

Neshaminy UPDATE

June 2016



Neshaminy School District
Langhorne, PA

www.neshaminy.org

The digital classroom comes to life

How are students using iPads every day in school? We asked Bill Lever, a 6th grade social studies teacher at Maple Point Middle School, to describe iPad use in his classroom:

Digital natives. That is what these kids are called. They have grown up with digital technology at their disposal but ironically, prior to this year, the only place where they were unable to use this technology was in school. So when they received their iPads, they were not concerned with learning how it works, they were simply excited to use it during the school day.

I have been referring to the students as pioneers all year long and praising them for taking risks as learners. Trying new applications. The first use of the iPad in our classroom was access to our 'Learning Management System' (LMS) called Canvas. The Canvas LMS allows the students to access the learning targets, materials, procedures, and assignments for a particular lesson. As the learning coach, I can use Canvas with the iPad in almost unlimited ways:

Communication: Daily practice/homework rather than requiring each student to access a particular website for each individual teacher in order to see a daily assignment,

I can send a mass announcement to each individual student's iPad. Students can send the teacher, individual students, or a group of students messages through the LMS.

Class Discussions: Prior to the iPad a class discussion would consist of one student talking and 34 other students listening. Now, the students can think about their

>> *Continued on page 4*



New school, administration changes for 2016-2017

The end of the 2015-2016 school year brings a number of big changes to Neshaminy, including the closing of Oliver Heckman Elementary School and Lower Southampton Elementary School, the reassignment of staff members from those buildings to other facilities including Tawanka Elementary School, which is on track to open for the 2016-2017 school year in August, and the appointment of current and new administrators in several key positions.

The Neshaminy School Board of Directors formally approved hiring **Joseph Jones, III** as the new Superintendent at their June 7 meeting. The contract with Mr. Jones begins August 1, 2016 and runs through June 30, 2020. He was hired after an extensive search conducted by the Bucks County Intermediate Unit on behalf of the District.

Troy Bodolus has been appointed as the Principal of Walter Miller ES. Mr. Bodolus is completing an Acting Principal role at Oliver Heckman Elementary School. Prior to his assignment at Oliver Heckman, Mr. Bodolus served as an assistant principal at Maple Point Middle School.

Dr. David Glennon has been appointed as the Principal of Herbert Hoover Elementary School in Langhorne. Dr. Glennon has over twenty years of elementary experience,

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday August 9
Neshaminy Education Foundation
C&I Conference Room, Maple Point, 2 pm

Tuesday August 16
Public Board Meeting
7 pm

Tuesday September 13
Board Public Work Session
7 pm

Tuesday September 27
Public Board Meeting, 7 pm

All meetings held at the Maple Point District Board Room unless otherwise indicated.

Please consult the Neshaminy district web site for any updates and/or additions.

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

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Stephen Pirritano	1
Bob Feather	2
Mike Morris	2
Robert Sanna	2
Irene Boyle, Vice-President	3
Ron Rudy	3
Marty Sullivan	3

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Acting Superintendent and
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
Instruction & Assessment

Mr. Anthony Devlin
Director of Pupil Services

Mr. Don Harm
Educational Consultant

Mrs. Theresa Hinterberger
Director of Human Resources

Mrs. Barbara Markowitz
Business Administrator

Mr. Paul Meehan
Director of Administration

Board passes 2016-17 budget

At the June 21 Public Board Meeting, the Neshaminy School Board of Directors passed a 2016-2017 budget after weeks of work. The good news for District property owners is that the \$179 million budget will not require a tax increase this year, which is the seventh year in a row that property taxes have remained unchanged at 152 mills. Approximately \$8.8 million was used from the District's \$41 million fund balance to fill a gap between revenues and expenditures, which includes \$2 million for PSERS (pension) payments and a \$1 million assigned fund balance appropriation for technology infrastructure.

Neshaminy, like other Pennsylvania school districts, is facing challenges from increased pension obligations, health care costs, student services and decreased state and federal funding. By increasing the fund balance over the past several years, the District has been able to avoid tax hikes while implementing Road Map projects to improve aging school buildings while seeking operational savings by closing three elementary schools and constructing Tawanka Elementary School to replace them. Renovation work completed at Carl Sandburg MS, Albert Schweitzer ES and Herbert Hoover ES last summer is shifting to Poquessing MS and Ferderbar ES with various projects this summer.

In May, the Board also approved refinancing a 2007 \$9.5 million bond issue to take advantage of the District's excellent 'Aa1' Moody's Investor Service bond rating, and currently low finance interest rates. Moody's cited the "sizable tax base with above-average wealth, and strong financial position after six consecutive operating surpluses" for their rating. This move is expected to save the District about \$1.9 million over the remaining life of the bond, about 12 years.

Details of the new budget can be found on the District web site, www.neshaminy.org.

Changes

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which includes 12 years serving as principal, including his current assignment as principal at Southern Elementary School, in New Castle, Delaware.

Michael Rodriguez has been reassigned as the new Principal of Tawanka Elementary School in Lower Southampton. Mr. Rodriguez has been the principal at Herbert Hoover Elementary School for 4.5 years, and just completed his 12th year as a principal. Mr. Rodriguez has served in the capacity of both elementary and high school principal in his career as an administrator, which includes 6.5 years in the Allentown Area School District. Mr. Rodriguez is also currently enrolled in the National Institute for School Leadership / Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Distinguished Principal Program.

Paul Mahoney has been appointed to an administrator role in Pupil Services. Mr. Mahoney just completed his seventh year as principal of Walter Miller Elementary School. Prior to his

appointment at Walter Miller, Mr. Mahoney served in the capacity of Principal at both Pearl Buck Elementary and the Tawanka Learning Center.

Shawn Neely has been appointed Assistant Principal of Maple Point Middle School. Mr. Neely brings 11 years of administrative experience to the district; serving as a principal for the last six years at Pennsbury High School. Prior to his administrative experience, Mr. Neely taught science at Pennsbury High School and LaSalle High School.

Tawanka update

What looked like a jumble of girders and concrete blocks just a few short months ago is now looking much closer to a completed school building. According to Facilities Director Paul Minotti, who has been overseeing the construction for the District, crews are progressing on schedule and the school is still on track to hold its first classes with the start of the new school year in late August. The classroom wings are over 80% complete, including flooring, cabinets, wiring, plumbing, computer network wiring, ceiling tiles, and fixtures. The gymnasium is complete, and work on the 'cafetorium' is in the process of floor installation and painting. The cafeteria kitchen should be operational by mid-July.

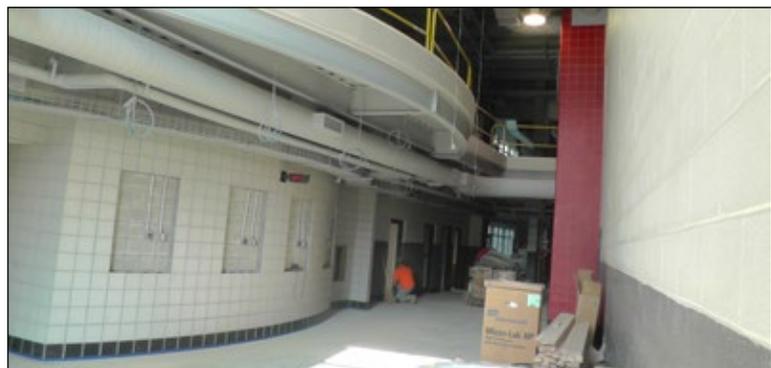


NSD Facilities Director Paul Minotti gives a tour of Tawanka to new Principal Michael Rodriguez June 22.

Exterior facade work is well under way, and separate playgrounds for kindergarten students and grades 1-4 have been installed. Paving and landscaping are scheduled for early July.

By the beginning of August, all areas will be mostly complete and movers will be bringing furniture, supplies and teacher's boxes from other buildings. Staff assignments have been completed and teacher web pages have been moved to the school web site.

Plans for a community open house at Tawanka before the start of the new school year are under way. Details of that will be made available in late July once the dates have been finalized.



CURRICULUM NEWS

New math texts support standards, technology

Middle school math and Algebra 1 students will have a new textbook series for the upcoming academic year. The previous textbook series was used to help support teachers as we transitioned to the Math Common Core State Standards. The new series, from McGraw Hill's Glencoe Math, contains a closer alignment to the PA Core Standards for Mathematics and provides resources for putting the Mathematical Practice Standards into action.

The middle school math program will build on a solid foundation in whole numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, and decimals. This program will allow students to use math concepts and procedures to think and reason mathematically.

This curriculum material will support teachers as they design lessons to address the scope and conceptual development of the target skills students are expected to acquire at each grade level. The series contains the three components of rigor: conceptual understanding, application and procedural skill, and fluency. This will allow students to acquire a deep understanding of mathematical concepts and the ability to apply them in real-world situations.

In keeping with increased technology use at Neshaminy, the new series will allow students and teachers to move easily between print and digital. Students can use iPads, laptops and personal devices to access the materials on demand, at home and at school. The program includes interactive lesson presentations, personal tutorials and animations, virtual manipulatives, and inquiry labs.

Online writing program expands

This year, the Neshaminy High School English Department piloted the electronic writing program Turnitin.com, which allowed students and teachers to work with an interactive portfolio system where critical feedback and targeted responses could be increased and better facilitated. The success of the writing system has prompted Neshaminy School District to initiate a whole school endeavor to transition the entire high school to the Turnitin.com program, so that reliable teacher-student feedback, Pennsylvania Common Core driven rubrics, and increased participation in the writing process can be the norm for every subject for the 2016-2017 school year.

BCIT partners with Junior Achievement

The Business, Computer and Information Technology (BCIT) Department partnered with Junior Achievement (JA) to bring their entrepreneurial program to Neshaminy High School for the months of April and May. "JA Be Entrepreneurial," teaches students how realistic an entrepreneurial venture can be. Junior Achievement's unique approach allows volunteers from the community to deliver curriculum while sharing their experiences with students. JA volunteers have been trained and visit students one class period a week for seven weeks. All teaching material and

student supplies are provided by Junior Achievement.

Two BCIT Entrepreneurship classes at Neshaminy High School have benefited from the Junior Achievement lessons. Steven Flaumenbaum and Helga Kogut, retired Langhorne residents, are trained JA volunteers interested in sharing their professional knowledge and experiences with students.

When asked specifically about the benefits derived from the JA program, Mr. Flaumenbaum remarked, "This was a new experience for me and I enjoyed it. It is a pleasure to contribute in

any way that might help teach entrepreneurial skills to the students."

Mrs. Helga Kogut also found it rewarding, saying "It has been interesting and fun to share my own experiences of entrepreneurship with the students through the activities designed and planned by Junior Achievement."

Following participation in the JA program, students are able to recognize characteristics and practices of successful entrepreneurs, evaluate an entrepreneurial idea based on product, customer and competitive-advantage criteria and demonstrate business-planning skills for venture start-up, marketing, finance, management and ethical decision-making.

NHS offers high-tech crimefighting course

The days of an old-fashioned gumshoe out interviewing witnesses at the scene of a crime aren't completely over, but detective work and the crimes themselves are certainly changing along with technology.

According to Interpol, "Cybercrime is the fastest growing area of crime in the world with more criminals exploiting the convenience of anonymity and the speed of the internet to commit crime." With this explosion of cybercrime, there comes career opportunities in the technology field. From 2012 to 2022 the US Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates an increase of 22% or more in careers for the field of cyber forensics. That equates to approximately 120,000 new jobs. For those students who decide to follow this career path, the job prospects are excellent.

This school year, Neshaminy High School offered a BCIT Cyber Forensics and Digital Law course and is one of only a handful of high schools in the nation giving students the opportunity to explore the subject. The curriculum covers the principles of cyber forensics and the relationship between cyber forensics and law with specific topics such as: how to encrypt and decrypt messages, recovery of deleted information on various devices, recovery of the unseen information created when any digital devices are utilized, and the legal consequences for using digital devices in the commission of a crime such as texting while involved in an auto accident. The curriculum uses real cases and also explores some of the areas where the law has not been established, such as the FBI's request to Apple to break into an encrypted cell phone. The culmination of the course is a mock trial in which most of the evidence is digital.



Digital classroom

(continued from page 1)

response to a question, post their response on Canvas, read their peers thoughts on the question, and post a rebuttal to any response with which they agree/disagree. Once the ideas are out in the open, a deeper verbal discussion can take place.

Assessments: Formative and summative assessment is now done electronically. Apps like *Socrative*, *Quizzez*, *Quizlet* and *Kahoot* are beneficial in allowing students to practice with the learning targets prior to taking the actual exam. The more experience they have with these 'practice tests,' the more confident they will be when taking the summative assessment. Using Canvas for assessments is beneficial in many ways - first and foremost, the students receive instant feedback on their performance and no longer need to wait several days for the teacher to grade each test individually. As the learning coach, I can decide what feedback they receive by turning on or off special features within Canvas. I also receive useful data about the class performance. Canvas breaks down 'whole class' performance, individual student performance, item analysis, etc. This data can be used for remediation, evaluation of test validity, and more. For instance, Canvas will let me know how many students missed question #7, which may be connected to a particular learning target. If most kids are missing this question, there is a reason. Is the question flawed? Did I do a poor job explaining the content during the lesson? Did the students make an incorrect connection between two concepts? I can examine my lessons to find a potential cause.

Applications: We have used the iPads for writing assignments, note taking, production of classroom newscasts, collaborative discussions, drawing pictures as visual mnemonics, research, practice games, testing, etc.



The 1:1 program, in conjunction with the Canvas LMS has revolutionized my classroom. In the past, teachers would need to cross their fingers and hope that the computer carts were available on the day they were needed, during the classes they were needed. If they were able to get the cart, the computers were notoriously slow and difficult for students to access/log on. In addition, if students didn't log off the computer correctly, the number of problems faced by subsequent classes would increase. As a result, the technology was avoided by many teachers. With the 1:1, I know the tech will be available. Currently, the only problems we face are with individual students forgetting to charge their iPads and occasional issues with certain apps on individual iPads. This does put pressure on our IT department to make sure the system is up and running on a daily basis. Once we are fully implemented, iPads and Canvas will be how we teach, not simply something new and different.

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

District

Suzi Drake named 'Teacher of the Year'

Congratulations to Neshaminy High School teacher Suzi Drake, who was named Teacher of the Year by the Feasterville Rotary at their June meeting. Ms. Drake is an English teacher who is a tireless advocate for her students and the Neshaminy community. She is involved with a variety of clubs, projects and community activities, including the Interact Club and the Neshaminy Education Foundation. Former Superintendent Dr. Gary Bowman presented the award.



Teachers take to the water for charity

The 'Neshaminy Dragons' rowing team participated in the 10th Annual Paddle for Pink at Mercer County Park, New Jersey on June 24. Teachers and support staff - representing every Neshaminy school - participated in this fantastic event. Team captains Pete and Carole Curtin said, "This is a great way for community outreach and it raises money for breast cancer research!"



District recognized for financial excellence

Neshaminy Business Administrator Barbara Markowitz has once again been recognized for Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Pearl S. Buck Elementary

Fourth-grade gets career advice

On June 2nd, 4th grade students got the opportunity to learn about the journey and careers of an attorney, a police officer, a medical device salesperson, a children's author and a dental assistant. Each speaker delivered a 20 minute presentation including a question and answer session. As a follow up activity and a way of giving thanks, our students crafted cards to a speaker with whom they made a career connection.

Students answer the question, 'Pourquoi?'

A *pourquoi* story ('pourquoi' means 'why' in French), also

known as an origin story, is a fictional narrative that explains why something is the way it is. Many legends and folktales are pourquoi stories.

Students in Ms. McCafferty's classroom completed research for their paper & pencil non-fiction books on an animal of their choice. Then they read different pourquois and watched some on Tinga Tinga (YouTube). Next, students chose an element of their animal they wanted to tell about (legs, tail etc) and put this story into BookCreator on an iPad. Each child wrote and illustrated a 5 page book and recorded their voice so that parents were able to enjoy them at the A-9 Book Bash on Thursday, May 26th.

Fourth-grade gets the 'Spirit of Aloha'

Fourth grade students throughout the District celebrated their graduation from elementary school to middle school during 'Move-Up' days. At Buck, the PTO added a touch of the islands to the celebration by decorating the gymnasium like a tropical paradise.



Joseph Ferderbar Elementary

Miller / Ferderbar students join Reading Olympics

Reading Olympics has always inspired kids to become lifelong readers. Since 1993, the purpose of this event is to encourage children to read more than they currently do, to read a greater variety of books, and to enjoy the excitement of reading and talking about books. Children read in teams to share the challenge of reading the selection of books with their friends. The books chosen for the Ferderbar/Miller event are from the Book Club in the second grade Superkids reading program.

The Reading Olympics competition is the culmination of the program that has teams of students reading books from a prepared list for several months prior to the final event.

Though the event has typically been for fourth graders and beyond, this year Miller and Ferderbar's second graders have jumped on the Reading Olympics bandwagon. Under the direction of the building reading specialists Catherine Riley and Linda Baker, the second grade teams competed at Ferderbar. on June 2nd. Congratulations to all teams for being Blue and Red Ribbon winners.

Celebrities have their say at Wax Museum

Third-grade students dressed up as historic, sports and



entertainment figures on June 10 and told classmates and approximately 200 parents about their characters during a 'Wax Museum' in the gymnasium.

Oliver Heckman Elementary

Outdoor party celebrates Heckman community



On Sunday June 12, Heckman students and their families came together for one last time to enjoy an end-of-year party presented by the PTO. Oliver Heckman, which opened its doors for the first time in 1966, is closing as part of the District's Road Map plan. Students will be attending either Tawanka Elementary School or Pearl S. Buck Elementary School in the fall.

The carnival, which was postponed from June 5 due to inclement weather, included a number of games, cotton candy, water ice, a dunk tank and other fun activities.

Also, during the final week of classes at the building, students gathered on the playground for a final all-school photo.



Herbert Hoover Elementary

100 Book Challenge celebrates reading

In June Hoover celebrated reading with what looked like a Halloween parade outside the school at first, until you looked a little closer and realized that the first and second grade students were dressed as their favorite characters from a book they read this year. Others made a poster about a book, and they showed off their efforts for their schoolmates and a number of parents. The top readers were recognized - those that read the most books - and the parent volunteers who kept a fresh supply of books in the classrooms all year were also honored.

County helps fund historical field trip

Fourth grade students at Hoover had the opportunity to visit historic Pennsbury Manor in Morrisville on May 25 with a little



help from the Bucks County Commissioners. The county covered the cost of transportation in order to promote student visitation to Bucks County historic and recreational sites.

Lower Southampton Elementary

Open House celebrates history, community



Hundreds of students, parents, and community members attended the final open house on Monday June 6. The event, which was a group effort organized by staff members and the PTO, was a chance to tour the school and reminisce one final time before it closed for good at the end of the school year.

The school is being replaced by Tawanka Elementary School, which is scheduled to be opened in August. All Lower South students will attend Tawanka along with some students from Heckman and Ferderbar Elementary Schools. The District is pursuing possible lease or sale opportunities for the Lower Southampton Elementary building, which opened in 1950.

The walls of the school were covered with photos, and historical items were on display including the contents of a time capsule from 1992 that was found by a parent volunteer in the school's courtyard. Several former students who attended the school in the 1950's were on hand, and brought their own photos and stories to share.



First grade celebrates Flag Day in song



First-grade students learned the words to a number of patriotic songs and performed them for their families on Tuesday June 14, which is Flag Day in the United States.

Walter Miller Elementary

Dalmatians delight students, staff, families

Dozens of dalmatians - 101 students dressed as dalmatians, to be exact - were the centerpiece of the fourth-grade musical production of the Disney classic '101 Dalmatians' in early June. Students teachers and parents decorated the entire gymnasium with characters from the story, and parents volunteered to make props and costumes. The students learned their lines and stayed at school late for many evenings to rehearse, and delivered three performances for their families and classmates.



Albert Schweitzer Elementary

Girl Scout builds outdoor library

Albert Schweitzer Elementary School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new 'Little Lending Library' outside the school on June 17. The project is a partnership between the Schweitzer Library Media Specialist, Yazmine Adamson and Girl Scout Jackie Allen from Troop 2067 who built it. It's an 'honor system' library that allows kids to exchange books over the summer and beyond.



Maple Point Middle School

Future Problem Solvers compete at internationals

Future Problem Solvers from Neshaminy High School and Maple Point Middle School competed in an international competition held at Michigan State University in early June. Both teams had previously placed highly in the state competition, earning their way to the international level.

The Neshaminy HS students competed against the top 53 teams from around the world, which included 11 countries and 34 states (some states have more than one championship team) this year. The team included Rachel Hoenisch, Justin Harnischfeger, Jessa Raab, Catelyn Ballard and is advised by Joe Pimble. They competed in the senior division, which consists of 10th, 11th,

and 12th grade student teams. Because they are only 10th graders, it made their ranking that much more special. The students placed 9th in the world at the Future Problem Solving International Bowl. The competition was held at Michigan State University and took place from June 1st - June 5th. The topic was "Energy of the Future".

The Maple Point team competed in the junior division and included Brendan Adames, Tyler McCord, Zephan Joseph and Beau Higman. That team is advised by Maple Point teacher Jennifer Howie.

MP gets second No Place for Hate banner

The Maple Point MS No Place for Hate Club accepted their second annual award in a row from the Anti-Defamation League Thursday.

Projects completed this year at Maple Point Middle School include a series of cyberbullying lessons and assemblies for both students and parents aimed at teaching the dangers and effects of cyberbullying, and teaching children to have a safe school climate and respect for others even when using social media. For their second project, the school held a No Place for Hate T-shirt Logo Contest along with conversations around empathy, with the goal of spreading the message of awareness of differences. Their third project explored issues of homelessness after the students learned about organizations

such as The Trevor Project, Children of the Night and the Synergy Project.

The school is one of more than 220 schools and organizations across eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware currently participating in the No Place for Hate program, following Governor Ed Rendell's endorsement in 2006.



Poquessing Middle School

Student artwork chosen for parade program



Tracy Lin, a 7th grade student at Poquessing's artwork was chosen for the cover of the Lower Southampton 4th of July Parade. Each year students from area schools that include Ferderbar Elementary, Poquessing Middle School and St. Catherine Drexel School in grades 2-8 competed. Tracy Lin's artwork won First Place! Tracy was also awarded \$100 and an opportunity to participate in the 4th of July Parade.

Carl Sandburg Middle School

Sandburg family shares a homecoming surprise



8th grader, Steven Jackson got a huge surprise May 27 when his brother, Kyle, surprised him after a long deployment in the Mideast. Steven hadn't seen his brother in over 2 years. Kyle is in the Navy and has been on the Flight Deck aboard the USS Harry S. Truman. Kyle is also a proud Sandburg graduate. The school was thrilled to welcome him home and thank him for his service. Welcome home, Kyle!

Neshaminy High School

Class of 2016 achieves their dream



The rain held off and the temperature stayed comfortably in the 80's as the 648 members of the Neshaminy High School Class of 2016 put on their red and blue caps and gowns for the annual commencement ceremony at Harry E. Franks Stadium June 15.

Class Vice-President Natalie Koch and Treasurer Rebecca Allen started off the student speeches with a greeting, followed by Class Secretary Maria Palmeri and Historian Katherine Suder.

Salutatorian Mikaylah Ladue and Valedictorian Jay Patel also delivered addresses to the crowd. Jay spoke about his journey as a recent immigrant to the United States, who started with a limited command of the English language and American culture.

"Every day for the last eight years, I have tried to remind myself how fortunate I am to live in this land of opportunity," he said during his speech.



Other speakers included Principal Dr. Robert McGee, Acting Superintendent Dr. Gloria Hancock, Class Adviser Kathy Winchester and School Board President Scott Congdon. Both Congdon and McGee are themselves Neshaminy

graduates.

The crowd enjoyed performances by the NHS Concert Band under the direction of Michael Lipton, as well as selections by the NHS Senior Choir, including 'We Are One' under the direction of Kristin Nichols.

91% of this year's graduating class has plans to pursue higher education in the fall. 11 members of the class were honored by Dr. Hancock for their choice to serve their country in the US Military following graduation.

Class President Abigail Bedesem joined NHS vice-principal



Robert Muller on the podium for the ceremony closing. As the air filled with red and blue caps and confetti, families and friends joined the new NHS alumni on the field to celebrate their achievement.

Business students achieve Microsoft certification

All BCIT students who took the Microsoft Certification Test in Excel passed during their first attempt. Congratulations to these students for they are now designated as Microsoft Office Specialists in Excel. The students prepared for the exam by taking the Information Technology 2 course at Neshaminy High School. Additionally, the BCIT Department at Neshaminy High School is an official Microsoft Certification Testing site.

A Microsoft Certification is an industry standard recognized worldwide and can help open doors to potential job opportunities. The BCIT Department is very proud of the students success and recognizes this as a validation of curriculum that works to prepare students for competitive job markets and collegiate study.

NHS students earn 135 college credits at GMU

In June, thirty-seven Neshaminy High School students received college transcripts from Gwynedd Mercy University. Along with their NHS grades. The student transcripts will show three college credits for each Dual Enrollment course taken at Neshaminy High School through the BCIT Department. This has amounted to 135 college credits for the 2015-2016 school year. These credits are transferable to other universities.



Gwynedd Mercy
University

Students taking Accounting 2, Honors Accounting 3, Honors Microeconomics, Honors Macroeconomics or Information Technology 2 are eligible to participate in this partnership with Gwynedd Mercy University. The BCIT curriculum was approved by the University as aligning with their complementary course syllabi and textbooks.

Dual Enrollment is an educational partnership that can be very advantageous for students when planning for undergraduate study.

Club raises money for Nicaraguan artisans

The World Language Club completed participating in the Pulsera Project, selling colorful woven bracelets created by Nicaraguan artisans. Club members sold enough bracelets to raise \$1,250, all of which goes back to Nicaragua to support the artisans and their communities.



Ceremony honors military recruits

Sitting behind tables decorated with red, white and blue balloons, 10 Neshaminy High School seniors who will be joining the military after graduation were honored May 26. One more student will also be entering the military but could not attend the ceremony. Seven are going into the army and four will be joining the Marines.

The tradition of holding a 'Military Commitment Ceremony' started seven years ago as a way for the school and the community to recognize those preparing to serve their country. This year it started with an introduction from Assistant Principal Tom Magdelinskas, a song from the Neshaminy High School Select Choir, words from Acting Superintendent Dr. Gloria Hancock, PA Rep. Frank Farry and David Gibbon from PA Sen. Tomlinson's office. Each student was presented with a certificate as well as citations from the PA House of Representatives and the PA Senate.

The recruits are: Tyler Marks, Bartholomew J. Masciulli, Joshua P. Taylor, Christopher Wojnar: US Marine Corps. Parker Minotti, US Army, West Point Academy Preparatory School. Matthew J. Busch, Colin W. McClurg, Ryan McLaughlin, Devon E. Velasquez, Zachary T. Giberson, Brandon Kinest, US Army.

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