ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT – DR. NICOLE COSENTINO

PLC Training with Solution Tree
In preparation for the March 13 professional learning day, several planning sessions were conducted with Solution Tree to design the second training experience for our teacher leaders. The focus on PLCs and shallow data dives provided educators with practical strategies for analyzing student data, and the session was very well received by approximately 60 teacher leaders representing all seven buildings, demonstrating strong engagement and readiness to apply this work.

Following the March 13 training, a Zoom debrief session was held with the Solution Tree trainer to review participant feedback and identify next steps for continued PLC development.

March 13 Professional Learning Day
The district hosted a highly successful professional learning day on March 13, offering a wide range of learning opportunities designed to meet diverse staff needs. A total of 82 sessions were available across key themes including Special Education, PLCs, Technology/Data, Assessment/Instruction, and Health/Mental Health. Staff were provided with differentiated levels of choice based on their roles, allowing for a personalized and meaningful professional learning experience that supports ongoing instructional growth.

In addition, collaboration with IU20 supported the development of the district-wide sessions focused on accommodations vs modifications, and differentiation. Due to limited staff feedback from the fall Special Education survey, all staff members participated in these sessions to ensure a shared understanding. Multiple planning meetings were held to align this work with DVSD's mission, culminating in a coordinated effort that included five IU trainers supporting the day. This work will continue in August.

Post-Professional Learning Reflection and Planning
Following the professional learning day, post-session meetings were held with all external trainers to reflect on the effectiveness of the sessions and review teacher feedback. This reflective process has been instrumental in identifying strengths and areas for growth, and it is directly informing the early stages of planning for August professional learning to ensure continued alignment with staff needs and district priorities.

ELA Curriculum Research (Grades K–8)
Throughout the month, significant research was conducted into various English Language Arts (ELA) resource options to support the district's K–7 curriculum rewrite. This work included multiple meetings with leading vendors to gain a comprehensive understanding of available programs. Additionally, through attendance at PA EDGE training, Joy Sweller and I were able to connect with presenters, leading to follow-up conversations that allowed for more individualized questions and the scheduling of summer site visits to observe implementation and best practices in partner districts.

PDE Collaboration
A collaborative meeting was held with the head of ELA at PDE to clarify eligible content questions for the Grade 8 PSSA and ensure alignment with assessment expectations. The discussion also provided valuable insight into adjustments to the timeline for structured literacy resource implementation, helping to guide our planning and maintain alignment with state-level priorities.

The PDE Content Advisor, Jason Zimmerman, spent the day with our K-12 Science teachers on March 13. Jason is an invaluable resource for our teachers as they are in year one of STEELS implementation.

Student Engagement
It was a privilege to serve as a judge for the first annual High School Geography Bee, which provided an engaging platform for students to showcase their academic knowledge and competitive spirit. The finalists were exceptionally impressive, and the event highlighted the strength of our student body, with the winner advancing to the regional competition in May.

Recruitment Efforts
Additionally, attendance at two job fairs allowed us to highlight the strengths of DVSD while connecting with potential candidates, supporting our ongoing goal of recruiting and hiring the highest-quality educators. We have been successful at hiring candidates from the various job fairs in PA and NY over the past two years.

High School Literacy Programming
A collaborative meeting with high school staff focused on re-envisioning current literacy courses to ensure we are providing the most robust and relevant programming for students. This conversation allowed for the sharing of ideas and identification of opportunities to strengthen course offerings in alignment with student needs and district goals.

Thanks for reading!

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT – DR. JAYSON POPE

- On Monday, March 2, students from the 9th grade Combo program traveled to DVES to read to the three kindergarten classes. This collaborative effort, known as Book Buddies, originated from the Combo class' desire to incorporate service learning opportunities into their program. Each kindergartener received a copy of the book, As Cool As It Gets, and had the opportunity to read along with their high school "book buddy." A big thank you to the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne, and Pike Counties, who generously sponsored the books.
- The Milford-Matamoras Rotary Club Hoop Shoot took place throughout the month at DVES, DDES, DDPS, and SES. This annual tradition helps to raise money for the Rotary club's scholarship fund benefiting DVHS graduating seniors. Money raised from this event also helps fund the 3rd grade book project, when Rotary members visit all DV elementary schools and present each third grader with a book as encouragement to read more. Over 50 students participated in this year's Hoop Shoot.
- On Friday, March 20th the Greater Pike Community Foundation hosted a "Lunch and Learn" for nonprofit organizations interested in the grant writing process. The seminar was facilitated by members of the Wayne County Foundation. Our school district regularly pursues grant opportunities and is happy to assist anyone looking to apply for a grant.
- On Tuesday, March 24th the DV Educational Foundation hosted members of the Pike County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors to commemorate the Chamber's scoreboard sponsorship in the high school gymnasium. Several board members then met with students from the high school's Business and Marketing program to begin collaborating on scoreboard content promoting the Chamber.
- On Monday, March 30th Cindy Delaney from the American Cancer Society met with students and staff to recognize the collective effort that raised $5,000 for the Coaches v. Cancer event

that was held in February. While donations across the region continue to be made, DV is expected to be one of the top fundraising schools in the area for this year's event.
- The school district received the official report from the state on its recent McKinney-Vento monitoring visit. Monitoring consisted of submitting documents that demonstrate how the school district identifies and supports students experiencing homelessness. The second part of the monitoring report featured a virtual interview between the district and state. The district scored 100 out of a possible 100 points.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES – MR. CHRIS LORDI

- Attended the Millersville U., Moravian U., SUNY-Cortland U., and Commonwealth U. Career Fairs
- Attended professional learning day events for staff
- Held a discipline hearing for employee discipline
- Held interviews for districtwide employment openings
    - Professional, and
    - Classified
- 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
- 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
    - USDA financing meeting
    - Act 537 planning
    - Monthly meetings
- 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
    - HR Development
- Held a Workplace safety meeting

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 Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and the Bureau of Food and Nutrition (BFN) will once again implement the Summer EBT (SUN Bucks) program for the summer 2026. Schools are expected to submit a SUN Bucks student data file at the conclusion of the 2025–26 school year.
  SUN Bucks—also known as Summer EBT in some locations—provides $120 in grocery benefits for each eligible school-aged child during the summer months when school is not in session. These benefits may be used to purchase eligible food items, including fruits and vegetables, meat, dairy products, breads and cereals, snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages, from authorized retailers. Many grocery stores, farmers markets, convenience stores, and online retailers accept SUN Bucks, often the same locations that accept SNAP and WIC.
  School-aged children whose households receive SNAP, TANF, FDPIR, or certain other income-based benefits will be automatically enrolled in SUN Bucks. In addition, children who attend a school participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program and who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals may also be automatically enrolled.
  Children who are not automatically enrolled may still qualify for SUN Bucks. Eligibility is based on household income limits and other program requirements.
  Once a child is enrolled, SUN Bucks benefits may be issued in one of several ways depending on program operations in the household's location. Benefits may be automatically added to an existing SNAP account, issued on a separate Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card, or distributed through another approved method.

DIRECTOR OF SUPPORT SERVICES – MR. MARVIN EVERSDYKE

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

- Scheduled substitute personnel for absences
- Reviewed ML Schedules and Schedule Star Calendars of events to assure staff was informed and had plans to prepare for the events of the day
- Scheduled vehicles and personnel for home-to-school, educational, and athletic team trips daily
- Managed repair service and maintenance for all transportation and District-owned equipment
- Assigned and followed through with Work Order requests
- Assigned and followed through with Preventative Maintenance Work Orders
- Reviewed and processed all invoices for payment
- Prepared payroll each pay period
- Prepared and submitted reports to DEP for domestic water and wastewater sampling requirements
- Managed daily work activities for seventy employees
- Implemented adjustments to home-to-school bus stops and routes as requested by parents and administrators; mostly related to new registrations and behavior discipline
- Implemented adjustments to home-to-school and home-to-placement schools transportation for special needs students as requested by the Special Education Department
- Prepared budgets for School Board review
- Facilitated and gathered information related to the Matamoras Water Authority's request to drill a domestic water well on the DVES property
- Scheduled Support Staff coverage for spring recess

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

Mental Health

We recognized School Social Worker Month this March and extend our sincere appreciation to our social workers for their continued dedication and the invaluable support they provide to our department, students, and families.

Amy Letwinsky, School Social Worker, has been meeting with students both individually and in group settings. At DVHS, she supported 72 students, and at DVES, she worked with 54 students. She will continue facilitating groups in both buildings.

Dr. Vivian Bruno, School Social Worker at DDMS and DVMS, participated in a Bullying Roundtable event this month. She also attended the DVSD Comprehensive School Counseling Plan meeting in preparation for the upcoming Community Advisory Council meeting. In addition, Dr. Bruno continues to provide both individual and group support to students at both middle schools.

Gabby Westfall initiated a new cycle of student groups at DDPS, DDES, and SES. She has been working diligently to develop a more consistent and efficient referral system for school social work and counseling services, which is also part of the elementary role clarification process. Additionally, she has been supporting teachers in utilizing the Tier 1 intervention checklist within the formal intervention process when appropriate. The counseling department has also been actively sharing mental health resources with families to promote continuity of care following school-based services and to assist in establishing community-based providers.

Dr. Bixby attended Systems of Care Leadership Team meetings this month with various county agencies. Dr. Bixby and Amanda Lawson, BCBA, also participated in Special Education Roundtable discussions with the special education team to better understand parent concerns.We look forward to enhancing communication and expanding parent training opportunities moving forward.

All three social workers attended the Re-entry Guidance and Planning Conference hosted by IU 18 on March 18. While our district already has a re-entry process for students returning after extended absences, the team gained additional insight into best practices being implemented across the state and will be sharing this information with the department.

Our social workers attended a session on our Professional Development Day to learn a new program that will pilot in the fourth marking period. This program will allow us to easily track and analyze data related to student mental health interventions. We plan on expanding this to all counselors in the district as well next school year.

Support Services

Ms. Letwinsky participated in a re-entry seminar and a webinar introducing CAMS (Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality).

All social workers and counselors attended SAP and Threat Assessment meetings.

Dr. Bruno promoted Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness at both DVMS and DDMS. Students and staff were encouraged to wear purple on March 26 in support of this international initiative aimed at reducing stigma and increasing awareness.

All elementary teachers, instructional assistants, Amanda Lawson, BCBA, Dr. Diana Bixby, and Dr. Jayson Pope participated in Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) refresher training and small-group discussions with CIU 20 staff during the March 13 Professional Development Day. The district received valuable staff feedback and is enthusiastic about continuing to strengthen this initiative, now in its first year of district-wide implementation.

Core PBIS teams from each elementary school also met with CIU 20 staff on March 13 to complete the Benchmarks of Quality (BOQ) assessment tool. This self-assessment evaluates PBIS implementation practices. All schools exceeded the minimum benchmark for first-year implementation, demonstrating strong progress. Moving forward, we will continue refining Tier 1 behavioral supports and plan to train staff in Tier 2 interventions next year to expand our capacity to support students. We greatly appreciate the time, effort, and collaboration demonstrated by our elementary staff.

Our DDMS and DVES core PBIS teams - including middle school assistant principals - Mrs. Diane Scarfalotto and Mrs. Lindsay Duffy, Dr. Bixby, and Mrs. Lawson - met on March 25 with CIU 20 staff for an additional training session at Delaware Valley Middle School. During this session,the team reviewed and refined previously developed materials and engaged in meaningful planning discussions for next year's rollout. As this initiative expands to the middle school level, implementation will differ from the elementary model. Key goals include explicitly teaching student expectations aligned with the DV5 framework, increasing consistency in behavior-specific praise, and using discipline data to better support both students and staff. The focus for the upcoming year will remain on Tier 1 interventions, with plans to expand into Tier 2 and Tier 3 supports in the coming years.

The department continues to engage in role clarification meetings to improve efficiency and alignment among social workers, counselors, and school psychologists. A high school meeting was held on March 17, while the elementary meeting has been rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts. The goal is to finalize a clear, cohesive framework to share with administration and staff by the end of the school year, ensuring consistency across the district while still addressing the unique developmental needs at each level.

Dr. Diana Bixby, along with Mrs. Jackie Weston (DVHS English teacher and Achieve Academy group facilitator), facilitated a parent training titled *"The Calm Brain Series: Regulation Strategies."* Two DVHS students, Kyra Palacios and Nathan Lara, played an integral role in the session. They met with Dr. Bixby beforehand to provide input on the content and contributed meaningfully during the training by welcoming parents and presenting. Their involvement was greatly appreciated.

This training also offered childcare to increase accessibility for families. Topics included the impact of stress on the brain, adult self-regulation and strategies for co-regulation with children. Parents received resources and participated in interactive "Regulation Stations," led by students, which provided practical tools and activities for use at home. Additional parent training sessions are planned for May and will be promoted through social media, PTA outreach, case managers, flyers, and district communications. Regulation strategy training is also being provided to teachers during Professional Development Days.

Achieve Academy

The program started with six students in March. Four students left the program, and one new student came in. We ended the month with three students.

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

Students went to Port Jervis Bowling Alley for a chance to practice our bowling skills. We worked on taking turns, cheering for each other and lining up our ball to hit the most pins possible. We ended the day with lunch at the alley before returning to school.

Fourth and fifth-grade students are working hard on IXL. So far this year, they have earned over 1,000 blue ribbons. In doing so, they have earned a pizza, ramen, and Mexican party!

A high school class visited the Milford Police Station for an engaging, hands-on learning experience. Students were welcomed by Milford's Mayor Candace Mahala, Police Chief Matt McCormack, and Assistant Fire Chief Eric Langberg, who each took time to speak with the class about their roles in the community. During the visit, students practiced important safety skills with Officer McCormack, including how to respond in emergency situations and how to clearly communicate personal information such as their name, parent's name, home address, and parent's phone number. Students also enjoyed interactive opportunities, including trying on a police vest and sitting inside a police vehicle. The experience helped build familiarity with community helpers while reinforcing essential life skills in a supportive and memorable way.

SUPERVISOR OF ACADEMIC SERVICES – MS. JOY SWELLER

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

- Engaged with multiple publishing companies to review instructional materials and resources aligned to Pennsylvania's Act 135 Structured Literacy requirements, ensuring the district remains current with evolving literacy expectations.
- Collaborated with literacy leaders from several neighboring school districts to examine effective programming models, share best practices, and inform continuous improvement of our district's literacy framework.
- Participated in Read Across America Week by reading *Giraffes Can't Dance* to a Pre-K classroom, promoting early literacy and fostering a culture of reading across grade levels.
- Completed building administrator interviews as part of ongoing efforts to support leadership development and ensure alignment with district goals and expectations.
- Designed and facilitated training for School Assessment Coordinators to prepare for the administration of Spring PSSA and Keystone Exams, with a focus on test security, scheduling, and procedural fidelity.
- Conducted formal observations and evaluations of teachers across multiple settings, including Pre-K, high school special education, and library instruction, in alignment with the Danielson Framework.
- Represented the district at Kutztown University's career fair to support recruitment efforts and engage with prospective educators.
- Attended a LinkIt! user group session to strengthen utilization of the district's data warehousing system and enhance data-informed decision-making practices.
- Provided oversight and support for the administration and reporting of the Firefly assessment, equipping teachers with actionable data to identify student needs and better prepare learners for success on the Algebra Keystone Exam.

SUPERVISOR OF TECHNOLOGY – MR. DYLAN SATURNO

- From 03/01/26 to 03/31/26 424 work orders were created by the staff
- From 03/01/26 to 03/31/26 351 work orders were completed and closed by the technology department
- As of 03/31/26 there were still 73 work orders in process by the technology department in various buildings
- Set-up Wi-Fi and camera in the Learning Commons for the March board meeting
- Prepared Chromebooks for Keystone and CDT testing
- Set-up Wi-Fi and assisted presenters for PDE
- Prepared Chromebooks for PDE
- Assisted students and parents for the FID
- Purchased, distributed and started configuring the new Zoom phones for the district
- Set-up Wi-Fi and streaming for the state varsity basketball game
- Set-up Wi-Fi for the youth baseball try outs
- Monitored Wi-Fi for the spring SAT's

DELAWARE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL – MR. LOU DELAURO

Book Buddies (March 2)- Students from Delaware Valley High School's Combined English and American History 9 class traveled to Delaware Valley Elementary School for an afternoon of reading and fun on Monday, March 2, National Read Across America Day. Partnering with The United Way, who donated a book for every kindergarten student, Combo 9 students read to kindergarteners and then participated in reading related activities with the students. One of the high school students was overheard saying that this turned her day around, and one of the kindergarteners told his book buddy that she had touched his heart. Thank you to Dr. Pope for helping to organize this activity and to Principal Mary Ann Olsommer and the amazing kindergarten team of Mrs. Paige Fean, Ms. Katie Mauro, and Ms. Brittney Porter for welcoming us into their classrooms. We are looking forward to returning soon and helping instill a love of reading in this next generation of students.

Geography Bee (March 6)- Congratulations to Jackson Hancock for winning DVHS's 1st Annual Geography Bee. He will now have an opportunity to move on to Nationals. Shout out to Dominick Agron for keeping it a tight battle. Great job to all top 8 qualifiers and thank you to all who helped make the event a success.

Guest Speaker (March 9th)- On Monday, March 9th, Jessica Rhule, a DV 2023 graduate, returned to speak with students about her experiences at Penn State University as part of the university's outreach program. Jess discussed her major in Materials Science and Engineering and shared insights into the various academic opportunities available in the field. As a student in PSU's Schreyer Honors College, Jess also spoke about the benefits of the honors program, including research opportunities, academic rigor, and the overall college experience. Currently, Jess is conducting research on polymeric nanomaterials designed for drug delivery applications and plans to specialize in polymer science. Her visit provided students with a valuable outlook on the college experience while also introducing them to a STEM field they may not have previously considered.

AP Research (March 10)- AP Research students officially “tied the knot” with their research projects. After receiving approval from the district’s Institutional Review Board, students celebrated with a wedding-themed ceremony marking their commitment to their topics. Each student vowed to stick with their research question(s) until May do them part. They also promised to refine their methodology, uphold ethical research practices, and analyze and synthesize information to the best of their ability.

Weather Emergency Drill (March 12)- Delaware Valley High School conducted the state-mandated weather emergency drill. This drill prepares students and staff for a storm, and students and staff need to be moved away from the windows. During this time, all students and staff move to the hallways away from any windows or entrances and face directed towards walls and/or lockers for safety.

SAT (March 14)- 78 students in total and 73 from Delaware Valley were administered the SAT at DVHS. The SAT is an exam that universities use to assess a student’s college readiness. Originally called the “Scholastic Aptitude Test,” the SAT is made by The College Board. The SAT is scored on a scale of 400-1600. You’ll have one score for math on a 200-800 scale and one for verbal, which includes reading, writing, and language sections, also on a 200-800 scale.

Stem Week- The first-ever STEM Week took place on March 16th-20th. High schoolers competed across homerooms in daily themed activities, like wearing “Thrifted Thursday” outfits to promote sustainability. The student Chief Science Officers visited four DDPS and DDES classrooms on Tuesday, 3/17, to engage students in tree-related crafts and investigations. Student participation was high, especially towards the water bottle raffles and glow stick giveaway.

Senior Superlatives (March 27)- Seniors nominated and voted on senior superlatives over the week. Awards were announced, and winners were given a sash with their category on it. They were also photographed for the yearbook.

Scheduling (March)- Guidance counselors have followed up with all students to discuss their interest and future goals. At this time Administration is working on teacher schedules based on the student’s interest.

Fire Drill (March 24)- During 2nd period, we held our state-mandated monthly fire drill.

Odyssey of the mind teams (March 28)- Congratulations to all our teams for their performance at the State Finals. Our Vehicle, Technical, and Structure teams each came in first place, and our Performance team came in 5th place. Our Vehicle, Technical, and Structure teams are now heading to the World Finals at Iowa State University to compete with teams from all around the globe at end of May!
Jocelyn Alveari, Ella Dong, Decklan Handley, Nova Weyant, Lily Nagy, Christopher Miller, and Mackenzie DiMarsico received the highest score in Long Term, Style, and Spontaneous, earning a perfect score of 350 overall. Best of Luck as they compete at Worlds.

Curriculum (March 30)- All curriculums have been submitted to first readers. The first reader is currently reviewing them and providing feedback to the curriculum writers.

Scholastic Superstars, Delaware Valley has two students, Dominick Agron and Jackson Hancock, who were selected as a Time Tribune Scholastic Superstar - This award goes to twenty-five students chosen from schools throughout Northeast Pennsylvania. Dominick and Jackson were selected among some of the best students the Northeast has to offer for their outstanding involvement and success in academic and extracurricular activities while embodying top-level

characteristics of the all-around student. They will be honored in the Times Tribune paper and at an awards recognition on May 6th.

Jazz Band- The Jazz Band performed at the Steel Stacks High School Jazz Band festival on Sunday. They did a phenomenal job and were a crowd favorite. The DV rhythm section of Maddox Rhodes on piano, Nova Wyant on Bass, Eric Choi on Guitar as well as Ben Bendykowski & Chris Russo on drums won best section of the festival. Soloists Lucas Ataide and Oliver Simpson on Alto Sax, Townes Markwalter and Connor Bartholomew on Trumpet, Sam Carlozzi on Flugelhorn, Gideon Yost on Tenor Sax and Sam Robinson on Bari sax all did an amazing job.

FCCLA- Congratulations to FCCLA who has 21 members who will be advancing to the National Leadership Conference in Washington DC.

Art- We are proud to announce that two students from Delaware Valley High School have been selected for the **2026 National Art Honor Society Juried Exhibition**. This year's competition received **2,007 submissions from both national and international students**, with **only 87 pieces of artwork selected** for the final exhibition. Congratulations to our talented students:

- **Emma Jacobs** for her photograph *Behind Closed Curtains*
- **Ruby Bailor** for her sculpture *Piecing Together the Past*

The **virtual exhibition opens Friday, April 10, 2026**.
View the exhibit at: https://www.arteducators.org/

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION – DR. CHRIS ROSS

- **Automotive Technology:** Over the past month, students have been actively developing and refining their hands-on skills in the automotive shop. Instruction has focused on essential service areas, including tire mounting and balancing, brake inspection and repair, and wheel alignments. Students have also engaged in diagnostic work using scan tools and troubleshooting techniques to identify and resolve vehicle issues. These real-world applications continue to strengthen technical competencies and prepare students for entry into the automotive workforce.
- **Health Occupations:** Seventeen students traveled to Hershey from March 11–13 to compete in the State Leadership Conference. While there, students participated in medical demonstrations and attended keynote sessions led by industry professionals. Several students advanced to the second round of competition, and two students achieved top 10 placements. Although no students advanced to the international level this year, their performance reflects strong preparation and promising future success.
- **Culinary Arts:** The Culinary Arts CTE students prepared dessert platters for both the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony and the annual Senior Tea. Students collaborated to plan, prepare, and present a variety of desserts for each event. These experiences provided valuable opportunities for students to demonstrate their skills in baking techniques, food safety, and professional presentation. Additionally, the events allowed students to apply their culinary training in real-world settings while contributing to the school community, showcasing both their technical proficiency and their commitment to service.
- **Early Childhood Education:** Level I students are beginning their fourth and final rotation at the Early Learning Centers. In the classroom, students are applying knowledge from their curriculum unit by developing their second lesson plan. These foundational experiences are preparing students for continued success as they advance to Level II.

- **Business and Marketing**: The Business and Marketing program recently hosted four representatives from the Pike County Chamber of Commerce for an initial collaboration meeting. During this visit, students engaged in discussions on branding initiatives, including logo refinement, digital marketing materials, and the development of a cohesive branding strategy.
  This meeting established the foundation for an ongoing partnership, providing students with the opportunity to gather insight, ask questions, and better understand the needs of a local organization. Moving forward, students will apply their skills to develop marketing materials aligned with the Chamber's goals while gaining valuable real-world experience.
- **FCCLA State Leadership Conference:** Congratulations to the following members of FCCLA who competed in the state leadership conference and received Silver Award:
  - Jessie Chopyk
  - Kat Poletayeva
  - Emily Warfsman
  - Toni Ann Vilord

Congratulations to the following FCCLA members who will be advancing to the National Leadership Conference in Washington DC:

Gold Medalists

- Oliva Sheridan
- Gigi Veras
- Madison Warfsman
- Emma Wentworth
- Jonathan Yarrish
- Faith Cendroski
- Nina Green
- Melissa Padula
- Bella Dillon
- Gianna Perone
- Joni Prinzing

Silver Medalists

- Sara Acosta
- Layla McCormick
- Grace Piuroski
- Llaria Sarte
- Avah Galimi
- Jenli Walker
- Delanie Stumpf
- Alexlyn Perez
- Ava Perone
- Emily Murphy

DINGMAN DELAWARE MIDDLE SCHOOL – MR. BRIAN MCCARTHY

- DDMS started the month of March off by holding tryouts for Spring Sports as 111 DDMS students vied for spots on the baseball, softball, lacrosse, track and tennis teams.
- DDMS proudly presented the 2026 Middle Grades Music and Arts Festival on Thursday, March 12th. DDMS hosted close to 200 students from five participating school districts: Delaware Valley, Western Wayne, Wayne Highlands, Damascus, and Wallenpaupack. Each school

submitted and displayed outstanding works of art to help create an art show, in the DDMS main hallway, which was showcased in the hours leading up to the concert. The concert started at 7 p.m. and featured both a chorus and band concert. The 2026 Middle Grades Chorus was directed by Mr. Jeffrey K. Brunner and accompanied by DVHS Senior (and former DDMS student)-Dominick Agron. The 2026 Middle Grades Band was directed by Mr. Lance Rauh.

- DDMS hosted the Dingman-Delaware Little League as they provided their "Clinics for Players" development program on March 7th and March 14th from 9:45-11:15 a.m. in the DDMS gymnasium.
- DDMS hosted the DV-ACE Expressive Art Class-Special Needs Community in the DDMS Art Room on March 7th, March 14th, and March 21st.
- The DDMS Superintendent Student Advisory Council met with Dr. Blaum on March 17th to discuss ideas for possible future improvements at DDMS.
- The DDMS PTA provided treats to every student during lunches on St. Patrick's Day. They also provided mini pies for the faculty.
- DDMS sent three teams to the PA Odyssey of the Mind State Finals held at Pocono Mountain East on March 28th. All three teams did fantastic with both the DDMS Technical and the DDMS Performance Teams each qualifying for Worlds with second place State finishes.
- The Momentum Church held the Easter Egg Hunt, on March 28th, with over 10,000 eggs, prizes, and games on the DDMS football field.

Upcoming Events:

- Celebrating Autism Awareness all month with a special Autism Awareness Spirit Week (April 7-10)
- PSSA Testing April 21-April 30
- Special Olympics April 15th

DELAWARE VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL – DR. PETER IOPPOLO

- Mrs. Gonzalez's and Mrs. Scott's sixth grade students have entered the math world of statistics! They have been working hard on calculating measures of center and variation to create different data displays. In addition, a recent activity instructed them to accurately compute mean, median, mode, and range on a flag. Along with their awesome math skills, their creativity was shown when they decorated their flags. All the classes' flags were strung together to create a banner as a culminating activity for the chapter.
- A weather emergency drill was held on Thursday, March 6, 2025, lasting 4:04.
- Spring sports are underway, and our student athletes and coaches are excited seeing nicer weather. Thank you to our maintenance staff and the athletic department for fixing our fields and rescheduling any postponed games and meets. Our kids could not do it without you!
- A fire drill was held Friday, March 28, lasting 3:19.
- Huge congratulations to our three Odyssey of the Mind teams for their tremendous successes at the PA Odyssey of the Mind State Finals Competition, which was held on March 28th at the Pocono Mountain East High School. The Structure and Technical teams each took first place, becoming 2026 PA State Champions for their problems and divisions, and our Vehicle team raced into second place out of 12 teams. All three teams are now heading to World Finals at Iowa State University at the end of May to compete with teams from all around the globe! Incredible job OMers, and best of luck at Worlds!
- The entire school participated in the 2nd annual "March Madness Attendance Challenge." After each week, homerooms with the highest attendance percentages moved on for another round.

Beginning with all homerooms, we moved to the “Sweet 16,” to the “Elite 8,” to the “Final Four.” At the conclusion of the month, Mrs. Gilhooley’s Honors Science seventh grade homeroom reigned supreme in taking the title for the second year in a row. The victorious group will be treated to a wonderful doughnut breakfast provided by Price Chopper and a trophy symbolizing their excellence! Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to all the students and staff that maximized their attendance for the month of March.

- Students and staff continue to prepare for the standardized assessments later this month. Thank you to the tutors that are providing these additional instructional opportunities for our students.

DELAWARE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MRS. MARY ANN OLSOMMER

- DVES successfully celebrated Read Across America Week during the first week of March. The goal was to foster a love for reading and increase student engagement through various school-wide activities and challenges. One of the week's biggest hits was the Masked Reader challenge. Different staff members brought an exciting twist to storytelling by recording a read-aloud using voice changers, filters, and disguises. Students had to determine who the Masked Reader was based on three clues that the reader shared. Students also participated in a “Design Your Own Sock Contest”, showcasing their artistic talents across the grade levels. Winners were awarded their very own pair of colorful socks. The excitement continued with a Dr. Seuss scavenger hunt, a One Fish, Two Fish estimation game, and Seuss Trivia. To conclude Read Across America, on Friday, classes rotated to different teachers throughout the day for engaging reading themed lessons. Each grade level chose an author or book series to explore. Every teacher (including special areas, special education, reading specialists, and even the principal) created a fun 40-minute lesson to share based on a book. DVES students were able to take part in six different activities that day. The entire school came together to show love of reading! Overall, it was a week filled with fun, excitement and lots of reading!
- Over the weekend of March 7th and 8th, the DVES Drama Club put on its third annual drama production. This year's production was called Gravestone Manor. The show was a collection of spooky and silly stories, shared by a ghost, Griffin, who resides in the manor. The production was directed by Jessica Sudano and assistant directed by Jessica Powley. The show consisted of 57 of DVES's fourth and fifth grade students, with the help of 5 middle school volunteers and 1 high school volunteer. Through the support of both families and staff members, the club was able to sell raffle baskets and concessions on both days. Both shows were a complete success, selling over 450 tickets for each show! All at DVES are proud of all the students' hard work and dedication to the drama club and look forward to what will come in future years.
- Pre-K had a month full of meaningful activities! They started the month with guest readers to celebrate Read Across America Week. Dr. Blaum, Dr. Pope, Dr. Cosentino, Mrs. Sweller, Mrs. Strattman visited and shared a story. Ms. Sudano's Life Skills class joined the Pre-K students for a St. Patrick's Day science experiment. The traps they had made together proved to be unsuccessful when a leprechaun turned their classroom upside down! Also in March the Pre-K students discussed Spring and the changes it brings to the environment. They started working with the concepts of sink/float and tested out different objects to see if predictions were correct. Finally, the class closed out March with a visit from PEEC, where they learned about animals and their needs.
- Fourth grade classes completed an engaging Explorer Research Project that integrated social studies, reading, writing, and hands-on learning. Students selected a historical explorer, such as Christopher Columbus or Henry Hudson, and conducted in-class research to develop an explorer report, including all of the details of the explorers' journey, crew, timeline of their life, and more! To extend their learning creatively, students also designed and constructed 3D models of their

explorer's ship or mode of transportation using recycled materials at home. The project concluded with student presentations, where they shared their research and showcased their models.

- Fifth graders have been learning about volume! To help them better understand the concept, students worked with unit cubes to complete a variety of hands-on volume challenges. For example, they built rectangular prisms with a volume of 16 cubic units and then determined the possible length, width, and height of their prisms. The students loved using manipulatives because it reminded them of activities they enjoyed in the earlier grades, while still challenging their thinking. This hands-on experience made learning about volume both fun and meaningful, and it helped deepen their understanding of how the dimensions of a shape relate to its volume. In science, 5th grade began studying the Earth. They learned how the Earth rotates around the sun and why it is daytime here while it is nighttime on the other side of the Earth. Classes discussed how the sun relates to telling time. They made sundials and took them outside to test them out. It turned out that the sundials could tell time pretty accurately, as long as the students faced NORTH!
- On March 28, 2026, two teams from Delaware Valley Elementary School traveled to Pocono Mountain East to compete in the Odyssey of the Mind State Competition. The technical team performed a skit they created where getting lost led to unexpected opportunities. They also had to design, build, and operate a Technical Trip Assistant to complete certain tasks. The team placed 2nd out of 12 teams and will be competing at the World Finals in Iowa. The structure team performed a team-created skit about throwing an unusual party or ball. The team also built a balsa wood structure that was tested for weight. Their structure held 955lbs within the time limit. This team also placed 2nd out of 12 teams and will be competing at the World Finals.
- Student teachers Zach Madewell, Maria Johnson, and Scotty Segarra participated in a 3v3 basketball game for 5th grade students who used DV diamonds to purchase the event. Their participation reflects their dedication to creating meaningful connections with the students at DVES.
- A lockdown drill was held on March 2nd at 3:05.

Upcoming Events:

- Orchestra Concert: April 7th at 6:30
- PTA Candy Bar Bingo: April 10th at 5:30
- Art Show: April 16th at 4:30-6:30
- Band Concert: April 16th at 6:30
- PTA Book Fair: April 21st 5:30-7:30
- Kindergarten Concert: April 21st at 6:30
- 1st Grade Concert: May 6th at 6:30

SHOHOLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – DR. NATHAN KROPTAVICH

On March 4, a fire drill was conducted at 2:00 p.m., with students and staff evacuating the building in 3 minutes and 6 seconds.

SES celebrated Read Across America Week with daily dress-up themes such as “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!,” “Book Character Dress Up,” and “Thing One and Thing Two,” along with masked readers, a book-themed door decorating contest, and other activities.

Our 2nd and 3rd Grade students performed a concert at the Delaware Valley High School auditorium on March 10 to a packed house, demonstrating growth in musical skills and confidence.

On March 11, two SES students were selected to participate in the PMEA District 10 Elementary Band and Orchestra Fest at Nazareth High School, reflecting their dedication and the strength of our instrumental music program.

March 13 was a scheduled in-service day focused on professional learning, collaboration, and enhancing instructional practices to support all learners.

On March 18, the Superintendent Advisory Committee, composed of students in grades 2–5, met with district leadership to share ideas for school improvement.

The PTA sponsored a well-attended Candy Bar Bingo Night on March 20, providing a fun opportunity for community engagement and strengthening home-school connections.

Our Spring Book Fair, held March 23–27, promoted literacy and student enthusiasm for reading while supporting classroom libraries and school-wide initiatives.

On March 25, families enjoyed a successful “Extravaganza Night,” featuring student movies, a PTA-hosted dinner and bake sale, and activities including a candy bar sale, book raffles, the annual student art show, and hands-on crafts.

In keeping with this year’s “Superheroes” theme, the SES Drama Club presented Comic Book Artist on March 27 and 28, with 31 students performing for enthusiastic audiences.

On March 28, Ms. Jackim’s Odyssey of the Mind Vehicle Team earned 5th place at the state competition at Pocono Mountain East High School, highlighting strong problem-solving, collaboration, and STEM skills.

On March 31, Miss Clark’s class created and performed an original play as part of their ELA instruction, providing an authentic opportunity to apply writing, speaking, and collaboration skills.

DINGMAN DELAWARE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MRS. JENNIFER MORIARTY

- This month in science we are going through life cycles of plants and animals. This lesson focuses on plant pollination and reproduction. Students were investigating the process of pollination and how it works. In the picture, students built a flower model and will be using a pipe cleaner bee to show the process of pollination.
- Mrs. Genovese's third grade class has been learning about different geometric shapes. To help visualize the different two-dimensional shapes and their characteristics students were able to build different shapes using marshmallows and toothpicks.
- This month in Mrs. Malone’s 4th grade classroom, she introduced a creative and engaging learning activity inspired by March Madness. Students were placed into teams made up of mixed academic abilities, allowing them to collaborate, support one another, and learn from their peers. The goal of the activity is to review and strengthen skills by revisiting questions that students previously struggled with on tests throughout the year. Each team competes in a bracket-style tournament displayed on a bulletin board in the classroom, which adds excitement and helps students visually track their progress through each round. During each matchup, teams work together to answer one math question and one ELA question. They can earn two points for each correct answer, reinforcing both content areas.
  To add a fun twist, each team also selects a “shooter.” The shooter gets two chances to make a basket, with each successful shot worth one additional point. This means teams can earn up to six points per round. We hold a new round of competition each Monday in March, building

anticipation as teams move closer to the championship round. Students have been highly engaged in this activity and look forward to each round of competition. It has created a positive atmosphere for reviewing challenging material while encouraging teamwork, problem-solving, and enthusiasm for learning.

- Mrs. Luhrs's fifth grade class at DDES studied the Earth's rotation and answered the question, "How fast does the Earth spin?" Students acted as the Earth and the Sun and demonstrated how the Earth's rotation affects day and night.
- Mrs. Van Wie's Guidance classes focused on long range goals and career development. She held a schoolwide career day. Many students dressed up as their future selves.
- Special Area Teachers celebrated Special' in our School Month. Each week was dedicated to highlighting a different special (Music, PE, Guidance, and Library).
- Our PBIS team planned a Bunny Hop Fundraiser and an egg hunt. The Bunny Hop raised money for PBIS rewards to go directly back to the students. For the egg hunt students paid 25 Warrior Bucks to participate and each student could pick 5 eggs. Eggs contained stickers, experience coupons, and small prizes. Any student who found a golden ticket in an egg was able to trade it in for a t-shirt.

Upcoming Events:

- 4/20-4/22 ELA PSSA
- 4/24 District Take Your Child to Work Day
- 4/27-4/28 Math PSSA
- 4/29-4/30 Science PSSA
- 4/30-5/1 4th Grade Field Trip PEEC

DINGMAN DELAWARE PRIMARY SCHOOL – MS. KIMBERLY BUTAITIS

March has DDPS students and staff hopping right into Spring!

- Reading Teacher, Jennifer Mulberger, was recognized by PA EDGE and Faria Education for the Data to Impact Educator Award. The honor included a grant of $500 to support her continued work. Jen was one of only three educators across the state chosen for this award. Jen's incredible work using data and supporting teachers with Acadience, IXL, and OG to help close learning gaps, selfless dedication with co-teaching, and mentoring new teachers in the building along with her passion for helping every child succeed won her the nomination. PA-EDGE and Faria are so grateful for the "ripple effect" of excellence Jen has created in her school community and so are we! We are very proud of Jen! Congratulations!
- During March, second-grade students applied what they learned about fruits and vegetables in Health Class in a school-wide project. Second-grade students created a fruit and a vegetable rainbow. Students were given a blank piece of paper with a color on the back and asked to draw and color a fruit or vegetable of that color. Students then placed their drawings on the rainbow. What a great school-wide project to encourage the importance of eating fruits and vegetables!
- Kindergarten had a fun and engaging March! They celebrated Dr. Seuss Reading Month with literacy activities, welcomed the start of Spring with hands-on learning, enjoyed a music assembly, and celebrated St. Patrick's Day with festive crafts and activities. It was a month full of learning and fun!
- Our first-grade students have been building a strong foundation in mathematics by exploring a variety of addition and subtraction strategies. They are learning how to solve problems using tools such as number lines, counters, and mental math techniques. A key focus has been on understanding fact families, which helps students see the relationship between addition and subtraction. This approach strengthens their number sense and supports their ability to solve

equations with confidence and flexibility. In ELA, students have been engaged in reading nonfiction texts about animals, with a special emphasis on how animals work together in their environments. These texts have provided meaningful opportunities to develop reading comprehension skills, such as identifying main ideas, recalling details, and making connections. Alongside reading, students are practicing their writing skills by responding to what they learn, organizing their thoughts, and using complete sentences to share information about animals and their behaviors. In science, our students have been exploring the fascinating world of animals and their unique adaptations. Students have learned about camouflage and how it helps animals survive in their habitats. They have also studied the different types of bird beaks and how each type is suited for specific feeding habits. Through hands-on activities and discussions, students are developing a deeper understanding of how animals adapt to their environments and the important role these adaptations play in survival.

- Second graders at the Primary School had a busy month. They had a fantastic turnout for the STEAM night. Academically, second graders in math finished learning about coins and their value, and started learning about telling time. In reading, they worked on similes, antonyms, cause and effect, theme, compare and contrast, and continued to improve their fluency and reading comprehension. In Social Studies, students learned about some US presidents, the branches of government, and needs and wants. In Science, students continued to have fun with the hands-on experiments with Mystery Science, learning about animal habitats, and had a blast making their own bird feeders.
- Ms. Dunlap's Odyssey of the Mind team did a great job this year. Ms. Dunlap said, "The Dingman Delaware Primary OM team "rocked" the 2026 Regional Odyssey of the Mind Competition! Our students took on roles such as pretending to be a miner, and a hammer, as they gave a comedic performance to a group of gems about how to avoid getting hurt during an earthquake. They used the sciences of geology and physics during this performance. It also involved an Honest Abe quote and some Metallica lyrics. The team powered through and completed their odyssey with 22 seconds to spare. Although we cannot divulge the theme of our Spontaneous problem (top secret), the team can say they completed their task with creativity and teamwork! Great Job DDPS OMers!"
- On Monday, March 23, the students at DDPS were entertained by the Simple Gifts Duo. The performers played a variety of folk songs for the students, using a variety of instruments, such as banjo, guitar, fiddle, and mandolin. They also played an instrument called a bowed salt tree, something the students had never seen. The performance ended by having some students join the performers. The students sat on chairs and played with little wooden dancing man props. A local organization called Kindred Spirits organized and brought the performers to the school.
- DDPS participated in the Rotary Hoop Shoot on March 11th. Rotary volunteers came to school to facilitate the Hoop Shoot for our students. Twelve students participated in the annual Hoop-Shoot. Students collected donations for the Rotary based on how many baskets they made in three minutes. The event was held after school. Staff volunteered to stay and cheer on our students. Students were amazing and made 10 to 42 baskets! We are proud of our DDPS students! Thank you to the Rotary for organizing the event.
- Pre-K welcomed another friend to their class…Grimace the axolotl. Students had many questions about the cool pet. Did you know an axolotl can regrow body parts like their spinal cord and heart? Students' favorite part of having Grimace in the class is watching him eat his worms.
- A fire drill was conducted on March 10th. The time was 2 minutes and 2 seconds.

Upcoming Events:

- Special Olympics: April 15th
- 2nd Grade Concert at DDMS: April 15th
- 1st Grade Concert at DDMS: April 20th
- Day of Code: April 21st

- Kindergarten Concert at DDMS: April 22nd
- Kindergarten Registration: April 23rd and April 30th