



*You can get there from here!*

July 2015

# PEMBERTON

*Middle States Accredited*

## PRIDE

The Newsletter Of Pemberton Township Schools

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2015!



*Valedictorian Alyssa Horton became the first student in Pemberton history to earn her associate's degree while still in high school.*

The class of 2015 celebrated their commencement June 18th, cheering and smiling their way into the future. And the future looks bright: take a look at the list of college acceptances below! Of the 187 students who reported their post graduate plans, 79% are headed off to college, 10% into the military, and 11% into full time employment.

Of course, some students got a jump on their college career through the College Acceleration Program,

(CAP) and none more so than senior Alyssa Horton. This year, Aly became the first Pemberton student to earn her associate's degree from Burlington County College while still in high school! Her years of hard work and dedication paid off as she received her college diploma in May, and her high school diploma in June. She now heads off to Widener University with a full scholarship and 2 years of college already complete.

## Bright Futures Ahead!

Alderson Broaddus College  
American University  
Arcadia University  
Automotive Training Center  
Baylor University  
Burlington County College  
Brown University  
Cairn University  
Clark Atlanta University  
Colorado State University  
Columbia College  
Connecticut School of Broadcasting  
Culinary Institute of America  
Dartmouth College  
Delaware State University  
Delaware Valley College  
Drake University  
Drew University  
Drexel University  
Elizabethtown College  
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University  
Empire Beauty School-Bordentown  
Fairleigh Dickinson University  
Faulkner University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
George Mason University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Georgian Court University  
Gloucester County College  
Hampton University  
Harris School of Business  
Hawaii Pacific University  
Hofstra University

Howard University  
Johnson & Wales University  
Kean University  
King's College  
Lafayette College  
Lebanon Valley College  
Lincoln Technical Institute  
Lincoln University of Pennsylvania  
Mercer County Community College  
Monmouth University  
Monroe College-New Rochelle  
Montclair State University  
Moore College of Art and Design  
Morgan State University  
Mount Olive College  
Neumont University  
New England Culinary Institute  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
New York Institute of Technology  
New York University  
North Carolina Central University  
Northeastern Illinois University  
Ocean County College  
Pace University-New York  
Paul Smiths College of Arts & Science  
Pennco Tech  
Purdue University  
Ramapo College of New Jersey  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rider University  
Robert Morris University  
Rowan University  
Rutgers University

Saint Peters College  
Seton Hall University  
South Carolina State University  
Southern New Hampshire University  
St. Mary's College of Maryland  
St. John's University-New York  
Suffolk University  
Syracuse University  
Temple University  
Tennessee State University  
The Art Institute of Philadelphia  
The College of New Jersey  
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey  
The University of Texas at Arlington  
Towson University  
Universal Technical Institute of Pennsylvania  
University of Bridgeport  
University of Delaware  
University of Minnesota-Duluth  
University of New Haven  
University of Notre Dame  
University of the Sciences in Philadelphia  
Ursinus College  
Vanderbilt University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia State University  
Wagner College  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Wesley College  
Widener University-Main Campus  
William Paterson University of NJ  
Wilmington University  
Winston-Salem State University  
York College Pennsylvania



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

# TONY TRONGONE NAMED SUPERINTENDENT OF PEMBERTON SCHOOLS

Tony Trongone of Barrington, NJ has been named superintendent of Pemberton Township Schools. Trongone previously served as superintendent of schools for Berlin Borough and Gibbsboro Public Schools, a post he held for the past five years. He assumed his new post July 1st, replacing superintendent Michael R. Gorman, Ed.D., who moved on to become the new president of Salem County College in Salem, NJ.

“After an extensive search, we are confident we have found an outstanding superintendent to lead Pemberton Township Schools,” said board of education president Christopher Otis.

“With Tony’s background, values, and leadership qualities, we believe he has the experience and drive to guide the Pemberton learning community well into the future.”

Trongone earned his master’s degree in Educational Administration from Wilmington University and his BA in Mathematics from Rutgers University. His previous experience includes serving as district supervisor of curriculum and instruction for Cherry Hill Public Schools, supervisor of mathematics for Gloucester City School District, and secondary mathematics teacher at Northern Burlington Regional High School in Columbus, NJ.

“It is my belief that all students can learn and it is our



*Superintendent Tony Trongone*

responsibility as educators to support students in reaching their fullest potential,” said Trongone. “As an educational leader, I prescribe to the theory of ‘high challenge with high support.’ As superintendent of Pemberton Township Schools, I will strive to provide our students with a rigorous instructional program and multiple pathways to college and career readiness. We will also continue to put in place the supports necessary to ensure the success of each and every Pemberton student.”

Trongone’s experience includes implementing ACHIEVE NJ and Danielson Framework for Teaching in his previous district, as well as executing the PARCC testing protocols. He is a pioneer in implementing SMARTboard technology, and established Character Education Programs in both Berlin Borough and Gibbsboro Schools districts, resulting in both schools being named National Schools of Character.

He is currently a Trustee for the New Jersey School Board Insurance Group and has served as president-elect of the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey. His other professional memberships include the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the National Staff Development Council and the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, among others.

## STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO ELEMENTARY & JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETIES



Thirty-eight students were acknowledged for their traits of Character, Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Citizenship as they were inducted into the National Elementary and Junior Honor Societies.

*Above, new 5th grade members display their certificates at the National Elementary Honor Society Induction.*

*Left, new inductees stand tall after being inducted into the middle school's National Junior Honor Society.*





# ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS!



It was a stellar year for 4 PTHS track stars, as they were named the NJ Group 2, 4 X 400 Champions, and the Penn Relays 4 X 400 South Jersey Small School Champions. (Left to right): **Tanaesza Russell**, **Shanell Smith**, **Aliyah Taylor**, and **Giavonna Sorrentino**.



Senior **Harry Haines** is congratulated by PTHS principal **Ida Smith** for his perfect attendance for all four years of high school! He was the only senior to accomplish this outstanding feat.



PTHS seniors **Alexis Perry** (left) and **Kelly Robbins** (right) both earned partial scholarships to play soccer at Wilmington University. Joining them on signing day is coach **Martha Giordano**.



It was a stand-out year for the PTHS JROTC, as they earned a record number of trophies, including two South Jersey Championships! Their exceptional performances earned them a trophy at every competition they entered in 2014-15.



again the following week at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

➤ PTHS TV Production juniors **Myles Bolden** and **Salvatore Negro** earned recognition for their video in an international video contest sponsored by [www.teensdream.net](http://www.teensdream.net). Their video on ending hunger also earned them a \$100 prize in the global category.

➤ Congratulations to PTHS art students **Allison Kemp**, **Neil Nami** and **Gabi Cota** for earning 1st Place prizes in the Clay In Mind Art Show. As part of their recognition, their work was displayed at The Clay Studio in Philadelphia.



# PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



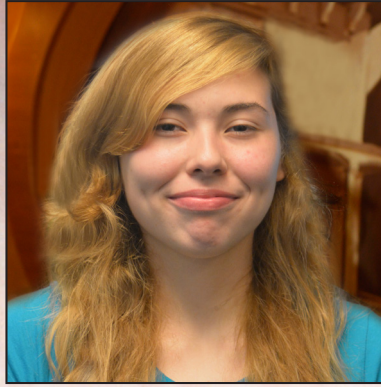
ALYSSA HORTON

Rank: 1

**Activities:** President, National Honor Society, The Stinger, Z889 BCC Radio, Channel 19 TV Crew, BCC Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Morning Buzz, Swimming, Tennis, BCC Volleyball

**Awards:** Associate's Degree from Burlington County College, ABC-6 Best in Show, Widener University Leadership Award, Widener Presidential Scholarship

**Future Plans:** Widener University, International Business & Marketing



GABRIEL GODFREY

Rank: 2

**Activities:** Health Occupation Students of America, JROTC Academic Team, JROTC Color Guard, Art Club, JROTC Drill Team

**Awards:** Superior Cadet, Girls State, AMVET, Best Drill Cadet

**Future Plans:** William Paterson College, Medicine



COREVEL COVA

Rank: 3

**Activities:** National Honor Society, Habitat for Humanity Educational Chair, FBLA Treasurer, Cheerleading Manager, Track and Field

**Awards:** Honor Roll, and numerous awards from her previous high school in Trinidad and Tobago

**Future Plans:** Vanderbilt University, Chemical Engineering



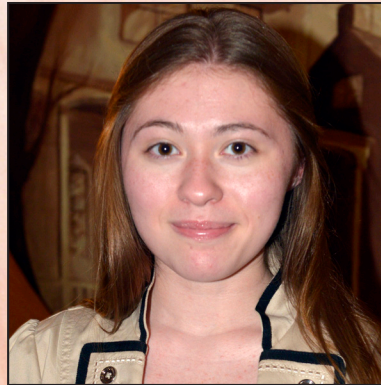
CLINTON HALDEAN

Rank: 4

**Activities:** Marching Band, Sound Board Tech, American Legion Jersey Boys State, Football

**Awards:** Honor Roll, New Jersey STARS

**Future Plans:** Burlington County College then Rutgers University, Computer Science



COURTENY CHAMBERLAIN

Rank: 5

**Activities:** National Honor Society, We Help You Club, Book Club, Bikers Against Child Abuse

**Awards:** First Honors, Second Honors, People's Choice Award, Outstanding Achievement for HSPA

**Future Plans:** Fairleigh Dickinson University, English Literature and Language, then Family Law



JUSTIN MEARS

Rank: 6

**Activities:** National Honor Society, President of Robotics Club, Community Clean-up Volunteer, Wrestling, Swimming

**Awards:** First Honors, Second Honors, Second Place in Shark Tank, Student of the Month

**Future Plans:** Rowan University, Mechanical Engineering



# CLASS OF 2015 TOP TWELVE STUDENTS



TIMOTHY MILLINGTON

Rank: 7

**Activities:** Choir, Robotics Club, Math Team, Deborah Hospital Volunteer, American Legion Jersey Boys State

**Awards:** First Honors, Second Honors, Academic Excellence Award

**Future Plans:** Drexel University, Computer Engineering



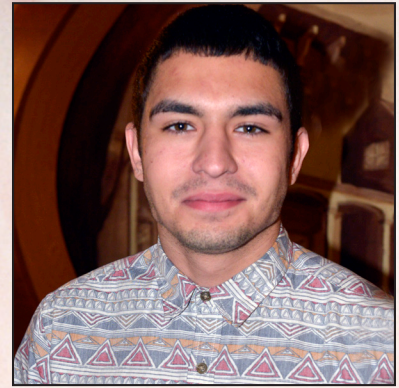
ANDREW STORZUM

Rank: 8

**Activities:** National Honor Society, Math Team, Robotics Club, Golf

**Awards:** Honor Roll, Golf MVP

**Future Plans:** Burlington County College, then Rutgers University, Engineering



DAVID MARTINEZ

Rank: 9

**Activities:** Health Occupations Students of America, Academic Team, Future Nurses Club, Deborah Heart Challenge Team Captain, American Legion New Jersey Boys State Delegate, Homecoming Committee, JV Baseball

**Awards:** Silver Bar, Student of the Month, BCPSA Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

**Future Plans:** University of the Sciences, Accelerated Physician Assistant Studies



BRENT KNOX

Rank: 10

**Activities:** National Honor Society, Pemberton Players, Men's Ensemble, Band, American Legion Boys State, Rotary Youth Leadership Academy, Girls Tennis Manager, Tennis, Soccer

**Awards:** Gold Bar

**Future Plans:** Lafayette College, Undecided



SAMANTHA COSNOSKI

Rank: 11

**Activities:** Marching Band, Robotics Club, Student Council, Technical Stage Crew, Channel 19 TV Crew, Concert Band, Swim Team

**Awards:** Honor Roll, Silver Bar

**Future Plans:** University of New Haven, Music and Sound Recording/Electrical Engineering



GABRIELLE LUNA

Rank: 12

**Activities:** Habitat for Humanity, Field Hockey

**Awards:** First Honors, Second Honors

**Future Plans:** Temple University, Neuroscience



# BOOKS, BOOKS AND MORE BOOKS!

Students throughout Pemberton will be able to enjoy reading their very own books this summer, thanks to two free book distribution programs. Once again, Kathy Spence, Reading Specialist, headed up the summer book program at Harker-Wylie and Stackhouse schools, and with a team of dedicated volunteers, gave away over 6400 books. Elementary students were able to select 18 books each to take home and enjoy all summer long.



*Harker-Wylie students Andrew Anderson and Joseph Kania pick out books to take home and enjoy over the summer.*

"It is so important to get books into the hands of children. What we do now by making sure that our children have books in their hands and in their homes touches the future in so many ways," Spence said.

In addition, this year the project expanded to the community, with remaining books divided and delivered to six locations across Pemberton Township. "Books will be at the Nesbitt and Johnson Centers, at central locations in Country Lakes, Presidential Lakes and Mirror Lake, and at a youth center on base," said Spence. "It's a great way to make books accessible to children who can walk or ride their bikes to borrow or exchange their books during the summer."

Earlier in the spring, preschool 3 & 4 students throughout

district were also the recipients of free books, thanks to The First Book Initiative. Through the program, new, high-quality books are donated by publishers to the nonprofit organization First Book, and then distributed to children in need, including low-income, military or disabled. The initiative strives to improve childhood literacy and educational achievement.

The books were distributed by Burlington County College, which last year became the first community college in the nation to incorporate this literacy initiative in its curriculum. More than 350 volunteers spent a week sorting, bundling and distributing the 40,000 books to 70 eligible organizations.

Coordinated by PECEC social worker Jamillah Parker, this



*Preschool students look excitedly through the cartons of books from the First Book Initiative, eager to pick their choice.*

year team members from PECEC were invited to go to BCC on the day of distribution to receive their cartons of books. Once back at PECEC, children were allowed to pick out books to take home and keep, which is a proven way to get children to enjoy reading more.

"We're so happy to be part of this program," said Parker. "You can see the joy on the children's faces when they pick out their book and realize they can take it home."

**Join in the One Book,  
One School summer fun at PTHS!**  
This summer, join students,  
teachers and staff in reading  
"The 5th Wave" by  
Rick Yancey.





# Happening Around Our Schools



1



2



3

1. Students at Fort Dix cheer on fellow students in the 1st ever March Madness Staff-Student basketball game.

2. PTHS sophomore Cindy Lin serves dinner to senior citizens at the annual "Senior Prom."

3. Fifth grader Cameron Grover performs in the Busansky Drama production celebrating "Diversity of the Arts."

4. PECEC students take their turn at splatter painting during the PECEC Family Fun Day.

5. Members of the PTHS Black History Club hosted a delicious luncheon as part of the Black History Month celebration.

6. Students and staff at Denbo/Crichton show their support during Heart Month by wearing red.

7. Fifth grade students throughout the district were treated to a visit from "Ned Hector," a member of Col. Proctor's 3rd PA Artillery in the 1700s, who brought the time period to life in the classroom.

8. Students and staff from Emmons and Busansky formed a giant ribbon to celebrate National Autism Month.



7



4



5



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# PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## UPCOMING SUMMER ACTIVITIES

### DISCOUNT TICKETS

The department has discount tickets to numerous theme parks including: Adventure Aquarium, Morey's Pier, Hershey Park, Six Flags Great Adventure, Sahara Sam's Oasis, Diggerland USA, Crayola Factory, Iplay America, Medieval Times, Splash Zone – Wildwood and Philadelphia Zoo.

### SUMMER CAMPS

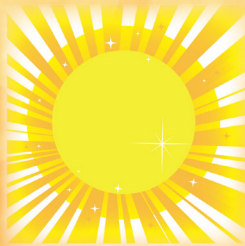
Check out all of our 2015 summer camp programs in more detail at [www.pemberton-twp.com/recreation.html](http://www.pemberton-twp.com/recreation.html):  
Summer Recreation Program – June 22 – July 31 from 7:30am-12:30pm OR 5:30pm (early drop available). 4 packages available with various prices. Grades K-6  
Co-Ed Basketball Camp – June 22 – 26 from 8am-3pm (early drop available). \$85/resident. Grades 2-9  
Field Trip Week – August 3 – 7 from 7:30am-4pm (early drop available). \$150/resident. Grades K-6  
Mad Science Summer Camp - August 24 – 28 from 9:30am-12:30pm. \$135/resident. Ages 6-12  
US Sports Institute Summer Sports Camps – August 17-21. Various times and fees. Ages 3-11  
Field Hockey Camp – Tuesdays July 7–August 25 from 6:30-8pm \$40/resident. Grades K-12.

### PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP BEACH SEASON

Mirror Lake & Presidential Lake Beach: Open weekends and holidays beginning May 23 from 10:30am until 6pm (MLB) and May 30 (PLB). Open weekday evenings beginning May 26 from 4pm until 6:30pm (MLB). Open seven days per week from June 20 to September 2 (PLB Closed on Wednesdays). Regular season weekday hours is 11:30am until 7pm and weekend hours are 10:30am until 6pm. Water trampoline and slide on the lake every weekend! Pedal boats, available daily. Paddleboats daily. Kayaks, canoes and paddleboards available after completion of the ISS safety course. NEW playground, tennis and basketball courts available with newly renovated bathrooms at MLB. Playground, restrooms and renovated basketball court available at PLB.

### SWIM LESSONS

Lessons are offered for youth ages 3+ and adults. Sessions are held three days per week for two weeks. Held at Mirror Lake and Presidential Lakes Beaches. Several time options will be available. Fee is \$20 per resident.



### KAYAK, CANOE & PADDLEBOARD PROGRAM

Resident Instructor Matty Kinsella will teach this popular program again this summer. Classes are open to adults and children ages 12 & up and will be held at Mirror Lake in June, July and August. Kayaks, canoes and paddleboards provided for use during class. Free kayak, canoe and paddleboard rentals upon completing the Introductory (ISS) class. Guided kayak and canoe tours will be held in September. Call the office for class dates and times:

Introductory (ISS) - 2 hours, \$10/resident; \$20/non-resident

Intermediate (ISD) - 4 hours,  
\$30/resident; \$40/non-resident

Advanced (ASD) - 8 hours, \$50/resident; \$60/non-resident

### MOVIES ON THE BEACH

This annual summer movie series will be held at Mirror Lake Beach beginning at 8pm.

FREE Admission, popcorn and gift for children in attendance. Co-sponsored by the Pemberton Township Alliance Group (TAG).

July 10th - *The Boxtrolls*

July 17th - *Big Hero 6*

July 24th - *Dolphins Tale 2*

July 31st - *Paddington*

August 7th - *Hunger Games The Mocking Jay*

August 14th - *Annie*

August 21st - *Guardians of the Galaxy*

August 28th - *Cinderella*

### WATER CARNIVAL & FAMILY FUN DAY!

Saturday, July 25 with a rain date of July 26 at Mirror Lake Beach. Activities begin at 3pm.

### WATER CARNIVAL FREE FLOAT-BUILDING CLASSES

The final class will be held at the BMIA Building on July 14th at 7pm. The continued success of this event depends on the community's involvement – so get involved!

### CONTACTING THE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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EMAIL: [RECREATION@PEMBERTON-TWP.COM](mailto:RECREATION@PEMBERTON-TWP.COM)

WEBSITE: [WWW.PEMBERTON-TWP.COM](http://WWW.PEMBERTON-TWP.COM)

FACEBOOK: PEMBERTON RECREATION



# PTHS TRAVEL CLUB TAKES FLIGHT!

After four long years, countless fundraisers, and detailed planning, eleven members of the PTHS Travel Club took off for Europe this spring—and were immediately bitten by the travel bug! Joined by advisors Mrs. Montero and Ms. Glassman, the students embarked on their first-ever trip outside the US, and were thrilled to report it was a smashing success.

First stop: London. Students learned the history of the country and visited such landmarks as Buckingham Palace, the London Eye, Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, the Tower of London, and Trafalgar Square. Then off to Paris, where they toured the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, the Louvre, and Galleries Lafayette and even cruised on the Seine River. The final European stop: Barcelona. Here, they enjoyed a bus tour overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, learned about the artist/architect Antoni Gaudí, explored the Park Güell, and went to an open air market that was home to some of the freshest fruits and vegetables they had ever seen.

"We met so many great people on the trip. They were very welcoming and we learned a lot from them," said senior Sarah Daniscsak. "The whole trip was amazing."

And of course, no trip abroad is complete without sampling



the local fare, and the travelers made sure to dine on England's traditional fish and chips, France's crepes and macaroons, and Spain's paella and tapas.

Throughout the entire trip, the advisors could not have been happier with the students' behavior, enthusiasm, and overall respect they showed to everyone they encountered.

"I'm so proud to be able to bring this once in a lifetime opportunity to the students at Pemberton, and I hope that the program continues to grow each year so we can show our students the world," said Mrs. Montero.

## Co-Op Students and Interns Recognized at PTHS



Recipients of the 2nd quarter awards were (left to right): Intern Steven Powell, and Co-Op students Chanel Davis, Brianna Levatte and Christopher Steward.



Co-Op Students of the Year were announced at the last meeting of the year. Left to right: Deanna McGriff, Employment Student of the Year; Harry Haines, #1 Co-Op Student of the Year; and Tyla Brown, Academic Student of the Year.



Third quarter award recipients were (left to right): Intern Cierra Holmes, and Co-Op students Shelby White, Khadijah Rhodes and Rebecca Pitre.



# STUDENT SPANISH VIDEO TAKES 1ST PLACE IN STATE

Two fourth graders at Denbo/Crichton won 1st place in a state video contest sponsored by the Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey. Students from 20 schools around the state entered the contest, which required that the students speak in a foreign language for the entire video. Lucie Hoffman and Krish Maisuria, students in Mrs. Hammond's class and taught by Spanish teacher Mrs. Pecelli, were thrilled with the results.



*Lucie Hoffman and Krish Maisuria were excited to learn they won 1st Place in the state-wide contest.*

"It was really fun, I would do it again," said Krish. "This is my first year taking Spanish, and I really like it." Krish, who is from India, just came to Pemberton Schools this year, but he and Lucie hit it off from the start, and have been friends since the beginning of the

year. They happily accepted the challenge to make the video after their names were picked by Mrs. Pecelli in a random contest to see who would submit one. "I love learning Spanish," said Lucie. "Mrs. Pecelli makes it a lot of fun and I liked making the video."

The FLENJ awarded the students certificates and \$25 each, as well as \$50 for Denbo/Crichton to be used for Spanish class activities. The video was written by Mrs. Pecelli, and filmed

and edited by technology coordinator Donovan Gardner. Their video, entitled "Snow Day," can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3tbmY0YuQg>.

## YOUNG AUTHOR INSPIRES BUSANSKY STUDENTS

Children get inspiration from a variety of sources, and for students at Busansky this spring, inspiration came in the form of a 13 year old author. When Kyle Dixon, III addressed the eager students at an assembly, they listened closely to what he had to say, even when he said he didn't always like school.

"I used to hate school," he said. "But the problem was *me*, not school. You need to look inside yourself to discover your greatness."

And Kyle should know about discovering greatness. After keeping a journal, he said he felt empowered, and came up with the idea for his book "Jay Bubblebee."

His book, which is available on Amazon.com, teaches

children they don't have to be perfect in order to achieve great things. It's the story of a bee named Jay who was born with bubbles instead of wings. His bubbles make it challenging for him to get a job like other worker bees. Inspired and determined not to give up, Jay decides to create his own path and becomes an entrepreneur by selling sneakers.

As Kyle spoke to the students, he shared funny anecdotes, but never strayed from delivering his message that everyone has a gift. "Ask yourself, 'What do I want to achieve NOW?' You don't have to wait until you're a grown-up to do it," he emphasized.

As part of his presentation, he gave every student a copy of his book and then signed it. His goal was to travel to 50 schools during the year, continuing to spread his message. "Everyone is my peer," he said. "I feel I'm doing something great and I want to continue to inspire them."

*Left, Busansky students line up with their books, waiting for Kyle's autograph. Above, Kyle talks to the students about his journey to writing a book.*





# Spring School Snapshots



▲ Above, 9th grader Seth MacPherson works with Harker-Wylie student Julian Hooks as part of the Success Academy Mentoring Program.



▲ Above, students at Stackhouse try stacking cups without using their thumbs, as part of Special Education Week. Teachers used gym, art and music classes to help teach students how it would feel to perform tasks if they had a disability. Activities throughout the week helped increase awareness of the challenges of living with a disability.



► Right, Crichton student Kristopher Stone demonstrates his project for his parents during the Pemberton Program for the Exceptional Gifted (PPEG) Parent Night.



Month of the Military Child was celebrated throughout the district, as students performed songs and skits and welcomed family members to special breakfasts and demonstrations.





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## MOVING UP AND MOVING ON!



*Please send ideas for articles to the Media Services Department or email [jmignella@pemb.org](mailto:jmignella@pemb.org). Questions? Call 609-893-8141, ext. 2038.*