ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT – DR. NICOLE COSENTINO

This month has been marked by meaningful progress across curriculum development, student achievement, staff support, and community engagement.

Curriculum & Instruction – ELA Resource Review
In collaboration with Joy Sweller, a significant amount of time was dedicated to working with English Language Arts (ELA) resource companies. Our efforts remain focused on identifying high-quality instructional materials aligned with best practices and the Pennsylvania Structured Literacy mandate, ensuring that future resources meet both compliance requirements and the needs of our learners. This work culminated in a full-day session with our Reading and English Department Chairs where we utilized comprehensive evaluation rubrics to analyze multiple program options. Joy's deep expertise in reading instruction has been invaluable throughout this process, helping to guide thoughtful and research-based decision-making. We will continue refining options with the goal of presenting vetted recommendations to our teachers.

FBLA
I had the opportunity to attend the FBLA State Conference, serving as a judge for two days while also supporting our outstanding students. Their professionalism, preparation, and performance were exceptional. We are proud to share that 28 Delaware Valley students have qualified for the National Conference in June, a testament to both student dedication and the strength of our program.

Staff Development & Instructional Leadership
Continued classroom observations of our second and third-year teachers remained a priority. This included pre- and post-observation meetings focused on instructional planning, reflection, and growth. These conversations also extended into discussions about professional goals and future educational pursuits, reinforcing our commitment to staff development. These visits provided the opportunity to spend time in all seven district buildings, strengthening connections and maintaining a consistent presence across the district.

Student Activities & Community Engagement – Mini-THON
This month, we planned and executed a successful Mini-THON fundraiser benefiting pediatric cancer research. Combo 11 organized a Spikeball Tournament under the lights at Warrior Stadium, creating a fun and meaningful event for our students. With approximately 65 student participants, the event was both well-attended and impactful, reflecting the generosity and spirit of our student body.

Interview Season
April marked a busy and productive interview season. We continue to refine and strengthen our hiring practices by involving building-level administrators and maintaining a clear focus on selecting candidates who are the best fit for Delaware Valley.

After multiple days of interviews, I am excited about the emerging "2026 draft class" of new hires, whose potential and enthusiasm will contribute positively to our district. It is so refreshing to hear how so many of the applicants research our district and strategically applied and in some cases moved their families here in hopes of getting hired.

Performing Arts Experience
On April 30th, Combo 9 and Combo 11 students attended a performance of Fiddler on the Roof at the

Milford Theatre. This experience provided an opportunity to support former students performing in the production and to expose current students to high-quality live theater. It was a memorable and enriching experience for all involved.

Thanks for reading!

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT – DR. JAYSON POPE

- On Friday, April 10 students from the high school's Peer Inclusion physical education class participated in a spring cleanup at Milford United Methodist Church. Thank you to Ms. Kolvenbach, Ms. Smith and Mrs. Marchetti for organizing the students and a special thanks to the Osczepinski family for hosting.
- The DV Educational Foundation was proud to sponsor the athlete t-shirts for the Special Olympics event held at main campus on April 15. The staff and students do a tremendous job organizing and working the event itself. Congratulations to all the athletes who participated!
- The Delaware Valley Hall of Fame Committee held its monthly meeting on April 16. Expect an announcement sometime in May that will reveal the inductees for the Class of 2026. The Hall of Fame Induction and Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, September 20 at the Tom Quick Inn.
- On Friday, April 17 the DV Warrior mascot made an appearance at the Opening Day Parade for Dingman-Delaware Little League. Good luck to all teams on a successful season!
- On Tuesday, April 28 our two Pre-K classes visited the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) for an onsite ecology program. This visit is part of an expanded relationship between PEEC and the school district. PEEC has visited the Pre-K classrooms twice this school year, with the April 28 trip being the culminating activity.
- On Thursday, April 30 the Greater Pike Community Foundation held its annual Nonprofit Breakfast Mixer at the Tom Quick Inn. Leaders from local nonprofit organizations gathered for this networking opportunity designed to promote information sharing and community building.
- On Thursday, April 30 student leaders and staff traveled to the Lackawanna College Lake Region Center in Hawley to participate in the Women's Health and Wellness Forum, sponsored by the Pike County Chamber of Commerce. This half-day symposium is designed to foster connections among women, prioritize wellness, encourage both professional and personal growth, and celebrate the contributions of women in our community.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES – MR. CHRIS LORDI

- Participated in two rounds of Mock Interviews with Commonwealth University students – had students from Lock Haven, Bloomsburg, and Mansfield
- Joined in district-wide interviews for professional staff
- Held kickoff call for the new time clock system through Frontline
- Attended weekly Zoom mtgs. with Frontline
- Participated in PASBO HR Committee meeting
- 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.
- In July 2024, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA), Bureau of Food Assistance, received approximately $4.8 million in LFS funding from USDA to distribute to eligible School Food Authorities (SFAs). These funds were designated exclusively for the purchase of unprocessed or minimally processed, locally or regionally sourced domestic food products to support the administration of the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program during the 2024–2025 school year.
  Delaware Valley School District received $17,544.50 on January 22, 2026. Funds were released once the state budget was approved in November 2025. Funding was awarded proportionally based on the number of meals each SFA reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) as served during the 2022–2023 school year. Final funding amounts were determined by the total number of SFAs that elected to participate in the program.
  Because these funds were originally offered to SFAs for use during the 2024–2025 school year, they may still be applied retroactively to qualifying purchases made during that previous school year. They may also be used for eligible purchases made during the 2025–2026 school year. The deadline to make and report all purchases is June 30, 2026.
- The Governor's Budget for the 2026-27 School Year continues to fund free breakfast for all students participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and no charge for lunch for reduced eligible students. No student may be charged for breakfast through SBP and students

eligible for reduced-price meals may not be charged for lunches through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). However, all students must be claimed in the appropriate eligibility category on the PEARS claim for reimbursement

DIRECTOR OF SUPPORT SERVICES – MR. MARVIN EVERSDYKE

Activities for the month of April to support facilities and grounds maintenance and transportation operations included:

- Scheduled substitute personnel to cover absences
- Reviewed the ML Schedules and Schedule Star Calendars each day to assure my staff was informed and have plans to prepare for events and athletic activities scheduled
- Scheduled vehicles and personnel for home-to-school, educational, and athletic team trips each day
- Managed repair service and maintenance of all transportation and maintenance vehicles and 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 for all Support Staff
- Prepared and submitted monthly and quarterly DEP Wastewater and Domestic Drinking Water Reports
- Managed the daily work activities of seventy employees
- Implemented adjustments to home-to-school bus stops and route as requested by parents and new registrations
- Implemented adjustments to home-to-school and home-to-placement schools transportation for special needs students as requested by the Special Education department
- Scheduled grounds maintenance personnel to assure parking areas, driveways, and common areas were prepared for school openings each day and for all activities

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

Mental Health

- High School Counselor Molly Blaut worked with the students on The Sources of Strength team to create a ‘Class of 2026 Tribute Tree’ in the R Pod to send well wishes and memories for the Senior Class of 2026 to read and enjoy.
- School social worker Gabrielle Westfall has been facilitating groups in SES, DDPS and DDES. There is an increase in needs and referrals. She is working to maintain her regularly scheduled sessions while working to meet with waitlisted students before the end of the school year.
- Ms. Westfall is supporting students through take-home/tangible coping tools including rings with mini meditations, traceable breathing exercises, coping cards and affirmations. She also continues to collaborate with parents and teachers regarding student support strategies and available resources.
- Ms. Amy Letwinsky, school social worker, has begun planning for the May Mental Health Awareness workshop with the help of students. This year they are focusing on depression, anxiety, being overwhelmed and stress. She also led a discussion on mental health and social

media during the HS club activity period. She has also met with students both individually and in groups at both DVHS and DVES.

- At DDMS and DVMS, social worker Dr. Vivian Bruno continues to work with students on an individual basis as well as in groups. She continued having SAP interventions; connecting students to community resources including MH/DS, D&A and in school supports including social worker monitoring, in school groups and after school activities.
- Dr. Bixby has participated in Systems of Care leadership meetings, along with participating in the Behavioral Health Aftercare Communication committee. We are collaborating with community partners to improve communication for our students who have hospitalizations so that the school can support students successfully.

Support Services

- DVSD Advisory Council met on April 8th to discuss the vision of our DVSD Comprehensive School Counseling plan. The meeting was well attended by community members, students, school faculty, representatives from local agencies including mental health, children and youth as well as business owners and parents. All members broke into small groups to review supports that enhance student academic, social-emotional growth as well as college and career readiness. The meeting allowed for sharing among a diverse audience to best meet the needs of our students.
  A few key takeaways included the following:
  - prevalence of social media and how this impacts student development and learning
  - need for targeted student support when they are in school transitions from the elementary level to the secondary level
  - need for targeted student support when they move up from middle school to the high school
  - need for targeted student support when they graduate from the high school with college and career choices
- Dr. Bruno and Dr. Bixby presented at the CASA Workshop for the community including Children and Youth, Drug and Alcohol as well as the community at large. Dr. Bruno facilitated a workshop on Re-entry Plans for the district and Dr. Bixby facilitated the ABC's of IEP's workshop. We enjoy collaborating and engaging with the community each year.
- Dr. Bruno also participated in an interagency meeting for a DDMS student to provide resources and family support to ensure cohesive services to meet the needs of the whole student including academic, social, and emotional needs.
- PBIS training was held on April 9th in the DVMS Library with DDMS and DVMS core PBIS teams, Dr. Bixby, and Mrs. Lawson. We are looking forward to sharing strategies with middle school staff this spring and next school year.

Achieve Academy

- Achieve Academy started the Month of April with three students and ended with three students in attendance.
- We have worked closely with families to meet individual student needs through groups, working towards individual goals and counseling.

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

Students in Shohola were inspired by the OM props in their teacher's classroom and wanted to make their own play. The students developed their own story, built the set and created costumes. They performed in their homeroom classes and did amazing!

In the spirit of autism acceptance, a first-grade social skills group listened to some stories about autism acceptance (All My Stripes, A Friend Like Simon, and A Boy Like Me) and discussed kind words versus unkind words. They talked about words that could hurt someone's feelings and words that could lift someone up and make them happy. They did a thumbs-up, thumbs-down activity on the smart board, where they had to indicate whether the words on the board were kind or unkind with their thumbs. They brainstormed a list of kind things to say at school. They created a kind word wall and practiced using kind words when playing games and playing cooperatively with toys. We are all impressed by the number of kind words we have heard from them in other areas of the school day! The students love the kind word wall!

DDPS has been celebrating Autism Acceptance month during April and have had various fundraisers to help our local Pike Autism Support Services. The first week of April, the school participated in a fun spirit week. All students in the school also completed chores for Autism and created beautiful posters to help spread awareness and acceptance. Miss Ashley's staff and students put together two fundraiser lunches and a tricky tray as well. The students helped with counting tickets and preparing the bags for the sandwich lunch fundraiser. The pizza lunch fundraiser was completely donated by Pike Pizza and was a big hit. The total amount received for the fundraisers is still growing and will be shared in May when everything comes to a close.

SUPERVISOR OF ACADEMIC SERVICES – MS. JOY SWELLER

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

- Attended the PDE Data Forward Conference; gained strategies to improve the efficiency and coherence of district-wide data meetings and strengthen data-driven decision-making practices.
- Served in the role of District Assessment Coordinator by overseeing student and staff preparation for the PSSA; successfully facilitated administration of the fully online assessment.
- Initiated PVAAS rostering for teachers and administrators to ensure accurate data alignment and reporting for the upcoming school year.
- Met with representatives from multiple textbook companies; continued evaluation of K–7 reading programs to support informed curriculum decisions.
- Met with a teacher focus group to gather feedback and support ongoing evaluation of reading programs.
- Researched options for structured literacy professional learning for the 2026–2027 school year; this work will support teachers in implementing structured literacy practices and ensure alignment with PA Act 135 requirements.
- Began collaborative planning for the 2026–2027 Schoolwide Title I program with elementary school teams to ensure compliance and program effectiveness.
- Participated in elementary-level family engagement events to support school-community connections and student success initiatives.
- Served on interview committees for both teaching and administrative candidates as part of the district’s hiring process.
- Conducted formal observations and evaluations of teachers across multiple settings, in alignment with the Danielson Framework.

SUPERVISOR OF TECHNOLOGY – MR. DYLAN SATURNO

- From 4/1/26 to 4/30/26 477 work orders were created by the staff
- From 4/1/26 to 4/30/26 444 work orders were completed and closed by the technology department
- As of 4/30/26 there were still 33 work orders in process by the technology department in various buildings
- Set-up new Ipads and stand for digital sign-ins at the board meetings
- Set-up camera and Wi-Fi in the district office for the April Board Meeting
- Set-up Wi-Fi for the Junior Parent Night
- Set-up Wi-Fi and chromebooks for PSSA testing in various buildings
- Preparing new phones for the summer phone project
- Set-up projector and screen for the Quilters Guild
- ClassLink QCard Logon Issue
- Enable STP across core switches
- Scope out for on-prem storage appliance replacement
- Rebuild O365 CA Security Policies

DELAWARE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL – MR. LOU DELAURO

The Envirothon Team- of Jackson Hancock, Ruby Bailor, Andria Prime, Ella Dong, and Daisy Olivo Heller won the Pike-Wayne Envirothon, defeating 17 other teams to qualify for the state competition in May. The team swept all five categories in Aquatics, Forestry, Soil, Wildlife, and Current Events for a resounding win. Way to go, Warriors!

Congratulations to the Model UN (April 9) team for a successful conference at Bloomsburg University. Dominick Agron, Jackson Hancock, and Nat Carso won best delegation. Ruby Bailor and Andria Prime were runner up for best delegation and Shannon O'Leary and Gabriella Buzalski won best written topic paper for their committee.

The Delaware Valley Reading Teams (April 9)- traveled to Pleasant Valley for their annual competition. Both teams performed well with Mrs. Muttee' team placing sixth and Mrs. Cohen's team placing first overall led by Cara Johnson, Sophia Chen, Jessie Chopyk, Madison Curchoe, Ashantia Dicette, Derrick Harris, Sydney Harris, Julianna Hopper, Joleen Vento, and Alyssa Zimmer.

Special Olympics (April 15): DV hosted its annual Special Olympics event on April 15. Over 300 athletes from Western Wayne, Wallenpaupack, Delaware Valley and other northeastern Pennsylvania schools competed in various track and field events.

Congratulations to the 2026 proposals contest winner: Noah Berrios with his promposal to Olivia Langelotti

National Art Honor Society- We are proud to share exciting news from the NAHS (National Art Honor Society) student exhibition!

In addition to previously announced recognitions, Emma Jacobs has been awarded **Best in Show in the Photography category**, a distinction that was not included in the original results.

This is an extraordinary achievement. Out of 2,186 submissions, only 136 works were selected to represent 75 schools across 26 US states and South Korea in the virtual exhibition.
Emma's accomplishment is a testament to her creativity, dedication, and artistic talent, and we are incredibly proud to have her represent Delaware Valley.
You can view the virtual exhibition here:
https://www.arteducators.org/events-and-opportunities/naea-exhibitions/

HOSA Blood Drive- Delaware Valley High School's Healthcare Careers Program sponsored the American Red Cross Blood drive on April 22, 2026. The drive was a great success as we proudly collected 48 pints of blood, surpassing our original goal of 42 pints. Notably, 32 of the donors were first-time donors demonstrating the impact of this event in encouraging new donors to contribute to lifesaving efforts.
The success of the blood drive was largely due to the active involvement of our Healthcare Careers students, who played an essential role in both the planning and recruitment of student donors. These students also organized the donation schedules, managed registration and supported the canteen and recovery areas. Their professionalism, teamwork, and compassion were evident throughout the day. This hands-on experience provided them with valuable real-world exposure to healthcare settings.
Hosting a blood drive within the school setting is an important opportunity to promote awareness of community health needs and to foster a culture of service among students. We look forward to our ongoing partnership with the American Red Cross and future blood drives.

National Spanish Exam- Congratulations to the following students for their placements on the National Spanish Exam: Nat Carso (Gold), Domenick Agron (Silver), Joseph Benavides (Bronze), and Liam Orben-McDaniel and Grace Stevens (both Honorable Mention).

Congratulations to our FBLA National Qualifiers wo will represent Delaware Valley at the National Conference in San Antonio Texas the end of June:
1st Place Event Planning- Elizabeth Bailey & Grace Holderith
1st Place Visual Design- Kim Smyser & Emma Simmons
3rd Place Introduction to Social Media Strategies- Isabella Faust & Alexander Tsiattalos
4th Place Local Annual Chapter Business Report- Joseph Benavides, Vidhi Patel & Skarlet DePutron
4th Place Website Design- Ava Troup & Vidhi Patel

DV FBLA also received the following Awards/ Nominations:
PA FBLA President At Large # 1: Veronika Martin
State Officer- Veronika Martin

William Seldon Scholarships:
$2500- Ava Troup-2nd Place
$1750- Joseph Benavides- 4th Place
$1750- Elizabeth Bailey- 5th Place

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION – DR. CHRIS ROSS

- **Culinary Arts:** During the month of April, Level I Culinary Arts students provided cookies for the drama program to serve during their spring play. Students also planned, prepared, and delivered lunch for the staff and children at Delaware Valley Middle School participating in "Bring Your Child to Work Day," giving them valuable real-world catering experience.

Senior culinary students completed both sections of their NOCTI exams and are optimistic about their performance as they await official results. In addition, both culinary classes have been actively preparing for the upcoming AP Breakfast at the end of the month, where they will plan, organize, and serve breakfast to more than 300 students.

- **Early Childhood Education:** Early Childhood Education students volunteered at the Shohola Literacy Parent Night on April 21 and are scheduled to volunteer at the Delaware Valley Elementary School Literacy Night on May 19, continuing to build meaningful connections with families and the community.
  All Level III students (seven in total) successfully earned their Child Development Associate (CDA) Certification, fully funded through Perkins. In addition, all senior students achieved **Proficient** status on the written NOCTI exam. Students have also completed the practical, hands-on portion of the NOCTI assessment, and we are currently awaiting official results.
- **Business and Marketing**: The Business and Marketing CTE program has played an important role in supporting and helping develop the *Warriors for Wellness* initiative, which focuses on promoting mental health awareness, student leadership, and support for both the school and local community.
  As part of this initiative, students have launched a student-designed clothing sale, with all proceeds benefiting *Warriors for Wellness* and *ACT Through Music*. This project has been led by Business and Marketing student Aminah Colon, providing students with a meaningful opportunity to apply their business and marketing skills while making a positive impact on the school community and supporting mental health awareness.
- **Cooperative Education / Diversified Occupations:** During the month of April, Shane Kolenet, Trace Stalter, and Kayne Clark continued to develop their skills while making meaningful contributions through their work with the Milford Hospitality Group, supporting both the maintenance team and events coordinator. Their responsibilities included redesigning and enhancing landscaping at multiple properties, assisting with the setup and breakdown of public and private events, and preparing properties for upcoming renovations through cleaning, organization, and site preparation.
  In addition to their daily responsibilities, the students applied their trade-based skills during event setups, particularly in lighting installation and configuration. These hands-on experiences continue to provide valuable real-world applications of their training while further developing their technical and workplace readiness skills.
- **Building Trades:** Building Construction I students have successfully completed all Level I task list requirements for the year. The class has now begun with the concrete unit, a curriculum area that is typically introduced at the beginning of Level II. Students who are current with their shop assignments have also started constructing a 10' x 10' shed, applying the carpentry knowledge and hands-on skills they have developed throughout the year.
  Students in Building Construction II are currently focused on finish carpentry while also reviewing and reinforcing the competencies and task areas covered throughout the school year.
  Level III students have completed their NOCTI assessments and are currently awaiting results from the performance exam. As they prepare to conclude their time at Delaware Valley, seniors are engaged in personal and shop projects that allow them to further refine their skills while showcasing the knowledge and craftsmanship they have developed throughout the program.

DINGMAN DELAWARE MIDDLE SCHOOL – MR. BRIAN MCCARTHY

After returning from spring break, our staff and students had a fun-filled April at DDMS.

- DDMS students submitted artwork to appear in the Pike County Courier Children's Edition. This highly anticipated special edition of the newspaper is 100% created by local children, featuring their artwork for the ads.
- DDMS hosted *Take Your Child to Work Day* on April 24th. We had over 30 children participate in the day. The DDMS staff provided various activities for the children to participate in throughout the day. The kids were treated to a luncheon with their parents in our Family and Consumer Science Room. The children participated in physical education classes, family and consumer science classes, art classes, business classes and other activities.
- On April 17th DDMS teachers proudly wore their tattoos gifted to them by students in a fundraiser run by the PTA. Students and teachers enjoyed this unique and fun fundraising opportunity.
- DDMS celebrated *National Autism Awareness Month* throughout the month of April. We started it off by recognizing *National Autism Awareness Day* on April 1st and participated in "Lighting it up Blue" with everyone displaying blue and passing out blue wrist bands for every student. Autism "spirit week" featured twin day, tie-dye day, mix and match sock day and finally wrapping up the week with kindness and inclusion Day. This was all put together by our Autistic Support team at DDMS.
- The DDMS Autistic Support team also put together a luncheon for our staff on April 23rd that included soup, salad, sandwiches, drinks, and some dessert for a cost of $20 and donations went directly to PASS. The team also hosted a grab & go coffee/breakfast in the faculty lounge on April 20th and 27th. All donations went directly to benefit PASS.
- DDMS had a huge send off for the students attending the Special Olympics on April 15th; students lined the hallway to cheer on our Special Olympic participants and send them off in grand fashion. It was a great start to the outstanding day they had on our main campus.
- DDMS performed the PSSA state tests from April 21st through April 30th; students completed testing in ELA, Math, and Science.
- Fire Drill - 4/17/2026 (1min 43 seconds)
- Upcoming Events:
    - 5/5-Orchestra Spring Concert 6th-8th Grades
    - 5/7-Chorus/Band/Jazz Band Spring Concert 7th & 8th
    - 5/14-6th Grade Chorus and Band Concert
    - 5/15 DDMS 8th Grade Semi-formal hosted by the PTA
    - 5/16 DVMS vs DDMS Baseball Game at Skylands Stadium. Game starts at 6pm.
    - 5/19 & 5/20 Keystone Testing - Algebra
    - 5/22 Music in the Parks at Dorney Park (7th & 8th Grade BCO and Jazz)
    - 5/26 Chalk Walk
    - 5/29 DDMS Field Day
    - 6/2 Yearbook Dedication & 8th Grade BBQ
    - 6/3 Awards Ceremony at 1pm
    - 6/4 8th Grade Moving on Ceremony
    - 6/4 Last Day of School Dismissal at 11:15

DELAWARE VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL – DR. PETER IOPPOLO

- At the PA FBLA State Leadership Conference this past month, the Delaware Valley Middle School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Chapter placed 2nd in the state for the William Seldon Outstanding Award. Mrs. Dennis received the Outstanding Middle School Advisor award. Bella Bailey won the Outstanding Middle School Young Leaders Award, and she will now represent Pennsylvania FBLA at the National Leadership Conference with the 11 other DVMS

FBLA members who have qualified for national competition in San Antonio, Texas in June. Over 6,200 students and advisers from across the state were in attendance.

- A fire drill was held on April 13, 2026, lasting 4:37.
- Congratulations to our DVMS Reading Olympians team, who competed in the annual Northeast regional Reading Olympics competition held at Pleasant Valley Middle School on April 9th. Students read from a list of 20 books and competed by answering trivia questions in three head-to-head rounds. After a lightning round tiebreaker, DVMS finished 1st of the 17 teams! Club advisor Mrs. Shedlauskas would like to thank teachers Ms. Phipps for moderating and Mrs. Townsend for chaperoning.
- Our staff continued to support Autism Awareness by wearing T-shirts throughout the month.
- Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Gonzalez accompanied a group of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students to a Math 24 competition at IU20 on April 16th. Math 24 is a fast-paced game in which students are given four numbers and must use addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division to arrive at a total of 24. It was an exciting and engaging day, as students competed in three rounds of play. In each round, a proctor revealed sets of cards, challenging participants to think quickly and apply their mental math skills under pressure. Our students demonstrated outstanding effort, focus, and perseverance throughout the competition. Their hard work and strong mathematical thinking represented DVMS with pride. We are incredibly impressed with this group for embracing the challenge and continuing to strengthen their math fluency.
- Take Your Child to Work Day was celebrated on April 24, 2026. This traditionally has been a favored day for the staff. We were able to have 28 guests attend a fun-filled day in the building. A nice chicken tender, fries, and cookie luncheon was prepared by the students at the Delaware Valley High School's Warrior Cafe. From all the smiles observed, the children and our staff genuinely enjoyed the day!
- PSSAs are complete throughout the building. The students have completed the English/Language Arts, Math, and Science components of the assessments. Our guidance counselors have done a great job coordinating this undertaking and our students did the best job they can. The last assessment will be the Algebra Keystone Assessment and will be administered later in the month of May.
- Upcoming Events:
    - May 6, grades 6-8 chorus and jazz band, 6:30, DVHS Auditorium
    - May 13, grades 6-8 band & orchestra, 6:30, DVHS Auditorium
    - May 19 – 20 Algebra Keystone Assessment grade 8, Algebra students only

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DELAWARE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MRS. MARY ANN OLSOMMER

- The PTA hosted Candy Bar Bingo on April 10th. The popular Family Fun Night was well attended with almost all seats taken. Fun was had by all!
- Each 5th grade class paired up with a Kindergarten class to enjoy an afternoon full of reading fun. Fifth graders paired up with a kindergartener to share stories together. The kindergarten students received a donation of personalized books and were thrilled to listen as their 5th grade partners read to them. Afterwards, the roles were reversed, and the kindergarteners had their turn to read to their 5th grade buddies. Using fluency cards, the kindergarteners read with confidence, leaving their 5th grade buddies truly impressed! All classes were highly engaged and loved learning from one another.
- Third graders in Mrs. Zegarski's class learned about the five regions of the United States. They researched each region and then packed their suitcases for an exploration adventure. Each student had to include three items: one for exploring a landform, one for surviving the weather, and one for enjoying the region's resources. Additionally, they wrote a postcard to someone as if they were on their trip, telling them about their visit!

- Miss Powley's 4th grade students were busy in the month of April. They participated in an Easter Egg Math Hunt! The eggs were filled with math review questions, which made it a fun activity that was also standard aligned. The students also had the opportunity to participate in "teach the teacher" where groups of students worked together to create anchor charts on different fraction topics and then "teach" it to the class. Many students stepped up into the teacher role during this activity. Finally, the class completed a creative Earth Day craft where the students used paper scraps to create textured art. This was an enjoyable way for the students to learn about reusing older materials.
- On April 16th, Ms. Zito hosted the K–5 Art Show, featuring a global theme that allowed students and their families to "Travel Around the World." Student artwork showcased diverse landmarks and cultures, highlighting the creative growth of every grade level. Attendees also had the opportunity to enjoy hands-on activity stations where students created global souvenirs.
- On April 24th, DVES held a school wide celebration of Earth Day. Students participated in educational outdoor stations that focused on conservation and biodiversity. A nature walk was set up around the school property allowing students to identify trees native to Pennsylvania and look for signs of animals. The reading department visited each classroom to read a conservation themed book, accompanied by an activity. Some special area teachers planned a fun, educational game in the gym focused on Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle and other special area teachers introduced the vital importance of recycling through a hands-on project where students transformed discarded, broken crayon bits into brand-new crayons. Finally, each grade level watched an Earth Day themed movie or documentary. The entire staff worked together to provide an entire day of environmental activities that were enjoyed by all.
- A fire drill was held on April 17, 2026, at 9:25. It was 132 seconds long.
- Upcoming Events:
    - 1st Grade Concert – May 6th at 6:30
    - PTA Meeting - May 12th at 5:30
    - Title I Literacy Carnival – May 19th at 5:30
    - PTA Volunteer Reception – May 20th at 3:45
    - Chorus Concert – May 27th at 6:30

SHOHOLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – DR. NATHAN KROPTAVICH

On April 16, a fire drill was conducted at 10:15 AM, with students and staff evacuating the building in 2 minutes and 20 seconds.

Our elementary school band and orchestras performed on April 9 and April 14 respectively in the SES gymnasium. Both ensembles performed a variety of musical selections at these well-attended events.

On April 16, teachers from each grade level met for an hour prior to the school day to review student data and adjust instructional planning accordingly. They discussed best practices with the ultimate goal of increasing student achievement in their classrooms.

On April 21, SES hosted a Title I Literacy Night. Students were able to choose 4 books to take home and engaged in multiple stations, including face painting, smore snacks, rock painting, journal creation, and much more. This was a collaborative effort coordinated by our reading teachers with numerous individuals assisting with centers, including instructional assistants, PTA volunteers, and Early Childhood Education students under the direction of Ms. Jill Farr.

On April 22, SES conducted a PSSA Pep Rally. Dr. Kroptavich read aloud "The Anti-Test Anxiety Society" by Julia Cook to remind students that they have the tools to tackle test anxiety head-on.

Teachers suited up in inflatable costumes and faced off in an epic relay race. The rally concluded with a school-wide singalong to a special PSSA-themed version of "Happy"—because when you're prepped and positive, there's nothing to fear!

Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students have worked diligently to demonstrate their learning on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) this month. This is the second year of completing the PSSA completely online. Testing was facilitated with fidelity through the coordination of our counselor, Mrs. Jennifer Marotta, teachers, and support staff.

DINGMAN DELAWARE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MRS. JENNIFER MORIARTY

- Fire drill was held on 4/15/26. The building was cleared in 2 minutes, 58 seconds.
- In preparation for PSSAs, Miss Mortman's 3rd Grade class played ELA review bingo. The kids were read definitions, sentences, or examples. Students had to find the correct term for each on their card. We reviewed synonyms and antonyms, similes and metaphors, contractions, spelling rules, and grammar rules.
- Mrs. Presto's students participated in an egg scavenger hunt around the classroom for a review of grammar skills. Students could work in partners, and we're encouraged to read sentences allowed to fill in the correct word using past, present, or future tense verbs.
- Miss Dazi and Mr. Crowley's 4th Grade classes had a "Doctor Day" where they decorated the room into 5 stations (surgery, x-ray, analysis/lab, and operation). The classes were placed into groups and went to each station to practice text structure, main idea, theme, context clues, reading comprehension, point of view and text features.
- Miss Marro's 4th Grade class participated in an engaging "Starbooks" activity that combined literacy, math, and creativity in a fun, real-world way. Students explored a variety of books on Epic, encouraging them to discover new genres and expand their reading interests. They also practiced their math skills by calculating the cost of items from a Starbucks-style menu, reinforcing their understanding of addition and decimals. Lastly, students designed their own unique drinks, coming up with imaginative names and ingredients, allowing them to express their creativity.
- Mrs. Hunter's 4th grade resource math class worked on symmetry and measuring angles this past week. Each student received a copy of their name printed in very large font. They used protractors to measure the angles and draw lines of symmetry within the letters of their own names. The students practiced their social skills, as they shared tools and helped one another with their projects. They were able to present their projects to each other, comparing and contrasting their findings. The students did a wonderful job!
- Mrs. Wasko's 5th Grade class took advantage of the beautiful spring morning to use the outdoor classroom at DDES. The change of scenery helped keep the students interested during our PSSA Science item sampler.
- The DDES beginner band will be performing on Tuesday, May 12th with the beginner orchestra, and 4th grade chorus for their spring concert at 6:00PM. The cadet band will be performing their spring concert on Tuesday, May 19th along with the cadet orchestra, and 5th grade chorus at 7:00PM. These groups have been tirelessly working all year and can't wait to showcase their musical talents!
- Upcoming Events:
    - 4/29 4th Grade Water Safety Presentation (NPS)
    - 5/1 4th Grade Field Trip to PEEC
    - 5/5 3rd/4th Grade Field Day
    - 5/6 5th Grade Field Day

- 5/7 & 5/8 Field Day Rain Dates
- 5/12 2nd Grade Visit to DDES
- 5/12 Beginning Band/Orchestra/4th grade Chorus Concert
- 5/13 3rd Grade Field Trip to Railriders
- 5/13 Title 1 Reading Night 5-7 pm
- 5/14 3rd/4th Gifted Field Trip
- 5/14 Art Show
- 5/15 5th grade LEAD Graduation
- 5/19 Cadet Band/Orchestra/Chorus Concert
- 5/20-5/21 5th Grade Field Trip to Bethel Woods
- 5/22 5th Grade Tours to DDMS (9:15 & 10:15)
- 5/27 3rd Grade Concert
- 5/28 4th Grade Concert
- 5/29 5th Grade Dance
- 6/1 5th Grade Concert
- 6/3 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony

DINGMAN DELAWARE PRIMARY SCHOOL – MS. KIMBERLY BUTAITIS

April has both the flowers and the students growing at DDPS!

- The DDPS Leadership Team recently took a trip to ShopRite to celebrate the success of their cereal collection held in September. Through their hard work and dedication, the team collected nearly 500 boxes of cereal, which were generously donated to the Ecumenical Food Pantry to support families in the community. While visiting the store, students had the opportunity to honor the ShopRite employees whose pictures will be featured on the cereal boxes, recognizing their contributions and commitment to the community. The celebration concluded with a well-deserved pizza lunch and cupcakes, giving students time to reflect on their accomplishment before returning to school.
- The first-grade team has been actively engaged in strengthening foundational literacy skills across all areas of English Language Arts. Students have been focusing on building comprehension skills by identifying key details, retelling stories, and making connections to texts. Writing instruction has centered around creating detailed five-sentence stories about spring, allowing students to organize their ideas and expand on their thoughts. In math, students have been developing their understanding of two-digit addition with and without regrouping. They are learning to apply strategies to solve problems accurately while explaining their thinking. Science instruction has focused on the study of animals and their unique characteristics. Students have explored how animals use camouflage to survive in their environments and have learned about hibernation and how animals adapt to seasonal changes. Additionally, students were introduced to basic concepts of animal genetics, gaining an understanding of how traits can be passed from parents to offspring. In social studies, students have been learning about the difference between needs and wants, helping them build an understanding of basic economic concepts. They have also explored various careers and the roles people play in their communities. As a culminating activity, students completed a career project in which they selected a future career of interest and created a presentation or visual to share their learning.
- Second graders at Dingman Delaware Primary School had a busy month. They did a fantastic job singing at the 2nd-grade concert at DDMS. Students enjoyed learning how to code with a representative from the IU during our 1st Day of Code event. Students had a blast on their field trip to Quiet Valley Living Farm. Academically, second graders finished learning about telling time and started learning about measurement and estimating. In reading, they worked on

irregular verbs, reviewed contractions, made inferences, learned about cause and effect, and continued to improve their fluency and reading comprehension. In Social Studies, students learned about goods and services, and saving and spending. In Science, students continued to have fun with the hands-on experiments with Mystery Science, learning about how plants interact with the environment to meet their needs.

- Pre-K students had a special visitor to their classroom! PEEC came to visit and brought their rat snake. The following week, Pre-K visited PEEC. The students' favorite part of the trip was learning about lake life. They also had fun catching salamanders and tadpoles. One student even caught a fish. To celebrate Spring, students had fun looking for eggs with their names on it.
- Second Graders at DDPS completed the "Happy /Sad Tooth Activity" in Health Class this month. Students were given a happy tooth or a sad tooth. Students were asked to draw and color foods that are healthy for their teeth on the happy tooth and sugary foods that were bad for their teeth on the sad tooth. Students learned the benefits of consuming foods that contain calcium to maintain good dental health. A discussion about sugary foods and snacks was also examined. Students learned that sugary foods can cause cavities!
- This month, the DDPS Reading Team, along with the Schoolwide Team, organized a "Day of Code" event. Students were introduced to the concept of "debugging" and learned how to identify and fix problems. Each grade level participated in a unique, engaging experience, and the event was enjoyed by all. Kindergarten students used Sphiro Indi's, and tried to create a path that the car could follow. First-grade students built robots using Cubelets. Depending on how the Cubelets were put together, the robots moved. Second-grade students were directed to Code.org, where they were able to use block coding to move a character from a start to a finish. We also hosted Family Involvement Meetings for incoming kindergarten families. Parents learned strategies to support their child's readiness for kindergarten, with a focus on early literacy, mathematics, language development, and play-based learning. Each family received take-home materials, including a Letter Tracing Sensory Pad to support fine motor skills, letter recognition, and letter formation practice. The incoming kindergarten students were excited to receive these materials after completing their registration activities with the Kindergarten team.
- April 1st was National Paraprofessional Appreciation Day. The DDPS PTA decorated for the IAs and treated IAs to a special gift. We are very lucky to have such amazing instructional assistants.
- DDPS held their spring concerts in April. The students dressed their best for the performances that were held in the auditorium of DDMS, Mr. Burns and the students did a fabulous job.
- A fire drill was conducted on April 16th. The time was 2 minutes and 2 seconds.
- Upcoming Events:
    - Dental Screenings: May 1
    - Teacher /Staff Appreciation: May 4-8
    - Pre-K Screenings: May 4
    - DDPS Field Day: May 15
    - PTA Family Fundraiser Back Road Brewery: May 21, 4:30-8:30
    - Pass the Spirit K meet Seniors: May 29