

RAIDER PRIDE

A State and National Award-Winning Publication

APRIL 2022

84 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

As we prepare to close Evans City Elementary/Middle School at the conclusion of the 2021-22 school year, we are planning to host a few special events and ceremonies to commemorate the more than 80 years the school has been open. With help from current students/families, teachers, alumni and former staff, a committee was developed to highlight the decades of memories made at this school. The group has been busy over the past four months collecting artifacts, compiling stories and creating videos to share with the community. Learn more about these final walk-through tours on page 2.











2022-23 K-6 ADJUSTMENTS TO STUDENT ATTENDANCE ZONES

We are excitedly preparing to open Ehrman Crest Elementary/Ehrman Crest Middle School for the 2022-23 school year. Due to the physical change in the new K-6 school and a need to study our ever-growing communities, we recently engaged with experts in the field of demography and feasibility. The in-depth assessments allowed us to develop a proposed adjustment plan for student attendance zones that will ease capacity in all K-6 schools during this time of building transition and population growth. To view the details of the adjustments, please click this link.

K-12 Areas of Net Change

- Resident Students
- SY 2021 thru SY2031



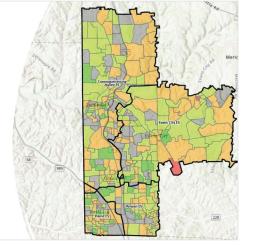


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DATES TO REMEMBER

May 1-12 PSSA Exams

May 2 School Board Meeting Work Session, 7 p.m.

May 7 SAT Testing

May 9 School Board Meeting, Regular Session, 7 p.m.

May 13 Act-80 Day, No School for Students

May 14 Prom

May 16-27 Keystone Exams

May 26 Last Day of Instruction for Seniors, Graduation

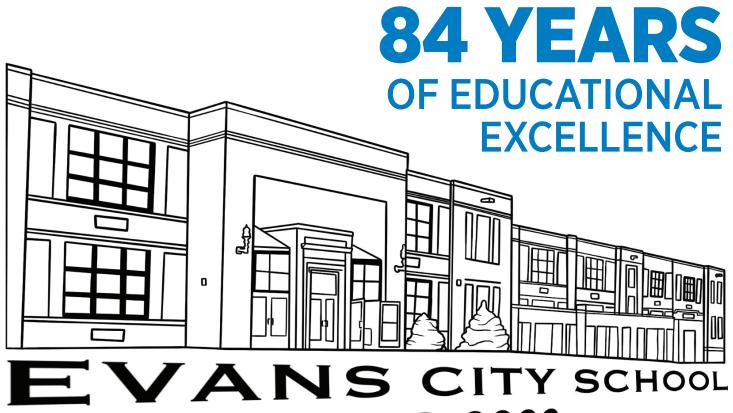
May 27 Graduation Rain Date

May 30 District Holiday, No School

For more dates, visit: www.svsd.net/WebCalendar.

MAV

SI	JN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
,	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	3	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	5	16	17	18	19	20	21
2	2	23	24	25	26	27	28
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1938-2022

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As we prepare to close the doors on Evans City Elementary/Middle Schools, we will be hosting public tours of the building to mark this moment in Seneca Valley history. While there, we invite you to reminisce, take photos, and look at memorabilia as you "take a trip down memory lane" in our Creativity, Innovation and Research Center (CIRC) Lab at the school.

Please join us for a final walk-through on the following days:

Monday, May 9
Wednesday, May 11
Saturday, May 14
Monday, May 16
4:30-6 p.m.
2-4 p.m.
4:30-6 p.m.

Evans City School stickers and button pins will be available as keepsakes, and current Evans City Elementary/Middle School students and teachers will proudly serve as tour guides.

No RSVP required.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



RAIDERTHON RAISES \$7,000

Seneca Valley Senior High School (SHS) Student Council's eighth annual Raiderthon was back and bigger than ever!

Between raffle baskets, the Go Fund Me and business donations, the event, held on April 1, raised just over \$7,000 for the Miracle League of Southwestern PA (SWPA).

Volunteer student dancers committed to dance/stand without leaning or sitting throughout the entire event in hopes of raising money for the Miracle League of SWPA. The 200 plus people in attendance participated in line dances, face painting, balloon artists, an escape room, volleyball, karaoke and more. In addition, attendees could bid on raffle baskets, 50/50 and purchase refreshments like pizza, Chick-Fil-A, soft pretzels and more.

"The event with all ages was extremely lively and fun," said Rebecca Beers, Seneca Valley Senior High School English Teacher and event organizer for Raiderthon. "It was great to have the whole community together, and there was something for everyone."

To continue to help SV reach their goal, SV SHS Student Council set up a Go Fund Me account for donations: https://www.gofundme.com/f/ svsd-2022-raiderthon which closes on April 30.

Raiderthon is a dance marathon similar to Penn State University's annual THON fundraiser.

Over the last eight years, Seneca Valley students have raised over \$100,000 for the Miracle League of SWPA.













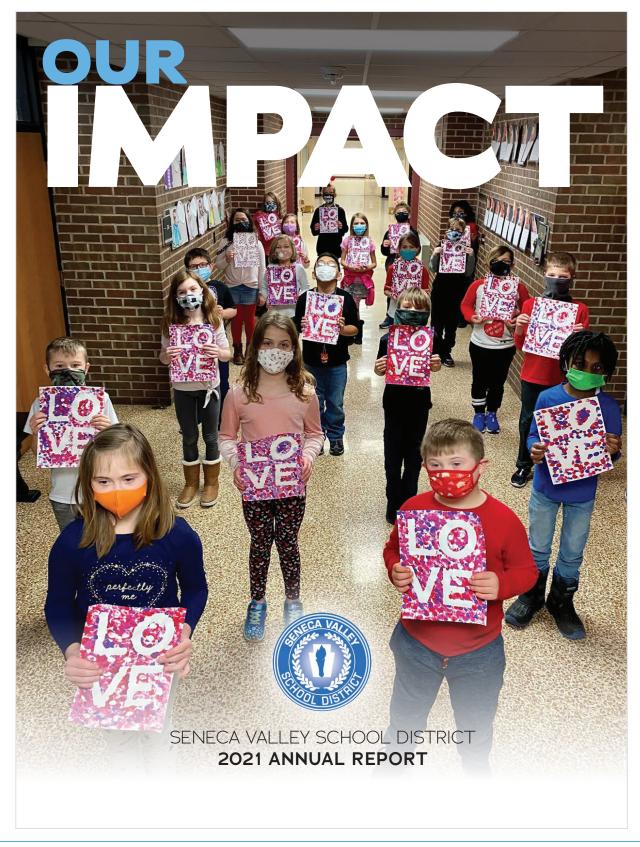






SENECA VALLEY PRESENTS "OUR IMPACT"

The 2021 Seneca Valley Annual Report is now available for view at https://senecavalleyar21.com/.



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BIG IDEA RESULTS IN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Lilia Maschmeier, an eighth-grade student from Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS), spearheaded a districtwide food drive that resulted in nearly 7,000 nonperishable food items that will be distributed to local families in need.

Miss Maschmeier started this food drive as part of a class project "think bigger." She decided her project would be to help end hunger in the community.

To encourage other students to participate, Miss Maschmeier met with the principals from every building in the district to get approval for the food drive, and she reached out to local businesses for sponsorship opportunities.

Homerooms that donated the most won prizes. For grades K-6, three winning classes per school won passes to Fun Fore All Family Fun Park, UPMC Lemieux Sports Complex and coupons from Dairy Queen. For grades 7-12, the winning class per grade won a pool party at the Cranberry Township Community Waterpark.

"I wanted to help other people who need food," said Lilia Maschmeier. "I never thought this food drive would turn into something this big. I learned that all of the businesses in our community are extremely generous and willing to help make a difference in people's lives."

"When you give kids the opportunity to

give, you see smiles on their faces. It just takes one student to start something," said RGMS assistant principal, Trisha Butschle.

The donations were collected from all the Seneca Valley schools and sent to the Help Your Neighbor food pantry at Victory Family Church in Cranberry Township.









A SHOW FOR A WORTHY CAUSE

Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) students recently held a talent show in honor of the late Elizabeth (Ellie) Suereth.

Miss Suereth, a freshman at Seneca Valley Intermediate High School (IHS) passed away on March 29, from cancer. Her sister, Cora, is currently a seventh grader at RGMS.

At the event, seventh and eighth graders had two 80-minute shows that featured 18 performers. Even better, the event raised over \$1,500 to donate to Flying Horse Farms in memory of Ellie. Flying Horse Farms, located in Ohio, was where Ellie attended camp with Cora, for the past seven years.

Additionally, RGMS Art Teacher Mr. George Williams contributed two paintings that were raffled off during all lunch periods.













REMEMBERING RYAN

Seventh and eighth graders of Ryan Gloyer Middle School (RGMS) gathered during an assembly where they learned firsthand about the student, teacher and soldier for which their building was named.

Sgt. 1st Class Ryan A. Gloyer, an SV graduate of 2000, died courageously in battle in Afghanistan on Thursday, Nov. 3, 2016, in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel. In 2018, Seneca Valley Middle School was renamed Ryan Gloyer Middle School to pay tribute to this fallen hero.

During the assembly on April 4, Ryan's father, friends, SV graduates and members of the Green Berets from the 10th Special Forces Group spoke about his life, legacy and the impact he made on the lives around him.

Following the assembly, members of the Green Beret visited several classrooms to speak with students directly about Ryan's perseverance, selflessness and his strive for excellence. Some students even participated in activities such as push-ups,





sit-ups and a sprint across the field to learn not only what it takes to be physically a part of the special forces, but also mental toughness.

Green Beret and Chief Warrant Officer 2





Isaac Meade, said "Ryan always strived to make people the best that they could be.
Ryan cared and he wanted everyone to care.
Be like Ryan – look at people and see how you can make a difference in their life."

THE FUTURE STARTS HERE

Seneca Valley Senior High School is preparing students for the future. Their future, that is.

The College & Career Fair was held for grades 10-12 in the senior high school gymnasium on April 12.

Approximately 60 school representatives/institutions were in attendance from state universities, private colleges, community colleges, technical, beauty, nursing, art, business schools and military recruiters.

This event offered students the opportunity to meet with admission representatives and learn more about a variety of options that are available to them.







TWIST ON LEARNING

Four seniors took an Economics class that inspired them to embrace their entrepreneurial skills outside the classroom, which led to an evolving business venture!

Seniors, Declan Cygnarowicz, Aidan Drake, Thai Nguyen and Joel Berringer placed first in presentation and 2nd overall at the Westminster College Entrepreneurial Center Scholastic Contest that took place earlier this month. Students shared their business plan in this intrapreneurial/entrepreneurial competition by presenting how they could sell a chicken sandwich idea to Five Guys Burgers and Fries. They received grants to Westminster College if they choose to attend, and they also got a plaque.

These students were the first semester "Shark Tank" winners from Ms. Rebekah Grinnen's Economics class, which aims to help young entrepreneurs make their big ideas a reality. Their company, Little Twists started out by selling specialty dips for pretzels. With the profits they earned from selling specialty dips, they donated all their proceeds to the Seneca Valley CBVT program (Community Based Vocational Training) and the SV No Cost to Shop.

After an idea of placing their logos on shirts, the students decided

to change their business model into clothing options and try their hand in ecommerce. Their goal is to make clothing for people to wear to express themselves. They make creative designs that are different and fun to



wear day-to-day and on the golf course. To date, Little Twists has a combined gross income of over \$1,000, and their profits are currently going toward branding and growing their business.

When asked how this project has impacted their future, they said, "We feel it has taught us a lot about ecommerce and selling products. It has also helped us grow as individuals talking to manufactures and influencers to grow our brand. This has also given us something that we are able to work on after graduation while keeping us connected as Little Twists continues."

These graduating seniors will all be going to different colleges in the fall, but they plan to have Zoom calls to continue formulating ideas and opportunities that will grow their business. Learn more about Little Twists by visiting their website www.littletwists.com.



ASPIRATIONAL STUDENTS

Four Seneca Valley students, seniors Daniel Spear and Veronica Pimenova, junior Ella Butterfield and sophomore Lihini Ranaweera, were recently recognized by the National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) Award for Aspirations in Computing Program.

Mr. Spear was selected as a 2022 Western Pennsylvania Affiliate Winner, Miss Pimenova was chosen as a 2022 Western Pennsylvania Affiliate Honorable Mention recipient, Miss Butterfield was selected as a 2022 Western Pennsylvania Affiliate Rising Star and Miss Ranaweera was chosen as a 2022 Western Pennsylvania Affiliate Honorable Mention recipient.

The Western and Central PA affiliate of the NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing is a collaborative effort by dedicated volunteers from Saint Francis University; Penn State University, New Kensington; University of Pittsburgh; Carnegie Mellon University, and All Clear Translations.

Awardees are chosen for their aptitude and interest in IT and computing, solid leadership ability, good academic history, and plans for post-secondary education.



Pictured L-R: Veronica Pimenova, Ella Butterfield, Lihini Ranaweera and Daniel Spear.

These four students have taken many Computer Science courses at Seneca Valley and have developed essential 21st century skills. Those skills will open their worlds of never-ending possibilities as technology is all around us in whatever field they choose.

HOT TOPICS

Several Seneca Valley students earned awards at the 83rd Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair (PRSEF). This year's event took place at the Carnegie Science Center on March 22, 2022, which was the first time the event was held in person since 2019.

At the 2022 PRSEF, Senior Nick Nedzesky shared fourth place in the Senior Medicine, Health, and Microbiology category and won a Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh Sponsor Award for his project The Effects of Osmotic Stress on Biofilm Formation in Pseudomonas Fluorescens. Senior Veronica Pimenova and Sophomore Lihini Ranaweera took fourth place in the Senior Computer Science and Math category and won a Fluor Marine Propulsion LLC Sponsor Award for their project Applying Computer Vision in Analysis of Sports Motion. Sophomore Shivani Umesh won a Scholarship Award from Slippery Rock University for her project *Predicting* Hospital Admissions for Patients from the Emergency Department using Machine Learning, and seventh grader Albert Pimenov took home a HATCH Sponsor Award for his project Cardboard Boat Design Using ANSYS. Both Nick Nedzesky and Veronica Pimenova also won Perseverance Awards for their multiple years of participation.

"I am so proud of the accomplishments of these amazing young scientists and their dedication to research. It is no small feat to conduct this level of independent scientific research and then to present in front of a panel of experts. They have great futures ahead," said Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Gifted Support Teacher Patti Griest.



"I've been very impressed at the high levels of growth these students have demonstrated as they've worked toward their goals. I'm grateful to work in a district whose facilities and resources afford our students the opportunity to conduct the quality of research that success at the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair demands," said Seneca Valley Gifted Support Teacher Dean Walker.

PRSEF is open to all students in grades 6-12 from the 21 counties within Western Pennsylvania and Garrett County, Maryland. Each year, approximately 1,000 students from more than 100 schools participate.

The Science Fair has been a Pittsburgh tradition since 1940. It is also the third oldest science fair in the United States under the affiliation of Society for Science, which runs the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) and the Broadcom MASTERS middle school competition.

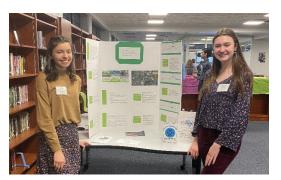
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IT'S FAIR TO SAY STEM RULES

Seneca Valley's 10th Annual Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Fair was held on March 30 in the Seneca Valley Senior High School Library.

At the event, there were 30 projects on display presented by 36 stellar students. Several projects, through the use of the SV Center for Biotechnology Research aka the Genetics Lab, focused on Biofilms as well as environmental DNA found in the creek.

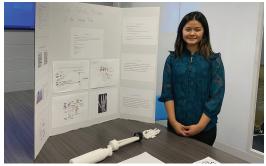
Twenty community experts volunteered to judge projects, where they discussed methods, results and conclusions with students. These experts offered written and verbal feedback, as well as advice on how to deepen and enrich students' projects.





The Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF) is proud to say their fundraising efforts have provided STEM mini-grants that assisted a number of students with high-intensity projects as part of the annual STEM Fair. This year, SVF supported a project that researched manganese, a mineral element, and which metals "make the cut."



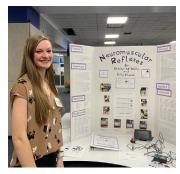














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BRINGING HOME GOLD, SILVER

Six art students were recently announced as Gold Key winners in the 2022 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, while eight students took home the Silver Key and 23 received Honorable Mentions.

Gold Key Winners include seniors Phung Do, Camryn Kotula, Julia Lingenfelter, Lauryn Priester and Isabel Woolslare, and junior, Ashlyn Gianfrancesco. Gold Key Recipients go on to be judged at the National Level.

Miss Gianfrancesco, a Senecca Valley junior, was recently announced as a 2022 National Key Winner. She won for her ceramic sculpture "Up, Up and Away." Seneca Valley Silver Key recipients include seniors Phung Do, Isabel Woolslare, Izzy Oldaker, Ria Dietz and Natalie Camilli and juniors Kimberly Lahoz Ruiz, Emma Bedell and Peter Wesley.

Also, several students from Seneca Valley received Honorable Mentions for their entries including seniors Camryn Kotula (two Honorable Mentions), Isabel Woolslare, Sreya Padamati, Emma Kovarik, Sydney Hunt, Eve Joseph, Zoey Klenoshek, Brooke Eckenrode, Karly Comstock, Cara Della Toffalo, Natalie Camilli (two Honorable Mentions), Sophie Byrd (five Honorable Mentions), Grace Abbott (two Honorable Mentions) and Maddie Amrhein (four Honorable Mentions); juniors Chloe Rossi, Regan Ridenour (two Honorable Mentions), Melody Lobach, Kimberly Lahoz Ruiz (two Honorable Mentions), Arden Kiely and Emma Bedell (five Honorable Mentions) and sophomores Jenna Allman, Kara Pasquale and Lillian Tirado.

"I am so proud of all the SV art students," exclaimed Seneca Valley Senior High School (SHS) Art Teacher Jason Woolslare. "Our art students are some of the most creative, passionate and dedicated students in the region. The numerous awards and accomplishments that were earned at the 2022 Scholastic Art and Writing exhibit demonstrate the passion and talent our students have in visual art."

Mr. Woolslare continued, "In addition, I am so grateful for Ms. Megan Bonistalli (SHS ceramics/pottery teacher) and her willingness to take the lead in coordinating the Scholastic Art show for the Pittsburgh region. It is a huge undertaking and provides an opportunity for thousands of students

across the region to showcase their work in a juried exhibition."

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards has grown to be the nation's longest-running, most prestigious recognition initiation for creative teens, and the largest source of scholarships for young artists and writers. The Pittsburgh Arts Region encompasses all of Allegheny, Beaver, and Butler counties and is facilitated by the Seneca Valley School District, Pittsburgh Art Affiliate.

























MUSIC STUDENTS EARN TOP HONORS

There were 16 Seneca Valley musicians that advanced all the way to the state level of Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA), which is part of the annual PMEA All-State conference and festival.

In the Performing Arts world this is the equivalent of making it to the state championship.

For the first time in three years, the PMEA festival was held in person with full public performances featuring nationally recognized guest conductors. The All-State Choir was conducted by Dr. Amelia Garbisch, director of music education and assistant professor of choral music at **Bloomsburg University** of Pennsylvania. Seneca Valley students rehearsed with Dr. Garbisch over the course



Pictured left to right: Back row – Trey Hixon, Colton Marley. Middle row – Anya Maschmeier, Grace Fawcett, Eli Peel. Front row – Leta Hixon, Elizabeth Hixon.

of two days that culminated with a performance on April 8.



Pictured left to right: Rebekah Heltzell, Sydney Thompson, Jackson Scherzer, Peter Ko, Raymond Walter, Sreya Padamati, Alaina Althouse, Katie Sylves, Katelyn Livorse.

The All-State Wind Ensemble was conducted by Professor Paula Crider, retired professor at The University of Texas and Director of the acclaimed University of Texas Longhorn Band. The All-State Concert band was conducted by Dr. Jonathan Helmick, Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Slippery Rock University. Both ensembles performed a concert on April 9 to close the entire festival and conference.

BAND FEST

There were 28 Seneca Valley Band students that were selected to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 5 Junior High Band Fest at Greenville Junior Senior High School March 29.

The Fest featured two concert bands that diligently rehearsed during the day with a successful performance in the evening. The concert included a varied style of music from slow somber tunes to high energy pieces that kept the enthusiastic audience on their toes.

The seventh and eighth grade ensemble showcased 14 SV students and was conducted by Mr. Tyler Husosky from Lakeview Middle School in Ohio. Participants included Camden Armstrong-alto saxophone, Sarah Geyer-clarinet, Jacob Hensler-percussion, Teagan Hmel-oboe, Autumn Holmes-tenor saxophone, Brynn Houser-clarinet, Emelyn Kaye-clarinet, Jeb Kellar-trombone, Lilia Maschmeier-percussion, Riley Relich-trombone, John Rieger-trumpet, Lola Schwendemann-french horn, Jayden Wiedmeyer-french horn and Delamie Wrubel-trumpet

The ninth grade ensemble also featured 14 SV students and was directed by Mr. Doug Olenik from the 399th Army Band in Missouri. Student members included Ayla Alexander-flute, Noah Bracht-tuba, Sydney Brower-french horn, Eric Chen-percussion, Joe Cuchapin-clarinet, Sophie Geil-trombone, Sylvia Heilman-clarinet,





Isaac Hixon-french horn, Steven Patterson-clarinet, Lauren Nowakclarinet, Emily Sedlak-flute, Catherine Shea-bassoon, Madeline Tomo-tenor saxophone and Mackenzie Tunstall-clarinet.

SUPERIOR SINGERS

The SV Choirs participated in a Music Performance Assessment event on March 31.

This adjudication brought three collegiate judges to SV to evaluate choirs in grades 7-12. The judges were Dr. Mark Boyle from Seton Hill University, Dr. Susan Medley from Washington & Jefferson College, and Dr. Christopher Scott from Slippery Rock University.

The preparation for an adjudication is a major boost to the investment made by both students and faculty in the teaching/learning process. This vigorous means of assessment evaluates the learning, progress and achievements of the students in the classes. Due to the success of the annual choral adjudication, SV has one of the strongest choral programs in Pennsylvania, led by Ms. Bobi-Jean Alexander, Mr. Aaron Magill and Mr. Grant Weaver.



"Our students take great pride in their achievements," stated Mr. Weaver.
"Since the inception of the annual Choral Adjudications, SV has had choral ensembles at every level in grades 8-12 represent SV as All-State Ensembles!"

He added, "We also have more individual students who qualify as All-State singers than any other school in Pennsylvania almost every year. The positive performances and processes of adjudication help to build confidence, knowledge, and skills."



This year, all choirs in grades 9-12 received straight Superior ratings (the highest rating given) and Ryan Gloyer Middle School grades 7-8 choirs received Excellent ratings!

MUSIC COLLAB

Earlier this month fifth grade orchestra students had the unique opportunity to participate in a side-by-side rehearsal with students from the Seneca Valley Chamber Orchestra.

Secondary orchestra director, Ms. Sarah Miller rehearsed a combined group of fifth grade and high school students and worked on a current fifth grade orchestra selection. Older students helped with musical concepts and encouraged the younger students to continue their participation in the SV orchestra program.

Evans City Middle School (ECMS) Orchestra teacher, Mrs. Lesney shared, "My 5th



graders had a blast playing with the high school Orchestra students! They also loved all the help that Ms. Miller brought to them in the rehearsal." She also added, "It's so beneficial for students to hear new and different feedback about their playing. It's also helpful for students to hear the same things that I say to them, but from a different teacher. This collaboration of orchestras and age groups is a tradition I would like to see continue!"

DIGITAL SENSATIONS

Seneca Valley students in Dan McKosky's video production classes brought home four awards from Robert Morris University's 30th Annual Digital Media Arts Consortium (DMAC) student video festival on April 7.

This year's DMAC festival was the first in-person event in the last three years and featured student representatives from dozens of western Pennsylvania schools.

Sophomore, Mason Ahl won best in category in the special effects group for his film "Shape Transitions."

The Seneca Says crew won in the morning announcements category.



Senior Emily Lopez, won in the black and white photography category for her photo titled "Thoughts on Time.

Taylor Bowers, junior, won in the feature package category for her news story on the new library in the Senior High.

"I had a lot of fun preparing my video," said Miss Bowers. "I was so excited that the time and effort that I put into it paid off and I was able to win an award for it. I can't wait to see what next year's DMAC festival brings."

Seneca Valley students and SVTV volunteers submitted work in 10 different categories and had an opportunity to see the varied work of neighboring schools' artists as well.

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ON THE ICE

The 2021-22 Seneca Valley MS1 (Blue) Club Team captured the Tier 1 Championship for the fourth time in eight seasons. They did so in dominating fashion by finishing undefeated in the regular season and in the playoffs. The Raiders featured a high scoring balanced attack, averaging seven goals per game (league record 98 goals) during the campaign. MS1 also played stout defense that only allowed an average of one goal per game (which is also a league record (14)). The Raiders completed the perfect season by defeating North Allegheny in the Tier 1 championship game.

The 2021-2022 Seneca Valley Varsity
Team was one-win shy of completing their
long-term goal of winning the programs
second Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey
League (PIHL) Penguins Cup Championship
against Peters Township. They went into
the playoffs as underdogs as the fifth
seed and knocked off the number four
seed Mt. Lebanon in the quarterfinals and
then taking out number one seed North
Allegheny in the semi-finals. They finished
with a regular season record of 11-7-1



Ice Hockey - Varsity



Ice Hockey - MS Blue

with being #3 on the powerplay in their classification of having a 21.1% conversion and #2 among teams with a 90.0% successful penalty kill. There were also five players selected to the PIHL All Star game this season.

COLLEGE COMMITMENTS - CLASS OF 2022



Raider student-athletes continue to make their college commitments official through the winter months. We congratulate these seniors in achieving their goals of continuing their athletic and academic careers at the next level. You are tremendous representatives of Raider Athletics and we are very proud of your efforts in the classroom, in competition, and in the community.

Name	Sport	College/University	Major
Ben Correll	Football	Grove City College	Mech. Engineering
Reichen Geiselhart	Lacrosse	Baldwin Wallace Univ.	Business
Daniel Simoes	Swimming	Cornell University	Engineering
Madison Vaughan	Ice Hockey	King's College	Psyc. & Crim. Justice

WE ARE PLANNING FOR 2022-23

Physical, drug & concussion test dates

The athletic department has announced its summer physical, drug testing and baseline concussion testing dates for 2022-23. Please note these plans are subject to change.

REMINDERS for 2022-23:

- All required paperwork for athletic participation in 2022-23 will be available on SV Portal starting June 1, 2022 - no paperwork may be completed prior to June 1, 2022.
- ALL paperwork is due in the athletic office no later than 3 p.m. on <u>Thursday, Aug. 4, 2022</u>. Coaches <u>will not</u> accept paperwork at the first day of tryouts.
- Dates for physicals are not confirmed yet. Once dates are set, we will announce. Please note physicals are first come, first served - we do <u>not</u> take reservations in advance. We encourage families to have their physical completed as soon as possible after June 1, 2022. You may visit your PCP or any Urgent Care Clinic for an athletic physical.
- The PIAA mandates the CIPPE form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.

- All student-athletes must be registered in the SV Portal under "Sports Registration" before competing. Registration begins June 1, 2022.
- Complete information available on the District's Athletics website under "Participation and TRYOUT information" starting June 1, 2022.
- Concussion baseline testing only needs to be done every other year. Parents may call the Athletics Office at (724) 452-6040, x1752 to confirm the status of their child's baseline concussion test.

Drug Testing and Baseline Concussion Testing Dates – Senior High School

- Tuesday, July 12 from 3 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 13 from 8 a.m. Noon and 1 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 2 from 3 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 3 from 8 a.m. Noon and 1 3 p.m.

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH, MARCH 2022

The Female Athlete of the Month for March was senior lacrosse player Payton **Riddle**. In five regular-season games, Payton averaged six goals a game, with a team high 33 goals and counting. She recently tallied her 100th career goal and is currently 4th on the all-time goal scorers list in Seneca Valley girl's lacrosse history. A well-rounded player, she leads the team in draw controls and assists and has forced 14 turnovers and nine interceptions thus far. For an outstanding month we



recognized Payton as the March Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Payton!

Male Athlete of the Month for March was senior volleyball player and team captain **Coleman McDonough**. Part of a nationally ranked

team, Coleman led his team to a 4-0 start and two first-place tournament finishes. He tallied 101 digs, 27 aces, 107 kills, six assists and three blocks during a packed March slate. The UCLA Men's volleyball commit will continue to be a key contributor on a team looking to win its first-ever WPIAL Championship. We recognize Coleman as the



March Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Coleman!

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THANKS FOR 10 INCREDIBLE YEARS

The Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF) was pleased to thank its supporters and highlight its accomplishments of the past ten years at its "Pleased to Thank You" event held on March 31 at the Steamfitter's new event center. The evening celebrated a decade of dedication and reflected on the impact SVF has made on Seneca Valley schools. Deep appreciation was shown for SVF's "Greatest Givers" and our Board of Trustees, including a special memorial dedicated to former trustee and school board director, Jason Wehrle.

Thank you to the following sponsors who made this event possible:

- Eckles Construction
- Coldwell Banker The Georgie Smigel Group
- Edulink
- T-Mobile
- Fun Fore All and Dairy Queen Grill & Chill (Route 19, Cranberry)
- · Glade Run Lutheran Services
- Steamfitters Local 249
- DRE Hospitality



FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

The SVF Board of Trustees is proud to host a FREE food truck day once again for all staff on Friday, May 13 as a token of appreciation for the hard work being done each and every day for our students.



The truck lineup and services times are as follows:

- Haine Elementary/Middle Steve and Benny's Chicken 11 a.m. 1 p.m.
- Rowan Elementary Le Petite Tour De France 11 a.m. 1 p.m.
- Evans City Elementary/Middle City Fresh Pasta (CFP)
 11 a.m. 1 p.m.
- Connoquenessing Valley Elementary Old School Italian Food Truck – 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 *Parked at Kindergarten Doors
- **Secondary Campus** Steve and Benny's Chicken 10 a.m. 1 p.m.

All trucks will be parked in front of the school as scheduled unless otherwise noted. The lunch truck for the 7-12 campus will be parked on the campus driveway, along the Administration Office windows, on the north side of campus and centrally located for the three 7-12 schools.

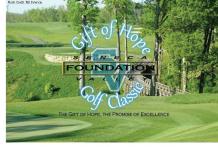
SAVE THE DATE

SVF is incredibly excited to invite you to our tenth annual Gift of Hope Golf Classic which will be held at Cranberry Highlands Golf Course on Thursday, Aug. 4. Please consider joining us on this day of fun and socializing, all for a great cause.

Sponsorship Levels & Golfer Fees Gift of Hope Golf Classic - August 4 Presenting Level Sponsor: \$10,000 Hole-In-One Contest Sponsor: \$1,000 Count me in as a Sponsor! (check below)
__Presenting __Platinum __Gold Presenting Plati Silver Skill Hole-In-One Gree ackage metures:
Full-Page ad in Golf Event Presentation
Signage on four (4) Contest Holes
Verbal Acknowledgment During Awards Presentation ___Lunch ___Cocktail ___Ad (1/2) ___ Ad (Full) Green Sponsors: \$300 8:30 a.m. – Registration Begins 9:30 a.m. – Shotgun Start Lunch will be provided at the turn and a buffet dinner will be served at 2 p.m. Pin Flag with Company Name/Logo plac One Sign with Company Name/Logo plac I would like to play in the Golf Outing: Lunch/Cocktail/Dinner Sponsors: I would like the following in my foursome Silver Level Sponsors: \$2,500 Ad Sponsor: \$100, \$200 Putting Contest Sponsor: \$1,500 Skill Prize Contest Sponsor: \$1,500 Individual Golfer: \$175 (\$200 if registered after July I) nail at mersingam@svsd.net All proceeds benefit the Seneca Valley Foundation a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to Thank you for supporting encouraging excellence and innovation in the Seneca Valley School District. this important event!

As you know, the SVF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing the gift of hope and promise of excellence to the Seneca Valley School District. Over the past ten years, we have donated over \$900,000 to teacher projects, classroom enhancements, capital improvement projects, professional development and STEM activities, and we are eager to do more. Proceeds from this year's golf outing will allow us to continue, and increase, our efforts for the benefit of all Seneca Valley students and staff.

Click here for additional information about how you can be a part of this important fundraiser: https://www.svsd.net/Page/28104.



Cranberry Highlands Golf Course August 4, 2022

SV ALL-STAR

For April, we are pleased to announce the newest member inducted into the SV All-Star Club, Ms. Carol Baptiste, Seneca Valley Intermediate High School (IHS) Secretary.

The SV All-Star Club is an awards program developed by the District to express our gratitude to Seneca Valley classified employees (secretaries, paraprofessionals, maintenance, cafeteria) and bus drivers who are often the unsung heroes of our schools. We intend to recognize a new member of this elite all-star club each month.

Dr. Matthew Delp, Principal of Seneca Valley Intermediate High School shared, "Ms. Baptiste is always there to assist both the staff and students daily. She's been with the Seneca Valley School District for nearly 41 years. During that time, she has continually adopted and adapted to change of all shapes and sizes that have occurred within the IHS and the Seneca Valley School District."

"Being the Attendance Secretary, Ms. Baptiste has a special lens into the lives of our families and has always been a caring and comforting first line of support for them here at the IHS. Whether it is a parent dropping off a forgotten lunch or band instrument, managing early dismissals for doctor's appointments, or logging the countless comings and goings of our students, Ms. Baptiste does so with grace and compassion," said Dr. Delp.

Dr. Delp added, "Over the past two years, Ms. Baptiste has served in a critical capacity to our students, parents, staff, and administration while managing the ever-evolving conditions of the



From L-R: Seneca Valley School Board President Eric DiTullio, Ms. Baptiste, Seneca Valley Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tracy Vitale and Dr. Delp.

pandemic. She quickly implemented a new electronic protocol that greatly advanced our efficiency in managing student attendance. In addition, she played a large role in communicating and coordinating student attendance not only at the building level but also in the virtual world of live streaming. Her masterful accounting of our students' attendance provided the information needed to best serve our students and community during these incredibly challenging and unpredictable times."

"It was an honor to be inducted into the SV All-Star Club out of so many deserving people," said Ms. Baptiste. "It has been a privilege to serve the Seneca Valley School District for 41 years."

STAFF OF SV

Be sure to check out the latest Staff of SV, a light-hearted feature that was created to share with our followers the more human-interest side of our staff that parents and students don't always get to see.



This month features Seneca Valley Food Services Coordinator Faye Nelson and her time as feature twirler in the Seneca Valley "Roaring" Raider Marching Band. Read more at www.svsd.net/ StaffofSV.





'I LED THE PLEDGE'

Seneca Valley School District's School Board meetings were held on April 4 and 11. We were pleased to continue the tradition of inviting elementary students from Seneca Valley's K-4 schools to lead the members of the School Board and public in saying "The Pledge of Allegiance." For the April meetings, Connoqunessing Valley Elementary (CVE) third grader Lina Setter and Evans City Elementary first grader Jake Prouty did the honors, and they did a fantastic job!





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SV HIRES DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

During Seneca Valley's School Board Meeting on March 14, board members approved the appointment of Mr. John Demkowicz as the District's new Director of Transportation.

A native of the
Chicagoland suburbs of
Illinois, Mr. Demkowicz
relocated to Pennsylvania
where he served as the
Operations Supervisor
of the Monark Student
Transportation
Corporation in
Gibsonia followed
by the Supervisor of



Transportation and Custodial Services for the Quaker Valley School District. During his 12 years of Pennsylvania pupil transportation experience, he became well-versed in multiple transportation software suites, developed innovative processes for state reports and implemented strategic communication strategies with the District's transportation system. He also has experience in coordinating and facilitating emergency responses impacting the safety of District facilities and community roadways.

Additional experience includes his role as Director of Operations at Performer's Academy where he developed new revenue streams and business strategies while also maintaining fiscal and administrative duties. He also successfully recruited exceptional candidates to fill positions during the growth of the company. During his six years at FedEx Ground, Mr. Demkowicz was a Trainer, Swing Driver and Courier. He planned and provided efficient pickup and delivery services while complying with all operational, security and safety policies over a large territory covering multiple states and service areas.

With his extensive pageantry experience and skills, Mr. Demkowicz is a national adjudicator trained in the Bands of America and Winter Guard International judging philosophies and shares his passion and knowledge of the activity by speaking to directors and student performers to help in their development and growth. Mr. Demkowicz is also a former marching member of The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps and a featured clinician with Central Michigan University's Drum Major and Color Guard Leadership Camp.

Mr. Demkowicz attended college in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Illinois. He is involved in many associations including the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials and resides in Moon Township with his wife, two daughters and dog.

"We are excited about the opportunity and stability Mr. Demkowicz brings to our District. His extensive background in transportation services will provide the skills and knowledge necessary for the growth of the Seneca Valley School District well into the future," said Dr. Sean McCarty, Assistant Superintendent for K-6 Instruction.

"I am honored and humbled to be part of this exemplary community and welcome the opportunity to lead SVSD's transportation department that utilizes my leadership and management experiences to help provide a nurturing and safe environment for the students of Seneca Valley," said Mr. Demkowicz.

Mr. Demkowicz replaces Mr. James Pearson who will be retiring later this summer after 11 years of service to the Seneca Valley School District.

"I have great respect for Mr. Jim Pearson as I have had the great fortune to have him as a mentor. Jim's retirement is well earned and his service to all communities is graciously commended. I am also interested in continuing the coordination of a safe, efficient, and effective transportation system that provides consistency for the students, families, and the district that is dynamic and adaptable for all needs within and beyond for this exceptional and growing community of the Seneca Valley School District," said Mr. Demkowicz.

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

April was Child Abuse Prevention Month. To help raise awareness about preventing child abuse, Seneca Valley partnered with the Children's Advocacy Center of Butler County and asked staff and students to wear blue on April 22 in support of this worthy cause.

In addition, pinwheels, which represents the national symbol of the happy healthy childhoods that all children deserve, were placed near all building entrances to spread the prevention message.







ALUMNI Q&A

Rachel Noah, SV '16 Graduate is currently the Merchandise Coordinator for Disney Theatrical Group in NYC. We asked her to catch us up on what she is doing and how Seneca Valley influenced her life and career.

Q: Catch us up. Tell us what you're doing today:

A: I received a BSBA from the University of Pittsburgh in April 2020, majoring in Marketing, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Theatre Arts. I am now working as the Merchandise Coordinator at Disney Theatrical Group (DTG) managing merchandise marketing material, sales associate domestic touring staffing and recruiting, customer inquiry management, domestic and international wholesale catalogs, and relations of all 21 DTG International Licensees. I am also an active member of Women at Disney and Disney's Emerging Professionals Group.

In the coming weeks, I will be transitioning into a new role as Franchise Associate with Disney Parks, Experiences and Products where I will be marketing several well-known brands on Disney Junior, Disney Channel and Disney+.

In my spare time, I love singing in church with my boyfriend of four years, Jason Earle (former NA Tiger- boo!), spending time with my family and friends, seeing as much theatre as possible, walking my dog, trying new restaurants, thinking of the best possible gifts for my loved ones, traveling to new places, and counting down the days until Christmas.

Q: Please share with us some information about your family.

A: My parents still reside in Cranberry Township with our family dog, Comet, and my brother is currently a student at The University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown. We are all very close and enjoy seeing each other as often as possible.

Q: What might (someone) be surprised to know about you?

A: Before working for Disney, I interned in marketing for WICKED on Broadway and the Metta Theatre in London, England. Some of



my dearest memories are those that I made while living and working abroad. I also pride myself on being Julie Andrews' number one fan.

Q: How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?

A: I grew up knowing absolutely no one in the entertainment industry. Therefore, I decided at a young age to take advantage of the acting, singing, performing and academic opportunities I had while in the Seneca Valley School District to better myself for the career I aimed for. While in college, I gained an appreciation for the amount of opportunities Seneca Valley offered me that many of my peers from other schools did not have. Therefore, I became even more thankful for the amount of activities offered to me growing up, and I am so happy I took advantage of everything Seneca Valley had to offer.

Q: What do you think makes Seneca Valley such a special place to learn and grow?

A: From sports to arts to advanced placement courses, Seneca Valley has the ability to push all of their students to excellence in whatever they want to pursue.

Q: Who was your favorite teacher/coach/ SV staff member?





A: It is impossible to narrow it down to one! Some of the most encouraging teachers I had were: Mrs. Fiscus (4th Grade), Miss Null (7th Grade), Mr. Hayward (7th and 12th Grade), Mrs. Tyson (8th Grade), Mrs. Broman

continued next page

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(8th Grade), Mrs. Alexander (9th-10th Grade), Mrs. Hugus (10th Grade), Mr. Lowe (11th Grade), Mrs. Schuster (11th Grade), Mr. Butschle (12th Grade) and of course, Mr. Magill (9th-12th Grade).

Mr. Magill was able to offer me performance opportunities far beyond what (I predict) was in his original job description. He pushed me to audition for every community theatre production, PMEA festival, anthem-singing opportunity, and more. He even came to my theatrical productions at the University of Pittsburgh when I was a student! Not only did he encourage me to perform musically, but he cheered me on for all the other extracurricular activities I pursued.

Q: What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley?

A: During my time at SV, I stayed busy by participating in multiple choral groups, the all-school musicals, PMEA festivals, thespian plays, National Honor Society activities and more-so it is truly hard to pick one specific memory. However, the one thing that continues to come to mind are the relationships I made with my SV teachers and peers. In fact, I am still close with the majority of my friends from high school. Although now we all live in different parts of the county, they are still some of the most supportive people I know. I am so thankful that Seneca Valley brought such wonderful people into my life.

Q: If you had one message for teachers or staff, what would it be?

A: Many people thought I was unrealistic for dreaming to work for one of the largest entertainment companies in the world. Hard to blame them considering I had zero connections to the industry and grew up in Western Pennsylvania. However, there were a few teachers who told me I could accomplish anything I set my mind to. To the current Seneca Valley teachers and staff-be that encouraging light for the students longing to follow a more "unusual" path. Not





all my teachers could be that for me, but the ones that were are part of the reason I am where I am today.

Q: What do you wish other people knew about Seneca Valley?

A: Seneca Valley is a large district with large graduating classes, however their staff goes above and beyond to ensure all students have equal opportunities. There





truly is space and activities for everyone. Although my teachers had many students to look out for, I always felt seen and heard growing up in the district. To any current student reading this, please take advantage of the resources available to you-and remember, you can do anything you set your mind to!



4 CONVERSATIONS TO HAVE WITH OLDER KIDS AND TEENS ABOUT THEIR SCREEN TIME HABITS

Older kids and teens are spending more time using digital devices and social media than ever before. The increase in screen time causes many parents and caregivers to worry about how kids' online activities are affecting their physical, mental, and emotional health.

A healthy relationship with screens depends on the types of activities kids are doing online as well as balancing screen time with other activities like sleep, connecting with family and friends, exercise, and time outdoors. Screen time limits for older kids and teens can be helpful -- but how they are using screens (versus for how long) is even more important. Plus, family conflicts over screen time may be more harmful to children's mental health than the screen time itself.

Try the tips and questions below to have conversations with older kids and teens about their screen time habits.

1. Show interest in what they're doing online.

Try not to be judgmental about what kids and teens do online. If they sense you're truly interested, they'll be more open to sharing. If your older child or teen is reluctant to talk about what they're doing online, try signing up for one of the popular platforms (TikTok, Snapchat, etc.), then ask them to teach you how to use it. Understanding what kids and teens are doing online is the first step in guiding them toward healthy experiences.

Ask:

- What's your favorite app or game right now?
- Can you show me how it works?
- · What's something you like about it? Why?
- (For social platforms) What are your favorite accounts or people to follow?

2. Help them recognize their screen time habits.

Sometimes the habits kids have with their devices aren't the best for their health. The same goes for adults, too! Maybe screen time interferes with sleep, relationships, or learning. Talk about how we can use our devices in ways that feel in balance with other parts of life. Share your own habits as examples to get the conversation going.

Ask:

- What are some of our family's habits with devices like phones or TV? (Share a few examples, like checking your phone when you wake up, or playing video games before bed.)
- Do any of our habits get in the way of things like sleep, spending time with friends and family, or getting outside?
- Are there any habits we should try to change? Why or why not?



 Can you think of any specific times we could take breaks from our devices?

3. Talk about their emotional health.

Help older kids and teens recognize how online activities make them feel. Many teens turn to social media and online resources for mental health support and to connect with friends. However, social media can also have negative effects on some teens, especially girls and teens experiencing depression.

Ask:

- How do you feel when you're on Instagram (or another app)?
- Do you ever feel uncomfortable, worried, sad, or anxious?
- If yes: What makes you feel that way?
- Do you ever feel like you've spent too much time online?
- If yes: When?
- If no: Why not?
- Do you ever feel pressured to be online?
- If yes: When do you feel pressured? Why?
- If no: Why not?

4. Talk about what to do when they have negative feelings or want to set new screen time habits.

Talk through different strategies kids can try when they notice themselves feeling uncomfortable, worried, sad, or anxious when they're online. And remind them that they can always come to you (or another trusted adult) if they need help.

Ask:

- Have you ever set time limits for yourself when you're online?
 - If yes: How did that go?
- If no: Do you want to try it? I could help.
- Are there ways to connect with your friends in person more often to take the pressure off being online all the time?
- Do you know how to block someone on your favorite apps?
 - If no: Can we look together and figure out how?

Article and photo provided by Common Sense Media



- Click here for the 2022-23 Third Nine Weeks Honor Rolls.
- Miracle League of SW Pennsylvania (located in Cranberry Township) is looking for volunteers to help special needs children play baseball (season begins in May) as buddies or game announcers. Students (12 years or older) and adults are welcome to join our team. For more information or to register, go to www.mlswpa.org.
- We know these unprecedented times are a struggle for many in our community. If you would like to donate your time and/or resources, please click on and complete the "I Want to Help" survey. If you are in need of assistance, please click and submit the survey form under "I Need Help."



- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel!
- Drive for SV! Sign-up bonuses are now being offered.
- Join the SV Team! Watch here or visit www.svsd.net/HumanResources to learn more and apply.
- SV's Kennywood Picnic Day is this Friday, June 24! Buy your tickets here: https://www.kennywood.com/ and enter the promo code: SENECAVALLEY.
- Last month, Rowan Elementary student Zachary Ramos qualified for the National Ninja League (NNL) World Championships. More recently, he made stage 2. Check out his competition runs here: https://youtu.be
 BoMuzP9XP6U and here: https://youtu.be/4p7Mvk8nqJc. ■







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ANTICIPATED TEACHING POSITIONS FOR 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

The Seneca Valley School District anticipates full-time elementary, special education and secondary teaching positions for the 2022-23 school year. If interested, please submit required information to www.svsd.net/Employment.





APPLY TODAY!

To learn more and apply, visit **www.svsd.net/HumanResources** or call (724) 452-6040

Benefits of working at Seneca Valley:

- Competitive salaries and benefits
- · Outstanding professional development and faculty mentoring
- · Commitment to supporting diverse faculty and staff
- Inclusive and motivated students and engaged families
- Commitment to community service
- · Exceptional facilities

The Seneca Valley School District is committed to advancing equity and embracing diversity and inclusion in the workplace. EOE.



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Save the Date



Free Dental & Eye Exam Clinic 2022

Setup: Thursday, August 4th

Clinic Dates: Friday, August 5th and

Saturday, August 6th

Volunteer Registration opens April 2022

Register: mompgh.org

Sponsorship inquiries: info@mompgh.org

David L. Lawrence Convention Center

Free dental services

Free eye exams _____

No insurance requirements _____

Services are rendered on a first come, first served basis until capacity is met.

Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh, the signature program of A Call To Care, Inc

Visit MomPgh.org for more important details.

SENECA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTS

36TH ANNUAL ALL DISTRICT K-6 TRACK AND FIELD COMMUNITY EVENT







DONATIONS
FOR THE
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FOUNDATION
ARE WELCOME!



MAY 13, 2022 REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 5:15PM EVENTS BEGIN AT 6:00 FREE FOR ALL SV RESIDENTS

NO COST TO HAVE FUN ON THE TRACK AND MEET THIS YEAR'S TEAM!



IN MEMORY OF MARCIE PEACO

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