



## ELANCO EXTRA

This newsletter is an official publication of the Eastern Lancaster County School District. Comments or suggestions are to be addressed to:

**ELANCO Extra**  
c/o Dr. Nadine Larkin  
669 E. Main St.  
P.O. Box 609  
New Holland, PA 17557-0609

In partnership with family, business and community, we will provide an environment in which all persons have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and character to become productive citizens in a changing world.

**Visit your schools!**

**Empowering Learners as Global Thinkers and Producers.**

Eastern Lancaster County School District  
669 East Main St.  
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New Holland, PA 17557-0609

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**KINDERGARTEN  
REGISTRATION  
COMING SOON.**  
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# ELANCO EXTRA

Winter 2019

**Eastern Lancaster County School District**



*Democracy Day Group Photo, Photo Courtesy of LNP Media Group, Inc.*

## Eastern Lancaster County School District hosts first ever “Democracy Day” for County High School Students

*by Dr. Robert M. Hollister, Superintendent of Schools*

On October 29, 2018 Garden Spot High School hosted the first ever Democracy Day sponsored by the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Lancaster Newspapers, Inc. The School District was approached last spring by Lancaster Newspapers to host the event. The basic concept was to educate high school students about the political process and provide an authentic political experience. The day started with a whole group discussion about leadership. The students then broke out into smaller groups by assigned topics. After lunch, students observed and participated in the live debate between challenger, Jess King and Congressman Lloyd Smucker. Success exceeded expectations. Representatives from both Lancaster Newspapers and the Chamber of Commerce could not praise Eastern Lancaster County School District enough for hosting the event, for how smoothly the event ran, and for the success that it had in hitting the educational aspirations.

As I welcomed students approaching the main lobby, walking in two by two, that is to say, two representatives from nearly every public, parochial, and private school, as well as, homeschooled representatives, I met bright, confident, and friendly young people and... future leaders! In all, 64 students participated in a morning of activities that culminated in small groups generating questions that would later be asked of the candidates during the live debate. It was remarkable. I was not the only person to note and observe the following: students from diverse backgrounds and educational settings came together, not knowing one another, and in a very short period of time brought their own perspectives to a group that enabled them to demonstrate the “give and take” required to develop the questions that each group agreed upon to submit to the panel to ask the candidates. Not only did the adults “get” that lesson, the students themselves noted how well they

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## PRE-KINDERGARTEN NIGHTS

**Sponsored by Eastern Lancaster County School District**

*“Empowering learners as global thinkers and producers.”*

You and your child, who will be entering Kindergarten in the 2019-2020 school year, are invited to join us for an introduction to Kindergarten. The programs will be led by our Elementary Instructional Specialists/Coaches and Teachers. They will share activities, games, and information on early literacy and math skills which will help your child get a head start on school success! All three sessions are different. We encourage you to attend all three nights!

**Wednesday, February 13, 2019**  
6:00pm-7:00pm  
Brecknock Elementary  
**Letters and Writing**

**Wednesday, March 6, 2019**  
6:00pm-7:00pm  
Blue Ball Elementary  
**Print Concepts, Rhyming,  
Letter Sounds**

**Thursday, April 11, 2019**  
6:00pm-7:00pm  
New Holland Elementary  
**Numbers, Shapes, Patterns**

**COST:** Free- Come to one, two, or all three sessions. Light refreshments will be served.

**REGISTER:** There are three ways to register:

- Call 717-354-1552
- Online at <https://tinyurl.com/ydh6udsx>
- Scan the QR code with your smartphone







Jasmine Arment '19 & Molly Brennan '19, Garden Spot High School Student Representatives at Democracy Day | Photo Courtesy of LifeTouch Photography

worked with one another, how no one person dominated any one part of the conversation, and how all felt represented in the conversation. It was apparent to the teachers, chaperones, facilitators, and to the students themselves that the political process that frustrates so many of us as adults can work if there is an earnest desire, at a minimum, to understand another's position and perspective. I do not use the word

"inspirational" lightly, but the day's events; what I observed and what I heard was truly inspirational. While there are lots of opinions about how great or not great our Country is at the moment, I can say with great confidence, that our future has much hope in the young people that I witnessed learning, growing, and acting at Democracy Day.

## A Snapshot into Our New ELANCO Faculty and Staff Members

By Dr. Nadine A. Larkin, Assistant Superintendent



For the 2018-2019 school year, ELANCO School District is excited to welcome 23 new faculty and staff members to our educational family. While they are terrific at what they do and have become acclimated to their new surroundings in the district, we wanted to take this opportunity to give you some highlights and insight into their backgrounds and interests.



### Courtney Armstrong

Courtney Armstrong serves as Speech Language Pathologist at New Holland Elementary, Blue Ball Elementary, and

Garden Spot Middle School/High School. She graduated from Duquesne University with a Masters of Science in Speech Language Pathology. In her free time she loves to travel and lived on an island for a period of time. When asked who inspires her, she says "I'm inspired by immigrants. I'm blessed to have two family members who are from other countries (India and Ecuador). I'm inspired by their willingness to leave their home countries to start new lives in the United States."



### Maeve Beebe

Maeve Beebe serves as Certified School Nurse at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from Drexel University with a Bachelors of Science in Nursing. In

her free time, she loves to knit, although she hasn't had much time to do it lately, as her 1 year old keeps her very busy! When asked who inspires her, she says "My mother, because she has handled very difficult situations with grace, dignity and a smile!"



### Melissa Bliss

Melissa Bliss serves as 1st Grade Teacher at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from Bloomsburg University

with Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education and Johns Hopkins University with a Masters of Science in Technology for Educators. Growing up she played field hockey through college and coached field hockey for 10 years. When asked who inspires her she says "my fellow teachers; with just recently returning to the classroom, I am inspired by colleagues and their endless energy, compassion and dedication to making each child's school day meaningful and enriching."



### Megan Cernuto

Megan Cernuto serves as 4th Grade Teacher at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from University of Florida with a Bachelors and Masters of Science in Elementary Education.

Pennsylvania is the fourth state she has

## Save the Date

### Upcoming Events in ELANCO School District

#### FEBRUARY

- February 6** GSHS Parent (Back to School) Night 6:45-8:00p
- February 11** Committee of the Whole Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- February 13** Pre-Kindergarten Night, Brecknock Elementary 6:00p-7:00p  
GSHS Parent (Back to School) Night Snow Make-up)
- February 14** District-wide Early Dismissal: Secondary-11:15a; Elementary 12:30p
- February 15** Teacher In-Service Day: No School for Students
- February 18** Presidents Day: No School for Students/ Inclement Weather Make-up Day
- February 22** Brecknock Elementary STEM Fair 6:00-8:00p
- February 25** School Board Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- February 26** Garden Spot High School Band Concert 7:00-9:00p
- February 28** New Holland School Spirit Day

#### MARCH

- March 6** Pre-Kindergarten Night, Blue Ball Elementary 6:00p -7:00p
- March 11** Committee of the Whole Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- March 14** GSMS Family Fun Night
- March 18** Brecknock Spring Pictures  
School Board Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- March 22** Brecknock PTO Spaghetti Dinner
- March 28** End of Marking Period | Quarter 3

#### APRIL

- April 2** Kindergarten Registration at Garden Spot High/Middle School Complex 12:00-7:00p
- April 3** Kindergarten Registration at Garden Spot High/Middle School Complex 12:00-7:00p

- April 4** Kindergarten Registration at Garden Spot High/Middle School Complex 8:00a-1:30p
- April 8** Committee of the Whole Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- April 11** Pre-Kindergarten Night, New Holland Elementary 6:00p-7:00p
- April 12-14** GSPA Spring Production
- April 15** School Board Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- April 15-17** Grades 3-6 ELA PSSA  
GSMS PSSA English/Language Arts
- April 18** Teacher In-Service Day: No School for Students
- April 19** Good Friday: No School for Students
- April 22** Easter Monday: No School for Students/ Inclement Weather Make-up Day
- April 29-30** Grades 3-6 Math PSSA  
GSMS PSSA Math

#### MAY

- May 1-2** Grade 4 Science PSSA
- May 2** GSMS Spring Concert
- May 6** New Holland 2nd Grade Chorus Concert 7:00p
- May 6-17** Garden Spot High School AP Testing
- May 9** Garden Spot High School Vocal/Jazz/World Beat Concert 7:00-9:00p
- May 13** Committee of the Whole Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- May 13-24** Keystone Testing
- May 14-15** GSMS Keystone Algebra
- May 16** Garden Spot High School Spring Concert 7:00-9:00p
- May 20** School Board Meeting, Community Hall 7:00p
- May 21** Senior Awards Program, Shady Maple
- May 24** District-wide Early Dismissal: Secondary-11:15a; Elementary 12:30p
- May 27** Memorial Day: No School for Students
- May 28** CTC Awards/Graduation Ceremony





# Introducing the new Future Ready PA Index

The Pennsylvania Department of Education recently released the Future Ready PA Index, a one-stop shop for comprehensive information on student and school success.

The Future Ready PA Index recognizes that students, and the schools that serve them, are more than just standardized test scores.

The Future Ready PA Index illustrates academic proficiency, on-track progress, and college and career readiness – helping to demonstrate how schools are preparing students for success after they graduate.

The dashboard is easy to navigate - searchable by district, school, career and technical center, or location; and includes basic information and demographic data for each school.

Visit the Future Ready PA Index online for more information:  
[www.FutureReadyPA.org](http://www.FutureReadyPA.org)

## INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT NOTIFICATION

### Integrated Pest Management Notification Letter for District Residents



The Eastern Lancaster County School District uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for managing insects, rodents, and weeds. Our goal is to protect every student from pesticide exposure by using an IPM approach to pest management. Our IPM approach focuses on making the school building and grounds an unfavorable habitat for these pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. We accomplish this through routine cleaning and maintenance. We routinely monitor the school building and grounds to detect any pests that are present. The pest monitoring team consists of our building maintenance, office, and teaching staff and also includes our students. Pest sightings are reported to our IPM Coordinator, who evaluates the "pest problem" and determines the appropriate pest management techniques to address the problem. The techniques can include increasing sanitation, modifying storage practices, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest, etc.

From time to time, it may be necessary to use chemicals to

manage a pest problem. Chemicals will only be used when necessary and will not be routinely applied. When chemicals are used, the school will try to use the least toxic product when possible. (Applications will be made only after normal school hours.) Notices will be posted in these areas 72 hours prior to application and for two days following the application.

Parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school may request prior notification of specific pesticide application made at the school. To receive notification, you must be placed on the school notification registry. If you would like to be placed on the registry, please notify the District in writing to the attention of Mr. Neal Walsh at 669 E. Main St., PO Box 609, New Holland, PA 17557. Please include your e-mail address if you would like to be notified electronically or a telephone number where you can be reached between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

If a chemical application must be made to control an emergency pest problem (e.g. stinging insects), notice will be provided by telephone to any parent or guardian who has requested such notification in writing. Exemptions to this notification include disinfectant and antimicrobial products; self-contained baits placed in area not accessible to students; and the process of getting bait placed in cracks, crevices, or voids.

Each year the District will prepare a new notification registry.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Neal Walsh, IPM Coordinator, at (717) 354-1596.

there is no need for safety or health concerns relative to asbestos exposure.

Copies of the Asbestos Management Plan and Inspection Reports are available at the District Office and can be reviewed by contacting Mr. Neal Walsh at (717) 354-1596.

### Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA): Notification for ELANCO

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), we are purveying notification of the presence of asbestos containing building materials in our schools.

The District is complying with all regulations in regard to the Asbestos Containing Building Materials (ACBM), and

taught in. She has also taught in North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Iowa. When asked who inspires her, she says "As a parent and spouse: My husband. I've watched him work so hard these last three years to get his doctorate degree while making sure our daughters remained his number one priority (which was near impossible to do with all the traveling and graduate student responsibilities). As a teacher: Donalyn Miller (author of The Book Whisperer). I model a lot of my teaching after her philosophy and social advocacy. Let's get all kinds of books (especially diverse books that represent marginalized members of society) into the hands of our students and develop a lifelong love of reading!"



#### Rebecca Chelius

Rebecca Chelius serves as 7th Grade Science Teacher, at GSMS. She graduated from Alvernia University with a Bachelors of Science in Middle School

Education & Science. She loves to travel and spend time outside camping, hiking, gardening. She is married almost 25 years, has two children—a daughter in 10th grade and a son attending college in NH. She enjoys reading and working on various art projects. When asked who inspires her, she says "My mother, Janet, has weathered many obstacles in her long life from the Great Depression, WW2, attending college and earning multiple degrees, successfully raising five children, living through civil rights, women's lib, Y2K and all the computer technology updates; and most recently battling her second round of cancer. She is soft spoke and gentle but just below the surface is a very strong foundation that radiates determination. Her examples of perseverance guide her children and grandchildren—she inspires me to get up everyday and do better for others and myself."



#### Melissa Clingan

Melissa Clingan serves as 4th Grade Teacher at New Holland Elementary. She graduated from Millersville University with a Bachelors of Science in Early Childhood

Education. She has worked for Apple for 6 years and spent some time in the Army Reserves. When asked who inspires her, she says "I am inspired by people and children who come from nothing, meeting and exceeding every obstacle life has to throw at them. I am inspired by those

who are told that they can't, but do it anyway. Those who challenge social norms. Those who stand up and fight for what's right, no matter the costs."



#### Kyle Farkas

Kyle Farkas serves as Science Teacher at Garden Spot High School. He graduated from Elizabethtown College with a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry

and from Millersville with a Post Baccalaureate Teaching Certification. He is an active musician, playing and teaching in different ensembles throughout the area. When asked who inspires him, he says "I want to give back to students the way that so many of my teachers did throughout my schooling."



#### Morgan Gardinier

Morgan Gardinier serves as Learning Support Teacher at New Holland Elementary. She graduated from Millersville University with Bachelors of Science

in Early Childhood Education with a dual major in Special Education. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, hiking, and traveling. This past summer she and her husband traveled through 5 different states visiting 7 National Parks and hiked over 50 miles. When asked who inspires her, she says "My Mom and Dad inspire me the most because they have always been there for me and constantly remind me that all things are done according to God's plan."



#### Sara Gonzalez

Sara Gonzalez serves as Art Teacher at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Messiah College with a Bachelors of Science in Art Education (K-12). She is Puerto

Rican and bilingual, speaking both English and Spanish. When asked who inspires her, she says "College 3-D Studio Art Professor, Sean Matthews because of his passion, care for students, and hard work that he demonstrated day in and day out when teaching."



#### Ashley Hershey

Ashley Hershey serves as Business Education Teacher at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Albright College. She is the Co-Founder of

LDQ4ACAUSE a local non-profit. When asked who inspires her, she says "My fellow teachers, because of the time and effort they put into making our school a place where kids feel appreciated, understood and welcome. It inspires me to want to do the same."



#### Jennifer Kelly

Jennifer Kelly serves as Speech Language Pathologist for the District. She graduated from Pennsylvania State University with Masters of Science in Speech

Language Pathology. She loves her job, her dog, the beach, and watching/playing sports (baseball and football). When asked who inspires her, she says "My professors at Penn State University who taught me everything they could in order to prepare me for my career as a speech language pathologist, as well as, my parents who inspire me to never stop growing, personally and professionally."



#### Samantha King

Samantha King serves as Administrative Assistant for the Guidance Office at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Penn State with a Bachelors of Science in

Human Development Family Studies and a minor in Psychology. She loves to be active and has played almost every sport there is (not professionally). She also really enjoys reading. When asked who inspires her, she says "Pam Winters. She is truly an overcomer and just a kick-butt woman!"



#### Amanda Laird

Amanda Laird serves as Learning Support Teacher at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelors of Science in

Special Education and Social Studies. In her spare time she enjoys drinking coffee, reading, traveling, and spending time with her family. When asked who inspires her, she says "My mother—She is a strong role model that has taught me the importance of family values and citizenship."





**Karisa Nord**

Karisa Nord serves as Emotional Support Teacher at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Whitworth University in Spokane, WA with a Master of Science in Education with degrees in Social Studies, Special Education and English as a Second Language. She enjoys live music, traveling, baseball games, and cheering on the Green Bay Packers! She was raised in Washington State and this is her first year in Pennsylvania! When asked who inspires her, she says “My dad inspires me! My parents have always been my best friends. My dad continues to teach me the importance of hard work, perseverance and doing what is right for others. He truly is a man of integrity.”



**Megan Pinkerton**

Megan Pinkerton serves as Kindergarten Teacher and Title I 1st Grade support at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from Temple University with a Bachelors of Science in Early Childhood Education. She has lived in Rome for a Summer as an au pair! When asked who inspires her, she says “My dad inspires me because he is hardworking and kind!”



**Rebekah Ray**

Rebekah Ray serves as Receptionist/ Business Office Generalist at the District Office. In her free time she likes playing tennis and baking. When asked who inspires her, she says “My son because he inspires me to be a better mom.”



**Kamber Real**

Kamber Real serves as 6th Grade Teacher at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from West Chester University with a Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education. In her free time, she likes to read novels and go to the beach. She also enjoys being surrounded by family and friends. When asked who inspires her, she says “My mom inspires me. Her faith and positive outlook continue to guide me in my personal and professional life.”



**Jessalyn Rohrbaugh**

Jessalyn Rohrbaugh serves as 4th Grade Teacher at Brecknock Elementary. She graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelors of Science in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. In her free time, she enjoys running, horseback riding, and spending time with family. When asked who inspires her, she says “My brother, who works tirelessly as a camp director to make it a better place and experience for the children and adults who spend time there.”



**Kelly Rohrer**

Kelly Rohrer serves as Part-time German Teacher at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Millersville University with a Bachelors of Science in German Education. In her free time, she enjoys running and spending time with my family. When asked who inspires her, she says “My two children, ages 11 and 9, inspire me the most! They challenge me to be a good role model for them in so many ways. They remind me to focus on the important things in life and not get worked up over the little things, and their curiosity about a variety of topics helps me continue to learn new and interesting things as we discover the answers to their questions together!”



**Nancy Schwabe-Fry**

Nancy Schwabe-Fry serves as School Counselor at Garden Spot Middle School. She graduated from Juniata College with a Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry and Millersville University with a Masters of Education in School Counseling. She loves playing handbells and has directed several handbell choirs over the years. When asked who inspires her, she says “Middle School Staff—dedication and commitment to students.”



**Jennifer (Jen) Stauffer**

Jen Stauffer serves as Multiple Disabilities Support Teacher at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Millersville University with a Bachelors of Science in Elementary and Special Education and Masters of

Education in Elementary Education. She along with her husband, two sons (ages 17 and 20) enjoy camping and boating. They have a boat on the North East River where they fish, swim, jet ski, and relax. When asked who inspires her, she says “My inspiration lies in those who pay it forward. I am a firm believer in the Golden Rule—treat others as one would wish to be treated. If we teach kindness, respect, service, grace, compassion, empathy, humanity, goodwill, and love towards one another, it will in turn be paid forward...and that is truly inspiring to me.”



**Samantha Steedley**

Samantha Steedley serves as 1st Grade Teacher at Brecknock Elementary. She graduated from Thomas University, B.S., Valdosta State University, M.Ed., Nova Southeastern University, Ed.S. She taught for 20 years in Georgia before moving to Pennsylvania last year. She loves exploring and learning more about her new home. When asked who inspires her, she says “My family inspires me everyday.”



**Cody Straub**

Cody Straub serves as 4th Grade Teacher at Brecknock Elementary. He graduated from Penn State with a degree in Supply Chain Management and received his teaching certification from Millersville University. In his free time, he enjoys being outside and being with friends and family! When asked who inspires him, he says “Tim Tebow—A famous sports figure who puts others ahead of himself so often is rare, and a great inspiration!”



**Taylor Suskie**

Taylor Suskie serves as Science Teacher at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Millersville University with a Bachelors of Science in Geology and Drexel University with Master of Education and a teaching certification. She considered herself an Army brat as her Dad was in the army for 20 years. By the time she reached high school she was going to her 7th new school. She played soccer in college at Millersville and also loves playing ice hockey, snowboarding, and tennis. When asked who inspires her, she says “Parents and Grandparents. Strong

**Annual Public Notice of  
Special Education Services and Programs,  
Services for Gifted Students,  
and Services for Protected Handicapped Students**



**Mrs. Kara Martin**  
*Director of Special Education and Gifted Services*

State and federal special education regulations require each school district to provide notice to the community by publishing an annual public notice to parents, in newspapers or by other media, regarding the school district's identification and screening activities, the location and time of the activities, and also any evaluation activity which takes place in the Eastern Lancaster County School District.  
The district is required to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to children with disabilities who are determined, through the evaluation process, to need special education and related services under IDEA and 22 Pa. School Code

§14. A school age child with a disability, who is determined to be in need of special education and related services, is identified as a child with a disability eligible for special education in need of specially designed instruction. The following are disability categories under IDEA: autism, deafness, deaf/blindness, emotional disturbance, traumatic brain injury, hearing impairment, specific learning disability, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, other health impairment, speech and language impairment, orthopedic impairment, and visual impairment including blindness.

**Gifted Education**

A child is considered mentally gifted when his or her cognitive ability or other factors, as determined by a multidisciplinary team evaluation, indicate that he or she has outstanding intellectual ability, the development of which requires special programs and services not ordinarily available in the general education program. The school entity engages in screening activities during regular classroom instruction and uses the data thus generated to determine whether a GMDT evaluation is warranted. In addition, parents may request gifted screening or a GMDT evaluation at any time. Parents are part of the GMDT and, if their child is determined to be mentally gifted, are part of the development and annual review and revision of their child's gifted individualized educational program (“GIEP”) as a member of the GIEP team. The GIEP describes the present levels, annual goals and measurable objectives, and specially designed instruction and related services through which the District will provide the enrichment or acceleration, or both, that is needed to develop the outstanding mental ability of the child. Parents may request in writing to the building principal that their child be evaluated under the criteria of 22 Pa. School Code §16.22.

**Early Intervention**

In Pennsylvania, any child between three years of age and the school district's age of beginners who has a developmental delay or one or more of the physical or mental conditions listed above is identified as an "eligible young child." Children who are less than the age of beginners and at least three years of age are considered to have a developmental delay when one of the following exists: (i) the child's score, on a developmental assessment device, on an assessment instrument which yields a score in months, indicates that the child is delayed by 25% of the child's chronological age in one or more developmental areas, as documented by test performance of 1.5 standard deviations below the mean on standardized tests. Developmental areas include cognitive, communicative, physical, social/emotional and self-help.

Eligible young children are afforded the same rights under IDEA and 22 Pa. School Code §14 as school age children, in order to determine if they are eligible to receive special education services through the screening and evaluation process. Once a child is determined to be eligible to receive special education, an individualized education program will be developed for the child.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is responsible for providing programs and services to eligible young children under Act 212 of 1990, the Early Intervention System Act. Screening for preschool children is available through the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit. For more information, please contact the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 Early Intervention Program at (717) 606-1601.

**Screening**

Screening activities are conducted on an on-going basis throughout the school year. Screening is conducted in the student's home school unless other arrangements are necessary. Parents can request screening in writing for their children by contacting the school that their child attends. When screening indicates that a student may be a child with a disability eligible for special education, the School District will seek parental consent to conduct an evaluation. Screening activities cannot block the rights of a parent to request, at any time, including prior to or during instructional support activities, an evaluation for the purpose of determining if the student is a child with a disability and eligible for special education services.

**Evaluation**

"Evaluation" is the procedure used to determine whether a child has a disability and if the child's disability is of the nature and extent that the child would be eligible for special education and related services. Evaluation procedures used are determined on an individual basis by a Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation team, which includes the parents. Parents are asked to provide permission to conduct the evaluation via a Permission to Evaluate-Consent form. The evaluation team takes into consideration cultural issues as they determine the assessment tools that will be administered for the student. A single test or procedure cannot be the sole factor in determining that a child is eligible for special education services. The initial evaluation shall be completed, and a copy of the evaluation report shall be presented to the parents no later than 60 days after the agency receives written parental consent. Evaluation for the purpose of determining if a child is a child with a disability eligible for special education does not include the procedures or basic tests that are administered to all children.

Parents who think their child is a child with a disability may request, at any time, that the School District conduct an evaluation to determine if the child is eligible to receive special education and related services. This request must be made in writing to the building principal or the Director of Special Education and Gifted Services. If a parent makes an oral request for an evaluation, the school district shall provide the parent with a Permission to Evaluate - Evaluation Request Form to complete within 10 calendar days of the oral request.

**Services for Protected Handicapped Students**

In compliance with state and federal law, and 22 Pa. School Code Chapter 15, the District will provide to each student with a protected handicap, without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services, or accommodations which are needed to provide an equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school programs and participate in extracurricular activities to the

maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities.

In order to qualify as a student with a protected handicap, the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits one or more major life activities which prohibits participation in, or access to, an aspect of school programs. These services and protections for "protected handicapped students" are different from those applicable to all students eligible or thought to be eligible for special education services and must be designed to meet individual educational needs of the handicapped individual as adequately as the needs of non-handicapped persons are met.

The school district or parent may at any time initiate an evaluation of a student. Parents who wish to have a child evaluated should contact their building principal for further information on the evaluation procedures and provision of services to students with a protected handicap.

**Confidentiality**

The District protects the confidentiality of personally identifiable information regarding its students in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 and other applicable federal and state laws.

Parents have the right to inspect and review their child's educational record. The District will comply with a request to inspect and review educational records without unnecessary delay and before any meeting regarding an IEP or any due process hearing, but no later than 30 days after the written request has been made. Parents have the right to a response from the School District to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the records. Parents have the right to request copies of the records. While the District cannot charge a fee to search for or to retrieve information, it may charge a copying fee as long as it does not effectively prevent the parent from exercising their right to inspect and review the records. Parents have the right to appoint a representative to inspect and review their child's records. If any educational record contains information on more than one child, parents have the right only to inspect and review the information relating to their child.

**Additional Information**

For further information on the rights of parents and children, provision of services, screening and evaluation, and procedural safeguards, please contact:

Eastern Lancaster County School District  
Kara J. Martin  
Director of Special Education and Gifted Services  
669 East Main Street  
New Holland, PA 17557  
(717) 354-1510



# Grassland FFA Competes at New Holland Farmers Fair

The first New Holland Farmers Fair started in 1927 and included many agricultural exhibits such as canned goods, grain, tobacco and fruit, poultry, eggs, and livestock. Over the next several decades, the fair evolved and diversified, including Grassland FFA making its fair debut with the sheep, goat, and swine show and later a Safe Tractor Driving Contest for high school students. These events have become well participated in by the Grassland FFA program which has rendered students to adhere to the FFA motto, “Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve”.

To participate in the livestock shows, FFA members choose a livestock species to buy, raise, show, and then sell to market or

to return back to a breeding herd. These students become entrepreneurs in taking full ownership and responsibility for their animal(s) and complete project books including writing a project plan, journaling time spent with the animal as well as detailing financial entries. The New Holland Fair is the place where these members showcase their hard work by competing against other species and 4-H and FFA members for the title of overall Grand or Reserve Champion. Grassland FFA was proudly represented by Tate Myers, Thomas Hartman, Hadassah Hoover, and Luke Shirk, who showed their swine and Hosanna Hoover, Mikayla Horst, Alexandria O’Neill, Abigail O’Neill, Luke Shirk, and Sarah Shirk, who showed their goats. To highlight a few of the 2018 livestock successes, Tate Myers’s pig was selected as the overall Grand Champion Market Swine and Abigail O’Neill, whom showed the R. D. Herr Scholarship goat, tied with the record-high sale price of \$45.00 per pound. The R.D. Herr Scholarship provides a scholarship to a Grassland FFA senior whom is majoring in agriculture education or an animal science related field at the postsecondary level and who has shown livestock through the FFA. Dr. Robert Herr, a retired Grassland FFA advisor and agriculture teacher donates a boer goat and buddy goat to a student who is chosen through an application process in the spring, and assists in supervising the project until the livestock sale at the fair. The money the R.D. Herr Scholarship goat brings is used to support the fund, with a percentage also being given to the student. A special thanks to our FFA members who helped tabulate, announce, photograph, distribute awards, and set-up and tear down pens—Natalie Apgar, Brandon Bixler, Robert Ford, Natalie Eberly, Manessah Hackman, Madelynn Sasso, Jack McCarty, Daniel Horning, Kara Martin, Alexandria O’Neill, Abigail O’Neill, Sarah Shirk, Allie King and the Agriculture 1 classes.

On Friday of the New Holland Farmers Fair week, we have Grassland FFA alumni, FFA member’s parents/guardians, and retired Grassland FFA advisors and agriculture teachers come out to help setup and conduct the annual Safe Tractor Driving Event based off of the National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program which is a project of Hazardous Occupations Safety Training in Agriculture (HOSTA). The event consists of a written exam, parts identification, backing a wagon up into a set space, and driving through an obstacle course with a spreader attachment. This event is a qualifier for the Regional Safe Tractor Driving Event held at Manheim Fair the following week. The members competing are split into a senior and junior class based on their age, seniors being 16 years and older and juniors being 15 years or younger. Our competitors this year in the senior division were Austin Martin and Luke Shirk and in the junior division was Olivia Bramm, Manessah Hackman, Thomas Hartman, Andrew Horst, Madelynn Sasso, and Bradley Weaver. Thanks to our generous partners who donated equipment, CNHi, PowerPro Equipment, Pequea Machines, and Deer Country Equipment, the members were able to practice daily during and after school operating the equipment and the attachments. Our regional qualifiers in the senior division were Luke Shirk (1) and Austin Martin (2) and in the junior division were Thomas Hartman (1) and Madelynn Sasso (2). A special thank you to all the support from the FFA members, parents/guardians, alumni, and community to make these events memorable and successful.

and positive role models that I’ve always been able to learn from in any situation. Most caring and loving people I know who are always available to talk.”



### Lauren Sweitzer

Lauren Sweitzer serves as 1st Grade Teacher at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education.

She loves doing three things in her free time: puzzles, games, and reading picture books. She is very thankful to have two kids so she can enjoy these hobbies on a daily basis. When asked who inspires her, she says “My sister is a wonderful role model, mother, wife, sister, daughter, and teacher. She gives herself unselfishly, serving her school, family, community and church each and every day. Her big heart leads her to commit to many events, activities, and needs, and she follows through giving it her all. She inspires me to give more than I think I’m capable of. I see how my sister’s positive attitude gets her through the chaos of everyday life, and it pushes her to seek more from each day.”



### Megan Szkolnicki

Megan Szkolnicki serves as 6th Grade Teacher at Blue Ball Elementary. She graduated from Moravian College

with a Bachelors of Science in Psychology with her teacher certification in Early Childhood Education. She played volleyball all 4 years in college and still loves to continue to play in tournaments whenever she can. She is also currently working towards a masters degree in Educational Development and Strategies. When asked who inspires her, she says “My inspiration is my 2nd grade teacher Ms. Woods. She was the person that inspired me to become a teacher. She made learning so much fun and made me think to myself “I want to be someone who inspires other children one day, this is how I can make a difference in the world.”



### David Trok

David Trok serves as Social Studies Teacher at Garden Spot High School. He graduated from Eastern University with a Bachelor of Arts in History. He grew up on a

small avocado farm in California. For the last 3 years he coached high school water polo. When asked who inspires him, he says “My mother has always inspired me. She exudes patience and self-control. Her example continues to serve me well.”



### Anjanette (Ann) Williams

Ann Williams serves as Long-Term Substitute English Teacher for Mrs. Kaitlin Porter at Garden Spot High School. She graduated from Penn

State University with a Bachelors of Humanities with a Secondary Education English certification. She loves spending time with family, usually on the soccer field or traveling. When asked who inspires her, she says “I am always inspired by my husband who continually challenges me to pursue dreams and always give others my best.”



### Kelly Wilson

Kelly Wilson serves as Autistic Support Teacher at New Holland Elementary. She graduated from Montclair State University with a Bachelors of Science in

Family and Child studies with a concentration in teaching and a Masters degree in teaching and special education. She recently had baby boy number two. She likes to spend her weekends in the mountains with her family or go to a good Mexican or Japanese restaurant. When asked who inspires her, she says “My son inspires me to be the best role model and person I can be. I want to be someone he looks up to as he gets older.”

## ELANCOSD Welcomes Two New Assistant Principals

By Justin W. Johnson, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Eastern Lancaster County School District is very excited to introduce the addition of two new Assistant Principals, Stacey Hoffman, Assistant Principal at Garden Spot High School and Rachel Bruno, Assistant Principal, Blue Ball & New Holland Elementary Schools.



Stacey Hoffman joined our team as the Assistant Principal at Garden Spot High School in July 2018. Prior to ELANCO, Stacey served students in the Reading School District for thirteen years and then relocated to Palm Beach School District and is very excited to be back home and working here at Garden Spot High School. After teaching third-grade for nine years, Stacey moved on to be an Instructional Coach (K-6), ESOL Coordinator, RTI Specialist, and finally in her final two years at Palm Beach School District, she was the Single School Culture Coordinator. Stacey earned her Principal K-12 Certification through the University of Scranton. She enjoys reading, cooking, spending time with family, Pilates, kayaking/ stand-up paddle boarding or anything that gets her to the beach or outdoors. Stacey lives in Sinking Springs with her husband, Russ and her son, Tyler, who just recently graduated from Florida Atlantic University.



Rachel Bruno joined the ELANCO team as Assistant Principal at New Holland & Blue Ball Elementary Schools in July 2018. Rachel started at Eastern Lancaster County School District in 2009 as a fourth-grade teacher at Blue Ball Elementary School. She then transitioned into a Support Specialist role for the building overseeing Title 1 services, Co-teaching in first-grade, and supporting the extended learning kindergarten program. For the last two years, Rachel has served as Instructional Coach for the district throughout our three elementary buildings as well as supporting the pre-kindergarten outreach program. Rachel earned her Principal K-12 Certification through Shippensburg University. You will often find Rachel with her nose in a book because she loves reading. She can be found reading a book or article about education or mystery/suspense novels. She has three brothers and three sisters and loves spending time with her family in the kitchen trying new recipes and experimenting with different flavors. Rachel and her family live in Lancaster and recently welcomed their first child, Luca.



Tate Myers with his Grand Champion Swine at the 2018 New Holland Farmers Fair pictured with his buyer Sensenig’s Feed Mill.



Abigail O’Neill with the R.D Herr Scholarship goat pictured with Dr. Robert Herr and Mr. Robert Lauffer and collective buyers Good’s Livestock, M.H. Eby, and Sensenig’s Feed Mill.



Luke Shirk competing in the Four Wheeled Wagon Event at the Safe Tractor Driving Competition.



Acts of Kindness

by Laurette O'Donnell, Blue Ball Elementary Grade 3 Teacher



Students along with Mrs. O'Donnell presenting gifts to East Earl Township Police Officers

On Tuesday, September 11th, Mrs. O'Donnell's third grade language arts students paused to honor the victims of 9/11 by participating in a positive act of service. The students started

the day learning about first responders by reading a book titled Police Officers by Charnan Simon. The students learned about the jobs that police officers do to keep their communities safe.

The students were eager to make thank you notes expressing their admiration and appreciation for their local police officers. The third graders shared that police officers are smart, strong and brave; they help us in many ways. Along with the cards, bags of sweet treats were assembled. Some of the tags on the bags read:

“Smarties to help you make wise decisions.”  
“Lollipops to give you a pop of energy.”  
“Kisses because we love how you keep us safe.”  
“Bubble gum to remind your unit to stick together.”  
“Lifesavers because you are one!”

At dismissal time, the class presented the cards and gifts to three deserving and appreciative East Earl Township police officers. The act of service was a powerful example of the quote by Aesop, "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

Third Grade Recycling

By Julie Muhr, Brecknock Elementary Teacher, Grade 3

As part of our first module in Language Arts, we are learning to care for the Earth and have become Recycling Advocates. We have researched what it means to reduce, reuse and recycle. Many students were disappointed to learn that this year, paper is no longer recycled at Brecknock because there isn't a recycling truck to come collect it. We know that schools use a lot of paper, so we decided to start our own recycling program. We learned that a local organization, the Mennonite Central Committee, recycles paper and other items to raise funds to cover shipping costs for the many relief kits they send around the world. We have decided to collect paper at Brecknock and recycle it through MCC.

First, students worked in groups to write letters. We wrote to Mrs. Hogan, the custodian, to ask her for 6 recycling bins and boxes to transport the paper in. We wrote a letter to Mrs. Andersen, the principal, to explain our project and ask permission. We wrote an email to all Brecknock teachers to let them know they can start recycling paper in the office and teacher work room.

Next, we prepared our recycling bins by labeling them with signs to show what can and can't be recycled. Groups



Mrs. Muhr and her 3rd Grade class as they prepare for their recycling collection.

prepared, practiced and presented the recycling project to each third grade homeroom. We also delivered the bins to the office and work room.

Our plan is to empty bins once a week and put the paper in boxes to deliver to MCC. We have a recycling center on a cart in our classroom. Students may need to sort out items that aren't recyclable. Once we get a cart load of boxes, I'll drive them to the MCC recycling center. We've had a lot of interest from other classes in the building who are interested in joining us in our recycling effort. If things go smoothly, we may soon be distributing more bins throughout the school!



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Garden Spot Placed on the College Board's 9th Annual Advanced Placement District Honor Roll

Garden Spot High School's Advanced Placement (AP) Program was placed on the College Board's Honor Roll for significant gains in student access and test performance. Only 373 school districts in the entire United States and Canada were recognized with this honor and just 46 schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Garden Spot Administrators, faculty, and staff are committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among students who are prepared and motivated to take this rigorous line of academic preparation. According to Trevor Parker, Senior Vice-President of AP and Instruction at the College Board, "Success in Advanced Placement is a combination of student's own motivation and the opportunities educators provide for them." Success on AP exams earn students credit at colleges before they graduate from high school. AP courses continue to be and remain as the "gold standard" for academic preparation. Garden Spot is proud of its students who accept the challenge of AP courses and who were successful in AP testing. This honor is shared among all those dedicated to increase rigor and learning, including administrators, teachers, support staff, and most importantly, the students themselves. Congratulations Garden Spot High School!

Rotary Club Competition

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, six GS juniors and seniors, chosen by their peers, competed in the local Rotary Four-Way Test Speaking Competition. The Rotary Club operates on four principle questions in their caring service across the globe: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build good will and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned? With this motivation and a great deal of preparation, Anna Armbruster, Madison Casey, Claudia Fithian, Daniel Horning, Alexander Nieves, and Janae Sauder represented our school well with skill and honor. In the end, judges who have served in positions in local government, business, and education chose the top three candidates to move on to the mid-level competition: Claudia Fithian (3rd), Janae Sauder (2nd), and Daniel Horning (1st). On December 4th, all three Spartans did a great job at the district level, performing their speeches without notes and with great composure. At the end of the three-hour competition, Daniel Horning was awarded third place in the district! Well done to all involved.



Janae Sauder '12



Alexander Nieves '11



Anna Armbruster '11



Daniel Horning '11



Claudia Fithian '12



Madison Casey '12

Photos Courtesy of LifeTouch Photography



# Garden Spot Middle School Student Council Hosts Second Annual Family Fun Night

By Kylie Hecker, Garden Spot Middle School Language Arts Teacher

Garden Spot Middle School Student Council hosted their Second Annual Family Fun Night this past October. This event welcomed middle school students and their families to participate in a variety of activities hosted by our teachers. Some activities included candle making, cupcake decorating, bingo, and puzzle competitions. Families were also provided with a catered meal donated by Du'Jour Catering. Local businesses donated raffle prizes for this event. Student Council is in the works of planning another one of these events for the Spring!



Prizes being raffled off to attendees at Family Fun Night

# Garden Spot Middle School Varsity Club Happenings

By Kathy Burke



Varsity Club with items collected for Food Drive

Varsity Club is a service-oriented club whose mission is to: implement activities throughout the year that directly benefit the students, the faculty, and the community. Each year a new charity is chosen and club members raise money throughout the year to be donated. Last year, the club raised more than 1,900 dollars, which was donated to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

This year the club has participated in several events including a Pumpkin Book Bash. A fun fall activity where each homeroom is given a pumpkin, donated by Yoder's. Each homeroom decorates their pumpkin, choosing one of two themes: fall festival, or spartan spirit. The pumpkins were displayed for several days, and then, students got a chance to vote for the top three pumpkins. Candy and cupcake awards were given to the top three homerooms, in addition to, bragging rights!

The club has also sponsored a food drive for needy families in our community and on December 14th the club traveled to Garden Spot Village to "bring holiday cheer" to some of the residents. The students helped with a Christmas craft, followed by carol singing, and finally, distributed a small "goodie bag" for each resident. The residents LOVE their visits! In the Spring, the club will return to Garden Spot Village and play various games with the residents: shuffle board, pool, cards, ping pong. An activity that is enjoyed by all!



Varsity Club at Garden Spot Village



Boo Bash Entries



Brecknock fifth and sixth grade students perform "The Star Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful"

On Monday, November 12th, fifth and sixth grade students at Brecknock Elementary held a special Veteran's Day program. The event began with The School District of Lancaster JR ROTC Presentation of Colors. After some opening remarks by Mrs Libell regarding the importance of Veteran's Day, Brett Woodard (Grade 5 student), read a special poem to the invited guests.

In attendance, were the following guests as well as notes about their service; Mr. Doug Graybill, US Marine, Infantry and "Tunnel Rat", serving in the Vietnam War; Mrs. Liz Graybill, US Army Paralegal; Master Sergeant Jon Beaver (a '96 Garden Spot graduate), serving in the US Air Force including duties of K-9 Officer providing protection to President George W. Bush; Mr. John Kreider, Recipient of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star serving in Vietnam; Doc Sean Kluge, US Army Flight Medic, serving two tours in Afghanistan; Sergeant Tiffany Kluge, US Army Combat Medic serving in Afghanistan, and Major Jeremy Kauffman, US Marines, serving in Afghanistan. Major Kauffman is also an active duty Marine working at the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency in Virginia. We were honored that these men and women of distinction were part of our special program.

After opening remarks and introductions, the students rotated through three classrooms. Each rotation included time with a Veteran who spoke about their service, answering questions from the audience and talking about how their time in the military prepared them for their current jobs. After hearing about the Veteran's service to our country, students returned to the All Purpose Room. However, this time it was the

# Brecknock Elementary Host Veterans at Veteran's Day Program

By Mrs. Beverly Libell, Brecknock Elementary Teacher, Grade 5

students turn to pay tribute to our Veterans. Brecknock fifth and sixth grade students performed "The Star Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful", with the accompaniment of several sixth graders who played the Ukulele as they sang. It was an emotional tribute as eight servicemen and servicewomen stood tall in front of 130 students, five of whom were holding the American Flag. The students did an outstanding job.

In closing, Mr. Goodman (music teacher) and Megan Hechler (Grade 6 student) played a beautiful trumpet duet "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Each student in grades five and six were then gifted two handmade ornament hooks in the colors red, white, and blue and given specific directions on what they were to do with them. One hook was for them to keep...to remember all Veterans who have served. The second ornament hook was to be given to a Veteran of their choice, and to be delivered with a simple "Thank You." A small token of appreciation from a thankful citizen.

The program closed with the Pledge of Allegiance. Although this pledge is something that our students say each day, students were encouraged to think about the words as they stood in unison with our Veterans. "I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which is stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all." What an amazing program our students were able to participate in. A sincere thank you to our special guests from the community who participated in this day, Thank you to all Veterans, we appreciate each one of you!

# Because Brecknock Cares... Indiantown Gap National Cemetery Receives Wreaths

By Libby Echternach, Brecknock Elementary Teacher

On Monday, November 12, 2018, Brecknock Elementary fifth and sixth grade classes honored local veterans with an informative and heartfelt Veterans Day program. As a follow up, these classes were issued a challenge to contribute quarters to a "Wreaths Across America" collection, as a way to honor veterans who are no longer living. Students were asked to complete some sort of service or make some sort of sacrifice to raise their \$0.25 (or more) for their contribution, just as all veterans have given service to our country.

Students completed extra chores, gave from their personal savings, and helped neighbors to earn their quarters. Ben Smeltz, a fifth grader, held a latte stand over the Thanksgiving

break. All proceeds he earned were donated to the collection. A goal of collecting enough money to donate three wreaths was set. Through their hard work and generosity, the fifth and sixth graders at Brecknock Elementary exceeded that goal! Raising \$150, they were able to sponsor ten wreaths to be placed at the graves of veterans at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. This year, on December 15, Wreaths Across America, a national organization, placed holiday wreaths on the graves of thousands of Veterans buried in National Cemeteries across the country. You can learn more about Wreaths Across America by visiting their website <https://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/>.



# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

## EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

### REGISTRATION DATES:

Tuesday April 2, 2019 – Day & Evening Appointments Available  
Wednesday April 3, 2019 – Day & Evening Appointments Available  
Thursday April 4, 2019 – Day Appointments Only

### REGISTRATION APPOINTMENTS ARE NECESSARY

Registration takes place at Garden Spot High/  
Middle School Library Media Center.  
Please have your child attend registration with you.

PLEASE CALL THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT  
**717-354-1552**  
TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT.

**NOTICE:** Eastern Lancaster County School District will be providing transportation both ways for AM and PM half-day Kindergarten Students starting the 2019-2020 school year.

## Amtryke Presentation

By Nina Kim, Brecknock Elementary,



*Sonny Osborn is presented with his specially designed Amtryke tricycle*

be present for this first tricycle ride as well.

On Thursday, November 1st, Brecknock student Sonny Osborn received an Amtryke tricycle especially designed for him as a gift from the AMBUCS service organization. In order to best fit Sonny's needs, this tricycle has a rear steering bar (so someone can help him steer) and pedals for both hands and feet to use at the same time. Howard Livingston and Bruce Shmoyer, from AMBUCS, were at Brecknock to make the presentation. Sonny was able to try out his new tricycle and rode several laps around the school entryway with a little help to steer. Sonny's mom, Maria Gallo, and Erica Reed, his teacher were able to

## Grandparents Day

By Mandy Swavely, Brecknock Elementary Teacher, Grade 2

In honor of Grandparent's Day on September 9th, second grade classrooms invited the grandparents of our students to join us for a Grandparent's Tea. Throughout the morning, grandparents were able to spend time with their grandchild in their daily learning environment. They enjoyed some treats, listened to a story, and worked together with their grandchild on a craft. Both grandparents and grandchildren were able to write about what they mean to one another. The students enjoyed hearing from their grandparents about how schools have changed over the years. It was a wonderful morning of learning from one another.

## Kindness Club

The first meeting of the New Holland Kindness Club was held on September 18th from 3:40-4:45. Thirty-five students from 5th and 6th grade signed up to participate in this new after-school club. The club will meet monthly and is being facilitated by 5th grade teachers Miss Clisham and Mrs. Twaddell. The goal of the club is for our students to help our school community, local community, and county community by participating in a variety of service projects that promote kindness. We kicked off the year by making fleece knot blankets for the Lancaster Humane League. The students worked in small groups to cut, knot, and assemble the blankets. We made fourteen blankets that will be used by the shelter for a variety of animals.

***"No act of kindness, no matter how small,  
is ever wasted." ~Aesop***

## PMEA

On November 16th and 17th, music teachers from PMEA (Pennsylvania Music Educators Association) District 7 held the Annual Youth Honors Band Fest in which the best instrumentalists from eight Pennsylvania counties may participate. These counties include Lancaster, Lebanon, Dauphin, Perry, Cumberland, York, Adams and Franklin. The performance event is for students in grades 5 and 6 who have or are studying their instrument for at least their second year. The following Eastern Lancaster County School District band students represented ELANCO at this two-day event:

From Blue Ball Elementary: Maggie Mull – flute; Summer Stern – bass clarinet; Emmanuel Taranovich – baritone saxophone; Elise Krock – trumpet; Saraiah Hoover – tuba; Josh Anson – percussion

From Brecknock Elementary: Megan Hechler – trumpet; Trenton Hooper – percussion

From New Holland Elementary: Margaret Cuthie – trumpet; Evan Buck – trumpet; Abigail Commander – alto saxophone; Carter Ulrich – tuba; Luke Hodge – tuba



*ELANCO Takes the Stage at 2018 PMEA Youth Honors Band Fest!*

Based on musical ability and other criteria, participants are nominated by their school band directors (Ms. Jennifer Schoener and Mr. Joc Heckman – ELANCO) to be a member of this distinguished group. Selected students are then placed into one of two bands with each band preparing five pieces of music that will be performed at the Saturday afternoon concert. This year under the tutelage of guest conductors, Mr. Brent Flinchbaugh and Mr. Richard Worley, each 80+ member honors band rehearsed on Friday evening and Saturday morning for several hours to prepare for the Saturday afternoon concert. The 2018 Youth Honors Band Fest was hosted by the Conewago Valley School District on Friday, November 16th and Saturday, November 17th by CVSD Intermediate School Band Director, Rebecca Sine.

Eastern Lancaster County School District Superintendent, Dr. Robert Hollister, is pleased to announce that the 2019 PMEA Youth Honors Band Fest will be held in the Eastern Lancaster County School District (New Holland, PA) and hosted by Directors Ms. Jennifer Schoener and Mr. Joc Heckman.