

HALDANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT NEWS



FEBRUARY 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members,

About two weeks ago I was watching our basketball team in a competitive game against Putnam Valley. At halftime, I took a walk upstairs to listen in on an orientation meeting for our entering kindergarten families. This short walk reinforced what would be easy to take for granted in our school community. That is, how our shared campus design affords us an opportunity to experience the full scope of K-12 programming in just a short walk. To see our upperclassmen in the throes of rival competition in one hallway, and the beginning of our relationship with new families in another - the ease of that closeness truly defines the Haldane community.

We enter the second semester preparing to welcome the Class of 2033 to Haldane in September, while helping our seniors, the Class of 2020, finalize their plans for the next phase of their lives.

Following are a few updates on campus happenings over the past month:

Our elementary school welcomed approximately 50 parents to an orientation session for kindergarten students. This is the first phase of a process which includes a screening and student visit to campus. As of today, we anticipate approximately 40 new kindergarten students in the fall.

On February 4th, Haldane Middle School hosted educators from Blind Brook, Chappaqua, Garrison, Peekskill, Putnam Valley, and Carmel school districts as part of the Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES Literacy Learning Walk series. The visit began with an exploration of academic intervention services (AIS) for reading. Danielle Pece, 7th grade English Language Arts teacher, welcomed our guests into her classroom to observe the approaches she utilizes to ensure every student thinks of themselves as a reader. Afterward, the group shared what they noticed and wondered about the lesson. Haldane educators look forward to future visits as we explore ways to continuously improve our teaching and learning.

NEW HALDANE SRO



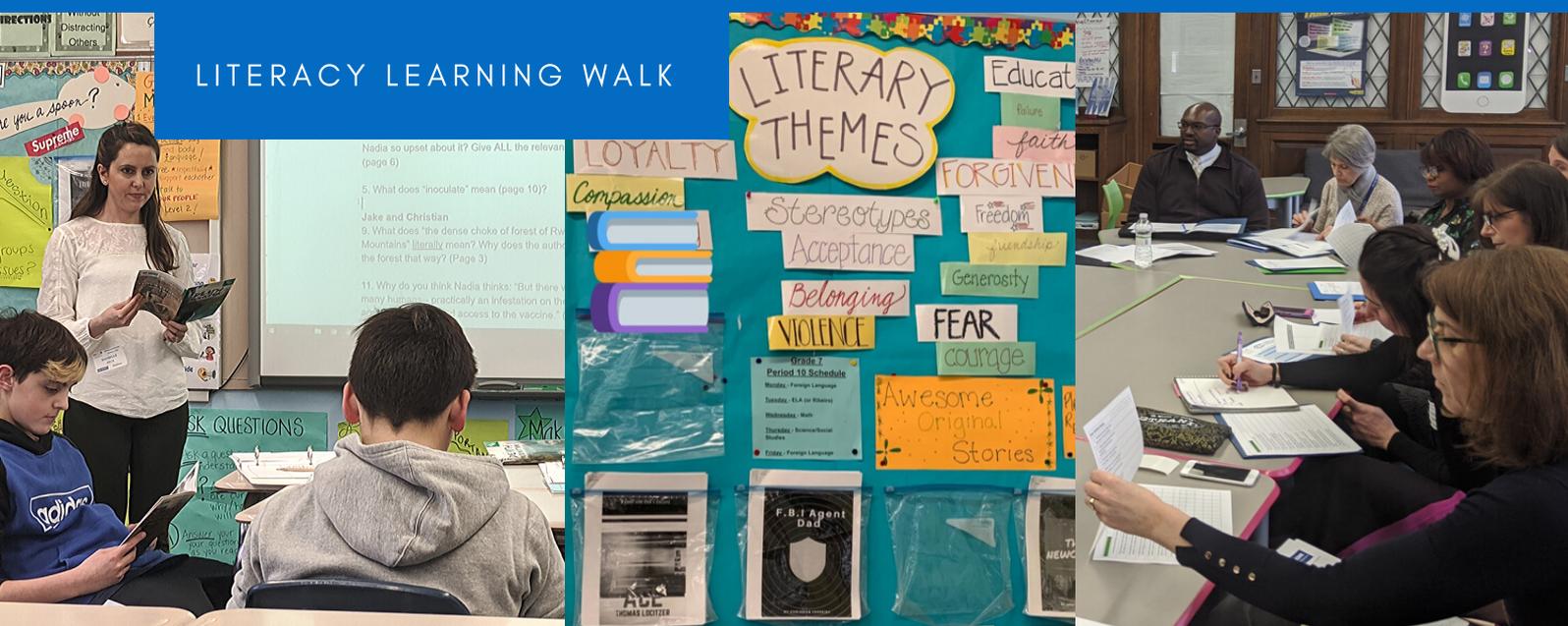
We welcomed a new School Resource Officer, Deputy Amanda Collier, as Deputy Matt Shelters accepted another assignment in the department.

POETRY OUT LOUD



Two of our high school students, Andrew Nachamkin and Aurora McKee, won the school-level competition and advanced to the regional-level competition for Poetry Out Loud.

LITERACY LEARNING WALK



Finally, the District is nearing its completion of a new strategic coherence plan. Over 250 people participated in the second Thought Exchange. You can find the results [here](#).

Sincerely,
Phil Benante, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools