

Mt. Lebanon School Board President's Report
Jacob Wyland
March 15, 2021

Budget Update

At the March 10 Budget Forum, Business Director Rob Geletko presented an in-depth look at the nuances of the 2021-2022 Budget. The presentation is available for the public to view on the website and provides valuable information to better understand the District's budget process and projections. The presentation also discusses how the pandemic has significantly affected the budget. I invite the community to watch it.

JMS PJAS Competition

Jefferson Middle School students achieved four first place and two second place recognitions at this year's Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competition!

Congratulations to first place winners Jessica Yang, Sally Tan, Laila Polat and Michael Zhu as well as to second place winners Sam Wetzel and Clara Sun. The first place winners will now move on to the state competition organized by Pennsylvania State University.

- Jessica Yang conducted a behavioral science project called "Sound's Effect on Memory"
- Laila Polat conducted a chemistry project called "Thermal Impacts of Disintegration of Ibuprofen Formulations"
- Sally Tan conducted a computer science project called "Code Deciphering"
- Michael Zhu conducted a botany experiment called "The Effect of Tea on Plant Growth"

More than 600 students from around the Pittsburgh area competed by conducting and presenting experiments in various fields of science. Our students were sponsored and coached by Kathryn Duchin and Ed Petsko.

Devil's Advocate Award

Congratulations to seniors Jack Horrigan and Kendall Lankford for their first place finish in the Keystone Media Competition, which is run by Pennsylvania's News Media Association. Jack and Kendall won for a story they ran in the October edition of The Devil's Advocate called "A House Divided: 2020 election reveals generation gap."

Jack also won second place in the diversity category for a piece published last year called "District creates diversity task force."

Jack and Kendall served as co-editors-in chief of The Devil's Advocate during the first semester. The Devil's Advocate is in its 54th year of publication. Ms. Dawn Davenport is the DA faculty advisor.