

## **Superintendent's Student & Staff Accomplishments March 19, 2025**

### **PMSD Donation to BBBS:**

We have a special presentation to make on behalf of the entire district tonight. I would like to ask Dr. Wade, who works closely with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, to come forward to make this presentation. Thank you to all staff that helped contribute to this cause.

### **East High School Updates**

We would like to congratulate the following East High School/MCTI students for competing in the SkillsUSA District Competitions held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025:

**Lane Fetterhoff** in the Carpentry Program for placing First in the TeamWorks Competition.

**Toby Palmieri** in the Drafting Program for placing First in the Architectural Drafting Competition.

**Lily Lord** in the Computer Information Program for placing First in the Web Design Competition.

**David Vergara** in the Networking and Security Program for placing First in the Information Tech Servicing Competition.

**Carlos Vergara** in the Networking and Security Program for placing First in the Internetworking Competition.

Congratulations to the Pocono Mountain East Jr High and High School Science Olympiad teams for their performance at the Northeast PA regional competition on Wednesday, March 12.

The high school team had its best performance in school history at the regional competition. 24 teams from Northeast and Central PA competed for 6 spots in the state tournament. I am proud to share that the East High school team finished 3rd overall, earning a team trophy for the first time in school history.

Of the 23 events that they competed in, the team finished in the top 10 in 20 of them. Medals were given out for the top 4 places. The following students earned medals

**Air Trajectory** - 3rd place - Seniors Gavin Demler and Marcin Bienias

**Disease Detectives** - 4th place - Senior Anthony Cerrone and Sophomore Finn McGovern

**Experimental Design** - 3rd place - Seniors Lila Shelton and Connor Straub, and Junior Mahi Patel

**Fossils** - 3rd place - Senior Emily Forlizzi and Sophomore Julian Rivera

**Material Science** - 3rd place - Senior Lila Shelton and Gavin Demler

**Tower** - 2nd place - Juniors Mahi Patel and Samantha Christman

**Wind Power** - 4th place - Senior Lila Shelton and Sophomore Mahi Patel

**Codebusters** - 3rd place - Seniors Lila Shelton and Connor Straub, and Junior Mahi Patel

**Dynamic Planet** - 3rd place - Sophomore Valerie Cooper and Freshman Alissa Gilliland

The Junior High team also competed for a place in states. 14 teams competed for 7 spots in the state tournament. The junior high team finished 6th overall, earning a spot in the tournament. They also finished in the top 7 in 12 of the 23 events. Medals were given for top 4 in each event. Congratulations goes out to Freshman Jasper Shelton and Cyena Snell, and 8th grader Riley O'Connor for their third-place medal in Codebusters.

Both teams will now compete on Saturday, April 26th in Altoona, PA in the Science Olympiad State Tournament.

## **West High School Updates**

Wednesday, March 12th the WHS Science Olympiad team competed at the North East Regional Science Olympiad competition at Penn State Wilkes-barre. WHS finished 10th out of 24 teams. They had many top 10 finishes.

**Bungee Drop** - 6th place - Maya dos Santos and Jack Hunnicutt

**Code Busters** - 8th place - Mikhail Ragoobeer, John Patrick Mutia, and Jack Hunnicutt

**Dynamic Planet** - 8th place - Alisha Lin and Anell Washington

**Forensics** - 7th place - Maya Palka and Adam Kostek

**Material Science** - 8th place - Mikhail Ragoobeer and Adam Kostek

**Optics** - 8th place - Nathaniel and Alexis Cornejo

**Tower** - 9th place - Lillianne Williamson and John Cruz

**Robot Ramble** - 9th place - John Cruz and Nathaniel Cornejo

## **West Junior High Updates**

Five student athletes from WJHS had the opportunity to attend an Athlife Leadership conference at Moravian University on Thursday, March 6. Students engaged in workshops focused on leadership and mental health, and even had the opportunity to participate in a yoga workshop. Thank you to the West High School Athlife advisors for taking our students and giving them this opportunity.

West Junior High School and Swiftwater Intermediate School SGA's have joined forces again to bring the Harlem Wizards to Pocono Mountain on Tuesday, March 25. Doors will open at 5:30 and the game begins at 6:30. Staff from across the district will be playing against the Wizards. A concession stand, souvenir stand and a large basket raffle will be available. Tickets start at just \$10 and are available online at [harlemwizards.com](http://harlemwizards.com) All proceeds will be donated to Make A Wish. We are trying to fund the wish of a Swiftwater Elementary student whose wish is a trip to Florida.

The WJHS PRIDE Committee was recognized for their PBIS Tier 1 with Fidelity for the 2023 - 2024 school year. Thank you to Mr. Pawlowski and his team for all of their hard work throughout the school year.

Science Olympiad Division B is a premier STEM competition for middle school students that challenges them in various science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines. Teams of up to 15 students compete in events that span multiple scientific fields, including life sciences, earth and space sciences, chemistry, physics, engineering, and inquiry-based disciplines. Pocono Mountain West Junior High School's Science Olympiad 2024-2025 Team participated in several invitationals, both virtual and in person, throughout the year and several team members have won several medals - many for the first time this year. At this year's Regional event, 7th grader Ashton Lin won two medals placing in 4th for Road Scholar and Tower. Thank you to our advisors, Ms. Teri Miles and Ms. Krystal Slator-Pastor, for all of your time and hard work getting the students ready for these competitions.