ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT – DR. NICOLE COSENTINO

Professional Development
We are in the planning process for the January 19th Professional Development Day. We held a planning meeting with the TAC Team from IU 20. This team will be in attendance to support our professional development needs. This time our teachers will be spending the first half of the day in their collaborative teams as they address grade-level or subject-specific needs. The IU is able to provide training on the CDT, Differentiation, Student Participation, and online testing just to name a few. Our administrators will be facilitating collaborative team meetings in various grade levels and departments, such as Special Education. The department chairs worked as a group to establish their agendas for the PLC time on January 19th during the PD Day. Several secondary departments will be focusing on the recommendation process, as there are many data points required to analyze when completing a student recommendation. This type of consistency will help ensure proper placement of our students. This requires significant communication by all parties as well as prioritizing the needs of each group.

We researched and found an opportunity through PDE for a few of our Biology Teachers to attend a training at PATTAN focused on **"Unravel Genetics to Raise the Steaks,"** a unit that has earned the prestigious **NGSS Design Badge**. The NGSS Design Badge is awarded to top-rated science lessons and units designed for the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Our teachers will discover how this high-quality material bridges the gap between complex high school genetics concepts and authentic modern agriculture. This will allow further application of the concept in our biology curriculum rewrites that are ongoing this year. We are currently writing a new Science 9 course into two years of Biology as well as all three levels of Biology.

Middle School Schedules
We are continuing to work with our staff and Power School on the middle school schedules in order to maximize efficiency. This process has been ongoing. We plan to have a final direction by the end of January so the foundational work can be completed in time for the scheduling process. The follow-up meeting is scheduled for January 13th with all stakeholders.

Combo Debates
The annual Combo Debates took place the week before Winter break. We had judges from all over the district judging the Integrated debates. This is the culmination of the intense research/debate unit in all grade levels. This allows the students to make the research process come to life. The students engage in the entire research process of analysis and synthesis of the information as they craft their arguments and articulate their positions.

School Spirit Opportunities
Throughout the month of December, we continued to build on the school spirit initiatives we started in year one of 1DV. There were several cultural contests/events that were organized and executed with representatives from all buildings. Theme days in all the buildings took place and some had competitions for free tickets to school-wide events. We sent the winter athletes to each of the schools and provided free tickets for a winter sporting event to all students in grades K-8.

Trainings
I was able to attend several trainings focused on the following topics: The integration of AI, On-Line Assessments, Observing and Supporting High-Quality STEELS Classrooms, Personal Budget and

Finance graduation requirement, and attend a webinar put on by Solution Tree. Solution Tree is the founding company of the DeFours, who started the PLC movement in America. We have the trainer coming back to our March 13th Professional Learning Day.

Observations
I was able to continue observing the 2nd and 3rd year teachers on my evaluation list from all buildings. This process allows for deliberate feedback and rich conversations to promote growth. It has been an excellent process and something that is worth the time it takes to complete the process with fidelity.

Thank you for reading,
Nicole

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT – DR. JAYSON POPE

- On Thursday, December 4, the 3rd Annual Toys for Kids Staff vs. Law Enforcement basketball game was held at DVHS. A team of DV staff, representing all seven buildings, battled a team of law enforcement representing the PA State Police, DV School Police, National Park Service, and the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This annual tradition, sponsored by the Student Athlete Advisory Council and the DV Educational Foundation, collected over $2,000 as well as a table full of toys- all of which were donated to Toys for Kids of Pike County. The basketball game marked the end of the holiday toy drive, where all seven school buildings (plus the administration building) collected toys throughout the month of December. A special thank you to DV Foundation sponsors Iron Valley Real Estate Tri-State, Lehman-Strickler Insurance, Ohliger-McIntyre Law Firm, and Dumpster Kings for coming out to help make the night a success.
- The Biondo Foundation held its annual Sharing Party on Monday, December 8 at the Erie Trackside in Port Jervis. Local families were treated to a delicious meal and all families in attendance received gifts for the holidays. A huge thank you to the entire Biondo family for their generosity, Biondo Foundation President Karen Loeschorn for coordinating the event, and to Dick McKeeby of the Erie for his hospitality. A special thank you to our elementary school nurses for helping to facilitate the evening as well as DDES music teacher Brian Krauss and his wife Stacey for their holiday musical performance.
- On Tuesday, December 9 Eastern Pike Regional Police Department sponsored the “Shop with a Cop” event at Wal-Mart. Nearly 40 Delaware Valley students had the opportunity to pick out a holiday gift for themselves. A big thank you to Eastern Pike Police Chief Chad Stewart for coordinating the event as well as the generosity the police department showed our families.
- At its December 10 meeting, the Greater Pike Community Foundation’s Board of Directors elected Jayson Pope to serve on its Board of Directors for a three-year term, effective January 2026. The Greater Pike Community Foundation was created in 2012 to enable generous individuals, families, and local businesses to maximize their charitable support through organized, targeted community philanthropy. To date, the foundation oversees more than 50 funds totaling $8 million in assets.
- It was a busy holiday season for the DV Educational Foundation. Thanks to the generosity of its many sponsors, the foundation was able to provide holiday gifts to families across the school district. In addition to sponsoring the staff v. law enforcement basketball game to benefit Toys for Kids of Pike County, the foundation was proud to contribute to other local toy drives

that benefitted Pike County Children and Youth as well as the Santa Drive Thru sponsored by Ohliger Injury Law/Ohliger-McIntrye Law Firm.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES – MR. CHRIS LORDI

- Met with DVESPA for negotiations
- Held a Loudermill Hearing for employee discipline
- Was a judge for the high school debates for the Combo classes
- Held interviews for districtwide employment openings
- Recruiting new employees for open positions
- Interviewed substitute professionals and classified staff
- Compiled grievance hearing materials and presented at a grievance hearing
- Worked through Workers Comp cases with our insurance company
- Attend classes for personal PD for a pHCLE certification – Professional Human Capital Leader in Education
- Met with DVEA leadership for monthly discussions
- Met with DVESP leadership for monthly discussions
- Attended IU #20 Emergency Preparedness monthly meeting
- Attended the Westfall Sewer Authority meetings
    - Working on District connection to system
    - Submitted work proposals on the project
- Attended IU #20 Human Resources meeting
    - Discussions regarding the need from ALL IU schools for IAs
- Attend various PASBO/PASBA/AASPA continuing ed webinars
    - Leadership Development
    - Payroll Development
    - HR Development
- Held a Workplace safety meeting
- Attend a workplace safety meeting held by WorkPartners in Best Practice for a Workplace Safety Committee

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR – MR. WILLIAM HESSLING

- ➢ Review, approve and assist in compiling the 25 to 35 pages of Financial Reports, Treasurer's Reports, and Bills for Payment that appear as Business Office produced reports on the Board agenda every month. This includes journal entries, reconciliations, budget decisions on purchasing and bills for payments, budgetary monitoring and controls, revenue tracking, etc. for all district funds including the General Fund, Construction Funds, Capital Reserve Fund and Cafeteria Funds.
- ➢ The U.S. Department of Education (ED) announced six new interagency agreements (IAAs) with the Departments of Labor (DOL), Interior (DOI), Health and Human Services (HHS), and State. These agreements shift administration of several ED programs to other agencies in accordance with President Trump's executive order to dismantle the Department of Education. The federal programs affected by the new Interagency Agreements include:
    - Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (including the Impact Aid Program) to DOL
    - Office of Postsecondary Education to DOL

- Native education programs to DOI
- On-campus childcare support (CCAMPIS) to HHS
- Foreign medical accreditation to HHS
- International and foreign language education programs to State

Under these agreements, ED would retain statutory oversight, with many operational functions moving to the receiving agencies. This approach mirrors an earlier ED/DOL partnership involving adult education and career and technical education programs. That earlier agreement is being challenged in court, with the Supreme Court allowing implementation to proceed during litigation. ED has indicated that some employees will transfer to the receiving agencies. No timeline has been set for full implementation.

➢ The National Association for Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) has reported that Senate leaders have moved closer to finalizing a five-bill "minibus" appropriations package that would fund most of the federal government through fiscal year 2026 and significantly reduce the risk of a government shutdown early this year.

Early last fall, Congress enacted a separate funding bill covering military construction, veterans' affairs, agriculture, and the legislative branch through September 2026. If the minibus is enacted as well, approximately 85–90 percent of federal agencies would be funded for the remainder of the fiscal year, including the Departments of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (including Impact Aid), Interior, and Transportation.

Senate Appropriations Committee members indicated that passage of the minibus would eliminate the threat of a shutdown in February, though the House and President Trump would still need to approve the package. If they do, only a small number of agencies would continue to face a funding deadline in late January. Negotiations have been continuing.

DIRECTOR OF SUPPORT SERVICES – MR. MARVIN EVERSDYKE

Activities for the month of December to support facilities, grounds, and transportation operations included:

- Scheduled substitute personnel for absences
- Reviewed The ML Schedule and Schedule Star Calendars to assure my staff was informed and had planned for events and activities in their respective building
- Scheduled vehicles and personnel for home-to-school, educational, and athletic trips
- Managed repair service and maintenance of DVSD vehicles
- Assigned and followed through with Work Orders
- Assigned and followed through with Preventative Maintenance Work Orders
- Reviewed and processed invoices for payment
- Prepared payroll for all hourly paid Support Services employees
- Submitted monthly DEP Domestic Water and Wastewater Treatment Reports
- Managed daily work for seventy employees
- Implemented adjustments to home-to-school bus routes as requested by parents and as related to enrollments
- Implemented adjustments to special needs routes as requested by SPED staff including student enrollment changes
- Confirmed with staff that buildings and grounds were prepared for events
- Assigned personnel for the winter break special events and
- Submitted Future CAPEX Projects List.

DIR. OF MENTAL HEALTH & STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES– DR. DIANA BIXBY

Mental Health

We continued to have role clarifications with counselors, social workers, and psychologists throughout December.

Elementary School Social Worker Gabrielle Westfall has been networking with teachers for referrals for new groups that will start in January. She is also working on planning The Great Kindness Challenge: Animal Drive benefitting the Pike County Humane Society which will occur in January.

At DVHS, Social Worker Amy Letwinsky held two groups - one that focused on coping skills and one for dealing with holiday stress. She held individual meetings with approximately 20 students over the course of the month. At DVES, Ms. Letwinsky had individual meetings with approximately 27 students. She held a group that focused on identifying feelings and one that focused on coping skills. In both buildings, she regularly attended SAP and Threat Assessment meetings.

Over at DDMS, Social Worker Dr. Vivian Bruno has set up a bulletin board showing the importance of Self Care during the holidays. The JR SASA students helped to spread good cheer and made angels for the bulletin board. Dr. Bruno continued to run groups and see students individually to help with student success by addressing academic, social, and emotional concerns as they pose barriers to learning.

Sources of Strength turned our 'Thankfulness Tree' into a 'Giving Tree' for the holidays. Students were asked what they could give to someone that does not require money. Research consistently shows that engaging in acts of kindness, and helping others can have a powerful, positive impact on mental well-being. Students were encouraged to give themselves the gift of happiness by 'gifting' something to someone they love.

Support Services

We welcomed Rhea Doto to the DVHS nursing office.

Students in grades 8, 10, and 12 who had Active Consent took the PAYS survey on Friday, December 19th.

Deep Dive into Discipline training was held on December 10th.

Achieve Academy

Achieve Academy started off December with three students and ended with the same. Students continue to meet with Dr. Bruno for counseling and with Dr. Bixby for their neuroscience group as well as participating in positive behavior support interventions in the program.

Dr. Bixby, along with the other Achieve Academy staff continue check-ins with students coming back to brick and mortar from Achieve Academy.

SUPERVISORS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION – MRS. CHERYL NIELSEN & MRS. ASHLEY TURS

On December 16, 2025, Students had the opportunity to attend a field trip with Mrs. Butler to Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, PA. Students participated in an admissions presentation where they learned about the community college. They were provided specific

information about areas of interest as well as information on how to access disability services. They also received a tour of the campus seeing classrooms, cafeteria, and dorm rooms.

High School students participated in recurring Pre-Employment Transition Services through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Jamie Champie, OVR Early Reach Coordinator comes to Delaware Valley to hold classes one day per month addressing the area of workplace readiness.

The staff and students were very busy this month participating in winter and holiday activities.

The Grinch received some fan mail in DDPS. There was a Grinch Mailbox which was placed in front of the library. Students wrote letters to the Grinch on how to appropriately conduct himself, how to be kind, and how to be nice to others. Younger students drew pictures of socially appropriate behaviors as well. What a great way to mix in social skills lessons with the holidays!

DDMS classes participated in festive games and activities. They also enjoyed a Polar Express Day together, including pj's, hot cocoa, and our students' favorite cookies.

DDPS classes made wreaths for the holidays. Students experimented to see what colors make green. They worked on fine motor skills by cutting, gluing, and then using pipettes to put the green colors they made onto their wreaths. They also made Grinch paint prints to decorate their bulletin board.

Some of the DVHS Special Education Department contributed to Project Warmth by "adopting" a high school student and providing them with items requested for this holiday season.

Upcoming workshops:

- January 15th - ESY presented by The Arc
- January 8th, 13th, and 14th - Early Intervention Transition to Kindergarten
- January 12th - Right To Education Local Task Force 20: "Creating Parent Engagement"

SUPERVISOR OF ACADEMIC SERVICES – MS. JOY SWELLER

During December, many activities were completed to support curriculum, instruction, and assessment districtwide.

- I met with gifted education teams across buildings to plan curriculum compacting and subject/grade acceleration options for students demonstrating advanced mastery and in need of increased challenge.
- I collaborated with gifted staff to align acceleration and compacting decisions with student performance data and social-emotional considerations to ensure appropriate pacing and support.
- I reviewed progress toward goals in all four elementary schools' Title I schoolwide plans, with attention to implementation of evidence-based instructional strategies and use of student achievement data to monitor impact.
- I provided feedback to schoolwide teams on next steps for strengthening schoolwide Title I practices, including documentation of progress, refinement of goals, and alignment with state and federal expectations.

- I completed formal teacher observations which provided targeted feedback on instructional practices, classroom environment, and student engagement.
- I initiated follow-up support and coaching conversations with teachers to reinforce effective practices and identify professional learning needs.
- I oversaw Wave 1 of the winter Keystone Exams administration, including test security procedures, staff training, and coordination of accommodations for eligible students.
- I monitored daily testing operations and troubleshooting to ensure smooth administration and accurate, timely submission of assessment materials.
- I served as a judge for high school student debates, providing rubric-based scoring and constructive feedback to support students' critical thinking, research, and public speaking skills.

SUPERVISOR OF TECHNOLOGY – MR. DYLAN SATURNO

- From 12/1/25 to 12/31/25 238 work orders were created by the staff
- From 12/1/25 to 12/31/25 199 work orders were completed and closed by thetechnology department
- As of 12/31/25 there were still 39 work orders in process by the technology department in various buildings
- Set-up camera and Wi-Fi in the district office for the December Board Meeting
- Set-up Wi-Fi and enrolled Chromebooks in several locations for Keystone testing
- Set-up a new authentication method for a teacher only network to avoid misuse
- ClassLink QCard Logon Issue
- Setup New DHCP Server for DV Campus to Replace DVSDTECH01
- Setup New Print Server for DV Campus to Replace DVSDPRTSRV01
- Rebuild O365 CA Security Policies

DELAWARE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL – MR. LOU DELAURO

Student vs. Staff/Law Enforcement Basketball Game (12/4) - On Thursday, December 4th, the 3rd Annual DV Staff vs. Law Enforcement Basketball Game was held at the high school to benefit Toys for Kids Pike County and Tri-State. Sponsored by the Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) and the DV Foundation, staff members from across the district battled a law enforcement team comprised of PA and NY State Troopers, National Park Rangers, Milford Boro Police Officers, and DV SPO's. While the 1DV squad came up short in their efforts, the event raised over $2,000 and collected two huge bags of toys. The score of the game was 61-43. A special thank you to the DV Foundation's Cornerstone Sponsors for the gymnasium scoreboards: Iron Valley Real Estate Tri-State and Ohliger-McIntyre Law Firm. Iron Valley generously donated beats wireless headphones that were raffled off during the game, and our very own Attorney McIntyre, Justine Eichner, & Steve Lehman participated in a foul shot competition during half time. On Friday, December 5th, a group of administrators and teachers, along with members of the Iron Valley team, filled four shopping carts full of toys that were delivered to the American Legion in advance of the Toys for Kids distribution the following week.

Rho Kappa Induction (12/6) –
On Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at DVHS, thirty-eight new members were inducted into Rho Kapp, the National High School Social Studies Honors Society. This was the largest ever group of inductees due to our students' outstanding performance on Social Studies AP exams in May 2025. The ceremony was conducted by Michael Guzenski the DV Rho Kappa faculty advisor. The current student officers of Rho Kappa participated in the induction ceremony, each speaking about a different value that Rho Kappa represents. Our guest speaker was Dr. Brian Carso, who gave a speech about the importance of Social Studies education. The inductees swore to uphold the principles of Rho Kappa, and each inductee received their official certificate of membership.

Christmas Crafternoon (12/6) - On December 6th, the National Art Honor Society hosted a Christmas Crafternoon fundraiser for elementary-aged children of Delaware Valley educators and administrators. During the event, students created holiday tree ornaments and handmade Christmas cards for their parents.

Bells Across PA- America 250 (12/6) - Mrs. Kaylor's AP Studio Art students participated in Bell's Across Pennsylvania in celebration of America's 250th birthday. The bell titled "Nature Rings in Pike County" was unveiled at Milford's tree lighting ceremony.

Metropolitan Museum of Art Trip (12/11) - On December 11th, students enrolled in AP Art History, AP Studio Art, and French classes participated in an educational field trip to Metropolitan Museum of Art. Students explored and engaged with works from the European, Modern, and Egyptian art collections.

Wallkill Invitational Art Show (12/11) - Art students participated in the Wallkill Valley Regional High School's 16th Annual Wallkill Invitational Art Show. Maya Zhickovich earned 1st place for her painting "Bed Rotting" in addition to a $100,000 scholarship to Moore College of Art & Design. Benjamin Bendykowski and Kate Yablonsky were also awarded scholarship money for their outstanding work.

Constitutional Convention ("ConCon") (12/12) – Our Model UN team traveled to Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, PA to participate in a mock Constitutional Convention "ConCon". Prior to attending, students receive state and committee assignments, and they prepare resolutions or proposed constitutional amendments to send to the conference chair. Students from Delaware Valley represented the states of New York, Arizona, and South Carolina. The committees included the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches along with the Bill of Rights committee. Students from Delaware Valley submitted proposed amendments on the topics of gerrymandering, changing commander- in-chief powers of the President, capping the age of the US President, and more. At the conference, students participate in a committee session where they move through proposed amendments and have the opportunity to speak for/against the proposed amendments. The afternoon session, or plenary session, is made up of students from the entire conference. At this conference, we had five students win the award for "Best Delegate", which is awarded based on volunteers who speak on proposed amendments multiple times throughout committee sessions. We also had two groups of students win "Best Delegation" for truly encompassing the states which they represented. This is awarded to the delegation that took the time to research and speak as closely to the culture and politics of a state as possible.

Chorus & Orchestra Holiday Concert (12/12) – On December 12th, the DV Chorus and Orchestra held a holiday concert that was attended by family and community members throughout the district.

FBLA Holiday Bingo (12/13) - On December 13th, FBLA hosted a festive holiday bingo that brought together members of the local community for a morning of fun, prizes, and holiday spirit. The event

welcomed attendees of all ages and featured a wide variety of prizes, creating an exciting and cheerful atmosphere throughout the day.

DV Drama Winter Showcase (12/13) – On December 13th, the DV Drama Club hosted a Winter Showcase celebration that included pictures with Santa. Senior Julie Hopper wrote and directed the skit filled with familiar carols and some big dance numbers, putting audiences in the holiday spirit. The show featured both seasoned and new vocalists and was a warm welcome to the holiday season.

Thomas Quinn ("TQ") Smith Presentation (12/15) - TQ Smith, a member of the Class of 2018, returned to campus to share his STEM journey with our students. Now a PhD student studying Bioinformatics & Genomics at PSU, he offered honest advice, answered thoughtful questions, and encouraged students to explore their own paths in science and research.

Fire Drill (12/16) - During 7th period, we held our state mandated monthly fire drill.

Band & Jazz Holiday Concert (12/17) – On December 17th, the DV Concert Band and Jazz Band held a holiday concert that was attended by family and community members throughout the district.

Staff Holiday Party (12/17) - The high school administration organized a holiday party for all staff members at Erie Trackside. Over 30 staff members attended and enjoyed a night out with food and music.

Combo Debates (12/17-12/19) - The Combo classes held their annual debates on December 17th-19th. Debate topics included AI in Medicine, Sports Betting, and the Death Penalty. The debates were judged by DVHS combo teachers, staff, and administrators throughout the district.

Project Giving Warmth - Multiple groups throughout the high school participated in Project Giving Warmth, led by teacher Elke Miller, a collection for clothes, blankets, and other items for those in need in the surrounding area.

Empty Bowls (12/18) - On December 18th, the students in DVHS Ceramics classes participated in the 16th annual "Empty Bowls" fundraising project. "Empty Bowls" is an international grassroots effort to raise money and to fight hunger in the world. Our extraordinarily talented and dedicated young ceramicists worked hard to make bowls to donate to this event. Students also donated their time by making homemade soups. The DVHS staff were invited during lunch to enjoy soup and leave with a bowl, in exchange for a donation to support the cause. Our students raised over $500 to donate to the local food pantries. We are proud of our ceramic students fighting hunger locally and changing the world, one bowl at a time.

Holiday Music Cheer (12/18) - Students in our Band, Chorus, and Orchestra programs visited each of the campuses to present some holiday cheer to our younger students. This special experience not only brought seasonal joy but also gave students a glimpse of the exciting musical opportunities that await them as they continue their music education.

Warrior Mascot Visits (12/19) - On Friday, December 19th, student-athletes teamed up with our Warrior Mascot to visit elementary and middle schools to promote winter athletics and spread holiday cheer. Varsity coaches selected representatives from wrestling, basketball, and swim teams to distribute free admission tickets to any winter sporting event during the 2026 winter season. High school students also had the opportunity to visit classrooms and talk with younger students about what they love about their favorite sports and how to get involved.

Holiday Spirit Week (12/19-12/23) - To continue our school spirit and joy of the holidays, DVHS students and staff participated in theme days that consisted of ugly sweaters and favorite character day.

WSUS Radio 102.3 Performance (12/22) - Students involved in our Orchestra and Chorus programs traveled to Franklin, NJ where they performed over two segments of live broadcasting on WSUS Radio, 102.3. This has become a welcome tradition for our students and some of the listeners in our area as the radio station features student performers from their listening region throughout the month of December.

Paint the Plow - Art teacher Ms. Tusinean and her students participated in the annual Paint the Plow contest, sponsored by PennDOT. The goal of Paint the Plow was to promote winter driving safety while highlighting the artistic talents of high school students across the Commonwealth.

Tri-M Music Honor Society Christmas Music (12/22) - Before winter break, 16 members of our Tri-M Music Honor Society were involved in serenading the school community with holiday songs at the beginning of the school day. This new tradition was very well received by both our students and staff.

Holiday Door Decorating Contest (12/22)- The overall winner for the 2025 door decorating contest was the Building CTE homeroom for their theme of Mickey's Christmas. The holiday spirit award went to Mrs. Lordi's homeroom for their Grinch theme. The door dedication award went to Miss Dowler's homeroom for their SpongeBob theme. An honorable mention went to both Mr. Nielsen's homeroom for their gingerbread house theme and Miss Neid/Mrs. Simonelli's homerooms for their Home Alone inspired decorations.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION – DR. CHRIS ROSS

- **Early Childhood Education (Level I):** Robot infant simulators are currently being distributed to Level I students. These simulators provide hands-on experience in infant care, including rocking, burping, feeding, diapering, and swaddling.
- **Early Childhood Education (Levels II & III):** Level II students continue to operate a successful preschool program within the CTE classroom. Level III students are actively engaged on the Delaware Valley Elementary School campus, where they assisted leading holiday-themed educational activities for elementary students.
- **Automotive Technology:** Universal Technical Institute sponsored a campus and program tour for automotive students. Participants toured programs in automotive, diesel, heavy equipment repair, NASCAR, refrigeration, electrical, and welding technologies.
- **Health Occupations:** We are pleased to welcome Jodi Kresse as the new Health Occupations instructor. Mrs. Kresse brings extensive experience and is already planning and implementing new hands-on learning opportunities for HOSA students at all levels.
- **Culinary Arts:** Culinary Arts students supported the Empty Bowls fundraiser by preparing and donating a variety of soups for students and staff.
- **Business and Marketing:** The Business and Marketing program partnered with the Pike County Chamber of Commerce on a "Shop Local" marketing initiative. Students created scoreboard advertisements to promote local businesses throughout Pike County.
- **Diversified Occupations & Cooperative Education:** Students in these programs continue to demonstrate strong growth and professional achievement. Notably, an Automotive Capstone student is working with high-end foreign racing vehicle brands, including Ferrari and Porsche,

and was invited to join a company pit crew in Florida to apply advanced hands-on skills in a real-world setting.

DINGMAN DELAWARE MIDDLE SCHOOL – MR. BRIAN MCCARTHY

- DDMS sent seven students to the annual Marywood University Windband Celebration on Friday, December 6th. They put in a full day of rehearsal on both Friday and Saturday and performed a concert Saturday night at 7:00PM at Marywood.
- The 7th and 8th Grade DDMS Chorus held their Winter Concert, on December 9th, in conjunction with the DDES Children's Choir. The DDMS Auditorium was a packed house for the Chorus Concert.
- The 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Band presented their Winter Band Concert on December 11th. The DDMS band students had friends and parents dancing in the isles to some outstanding music.
- The DDMS 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Orchestra students presented their Winter Concert on December 17th. Family and friends enjoyed an outstanding performance by our orchestra students.
- The DDMS Faculty and Staff had their Holiday Luncheon on December 18th. Mrs. Day cooked the entire luncheon of baked ziti, beef barley soup, homemade rolls and her famous carrot cake. The luncheon was provided by Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Duffy, and Mrs. Karen Day.
- The DDMS Student Council held a Winter Spirit Week from 12/17-12/23. Students and staff participated in: Holiday Headwear Day; White-Out Winter Day; Grinch Day; Ugly Sweater Day; Polar Express PJ Day with a donation to our Student Council.
- The DDMS PTA presented our students with a holiday cookie or a substitute snack during lunches on December 19th.
- The DDMS Student Council sold Candy Cane Grams, as a fundraiser, which were purchased for $1 and sent to friends or staff members with a fun holiday greeting or message. All candy canes were delivered to homerooms on 12/23.
- The DDMS Music Department held their annual Christmas Concert and show on December 22 in the DDMS Auditorium. The staff and students had an outstanding time singing, dancing, and doing holiday skits!

DELAWARE VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL – DR. PETER IOPPOLO

- Band, chorus, and orchestra students participated in two very special evening concerts. Students in grades 7 & 8 started the holiday season off with a winter concert held Monday evening, December 8, 2025. On Wednesday evening, December 10, 2025, the holiday spirit continued with performances by our grade 6 students in band, chorus, and orchestra. Each of the groups on both evenings entertained the crowd with a few holiday treats and were able to showcase their individual and group talents.
- A fire drill was held on Friday, December 16, 2026, lasting 2:59.
- Students from DVMS participated in the first round of the school spelling bee. This written component yielded the top 18 student spellers in the building. This group will now move onto the next round being held on stage on January 12, 2026, in the high school auditorium.
- The PTA sponsored a holiday dance on Friday, December 12, 2025. The DJ sleighed it playing many upbeat holidays and traditional songs! Over 110 students came to dance the afternoon

away. This was a fun afternoon and special thanks to the PTA for sponsoring and chaperoning the event. Our PTA continues to do many wonderful things for students and staff. Several DVMS staff also stayed to join in the fun.

- The students and staff celebrated bringing in the holiday season the week before the break wearing their most holiday festive hats, ugly sweaters and other holiday spirited clothing. On Monday, pajama pants were permissible and all did an outstanding job being responsible with this opportunity to celebrate in comfort.
- Christmas movies were the theme for this year's door decorating challenge. Door decorations filled the hallways of the building making for a festive journey throughout the building. While the competition was difficult to judge for the secretaries in special education, they were able to select three as winners. Mrs. Gilhooley's seventh grade group finished in third place, while Mr. Mady's sixth grade group finished in second place. Mrs. Peter's and repeating champion, Mrs. Santucci's class combined for an overall victory.

Upcoming Events:

- January 12 - DVMS On Stage School Spelling Bee, DVHS Auditorium, 1:15AM

DELAWARE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MRS. MARY ANN OLSOMMER

- The PTA, along with members of the faculty and staff, surprised the students by decorating the hallways of DVES after school on December 5th for the upcoming holidays. On Monday morning, December 8th, the students arrived to find their school festive with their classroom door wrapped, lights and snowflakes hung from the ceiling, multiple Christmas trees, and holiday blow ups.
- Pre-K had a December full of fun and enriching learning experiences! Families joined the students in a Rockness Music event in the gymnasium. They sang, danced, and discovered new musical instruments. The students also learned about different holidays around the world, including Diwali, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Santa Lucia, Las Posadas, and Christmas. The preschoolers also gathered snow and studied it, questioning how quickly it melts and how it can be described to people who have never experienced it.
- In physical education class, students participated in the Pacer Test, which is designed to test overall aerobic capacity. As the test is 20 meters in distance or 67.7 feet, it coincided with the 67th day of school! Students also worked on graphing their data and looking for trends in the overall fitness of students at DVES.
- Mr. and Mrs. Claus (AKA – Mr. Zielinski and Ms. Sudano) read Twas the Night Before Christmas to Pre-K, Kindergarten, and First Grade.
- The staff and students gathered for a prewinter break assembly on December 22nd. DVES traditions like the teachers participating in a rendition of The Twelve Days of Christmas, Santa and Mrs. Clause reading a story, and a performance by the Life Skills students playing harmonicas were included in the festivities. As at least 80% of the student body met the goal of being respectful in the classroom and using appropriate language during November, selected students from each grade level also wrapped a teacher. Some students participated in games and all sang carols.
- A fire drill was held on December 18th at 1:50. It was 175 seconds long.

Upcoming Events:

- 3rd Grade Concert: February 3rd at 6:30
- PTA Sweetheart Dance: February 6th at 5:30 – 7:30

SHOHOLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – DR. NATHAN KROPTAVICH

Shohola Elementary School conducted its monthly fire drill on December 17 at 1:45 p.m. The drill was completed smoothly and successfully in 1 minute and 35 seconds.
During the holiday season, SES was proud to participate in the Delaware Valley School District's community initiative to support Toys for Kids, sponsored by the Marine Corps League Gung-Ho Detachment #909. Through the generosity of our students and families, many new, unwrapped toys were collected to help bring joy to children in need.

On December 4, SES band, chorus, and orchestra students shared their talents during the Jingle Jamboree performance at the Delaware Valley High School auditorium. The concert featured a festive variety of musical selections and was enjoyed by a full audience of SES staff, families, and community members.

On the 67th day of school, SES staff joined in a lighthearted trend by wearing "67" and posting the number throughout the building, creating a fun and memorable surprise for students.
As part of Shohola's "Decades Days" tradition, students and staff celebrated the 70th day of school on December 11 by dressing in their best seventies fashion, adding excitement and school spirit to the day.

During the week of December 15, SES embraced the season with a winter and holiday spirit week. Daily themes selected by the Student Council—Grinchy Monday, Polar Express Train Tuesday, Shine Bright Wednesday, Jingle Bell Rock Thursday, and We've Got Spirit Friday—encouraged creativity and school pride throughout the building.

The SES PTA sponsored the annual Breakfast with Santa on December 13, providing a cheerful and festive experience for students and families.

On December 17, SES held classroom spelling bees in all first through fifth grade homerooms as part of the Scripps National Spelling Bee program. Students worked hard and demonstrated strong spelling skills, with the schoolwide spelling bee scheduled for January 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the SES gymnasium.

On December 18, SES students enjoyed a special holiday musical assembly presented by the Delaware Valley High School chorus, jazz band, and orchestra, further strengthening connections among students across the district.

The SES Chamber Choir performed with the Tri-State Chorale at St. Patrick's Church in Milford at 7 PM on December 22. This dedicated group of student musicians, under the direction of Mrs. Stokes, rehearses every Thursday morning at 7:45 a.m.

On December 22, twelve SES students met with Dr. Blaum for the first Superintendent's Advisory Committee meeting. The committee will meet several times throughout the school year, providing students with an opportunity to share their voices and contribute ideas to continue improving the SES school community.

DINGMAN DELAWARE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MRS. JENNIFER MORIARTY

- DDES Fire drill took place on December 18th. The building was cleared in 2 minutes and 43 seconds.
- Mr. Krauss's Children's Choir and Chorus had MANY performances/events during the month of December to spread holiday cheer. The events and performances were 4th Grade Chorus at PTA Craft Fair, 5th Grade Chorus at PTA Craft Fair, Children's Choir at PTA Craft Fair, Milford Tree Lighting, DDMS 7/8 Concert, Belle Reve Retirement Center, Milford Convalescent, Steamtown Train Museum, Kalahari Resort, "Pancakes with Santa" fundraiser, and Delaware Valley Choral Society.
- In Mrs. Cuccio's and Mrs. Keller's 3rd grade math class, students created and designed a snowman. They calculated the area of all parts and then found the total square footage.
- In the month of December, students in Miss Dapp's class started to work on their family gifts for the holidays. We created a directed drawing calendar throughout the month for their families. Students also had opportunities for free choice in the extra details and designs they added into their work, as well as their self-portrait on the cover of the calendar. They found a lot of enjoyment in dedicating time to draw something special for their families.
- In Mrs. DiPillo's 5th grade science class, students explored how the plants and animals in an ecosystem are connected to one another through food chains. In the activity, Eat or Be Eaten, students played a game in which they developed models to describe the movement of matter between living things. They used the models to investigate what happens when a species is removed from the ecosystem. They truly enjoyed this Mystery Science activity. Students were eager to bring the game cards home to share the activity with their family and friends.
- PTA held their Holly Days Fair on December 6. Members of the public enjoyed shopping with various vendors as well as listening to holiday carols performed by DDPS and DDES students. Mr. and Mrs. Claus were available for photos with families. Children also enjoyed a complimentary face painting. The event was well attended.
- PTA held their annual holiday shop during the week of December 3rd for students to purchase gifts for their loved ones.
- PBIS team organized a gingerbread house building event for students. Students paid 25 Warrior Bucks to build a gingerbread house. They earned the Warrior bucks for being Respectful, Responsible, and Ready. There were about 150 students who enjoyed the event.

Upcoming Events:

- 1/15 Popcorn Day
- 1/13 Spelling Bee at DDMS
- 1/19 Teacher In Service- No School for Students
- 1/26-1/30 The Great Kindness Challenge

DINGMAN DELAWARE PRIMARY SCHOOL – MS. KIMBERLY BUTAITIS

The DDPS community was busy working, learning, and celebrating the season in a variety of ways!

- The Dingman Delaware Primary School kicked off December with a pajama day. On December 5th, DDPS participated to raise funds for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). Students and staff made an optional donation to wear pajamas to school. Our goal was $500. We surpassed that goal and raised over $970.
- It was a busy month in Pre-K. The students completed acts of kindness with the Grinch. Each child wrote down different ways they helped at home and presented the Grinch with their acts of kindness. They also did chores to fundraise for the Habitat for Humanity and collected 83 cans of cat food! This is a new pre-K record! To end the month, Mr. Michael and the Rock Monsters came and performed for families and friends where they sang songs about friendship! Edwina, our pet gecko, got into the holiday spirit too!
- A student from Mrs. Fells class read to the gecko, Edwina, as part of earning 75 Primary Tickets! She also went home with a gecko bookmark!
- First graders completed imaginative writing activities, including narratives about being stuck in a snow globe and stories about what they would do if they were an elf. These projects developed descriptive writing, sentence structure, and creativity while encouraging personal expression.
- First grade students participated in Christmas crafts that integrated basic math facts, such as addition and subtraction. The "Holidays Around the World" unit. This included art projects and discussions about holiday traditions in other countries.
- In Science, first grade students explored sound through experiments using their hands and feet as well as rulers. Students discovered that vibrations and movement create sound.
- The second-grade students did an outstanding job when they performed at the Holly Days Craft Fair at DDES on December 6th.
- Second graders in Math have just finished 2 and 3 digit addition and have moved on to 2 digit subtraction. In Reading, they worked on different elements of poetry, irregular plural nouns, possessive nouns, as well as improving their fluency and reading comprehension. In Social Studies, students learned about maps, the compass rose, map keys, and how to make a classroom map. In Science, students are beginning to learn about the Earth's surface and erosion.
- This past month, students in the gifted program built 3D wooden animals by following visual instructions to put the pieces together. Projects like these help students develop visual-spatial reasoning, problem-solving, fine motor skills, focus, and a sense of accomplishment. When students use only pictures, they learn to analyze each step and figure out the order on their own. They also strengthen spatial reasoning by recognizing shapes like circles and triangles and imagining how to rotate them to fit. Working through each step builds concentration and finishing a 3D model on their own gives students a boost in confidence when they thought they could not complete the project, and a clear sense of achievement.
- PA State Troopers Hollenbeck and Diehl visited DDPS on December 16th and read holiday stories to our students. The PTA provided gingerbread man stickers for the troopers to give to the students. Fun was had by all! Thanks to SPO Kat Petti for organizing!
- DDPS PTA sponsored the Little Shoppers Holiday Shop! The kids were so excited to be able to shop for special people in their lives, including their pets. PTA also surprised the staff with the real magic of the holidays, hot cocoa and delicious cookies!
- Mrs. Reich, School Nurse, and Mrs. Batista, School Counselor, selected two families to benefit from the generous donations of Project Giving Warmth. Project 'Giving Warmth' has three donation segments: The Milford Ecumenical Food Pantry, The Milford Community Engagement Center, and individual DVSD students who are in need. All donations came from various staff members throughout our school district.

- The Grinch received some fan mail through December; so much that he needed a mailbox placed by the library. Many students wrote notes and letters to the Grinch. The Grinch visited a few times through the holiday season to cause some mischief.
- A fire drill was conducted on December 22. The time was 2 minutes and 1 second.

Upcoming Events:

- DDPS Spirit Games: January 9th
- DDPS Spelling Bee: January 13th
- Transition to Kindergarten: January 14th
- DDPS Steam Night: January 28th