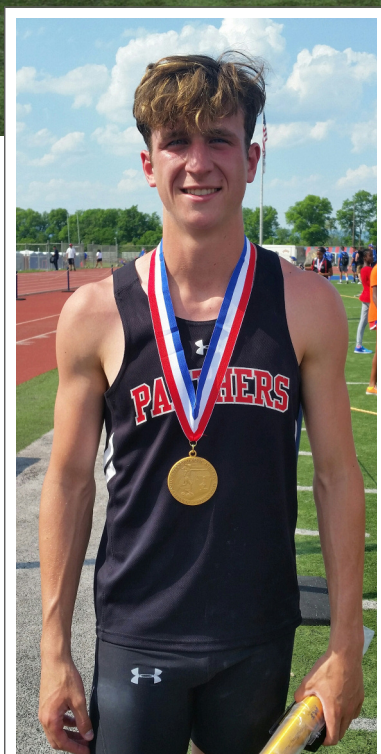


Dairy Royalty in Schuylkill Valley

Class of 2016 alumna **Samantha Haag** and junior **Mikayla Davis** were recently crowned as the Berks County Dairy Princess and Berks County Alternate Dairy Princess, respectively. The two will represent and promote the benefits of dairy throughout the upcoming year at fairs, schools and community events.

SPRINGSports

Boys' PIAA 2A Track and Field State Champions



Senior Joe Jardine,
state champion



Senior Brendan Sparr,
state bronze medalist

For the third time in seven seasons, the Schuylkill Valley Boys Track and Field team has captured the state PIAA Class 2A championship title. Led by seniors **Joe Jardine** and **Brendan Sparr**, the team dominated the meet, held in Shippensburg May 25 – 26. Jardine not only won the long jump and pole vault competitions, he also broke the Class 2A state and Berks County pole vault records by clearing 16'3". Sparr claimed bronze in the long jump and 100m dash, and SV's relay teams racked up points to win the day. The boys are coached by **Mr. Terry McKechnie** and **Mrs. Allyson McKechnie**, head coaches, and **Mr. Brian Boyer**, **Mrs. Crystal Cammauf**, **Mr. Kenny Grauer**, **Mr. Todd Reinert** and **Mr. Daniel Shuman**.



Track and Field Awards

Team Awards

1st place, PIAA Class 2A State Meet; 1st place, District III, Class 2A Meet; 2nd place, BCIAA County Meet

Individual Awards

Logan Grauer, 12th grade:
5th place, 300m hurdles, PIAA Class 2A state meet; 1st place, 300m hurdles and 3rd place, 110m hurdles, District III meet; 2nd place 300m hurdles, BCIAA meet

Joseph Jardine, 12th grade:
1st place, long jump and pole vault (new state record), PIAA Class 2A state meet; 1st place, pole vault, and 5th place, 100m dash, District III meet; 1st place, pole vault and 2nd place, long jump, BCIAA meet

Delanie Heck-Hoppes, 12th grade:
8th place, 400m run, District III meet

Kyle Livinghouse, 12th grade:
7th place, 800m run, District III meet

Alex Milaneck, 10th grade:
5th place, pole vault, District III meet

Brian Porter, 10th grade:
2nd place, pole vault, District III meet

Ben Reisenweaver, 12th grade:
3rd place, 800m run, District III meet

Brendan Sparr, 12th grade:
3rd place, long jump, and 3rd place, 100m dash, PIAA Class 2A state meet; 1st place, 100m dash, District III meet; 1st place, long jump, BCIAA meet

Colby Stichter, 12th grade:
8th place, 800m run, District III meet

Luke Williams, 12th grade:
2nd place, 400m run, and 3rd place, 200m run, District III meet; 1st place, 200m dash, BCIAA meet

Relays

4x100m relay: 2nd place, PIAA Class 2A meet; 1st place, District III Class 2A meet; 2nd place, 4x100m relay, BCIAA meet – **Logan Grauer, Joseph Jardine, Brendan Sparr** and **Luke Williams**

4x400m relay, 3rd place, PIAA Class 2A meet – **Kyle Livinghouse, Delanie Heck-Hoppes, Colby Stichter** and **Ben Reisenweaver**

4x400m Relay: 1st Place, District III Class 2A meet - **Logan Grauer, Delanie Heck-Hoppes, Ben Reisenweaver** and **Brendan Sparr**

4x400m relay: 1st place, BCIAA meet – **Logan Grauer, Delanie Heck-Hoppes, Ben Reisenweaver** and **Luke Williams**

4x800m relay: 3rd place, PIAA Class 2A meet; 2nd place, District III Class2A meet; 1st place, BCIAA meet – **Delanie Heck-Hoppes, Kyle Livinghouse, Ben Reisenweaver,** and **Colby Stichter**

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Kasey Bubel, 12th grade:
1st place, pole vault, BCIAA meet

Olivia Jenkins, 12th grade:
2nd place, triple jump, BCIAA meet

Get Your Summer Reading On!

The SV Middle School Library will be open for all middle school students in the Schuylkill Valley community from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on June 11, June 25, July 9, July 23 and August 6.**

Stop by to pick up a great summer read and get a jump on the Twenty-Five Book Challenge!



Reading Olympics

On May 2, students from the elementary school competed in the Reading Olympics held at Brandywine Heights Middle School. Under the direction of elementary school librarian **Mrs. Stephanie Jacobs** and fourth grade teachers **Mrs. Elizabeth**



Schucker and **Mrs. Marsha Townsend**, students collaborated throughout the school year with their teammates to read forty-five books selected by a committee of librarians, reading specialists and classroom teachers. By answering key questions about the books, *The Reading Superheroes* and *Like Totally Rad Readers* placed first, and the *Book Bandits* tied for third place in overall points for the evening. As a celebration of reading rather than a competition, all participants in the Reading Olympics were awarded ribbons.

Muhlenberg Middle School was the host of the Reading Olympics for our four 6th, 7th and 8th grade teams. Led by middle school librarian **Mrs. Emily Calaman**, team members read fifty books throughout the school year, competing on May 10 to display their reading knowledge. Each of the middle school's teams – *The Dropped Croissants*, *Say Colorado*, *I'm a Giraffe* and *Fre Sha Voca Do* placed in the competition, with *The Dropped Croissants* and *Say Colorado* taking first place in their grade levels, and *I'm a Giraffe* placing first as well as ranking third in overall points. In addition to their achievements, the teams all demonstrated respect, teamwork and good sportsmanship.



Mrs. Deborah Werstler and Fightin' Phils first baseman Mr. Kyle Martin talked baseball with students.



Fightin' Phils pitcher Mr. Luke Leftwich coached students in baseball trivia.

Readers Win Assembly

In recognition of the elementary school's outstanding \$8,000 donation to the Reading-Berks Literacy Council's "Readers Win" campaign, students were treated to a visit by two of the Fightin' Phils baseball players this spring. At a school-wide assembly in May, **Mr. Kyle Martin** and **Mr. Luke Leftwich**, of the Fightin' Phils, played baseball trivia with students

who donated \$100 or more during the Read-A-Thon. Special thanks to **Mrs. Deborah Werstler**, ESL and Reading Specialist, who coordinates SV's participation in the campaign every year.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A Note of Thanks

Jessie Shomo, 11th grade, was the driving force, along with the high school's physical education department and the Future Medical Profes-

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sionals of America club, for the "Strides For Shomo" fundraiser held this spring. Jessie, the daughter of



David (Jr.) and Kristine Shomo, Bern Township, lives with neurofibromatosis, a disease that causes tumors to form on nerve tissue. For the fundraiser, any SV student who raised thirty dollars or more to build awareness about neurofibromatosis was exempt from completing the mile for time in gym class. Sixty-six students participated and raised \$2,480 to support the Children's Tumor Foundation at this June's Neurofibromatosis Walk in Philadelphia. "Thank you to everyone who helped out with the "Strides for Shomo" fundraiser," Jessie said. "I was very shocked that many people and staff took the time to donate and raise awareness for my disease. Thank you, SV family, for supporting me on my journey."



Members of the high school's Literary Magazine club welcomed county students to the festival, held in the high school library.

Berks County High School Poetry Festival

On April 6, the Schuylkill Valley Literary Magazine Club hosted the Berks County High School Poetry Festival, "Lights

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Across The Valley," honoring the poetic language of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. Senior **Ellen Robinson**, editor-in-chief of the club, invited participants and arranged the schedule, and **Mrs. Patricia Kramer**, high school English teacher and Literary Magazine Club advisor, welcomed students to the event. Students from Boyertown Area, Daniel Boone Area, Kutztown Area, SV, Tulpehocken Area, Wilson and Wyomissing Area high schools gathered in the library to network and read original poetry aloud. A variety of themes were explored, from loss to violence to love and individuality, and students expressed themselves in spoken word, rap and music.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Horticulture Students Have Watershed Moment

Junior **Mikayla Davis** and seniors **Michael Dailey**, **Ashley Spatz** and **Mackenzie Homan** took third prize in the 2018 "Paint the Rain" competition sponsored by the Berks County Conservation District. The students designed and painted a rain barrel reflecting this year's theme - *Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home*. They learned about the value of rain barrels and passed their knowledge along during this year's Open Greenhouse in April. All of the students are part of the Horticulture class, taught by high school science teacher **Mrs. Lisa Chillot**.



HIGH SCHOOL



Technology Day

The district held its second Innovation and Technology Day in April to showcase for community members and volunteers the many creative ways that students in all three buildings are using 21st century technology to become the leaders of the future.

Led by **Mr. Michael Billman**, Director of Instructional and Informational Technology, visitors observed students in photo and music labs, woodworking and 3-D printing shops, the TV studio at the high school, STEM and Genius Hour classes at the middle school, and 1:1 Chromebook and Discovery education classes in the elementary school. Visitors gained perspective on the depth of learning opportunities available throughout the district to engage all students.





SHOW TIME!

Panthers-On-Parade presented the spring musical, "Sister Act," at the high school auditorium.



Students at the middle school presented "The Lion King, Jr." in April.



schuylkill valley
SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALUMNI NEWS

Calling all members of the class of 1968!

A 50th reunion will be held on Saturday,
October 6, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
at Weaver's Banquet Facility, Denver, PA.

The price per person is \$26, which includes a
hot buffet, soda, coffee, tea and dessert.

The deadline for payment and registration
is September 19. For more information and
to register, contact **Nancy Wagner James** at
610-562-2850. To connect with classmates,
visit the Schuylkill Valley High School Alumni
Memoriam page on Facebook.

50th

This issue of the Schuylkill
Valley School District Newsletter
is available online **ONLY** at
www.schuylkillvalley.org.

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please call the Administration
Center at 610-916-0957.