

Pemberton Pride

The Newsletter of Pemberton Township Schools

July 2017

GOOD CHARACTER RECOGNIZED IN PEMBERTON SCHOOLS

The 2016-17 school year was a time to celebrate good character at Pemberton Township Schools. For the first time, Helen Fort/Newcomb Middle School and all 7 elementary schools were recognized for their outstanding character education programs by the New Jersey Association for Social, Emotional and Character Development (NJASECD).



Character education is an educational movement that supports the social, emotional and ethical development of students.

Three Pemberton schools have been named **2017 New Jersey Schools of Character**: Alexander Denbo School, Howard Emmons School, and Helen Fort/Newcomb Middle School. Additional Pemberton Township Schools recognized were Samuel

Busansky School, Fort Dix Elementary,



Harker-Wylie School and Joseph Stackhouse School, which were named **2017 New Jersey Honorable Mention Schools of Character**. Aletta Crichton School has been recognized as a **2017 New Jersey Emerging School of Character**.

"We are extremely proud of this accomplishment," said superintendent Tony Trongone. "Staff members have worked diligently to embed character education into the curriculum to raise the level of social-emotional and character development at our schools. Our students have whole-heartedly embraced the tenets of the program and enthusiastically participate in building a climate of respect."

Criteria for the designations are based on Character.org's eleven Principles of Effective Character Education, which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership and engaging families

and communities as partners in character-building efforts. "You can feel the positive climate in these schools the minute you walk through the door. The students, staff and community are respectful and care about each other, and the academics scores improve," said Nina Kemps, New Jersey Schools of Character Coordinator.

The recognition ceremony for all of the New Jersey schools took place during the NJASECD Conference on May 19, 2017 at Rider University.



The theme of the conference was, "CHARACTER IS FOREVER: Building Your Program to Last!"

"It is our goal to be recognized as a leader in the field of character education," Trongone said. "Not only will we help develop caring, respectful citizens, but by providing a safe, supportive learning environment, our students will benefit academically as well."



You can get there from here!

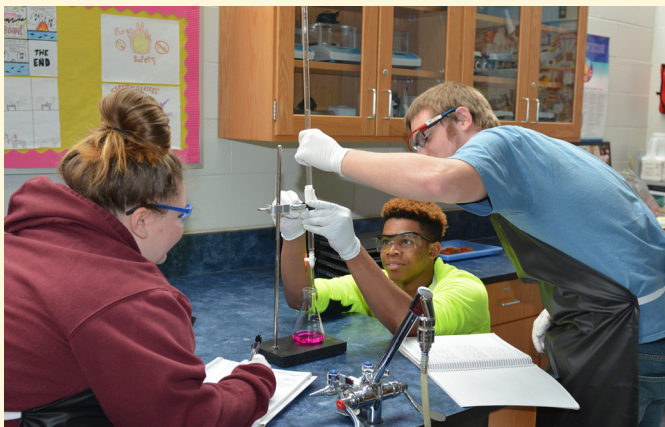
Pemberton Learning Community: *Pursuing Excellence One Child at a Time*

PEMBERTON MAKES ADVANCED PLACEMENT HONOR ROLL

For the first time in school history, Pemberton Township Schools has been named to the Advanced Placement District Honor Roll. Pemberton earned this recognition for increasing participation and access to AP classes and exams, while also increasing the percentage of students who scored a three or higher on the exams.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program was created by the College Board and offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students.

According to the College Board, "AP District Honor Roll recipients are committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds." Pemberton was highlighted for being able to achieve this accomplishment while having 30 percent or



PTHS students Bryanna Swinney, Isaiah Studivent and Noah Gonzalez work together on a lab in AP Chemistry.

more of its students come from minority and/or low-income backgrounds.

In just the past 5 years, the number of AP students at PTHS has increased dramatically, growing from 24 AP students in 2012, to 91 students taking AP courses this year. The courses are rigorous and challenging, on the level of college courses. In addition to equipping students with the skills and information

they need to succeed in college, they provide students with an opportunity to earn college credit and placement. If a student takes the AP exam and earns a qualifying score, a college will grant credit and placement for that course—nearly all colleges and universities in the United States participate in the program.

STATE CONFERENCE FEATURES PEMBERTON STUDENTS



As a student keynote speaker at the recent "Dare to Dream" Conference, PTHS senior Megan Leap encouraged other students to get involved in school, and explained that once she did, everything changed. "A middle school teacher asked me to be the manager of the wrestling team, and from then on, I felt more of a part of things," she said. As she continued to speak about overcoming the challenges of having cerebral palsy, students in the audience were transfixed, and gave a great round of applause when she finished.



The state's "Dare to Dream" Student Leadership Conference was held in May at Rowan College at Burlington County. Megan was selected to share her story of determination and leadership to inspire and motivate other students to overcome their own challenges. The conference is sponsored by the NJ State Office of Special Education and highlights the importance of student self-advocacy and leadership. Additionally, a team of Pemberton students and teachers led a workshop to help conference attendees gain insight into the transition and self-advocacy process.

Above left, Megan Leap gives her keynote address, and right, PTHS students help prepare for their workshop presentation: Monica McCanay-Saxon, Divante Dickenson, Shade Ceruti, Bryan Pancoast, Megan Leap, Jared Williams, Kesean Harris, Destiny Story, Katie Semonik and Jason McCarron.

DENBO TEACHER NAMED BURLINGTON COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Fifth grade teacher Sherrie Wilkins has been named the Burlington County Teacher of the Year for 2017. She was the Denbo Teacher of the Year before earning this prestigious honor.

Wilkins has been with Pemberton for the past 10 years, teaching kindergarten, 5th, and 6th grades. She is devoted to improving the lives of children, and has worked with children her whole life, from being an assistant camp counselor in her student days, to being an education assistant, preschool teacher and Sunday School teacher. She earned her bachelor's degree in Primary Education from Delaware State University.



Sherrie Wilkins was presented with a plaque, flowers, and balloons at the ceremony naming her Burlington County Teacher of the Year.

"I've hosted an Open Mic here in town for 5 years called *Spoken Words for You*, which was created with the intent to give youth a platform to speak," she said. "As a published author and poet I realize that everyone has a story to tell that just might inspire or help someone who is willing to listen." Wilkins is also the founder of *Best of Me, Youth Enrichment Services (Y.E.S.)* which offers large group assemblies, an 8 week character development program, and workshops for at-risk youth and adults who want to reach the hearts and minds of children. She will be teaching a workshop at the NJEA Teacher's Convention this year.

PTHS ATHLETES TAKE TALENT TO COLLEGE



Ten PTHS seniors have been recognized for their talent both in and out of the classroom. Pictured above are the student-athletes whose superb athletic skills, combined with their outstanding academics, have earned them college scholarships to continue playing their sport at the collegiate level.

Student-athletes committed to play in college are, standing: Maurice Burdett (Football, Stevenson University), Kevin Clifton (Basketball, Mercer County College), Jordan Heck (Basketball, Montclair University), Shanell Smith (Field Hockey, Newberry College), Kaylei Lazenby, (Track, Mount St. Mary College), and Gavin Homan (Baseball, Philadelphia University)

Seated : Olivia Coyne (Wrestling, University of the Cumberland), Nadyia Thompson (Basketball, University of Valley Forge), Divante Dickens (Track, New Jersey City University), and JaQuay Redding (Football/Track, Wesley College).

PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



JOSIAH BELL

Rank: 1

Activities: National Honor Society, Robotics Club, Marching Band, Indoor Percussion, Drumline Captain

Awards: Engineering Award, Computer Science Award

Future Plans: Rowan University, Double Major: Electrical & Computer Engineering, and Computer Science.



CINDY LIN

Rank: 1

Activities: National Honor Society, Sewing & Tech Club, State Student Council Treasurer, Future Business Leaders of America, Anime Club, Student Council, Stage Crew

Awards: Silver Bar, Distinguished Honor Roll, Chinese Literature Award

Future Plans: Fordham University, Biological Sciences



GLENDAMARTINEZ

Rank: 3

Activities: Future Business Leaders of America President, Student Council, Morning Buzz, Senior Class Secretary, Homecoming and Prom Committees, Shark Tank, Girl Talk, Soccer

Awards: Silver Bar, Scholar Athlete Award, FBLA Silver Key Award

Future Plans: Clemson University, Political Science/Global Politics



SHANE PENNEY

Rank: 4

Activities: Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council, Prom Committee, Senior Citizen Prom, Soccer Captain, Wrestling Manager, Baseball Manager

Awards: Gold Bar, Scholar Athlete, Homecoming Queen

Future Plans: Rowan College at Burlington County, Engineering



SIOBHAN MCGUINNESS

Rank: 5

Activities: National Honor Society President, Pemberton Players, Choir, Marching Band, Concert Band, Book Club, We Help You Club

Awards: NJ All State Treble Choir, All South Jersey Choir, Gold Bar

Future Plans: Rowan University, Biology/Pre-Med



SARAH AUGUSTINE

Rank: 6

Activities: Future Farmers of America, Art Club, Homecoming Committee

Awards: Gold Bar, Student of the Month, Horticulture Award, History Award

Future Plans: Rowan College at Burlington County, History

CLASS OF 2017 TOP TWELVE STUDENTS



ANTHONY JOSEPH

Rank: 7

Activities: Class President, Board of Education Liaison for Student Council, Brass Ensemble, Speech and Debate Club, Jazz Band, National Honor Society, Marching Band, Channel 19 Videographer, Basketball Commentator, Volunteer at PECEC

Awards: Boys Nation Senator, Gold Bar, Best Drum Major, English Award, Superintendent's Award

Future Plans: College of William and Mary, Political Science/Government



BRYANNA SWINNEY

Rank: 8

Activities: Vice President of the Book Club, President of the Travel Club, Future Nurses Club, HOSA Future Health Professionals

Awards: Silver Bar, Science Award

Future Plans: Rowan College at Burlington County, Biology



NATALIE YOUNG

Rank: 9

Activities: Concert Choir, Robotics Club, Travel Club, Pemberton Players

Awards: Student of the Month, Gold Bar

Future Plans: Rowan College at Burlington County, Engineering



MARIAH LASTER

Rank: 10

Activities: Interact President, National Honor Society Treasurer, Student Council Vice President, We Help You Club Executive Board, Future Business Leaders of America Community Service Vice President, Habitat for Humanity, Tennis Team Captain

Awards: 1st Place FBIA State Competition, Co-op Student of the Year, Shark Tank 1st Place, Scholar Athlete Award, Student of the Month, Gold Bar

Future Plans: Monmouth University, Education/Business



HALEY WARD

Rank: 11

Activities: We Help You Club, Holiday Smiles, Art Club, Book Club

Awards: Burlington County Principals and Supervisors Award, Scholastic Art & Writing Award

Future Plans: Stockton University, Secondary Education/English



ROBERT PUGLIESE

Rank: 12

Activities: National Honor Society, We Help You Club, Robotics Club, Pemberton Players, Anime Club

Awards: Student of the Month, Silver Bar

Future Plans: Rowan College at Burlington County, Liberal Arts

CRICHTON/DENBO PROJECT MOVING FORWARD

Plans are moving forward with the construction of a new elementary school for Pemberton Township Schools. Over the next 3 years, big changes will be taking place to help make this project come to fruition.

This summer, demolition of the current Crichton building will take place to make way for construction of the new building. Staff members were busy packing up classrooms, and after school ended, custodians had the daunting task of moving everything over to the Haines school building, the new temporary home of Crichton staff and students.

"We've met with the staff and parents at Crichton to let them know about the upcoming changes," said superintendent Tony Trongone. "We're working hard to ensure there is minimal disruption in the education process."

Crichton students will be relocated to Haines school while the construction is taking place, and Denbo students will remain at Denbo until the new school building is ready. Haines has been spruced up to accommodate its new students, with the SDA converting gym locker areas to new rooms to the left of the gymnasium, and supplying two new

temporary classroom units in between Haines and Harker-Wylie. In addition, Pemberton has renovated the existing TCU on the campus, painted the entire building and will be completing other renovations that include installing a new gym floor, new hallway lighting, new carpeting in the main office and painting the exterior windows.

The new building will house both Crichton and Denbo students in a modern, 2-story building, in the area Crichton currently occupies. The new building will include a cafeteria, multi-purpose room, gymnasium, music room, media center, computer lab, science demo lab, 6 preschool classrooms, 6 kindergarten classrooms, 30 grade 1 to 5 classrooms, special education classrooms, and small group instruction rooms.

The building is entirely funded by the Schools Development Association. (SDA)



Kristen Edwards sorts through class materials as she packs up her classroom.



Beverly Thames peeks out from behind stacks of boxes as she prepares for the move to Haines.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MEMORIES AT CRICHTON!

Warm greetings and big hugs accompanied a stroll down memory lane for over 300 attendees celebrating 50 Years of Memories at Crichton. The open house and anniversary ceremony in April gave past staff, students and community members a chance to come say "goodbye" to Crichton, as well as the opportunity to reunite with friends from days gone by.



Old newspaper articles, photographs and memorabilia were on display as guests toured the hallways and classrooms of the building that will be demolished this summer to make way for the new building. A ceremony honoring past employees and staff members highlighted the day, and students and staff relived memorable moments throughout the day-long celebration.

Left, guests peruse photo albums from years ago, and above, staff members from past and present take a minute to pose for a photo.

APRIL CELEBRATES TWO SPECIAL RECOGNITION MONTHS



Raising Autism Awareness

Every April, Pemberton Township Schools participates in Autism Awareness Month and Month of the Military Child. Both celebrations unite staff, students and family members with a host of activities to acknowledge and celebrate some of our most unique and resilient students.



Autism Awareness

To increase autism awareness in the district, special activities and fund-raising activities took place throughout the month. Elementary schools participated in "Blowing Bubbles for Autism," choosing a designated time to go outdoors and blow bubbles as part of a nationwide effort to raise awareness of autism.

Since 2010, staff and family members throughout the district have joined "Team Pemberton" and participated in the Autism Speaks Walk, which takes

place every spring. Team Pemberton has raised nearly \$40,000 for Autism Speaks over the past 7 years, with totals yet to come from the 2017 Walk that took place this past May 20th.

Other projects include selling homemade chocolates, candies and various fund-raising projects.

Month of the Military Child

April is also the month to recognize and thank our military children and their families. With over 20% of current students coming from a military family, Pemberton takes great pride in our military affiliation and celebrates it accordingly.



Special breakfasts, assemblies, military speakers and gifts highlight the month, as students, staff and family members participate in the festivities.



Celebrating our Military Families

Happening Around Our Schools



Stackhouse and Harker-Wylie Free Books Distribution



PTHS students serving at the Senior Citizens Prom



Busansky Drama Club Presentation



National Elementary Honor Society Induction



Middle School Musical: "Hairspray, Jr.!"



District Instrumental and Fine Arts Festival



PTHS Musical: "The Music Man!"



PTHS Memorial Day Ceremony

PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MOVIES ON THE BEACH 2017

Presented by Pemberton Township Alliance Group & Pemberton Recreation.

Fridays in July & August - 8:30 pm,
@ Mirror Lake Beach

Free admission & free popcorn for everyone in attendance!

July 7 - <i>Star Wars Rogue One</i>	Aug. 11 - <i>Finding Dory</i>
July 14 - <i>Moana</i>	Aug. 18- <i>Beauty and The Beast</i>
July 21 - <i>Ninja Turtles</i>	Aug. 25 - <i>Honey I Shrunk The Kids</i>
July 28 - <i>Sing</i>	
Aug. 4 - <i>Power Rangers</i>	

JUNIOR LIFEGUARD PROGRAM

Open to Ages 10-15 (as of the first day of the program)
August 1st-10th & 14th-17th; Monday - Thursday 8 am-12 noon at Mirror Lake Beach.

Mandatory Pre-Requisite Test: Monday, July 31st at 6 pm.

Fee: \$40 (Residents will receive a \$10 discount)

Minimum of 5/Maximum of 10 Registrants. Required items: Swim suit, towel, water shoes, sunscreen, lip protection, notebook & writing utensil, drink & snack. Suggested items: Extra clothes, hat and sunglasses.

Please note: Completing this program DOES NOT certify your child in lifeguarding or CPR/First Aid.

SWIM LESSONS

Session 1: Mirror Lake Beach (Afternoon Classes)

Dates: July 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27 (2 Weeks/Tues., Wed., Thurs.)

- Pre-School (Ages 3-5): 12-12:30pm (Max. Registrants 15)
- Beginner (Ages 6+): 1-1:45pm (Max. Registrants 15)
- Intermediate/Advanced (Ages 6+): 2-2:45pm (Max. Registrants 15)

Session II: Presidential Lakes Beach (Afternoon Classes)

Dates: Aug. 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17 (2 Weeks/Tues., Wed., Thurs.)

- Pre-School (Ages 3-5): 12-12:30 pm (Max. Registrants 15)
- Beginner (Ages 6+): 1-1:45 pm (Max. Registrants 15)
- Intermediate/Advanced (Ages 6+): 2-2:45pm (Max. Reg. 15)

Only \$20 per Session/Non-resident add \$10

MAD SCIENCE CAMP/SECRET AGENT LAB

Open to Ages 6-12, August 21st - 25th, Country lakes Clubhouse. Half Day (9:30am-12:30pm) - \$150; Full Day (9:30am-4pm) - \$250. Residents will receive a \$10 discount.

CHESS CAMP

Open to ages 6-12, August 21st - 25th, BMIA Building.
Half day: 9 am-12 noon or 12-3pm /\$155;
Full day 9am-3pm/\$255.

IMPACT SPORTS SUMMER CAMP

Open to Ages 6-12, August 28th to September 1st

Imagination Kingdom/ Sports Complex

Flag Football Camp - 9 am-12 noon/\$160

Soccer Camp - 1-4 pm/\$160

Both Camps (Full Day 9am-4pm) \$280

Residents receive \$10 discount

FIELD HOCKEY LEAGUE

Open to girls entering grades 3-8th as of September 2017

Season: August - November. Practices Mondays &

Wednesdays at PTHS. Games: Sat. & Sun. at PTHS

Fee: \$60/Player (Residents will receive \$10 Discount)

Must supply: Mouth guard, shin guards, eye protection & field hockey stick.

2017 TAMARA KURTH-HEALY MEMORIAL/ MIRROR LAKE CHAMPIONSHIP

Canoe, Kayak, Paddle Board & Pedal Boat Races, open to participants ages 8+. Saturday, September 2nd (Rain Date: September 3rd). Registration: 8:45-9:30 am.

Expert Only Distance (10K) - 10 am; Distance (5K) - 10 am

Pedal Boat Races & Sprints (500 meters) - 12 pm

Pre-Registration: \$15/Person (1st Category), \$10/Person (Each Additional Category)

Day of Registration: \$25/Person (1st Category), \$20/Person (Each Additional Category) Categories by: Age, Gender, Boat Type (Categories with low registration will be combined.) Awards: Top 3 each category/participation gifts to all.

CANOE/KAYAK/PADDLE BOARD SAFETY CLASSES

At Mirror Lake Beach—open to adults and children 8+ .
(Adult must take class the class if child is 16 or under.)

Class Fee: \$10/per person.

Sat. July 1st: 8-10am

Wed. July 12th: 5-7pm

Sat. July 15th: 8-10am

Wed. July 26th: 5-7pm

Wed. August 9th: 5-7pm

Sat. August 12th: 8-10am

Wed. August 23rd: 5-7pm

Sat. August 26th: 8-10am

PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Mail-in forms and online registration is available at www.pemberton-twp.com. Register in-person at the Recreation Department located at the Country Lakes Clubhouse (69 Tensaw Drive, Browns Mills) / Mon.-Fri. 8am-4:30pm.

Pemberton Township Recreation Department:

Phone: 609-893-5034 Email: recreation@pemberton-twp.com

Website: www.pemberton-twp.com

Facebook: Pemberton Recreation

BUSANSKY ACKNOWLEDGED FOR SAFETY PATROL PROGRAM



The Busansky Safety Patrol Team recently received a \$500 grant from the AAA Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education. They were one of only 10 schools in the nation to be honored with this grant, which was given in recognition of their outstanding Safety Patrol program.

Above, security monitor Shawn Baker is joined by safety patrol officers Jada Bell, Ryann Weber, Josh Horton, Rayna King, Ashlee Kneibler and Braedon Keirns in accepting the check from AAA Traffic Safety Community Educator, Frank Neary.

3RD QUARTER AND END OF YEAR Co-OP AWARDS



The PTHS School-to-Career Advisory Board presents awards to co-op students and student interns who exhibit such qualities as outstanding attendance, maturity, behavior and citizenship. Cooperative Education students are presented with awards acknowledging their achievements during the first three quarters of the school year, and overall award winners are presented with their plaques at the end of the school year.

Pictured left, are 3rd quarter award recipients: Student intern Renee Prouty and co-op students Daisha Winters, Jacob Morales and Courtney Fagans. Not pictured is student intern Kassandra Hyde.

Pictured right are End-of-Year award recipients: Zion Powe, Academic Co-op Student of the Year; Brianna Meier, Student Intern of the Year; Amanda Dixon, Student Intern of the Year; Mariah Laster, Co-op Student of the Year; and Bryan Pancoast, Employment Co-op Student of the Year.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2017!



AND WELCOME CLASS OF 2021!



Pemberton Township Board of Education

P.O. Box 228 - One Egbert Street

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4 - 7 pm—Family Fun Day (Food, Games and More!)

6 pm—Vendors & Pre-Event Entertainment

8 pm—Parade of Floats (Get Involved—Cash & Gift Prizes!)

9 pm—Fireworks!

Please send ideas for articles to the Media Services Department or email jmignella@pemb.org. Questions? Call 609-893-8141, ext. 2038.