ENJOYING Newtown’s Trails
Where nature, recreation and history meet

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Congratulations to the MNHS Class of 2015!

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2015-16 School Calendar
Congratulations!
to the MNHS CLASS OF 2015!

Kyle Bohn, President of the Class of 2015

Kyle Bohn is proud to be a student of Marple Newtown High School. He is the President of the Class of 2015. Throughout his four years at Marple, Kyle competed as a Varsity member of the Men's Swimming Team and served as a Captain of the team his senior year. Kyle was a member of Marple's National Honor Society chapter, as well. Outside of school, Kyle is an Eagle Scout and he also works as a lifeguard at a local swim club. For his senior project, Kyle completed an internship at Congressman Patrick Meehan's local district office in Springfield.

Kyle is attending the United State Military Academy at West Point. He will graduate the Academy in four years as a 2nd Lieutenant of the United States Army. He wishes Marple and its students the best in its next 100 years.

Nicole Ozdowski, Valedictorian

Nicole Ozdowski has always been interested in the sciences, and she became especially interested in physics in sixth grade. Nicole also began to play the flute and take private lessons in sixth grade. Since then, music and science have been her main interests. Since Nicole began competing at 11 years old, she has placed first in eight musical competitions, performed as a soloist with four orchestras, and was named a finalist for the Philadelphia Orchestra’s Albert M. Greenfield Competition.

During the summer of 2014, Nicole attended the Pennsylvania Governor’s School for the Sciences and worked on a team project about wave-particle duality. Nicole was a leader of Marple Newtown High School’s Annenberg Science Symposium team, and participated in Science Olympiad. Nicole plans to major in physics at Princeton University, and she hopes to join the Princeton University Orchestra to continue her musical career.

Quote: “The scientist does not study Nature because it is useful; he studies it because he delights in it, and he delights in it because it is beautiful. If Nature were not beautiful, it would not be worth knowing, and if Nature were not worth knowing, life would not be worth living.” – Henri Poincaré

Sohyeon Park, Salutatorian

Throughout her years at Marple Newtown High School, Sohyeon Park was very involved in extracurricular activities. Sohyeon participated in Orchestra, Field Hockey, International Club, Interact and Hi-Q. With the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) she was able to attend and place in the regional and state conferences. Sohyeon has very fond memories from both her classes and her activities.

Sohyeon was very involved in Community Service; during previous summers, she volunteered at Nana’s Attic, Broomall Presbyterian Village and the Hospital of University of Pennsylvania. As President of the National Honor Society, she enjoyed serving her community through various events, such as the Loomis Run and Sunshine 5K. Sohyeon plans to major in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. Currently, she wishes to pursue a career in medicine. Sohyeon also wants to continue to volunteer and join clubs that provide medical aid to those in need in the Baltimore area and foreign countries. Not only does she want to further her education, but also intellectually challenge herself in college. Sohyeon wishes to take advantage of the research opportunities at Johns Hopkins and study abroad as well.

Quote: “There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind.” – C.S. Lewis

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2015 MNHS College Bound Athletes

Jack Shevlin, Albright College, baseball
Pat Tackney, Penn State University Brandywine, baseball
Grant Wallace, Neumann University, baseball
Seth Wasserman, Muhlenberg College, baseball
Andrew Moore, University of Vermont, track
Gurjeet Rai, West Chester University, track
Megan Peterson, Bloomsburg University, field hockey
Tom Higgins, Elizabethtown College, lacrosse
Bill Morgan, Cabrini College, lacrosse
TJ Reilly, Cabrini College, lacrosse
Carly Vegso, Kutztown University, lacrosse
Bree Farrell, Chestnut Hill College, soccer
Josh Gottlib, Franklin and Marshall College, soccer
Nicole Kulp, Alvernia University, soccer
Holly Nicolardi, East Stroudsburg University, soccer
Nick Giordano, East Stroudsburg University, basketball
Carly Hamilton, Carnegie Mellon University, basketball
Jake McGee, Moravian College, basketball
Rylee Power, West Chester University, tennis, basketball
Nicole Smythe, Delaware Valley University, basketball
Sarah Roberts, Eastern University, volleyball
Vince Ciavardelli, Franklin and Marshal College, football
Dominic Talluto, Delaware Valley University, football
Adrian Sapnas, Milford Academy, football

College Acceptance List
for the Class of 2015

Adams State University
Albright College
Alfred University
Alvernia University
American University
Arcadia University
The Art Institute of Philadelphia
Ashland University
Bentley University
Bloomsburg University
Boston University
Bucknell University
Cabrini College
California University of Pennsylvania
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Cedar Crest College
Chester Hill College
Claremont University
Clark University
Coastal Carolina University
College of Charleston
The College of New Jersey
The College of William & Mary
Cornell University
CUNY John Jay College
Delaware County Community College
Delaware Valley College
DeSales University
Drew University
Drewel University
Duquesne University
East Carolina University
East Stroudsburg University
Edinboro University
Elizabethtown College
Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emory Henry College
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida Southern College
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
Geneva College
George Mason University
Georgia Southern University
George Washington University
Gettysburg College
Gordon College
Gwynedd Mercy University
Hamden-Sydney College
Harcum College
High Point University
Hillbrook Community College
Hofstra University
Immaculata University
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Kingston University London
Kutztown University
Lafayette College
LaSalle University
Lebanon Valley College
Lehigh University
Lock Haven University
Manor College
Mansfield University
Maryland Institute College of Art
Mercy Academy
Miami University Oxford
Milford Academy
Millersville University
Monmouth University
Moravian College
Muhlenberg College
Neumann University
New York University
 Pace University
Pennsylvania College of Art & Design
Pennsylvania College of Technology
Pennsylvania State University
Philadelphia University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Randolph College
Randolph-Macon College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Rider University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roehampton University
Rosemont College
Rowan University
Rutgers University
Saint John’s University
Saint Joseph’s University
Salisbury University
Seton Hall University
Shippensburg University
Southern Connecticut State University
Stevenson University
Susquehanna University
Syracuse University
Temple University
Towson University
United States Military Academy
University of Alaska Fairbanks
University of Arizona
University of the Arts
University of Bridgeport
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Hartford
University of Maine
University of Maryland
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of the Sciences
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida
University of Tampa
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
Ursinus College
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washington College
Washington & Jefferson College
West Chester University
Western Carolina University
Western New England
Widener University
Wilkes University
Yale College
York College of Pennsylvania

MILITARY
Pennsylvania National Guard
United States Army
United States Marines
United States Navy

TRADE, INDUSTRIAL & TECHNICAL
Antonelli Institute
Automotive Training Center
JNA Institute of Culinary Arts
The Restaurant School at Walnut Hill College
Toni & Guy Hairdressing Academy
Universal Technical Institute
Venus Beauty Academy
The Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades
MNHS Honor Societies

The Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica is an international honor society for high school students in Spanish 3 or higher who are continuously enrolled in Spanish until graduation, sponsored by AATSP (The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese). It is aimed at promoting and recognizing high achievement in the study of Spanish and to promote interest in Hispanic studies.

World language is an elective course of study. Even though it is highly encouraged for college admissions, it is not required beyond one year of high school study. World language study is an academic subject with all the added rigor of doing so in another language. Therefore, language teachers feel it is important to acknowledge those students who excel in their Spanish studies, and especially those who persist in their language sequence through to graduation.

The honor of being inducted includes more than just a demonstration of outstanding scholarship. Members are individuals who have also demonstrated good character, leadership, seriousness of purpose, cooperation, honesty, service, and commitment to others and the Society.

In order to maintain their membership in the Society, each year, members must continue to be enrolled in the next level of Spanish course until graduation, maintain an A average in those classes, maintain a B average or higher in all other subjects, maintain an overall weighted GPA of an 85, continue to only engage in behavior that is becoming of an honor society member, and commit to community and global support.

Inductees: Aaima Amer, Nicole Atkins, Carolina Carlton*, Liann Ching, Molly Coghlan, Seanna Corr, Sara Danenhower, Anna DeCecco, Amanpreet Dulku, Christopher Feltner, Nicholas Finnicum, Rebecca Gallagher, Lauren Gries*, Stella Ha, Delaney Hussey, Cara Maas, Megan MacNeal, Beneshea Matthew, Theodosia Mikropoulos, Phillip Missan, M. Nicholas Molinaro, Allison Mulgrew, Yujin No, Corentin Prigent, Elizabeth Rains, Jennifer Rodman, Corrine Smith*, Caitlyn Spencer, Kyna Spencer, Konstantinos Tsarouchis, Caroline Van Son, Marissa Villano, Christina Zografakis. *Indicates a graduating senior

Marple Newtown High School is proud to sponsor Tri M Music Honor Society, Chapter 764

Tri-M Music Honor Society, formerly known as Modern Music Masters, is a high school and middle school music honor society and is a program of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements and to provide leadership and service opportunities to young musicians. Each school has its own chapter, which is run by the students, but supervised by an advisor or sponsor, usually a school teacher. There are approximately 6200 participating chapters in several countries.

To be eligible for membership, a student must maintain a A- average in their music classes, a B average in all of their academic courses, be presently enrolled in a music course, have minimum number of community service hours, and be recommended for membership by their school’s music faculty. Students must maintain these high standards as part of their reapplication process each year.

Alexander Harley and his wife, Frances, founded Tri M in 1936. At the time, Harley was the band director and Music Department Chairman at Maine Township High School East in Park Ridge, Illinois. It has been a program of MENC: The National Association for Music Education since 1983. In 2011, the name MENC was changed to NAfME or the National Association for Music Education.

This year, Chapter 764 inducted 21 members: Connor Buckley, Alyssa Drinkard, Julia Gloninger, Nicholas Henderson, Katya Kariook, Megan MacDonald, Gabby Maiorano, Mary Montgomery, Masahiro Muramatsu, Jane Reminger, Katie Rice, Melissa Roth, Mira Sadeghi, Joshua Schaff, Corrine Smith, Deanna Steilabotte, Morgan VanZest, Maddie Vile, Jenny Wolski, Angel Wu, Jason Wu, and presented a Honorary Lifetime Award to Dr. Stephen P. Howarth, an advocate of music education for more than 20 years in the Marple Newtown School District.

National Honor Society 2015 Inductees:

The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation’s premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921.

Juniors: Alaina Agatone, Danielle Atkins, Elijah Caldwell, Matthew Deacon, Delaney Hussey, Theodosia Mikropoulos, Masahiro Muramatsu

Sophomores: Nicole Atkins, Rojin Baniasadi, Jason Chhay, Liann Ching, Sara Danenhower, Allen Ding, Regina Fairbanks, Julia Gloninger, Stella Ha, Lauren Holt, Rachel Hua, Kayleigh Izzo, Scott Kaufman, Jasjit Kaur, Karch Klos, Cameron Mathes, Beneshea Matthew, Jenna Matteo, Samantha Miller, Anthony Missan, Phillip Missan, Laura Myers, Yujin No, Matthew Patton, Elizabeth Rams, Katie Rice, Lien Ross, Mira Sadeghi, Sara Sathamoh, Josh Starr, Kelly Sullivan, Konstantinos Tsarouchis, Efren Valavanis, Lucky B. Wavai, Jenny Wolski, Jason Wu

The Marple Newtown 
19th Annual 
Junior Initiative   
“The Real World: How Business Works”

The Junior Initiative is an eleventh grade project that focuses on the various aspects of the real business world. Mr. Dennis Andrews, Program Coordinator, meets with the entire 11th grade class in September to describe the program. Students then select what sessions they would like at the conference in October where speakers from various areas of the work world including business, non-profits, education, the arts, high tech industries, local businesses, entrepreneurs, etc. come to present.

Students attend several sessions to hear professionals, business owners and executives talk about their companies, their backgrounds and the necessary skills and academic training that are needed in today and tomorrow's business world.

During the weeks after the conference, the students will spend time individually at a work place of their choice to conduct interviews and learn more about a specific profession or career. Once the students have completed the visits and compiled their research, each student will conduct an oral presentation in one of their classes summarizing their entire experience. The oral presentation will focus on one aspect of the business world and how the student can utilize their experiences to better prepare them for their future. Students who score exceptionally well on the project will be honored at a celebration.

The Marple Newtown School District is greatly appreciative of all the efforts and dedication of the many business presenters, administration, faculty, staff, parents and students that make this project a rewarding and memorable experience for our entire Marple Newtown Junior Class. A special thank you for Mrs. Marty's Deli as one of the businesses that has been with us from the beginning (they've also been great presenters, bringing and preparing food at the student sessions!).

Junior Initiative is sponsored by the Marple Newtown School District and Marple Newtown High School. The Program Coordinators are Mr. Dennis Andrews and Mr. David Locher; Program Co-coordinators are Ms. Gail Graham, Mrs. Jennifer Cipollone and Mr. Collin Hannan.

“We're proud of how our Junior Initiative program exposes our junior class to the world of work beyond high school, giving them opportunities to investigate fields which interest them. They select what sessions to attend at our Speaker's Conference and they also select where to go for their job shadowing visit which gives them control and responsibility to make good choices for themselves rather than having us assign those things to them. All along the process teacher mentors guide them. Over its 19 year history we have had other schools contact us and even visit to explore our program and several of those schools have modeled their programs after ours.” said Mr. Andrews.

If you would like more information about Junior Initiative, please contact Mr. Dennis Andrews at dandrews@mnsd.org.

2014 JUNIOR INITIATIVE CONFERENCE PROGRAM:

- Marty Godfrey & Marge Lehr, Mrs. Marty's Deli, Business World Reality: Successes And Failures
- Richard Johnson, Morgan Stanley, Wall Street Insights: Being A Stockbroker
- Chief Doug Everlof, Newtown Square Fire Company, Firefighting And Related Professions
- Michael Barnes, Boeing Philadelphia, Boeing And The Aerospace Industry
- Brian Peters, DirecTV, Engineering And High Tech Industry
- Tammy Ford, Careers Express, Choosing The Right Career
- Kellie Mcginn, Portraits By Kellie, Being A Professional Photographer
- John Cipollone, Whitman Company, Engineering Careers
- Asher Brooks, Eastroom Recording, The Music Industry
- Lt. Christopher Lunn & Patrolman Joseph Alonso, Newtown Square Police Department, Law Enforcement
- Robert Coldwell, Your Local Leasing Company, The Property Management / Real Estate Business
- Bill Mooney, Temple University, Rising Thorugh The Ranks In Business And Education
- Steve Videon, Videon Chrysler, Opportunities At An Automotive Dealership
Along with hundreds of thousands of students celebrating the end of their finals in math, science, and languages, the Advanced Placement Art Students at Marple Newtown High School are relieved to have finished a project that takes an entire school year to produce… their portfolios.

What is a portfolio? It’s the compendium of required work in the Advanced Placement curriculum. During the first half of the year the students follow the teachers’ structured lesson plans and develop skills in observational art, using all types of media: still lifes in watercolor, portraits in pen and ink, conté, charcoal, acrylic, oil and more. Twelve initial works are selected to demonstrate a breadth of knowledge across those media. Then a second set of 12 pieces represents work done in the latter half of the year, when each student concentrates on an area of interest and a theme. For example, one year a student opted for the concept of “reflections” and explored objects which mirrored images: water, glass, even the glinting surface of an eyeball. In total, each student’s portfolio contains 24 works which are submitted to the College Board and to the institutions of their choice - like the University of the Arts, the Tyler School at Temple University or the Moore College of Art & Design.

While each of the students in the advanced placement program have great talent; their skills, interests, and preferred mediums are as diverse as their backgrounds. Their teachers - Ms. Karen Can, Mr. Michael Winterbottom, and Ms. Penny Gardner – have provided the guidance and expertise to help them develop those individual talents.

Ms. Can has noted that the students’ appreciation for art – and each other – grows substantially during their senior year in the Advanced Placement program. She elaborated:

“One of the things I enjoy most is when the students are working on their projects, and they critique and learn from each other. They now have the vocabulary and depth to describe what they’re looking at and understand a variety of art forms and approaches. When you put your artwork out for critique, you’re vulnerable, and they trust each other enough to interpret their strengths and weaknesses in a helpful and respectful manner.”

And Who Are The Students? This year will showcase a great cross-section of talented artists who have worked assiduously throughout their senior year of high school. Detailed information on their work, what inspires them, what they think of their teachers, and what their futures may hold will be available at this exciting exhibit. Here are a few words from each of the participating students:

Ashley Agatone
We have many artists in the family – and most of my inspiration comes from them! I love black & white photography, and wanted to push myself to become better this year. Mrs. Gardner taught me so much, gave me confidence and helped me to grow.

Melanie Battiste
Art inspires me to express my thoughts and feelings. My favorite medium is colored pencil, and thanks to Mr. Winterbottom’s encouragement, AP art helped me improve, taught me very important techniques – and helped me work outside my comfort zone.

Sarah Goffney
I’m inspired by music and emotions, and enjoy working in pastels and oils. It’s been a fantastic 4 years as your student, Mrs. Can. Thank you for helping me prepare for the Tyler School of Art!

Corinne Huston
My favorite artist is Ansel Adams. I fell in love with photography my sophomore year, and knew I wanted to continue. The Advanced Placement program allowed me to do that, and explore the beauty of people and the ability to capture one moment in time through photography. Thank you for always pushing me to try my best, Mrs. Gardner.

Coryn Lunn
My favorite medium is acrylic paints and I enjoy how art enables me to express myself. I will be attending the University of the Arts next year, and decided to take AP Studio Art in an effort to challenge and push myself. Thank you, Mr. Winterbottom for all you’ve done – and all I’ve learned.

Arden Lieberman
I’ll be attending the Temple Fox School of Business next year. But music inspires me to create art, and my favorite medium is colored pencil. Thank you to Mr. Winterbottom
Marple Newtown Senior AP Students showing samples of their work! Left to right, back row: Caroline Metzger, Melanie Battiste, Eric Stewart, Corinne Huston, Ashley Agatone, Cassandra Trahey, Sarah Goffney, and Coryn Lunn. Front row, left to right: Arden Lieberman and Marie Pappolla.

for being an awesome teacher! I enjoyed the challenge of this full year of AP Art class. #blessed

Caroline Metzger
I took Advanced Placement art because I wanted to gain more skills and figure out what I was best at. I’ll be attending DCCC, and my favorite medium is acrylic paints. Thank you to Mr. Winterbottom for helping me out so much!

Marie Pappolla
Gap year ahead! My favorite artist is Vincent Van Gogh. Tumblr inspires me to create, and my favorite medium is acrylics. Thanks to my Advanced Placement Art teacher, Mr. Winterbottom, for being hard on me. #blessed.

Eric Stewart
I enjoy working in black & white film, and my favorite artist is Peter Christopherson. I’ll be attending the Antonelli Institute this fall. The way things look from a particular angle inspires me. Thanks Mrs. Gardner for teaching me so much about printing pictures in a darkroom.

Cassandra Trahey
I enjoy capturing the beauty of nature and people in black & white photography. I’ll be going to the University of Florida this fall. Thank you for teaching me Mrs. Gardner, I learned so much from you, and hope you continue to inspire people the way you inspired me!

As we know, art is an intensely personal endeavor that sometimes graces public space. The Friends of the Newtown Square Public Library appreciate that all the students in the Marple Newtown School system have to work very hard to achieve their goals. Seeing the empathy and support that the AP art students evince for each other, and the respect they have for their teachers makes it an honor to show them that there are rewards for hard work. We are proud to host the Marple Newtown High School AP Art show at the Newtown Square Library this June, and we welcome the public to learn more about these exceptional art students! Visit the Newtown Square Public Library Facebook page for photos of the exhibit, and check out our website at www.newtownlibrary.org. The Newtown Square Library is located at 201 Bishop Hollow Road, Newtown Square, PA. Call (610) 353-1022

Terri McCarthy (Morrison) is coauthor of nine books, including Kiss, Bow or Shake Hands® which has sold over 325,000 copies and is a #1 Amazon.com business bestseller. www.TerriMorrison.com.
Russell Elementary School Spreads KinDNESS!

During the week of January 26-30th Russell students participated in a Kindness Challenge along with many other students across the United States. The Great Kindness Challenge is a proactive and positive bullying prevention initiative that improves school climate and increases student engagement. The Challenge is one week devoted to performing as many acts of kindness as possible. Using a checklist of 50 kind acts, students take the challenge and prove that bullying is weak and kindness is strength. The 50 acts are to be accomplished at school. The students are encouraged to continue sharing their kindness at home, in their communities and in our world.

Throughout the week, many fun activities were planned to encourage and allow for acts of Kindness to be done.

Monday: Students made a most kind-hearted handprint. The Great Kindness Challenge Organization is trying to break a Guinness Book of World Record for the most handprints. They are helping beat that record!

Tuesday: Students were asked to bring in canned goods to help stock St. Mark’s emergency food center.

Wednesday: Classroom door decorating contest. Students helped decorate their classroom doors to show how they spread Kindness in school. The PTO Community Service Committee judged to determine the winner. The winning classroom will earned an extra recess.

Thursday: Students made kindness cards for residents at Dunwoody Village. Students also participated in classroom door tours. Teachers took their students around to view the classroom Kindness doors.

Friday: Ended the week with a special school spirit Gathering. Students celebrated their Kindness achievement through song, awards, and positive encouragement to keep the kindness going.

Who Created The Great Kindness Challenge?

The Great Kindness Challenge was created by Kids For Peace, in 2011, when they were asked to help stop school bullying. In 2012, the Great Kindness Challenge was piloted with 1614 students in 3 schools in Carlsbad, CA. By 2013 they have grown the program to include 113,954 students in 263 schools. And last year, in 2014, they were overjoyed to have 554,486 students in 1099 schools united to inspire 27,724,300 acts of kindness! For more information, please visit: kindnessmattersblog.org
Marple Newtown High School Students Model the Price of Higher Education, Determine if College is Worth It

Honorable Mention Team Prize of $1000 puts them in top 5.7% in the nation

President Obama has an ambitious goal of increasing America’s college degree attainment rate by 20% within the next five years, thus returning the United States to No. 1 in the world in 25-34 year olds who have completed a postsecondary education. Whether or not this happens depends on many factors, prime among them the price of a college education.

High school students across the US had the opportunity recently to weigh in on the topic as competitors in Moody’s Mega Math (M3) Challenge, an annual applied math contest that gives participants the opportunity to use mathematical modeling to come up with solutions to relevant everyday issues. This year, more than 6,000 students from across the country were asked to provide cost-benefit analyses of higher education. The problem was especially relevant since participants will be making their own decisions about college in the next few months to a year.

Using publicly available data on college tuition rates, scholarships, and financing costs, participants created mathematical models to quantify and consider the price paid, expected earnings, and lifestyle factors resulting from the attainment of an undergraduate education. As part of the intensive Challenge Weekend, students working in teams of 3-5 spent 14 hours gathering data on tuition costs, debt burden, and labor statistics, and comparing the earning potential of various career paths, including those of STEM vs. non-STEM graduates. They also attempted to assign mathematical value to qualitative parameters that influence overall quality of life and evaluated the impact of President Obama’s community college plan, which proposes two years of free community college education for eligible students.

“The most rewarding part of this experience was the amazing feeling of being able to work together as a well-functioning team. Each member was enthusiastic, creative, and wonderful to work with. I’m glad I got to share this accomplishment with them,” senior Nicole Ozdowski mused. Other team members were seniors Mike Blumberg, Sohyeon Park, Diana Myers, and Kyle Bohn. MNHS math teacher Matthew Landes is the team coach.

Of the initial 1,128 submissions, 201 papers advanced to the second round of judging that took place in Philadelphia in late March, where judges identified 65 teams that will receive a share of the $125,000 in scholarship prizes offered by The Moody’s Foundation, the contest sponsor. Marple Newtown High School snagged one of those prizes, being designated as an Honorable Mention team and awarded a $1,000 team prize.

The top six awards, ranging from $2,500 to $20,000, will go to the Finalist teams representing high schools in Minnesota, Virginia, North Carolina, and Connecticut.

Other Pennsylvania schools were awarded an Honorable Mention Team Prize of $1,000 each for noteworthy solutions. From over 90 in PA that submitted solutions, including other Delco schools, are:

~ Burrell High School, Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania
~ Council Rock High School, South, Holland, Pennsylvania
~ Marple Newtown High School, Newtown Square, Pennsylvania
~ New Hope-Solebury High School, New Hope, Pennsylvania
~ Northwestern Lehigh High School, New Tripoli, Pennsylvania
~ Pocono Mountain East High, Swiftwater, Pennsylvania

About the Sponsor: The Moody’s Foundation, a charitable organization established by Moody’s Corporation, is committed to supporting education, in particular the study of mathematics, finance and economics. The Foundation also funds specific initiatives in the areas of global economic development, microfinance, civic, health and human services as well as arts and cultural programs. The Foundation supports programs located in select metropolitan areas in the United States, the United Kingdom and elsewhere around the world.

Moody’s is an essential component of the global capital markets, providing credit ratings, research, tools and analysis that contribute to transparent and integrated financial markets. Moody’s Corporation (NYSE: MCO) is the parent company of Moody’s Investors Service, which provides credit ratings and research covering debt instruments and securities, and Moody’s Analytics, which offers leading-edge software, advisory services and research for credit and economic analysis and financial risk management. The Corporation, which reported revenue of $3.0 billion in 2013, employs approximately 8,400 people worldwide and maintains a presence in 31 countries. Further information is available at www.moodys.com.

About the Organizer: The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is an international society of over 14,000 individual members, including applied and computational mathematicians and computer scientists, as well as other scientists and engineers. Members from 85 countries are researchers, educators, students, and practitioners in industry, government, laboratories, and academia. The Society, which also includes nearly 500 academic and corporate institutional members, serves and advances the disciplines of applied mathematics and computational science by publishing a variety of books and prestigious peer-reviewed research journals, by conducting conferences, and by hosting activity groups in various areas of mathematics. SIAM provides many opportunities for students including regional sections and student chapters. Further information is available at www.siam.org.
**Buddy Benches** are for fostering friendships and a sense of community at school where all children are included and accepted. Many kids are overwhelmed with the "unstructured time" that recess can bring. Recess can be somewhat intimidating and lonely without anyone to play with. Perhaps the students are shy and don't know how to join in a game. Perhaps making and maintaining friendships is difficult for a child. The notion of the benches is that a child who would like to play, but just doesn't know how to get started can have a seat on the bench. That's an indicator that the other students should do all that they can to invite that child to play with them. That student can be invited to join a game, or perhaps someone could just sit and talk with them on the bench. Maybe instead of sitting, the students could “walk and talk” on the playground. It's all about reaching out and helping everyone to feel included. Mrs. Beth Walsh, Teacher at GVSD and Tyler’s mom had done these benches at her school and thought this would be a great 5th grade gift and legacy at Culbertson.

Bill Mansi, Tyler Walsh’s grandfather, designed and crafted the benches so that each student in each of the 5th grade classes would "own" a piece of the bench. Students painted their piece however they chose. Mr. Mansi then returned and facilitated assembling the benches with each child using a hand drill to screw their board into its proper location on the bench. This created a sense of true ownership between the students, the benches, and the overall mission of the Buddy Bench. Sherwin Williams in Edgemont donated all of the paint and funding for the other necessary supplies came generously from the Culbertson PTO.

Buddy Benches can also be found at Loomis Elementary. Bill Mansi along with Domenic Cancelliere, 5th Grade student, initiated the benches at Loomis. Parents, community members and the PTO donated the paint.

**Loomis Elementary Caring Quilts**

*Loomis Elementary “Caring Quilts”* begin each year when each classroom is given materials to design a 16 square quilt. Parent volunteers work with the children and classroom teacher to choose a theme and decorate the quilt squares. Every child in the class participates in the process to make their masterpiece and then the quilt is sewn together by an adult volunteer. Loomis gathered for an assembly and the quilts were donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This organization gives “wishes” to children who are ill and in need of some tender loving care. In addition, Pennies for Patients raised over $1500 with proceeds going equally to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as well as the Shelly and Gibson families.
Earth Day at Worrall Elementary

Worrall Elementary is the “Green School” in the Marple Newtown School District, so when Science Supervisor, Dr. Josephine Johnston, and Social Studies Supervisor, Ms. Sandra Schaal were asked to help kick off Worrall’s Earth Day celebration with interdisciplinary Social Studies and Science lessons, they were excited to be part of the Green traditions at Worrall Elementary School. The two Supervisors had the privilege of co-teaching each Kindergarten, first, second, and third grade class, illustrating how issues related to the environment can be studied through the lens of Science and Social Studies.

Kindergarten and first grade students learned about how they can help take care of the Earth and the importance of recycling. Students discussed all the different ways they help take care of their homes, neighborhoods, schools, and the planet. Students became “recycling detectives” to search for items around the classroom that belong in the recycling bin. Students were equipped with magnifying glasses and had to observe each item for the recycling symbol. They were asked to classify the items into two categories, recyclable or trash. By the end of the lesson, students at Worrall Elementary understood that recycling is one way to reduce the amount of waste that goes into landfills and the environment.

Second and third grade classes learned about the importance of trees in the environment and the efforts of each individual person through Wangari Maathai, a Kenyan woman who started the “Greenbelt” reforestation movement in Africa. Students learned about Wangari by reading Wangari’s Trees of Peace by Jeanette Winter. They then divided into discussion groups to identify Wangari’s problems, challenges and accomplishments. In their discussion, students compared and contrasted her efforts on behalf of the environment with those of students at Worrall Elementary School. Students then created “Worrall and Wangari’s Tree of Hope,” writing what they learned on big green leaves to put on a life-sized tree in the hallway. Students finished by watching Wangari herself, narrate a video “I am a Hummingbird” about a small bird who, just as the students at Worrall Elementary, “does the best she can” to save the environment.

The culminating event for Worrall’s Earth Day Celebration was an assembly for students during which first and second graders performed the show that they themselves wrote, under the direction of Worrall Music Teacher, Mrs. Larysa Dragonetti. Worrall’s English Language Learners were featured. In their play, “Mother Nature” took the audience on a tour of the world. She stopped at each continent and students from one of the 1st or 2nd grade classes, representing the local citizens, gave her the bad news about environmental problems, and then the good news about how people are working to fix the problems. Along the way, the students sang songs, acted out their parts. As each class completed their performance, students added a continent puzzle piece to a large puzzle of the world that dominated the stage. Through this celebration, students demonstrated their understanding of the important role their actions play in the future of their earth.
As an exciting outdoor extension of their science curriculum, all 9th grade students from Marple Newtown High School participate in the Annual Crum Creek Snapshot at one of four locations in Newtown and Marple Townships. The sites are: Mill Hollow upstream, Mill Hollow downstream, Trout Road and Boot Road at the Covered Bridge. The Annual Crum Creek Snapshot is the result of a partnership formed between the Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association (CRC), the US Forestry Service, and Marple Newtown High School (MNHS).

One purpose of holding an annual snapshot of Crum Creek is to assess the state of various parts of the watershed over time, which will hopefully lead to greater awareness and protection measures as the watershed continues to be built out. Integrating this field study of Crum Creek into the regular earth science curriculum is also a great way to increase understanding of concepts being taught in the classroom, and to meet state standards for watershed education.

The students recorded and analyzed differences in the stream's chemical water quality, biological life, and physical conditions. They also presented the data and conclusions to the other students through PowerPoint presentations, music, photos, and discussions. The related topics in the environmental science unit take over 3 weeks of class time. The results are then posted on CRC website, www.crcwatersheds.org, and will serve as a baseline for future studies.

The Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association (CRC) is a nonprofit environmental organization founded in 1970. CRC is the only watershed organization devoted to the protection of the water resources of the Chester, Ridley, and Crum Creek Valleys in Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania.

For more information, please contact: Robert Speca, MNHS, rspeca@mnsd.org
MNSD Music Education Program Receives National Recognition

Marple Newtown School District named a Best Community for Music for the third consecutive year!

The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation recognized the Marple Newtown School District as 1 of 388 school districts in 46 states as among the Best Communities for Music Education. In its 16th year, the program singles out districts for outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students and community leaders who have made music education part of the core curriculum.

Ensuring that every child has access to music in schools requires commitment by students, teachers, and those who determine school budgets,” said Mary Luehrsen, executive director of the NAMM Foundation. “We commend the districts and schools that have earned the Best Community designation this year. They join with so many that believe as we do that there is a vital link between do-rei-me and the ABCs.”

The BCME and SMMA designations take on added significance this year with new research showing strong ties between music education and overall student success. A new body of evidence, released at the start of the school year by Northwestern University brain researcher Dr. Nina Kraus, shows that participation in music education programs helps improve brain function and sparks language development. The Associated Press, The Wall Street Journal and National Public Radio highlighted the new research.

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its nearly 9,200 members around the world. The Foundation advances active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving and public service programs. For more information about The NAMM Foundation, visit www.nammfoundation.org.

Person of the Year Award

Congratulations to Debbie Bowman (Worrall Elementary) and Kathy Arganetto (Loomis Elementary) who were both awarded the 2015 “Marple Newtown Person of the Year Award!” Congratulations to you both! This is the second annual presentation of the “Marple Newtown Person of the Year Award,” which is sponsored by Marple Newtown parents Charles and Meghan Houders. The Houders contacted Dr. Merle Horowitz about creating the award to honor a person in the district who best exemplifies, through his or her dedication, humanity and professionalism, the highest ideals of the Marple Newtown School District.

Pillows for Breast Cancer

This spring the Paxon Hollow MS sewing club decided to forgo making projects for themselves and instead chose to make pillows for breast cancer patients. This decision came about out of awareness that a PHMS staff member was undergoing breast cancer treatments. Collectively the students sewed 20 pillows specifically designed for breast cancer patients. Upon completion, the students took a field to Bryn Mawr Hospital and donated the pillows while also receiving a tour of their treatment center. Once again our students look for ways to give to our community. Pictured: Family and Consumer Science teacher Linda Fergusson with her students.
School Happenings!

Marple Township
MARPLE TOWNSHIP
Marple Newtown
MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL NEWS
Marple Newtown | Summer 2015 | in-philly.com

Openings!
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Please note:

- Total Teacher Days: 191
- Total Student Days (K-11): 183
- Total Student Days (Seniors): 180

If more than 3 snow days are used, days in spring break may be utilized to meet our requirements for attendance.