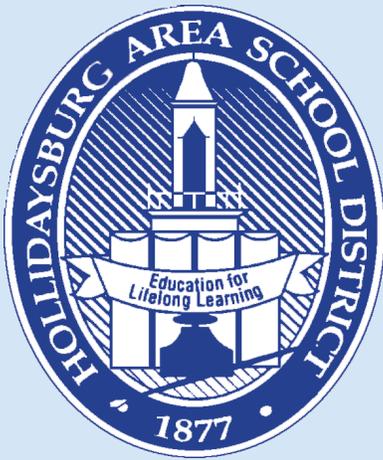


TIGER PRIDE

2025





Hollidaysburg Area School District

405 Clark Street
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
www.hasdtigers.com

Superintendent

Mr. Curtis A. Whitesel

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Tiger Pride 2025

Welcome back to what I believe will be an amazing school year at the Hollidaysburg Area School District. As stated last year, I am extremely honored to be part of the Tiger Family and I value my position in this school district as a privilege. My first full year as superintendent is everything I've dreamed about and more. We have accomplished so much in such a short amount of time, it's been a true blessing. As we continue to move forward and search daily for ways to get even better, I am reminded that we are very fortunate to be such an accomplished school district. We continue to score well in our state testing, our sports programs are successful across the board, and our performing arts/arts department has set a standard unmatched by many throughout the state. We have every reason to be proud of our students and everything they have accomplished.

Looking into this new school year, after several years of leadership under Dr. Letcher at the high school, we are extremely excited to welcome Breanne Venios as our new high school principal. Breanne brings a wealth of knowledge and educational experience to the position. Tag-teaming with our relatively new Assistant Principal, Kevin McCloskey, we envision our high school continuing to prosper to new heights and setting the standard toward which other high schools strive. Change is always good when received with support and encouragement.

As you may have noticed throughout this summer we are working to replace the roof on the senior high school. This project is much needed and will be completed next summer. We are also engaging in some much-needed upgrades and repairs at the junior high school. Soon we will be installing a new boiler system to replace the antiquated boilers we currently have. Also, there are some repairs needed on the roof and new interior vestibule to increase safety within our junior high school. As we continue moving forward with our buildings, we will continue exploring opportunities to improve our facilities to make the best learning environment for our students at all levels.

Again, let me say we are excited to embark on another fabulous school year. Our students and staff were eager to return, and we are eager for their arrival. There's nothing better, as a long-time educator, than starting off a new year. There is so much to be thankful for and even more to look forward to. Please continue to support our endeavors as we reach for new heights and continue to be Tiger Proud!

Sincerely,

Curtis A. Whitesel

Superintendent of Schools

Budget

2024-2025 Budget	\$57,749,982
Millage Rate (1 mill generates \$2,475,274)	10.028

Funding Sources

Local	\$30,236,590
State	\$23,962,032
Federal/other	\$976,386
Beginning Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 7,140,099

Enrollment for 2024-2025

Building	Number of Students
Charles W. Longer	412
Foot of Ten	478
Frankstown	624
Junior High	765
Senior High	800
Total Enrollment	3,079

School District Personnel

Faculty	245
Support Staff	165
Administrative Staff	25

Faculty Experience

Five years or less	26%
Six to ten years	15%
Eleven to nineteen years	30%
Twenty years or more	29%

Mission Statement

The Hollidaysburg Area School District community is dedicated to educating all learners by maximizing the growth of each individual

Vision Statement

To maximize the growth of each individual, the Hollidaysburg Area School District will ...

- strive to meet the educational, social-emotional, and behavioral needs of all learners through rigorous academics, athletics, arts, and extra-curricular opportunities
- empower learners to discover and develop their strengths and interests to prepare for college, vocational/trade schools, military service, and/or the workforce.
- promote citizenship and leadership qualities which foster independent and productive members of an ever-changing society.
- maximize the use of technology resources with a focus on creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and communication for all learners.
- cultivate healthy relationships in a safe and mutually respectful learning environment where accountability is fundamental.

Tiger Pride is published annually for the Hollidaysburg Area School District community. Please direct comments or suggestions for this publication to Mr. Curtis Whitesel, Superintendent, 814-695-8702, e-mail: curt.whitesel@hasdtigers.com.

The Hollidaysburg Area School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate in employment or the provision of programs and services to students based on race, gender, religion, age, national origin or handicap.

SENIOR HIGH

Youth Art Month Region 6 Winner

Abe Manfred was honored with the Youth Art Month Award for Region Six in Pennsylvania, a prestigious recognition of his exceptional artistic talent. His work stood out in a digital art show that showcased the creativity of young artists across the state. His work was submitted to the competition among hundreds of submissions throughout Pennsylvania. His work entitled, Heritage Garden, yet again impressed the judges and he took home first place for Region 6 for the Pennsylvania's Youth Art Month. Abe's achievement not only highlights his skill but also brings attention to the vibrant talent emerging in Pennsylvania's youth art scene.



Southern Allegheny Museum of Art 21st Century Artists

Christine Diaz, Jaelyn Saxe, Jordan Edminston, Chloe Fox, and Owen Naugle (not pictured) clinched the top spots in the selection process of the "Artist of the 21st Century" exhibition at the Southern Allegheny Museum of Art for 2025. Their innovative and thought-provoking artwork impressed the judges, highlighting their unique visions and colored pencil techniques. The pieces were chosen to represent the Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School for a month-long exhibition at the Altoona location of SAMA.



Tigers Against Bullying Contest

Tigers Against Bullying, through the Foundation, held an anti-bullying drawing contest to encourage children and teens to speak out against bullying through art. The contest was open to students from elementary to high school and invited original drawings that promoted kindness, inclusion, and the importance of standing up for others. Winning entries received prizes and were featured in schools and public awareness campaigns. Drawings were judged on creativity, message, and artistic effort. The contest was part of The Foundation's broader mission to support youth development and promote safe, respectful communities. The winners at the high school level were Kacy Smith and Carter Platon-Lapenna.



SENIOR HIGH

Biology Olympiad

On February 6th, three Hollidaysburg students participated in the Local USA Biology Olympiad Exam. William Zhu earned the top score for Hollidaysburg.

The USA Biology Olympiad is held annually and aims to identify highly gifted biology students, stimulate their talents, nurture their curiosity, and propel excellence and leadership in biology-based careers.



Biology Olympiad

Biology Pond Kevin McCloskey

The Science Department received a grant through the IU8 that was funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The grant was to focus on environmental literacy and sustainability.

We used the grant to revitalize the teaching platform and to install wood duck boxes, flying squirrel boxes, bat boxes and bluebird boxes.

We also partnered with the local garden club to add some native perennial plants around the platform.

We also partnered with the PA Game Commission at the Howard Nursery to provide the habitat boxes.

The biology pond platform will continue to be used by the senior high science classes for environmental topics. It is also part of the cross country teams running course.

The teaching platform needed repairs due to normal wear and tear and some vandalism.

It was brought back to life with the help of our students in the Construction Technology Classes taught by Mr. Joe Krupka. These students include Hunter Albright, Josh Bender, Aidan Bilek, Jacob Brua, Garrett DeJohn, Jayden Dutil, Malakai Hill, Caleb Kephart, Will Kordish, Carson Krupka, Josh McKenna, Carter Platon-LaPenna, Jayden Weimer and Hunter Zemrose.



SENIOR HIGH

Chemistry Olympiad 2025

On March 12th, sixteen students from three chemistry classes participated in the Local Chemistry Olympiad Exam. Among them, five students—Gracie Drass, William Zhu, Aamir Azad, Felix Xu, and Stanley Zheng—distinguished themselves by placing in the top 20 for our region.

William Zhu and Felix Xu earned the highest scores for Hollidaysburg, qualifying them to advance to the National Chemistry Olympiad Exam. Held in April, the national exam identifies the most promising young chemists in the country. It includes challenging questions on organic chemistry, physical chemistry, and traditional high school chemistry.

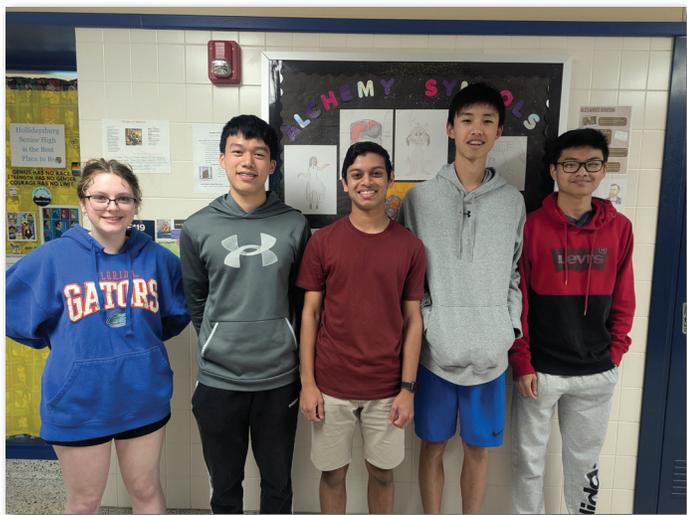
William Zhu achieved an exceptional result, placing in the top 50 students nationwide. For this outstanding performance, he received “High Honors” recognition from the American Chemical Society (ACS).



Chemistry Olympiad Nationals 2025

The National Chemistry Olympiad is part of a larger competition that the United States has participated in since 1984. It is sponsored by the American Chemical Society, which was founded in 1876 and holds a Congressional Charter.

Congratulations to all the students for their hard work and achievements!



Chemistry Olympiad 2025

Kittens in the Classroom - SFU Psychology_HASD Biology - Grace Onkst

On March 11, 2025, Dr. Shlomit Flaisher-Grinberg, from the Saint Francis University Psychology Department, brought three kittens to visit Mrs. Grace Onkst's biology students at Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School. The kittens—Frosty, Diva, and Sally—are adoptable animals from the Huntingdon County Humane Society and are currently being fostered by Saint Francis University students enrolled in an Animal Behavior and Learning course. The purpose of the course is to increase the kittens' adaptability by fostering positive human interactions and training them to perform various tasks, such as navigating an obstacle course. Throughout the day, Hollidaysburg biology students had the opportunity to play with the kittens, assist in their socialization, and make observations about the kittens' fur for use in a genetics lab.



SENIOR HIGH

Real Institute - SFU - Health Wellness and Disability- Kevin McCloskey

With the Hollidaysburg Area School District being a part of the REAL Institute, The Hollidaysburg Area Senior High Science Department invited Junior and Senior students to travel to the beautiful campus of Saint Francis University to learn about Health, Wellness and Disability! Students participated in interactive activities, including hands-on and virtual anatomy and physiology labs, led by expert faculty and staff. Students interacted with digital cadavers on the 3D Anatomage Tables and virtual-reality holograms of the human body while wearing 3D HoloAnatomy HoloLenses. Students also learned about various healthcare careers and pathways.

The teachers were Kevin McCloskey and Grace Onkst.

The Rural Education Alliance for Leadership (REAL) Institute is designed to help local communities and educational agencies come together in efforts to support the needs of rural schools.



Seal of Biliteracy

Hollidaysburg World Language Students Earn Biliteracy Awards

This spring, upper level world language students had the option to take an international exam to determine their proficiency in their respective languages in the areas of speaking, writing, reading, and listening. The scores on this exam qualify them for various awards.

The HASD Biliteracy Award is being given in recognition of students who have attained at least a proficient Keystone Literature Exam score and have received no novice scores in any category on the AAPPL exam. Receiving two or more scores in categories of intermediate mid, high, and advanced low qualify them for the various levels.

The following students are being recognized for their achievement on this exam:

Intermediate Low

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Aamir Azad, French | 5. Lena Ransom, French |
| 2. Lily Chestney, French | 6. Jace Ritchey, Spanish |
| 3. Lily Grosser, German and Spanish | 7. Liya Saylor, Spanish |
| 4. Sophia Moyer, French | 8. Maynard Snowberger, German |

Intermediate Mid

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Nada Affour, French | 5. Arie Kerstetter, French |
| 2. Camden Black, German | 6. Matt Peachey, French |
| 3. Andrew Chestney, French | 7. Rylan Miller, German |
| 4. Abigail Hovance, Spanish | 8. Catharina Stiffler, Spanish |

Intermediate High

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Chase Connell, Spanish | 2. Cole Hartman, German |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|

Advanced Low

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Selina Dong, Mandarin Chinese | 2. Sarah Urban, Spanish |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|

The Global Seal of Biliteracy is an award given to world language students who have achieved a score of intermediate mid (I4) or higher in all four categories of their proficiency exams (which includes reading comprehension, listening comprehension, writing, and speaking proficiency). These students are internationally recognized as being functionally fluent in their respective languages. These students received a medal to proudly wear at graduation.

The Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to students who score intermediate high (I5) or higher in all four categories on their proficiency exams.

These Seals of Biliteracy are an amazing accomplishment for students to achieve at the high school level.

1. Madison Brown, French (Global Seal of Biliteracy)
2. Kamsirionna Mabawonku, French (Global Seal of Biliteracy and Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy)
3. Jenna Zelem, French (Global Seal of Biliteracy and Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy)
4. Jefferson McCoy, German (Global Seal of Biliteracy)
5. John Peterson, German (Global Seal of Biliteracy)
6. Benjamin Schmouder, German (Global Seal of Biliteracy)
7. Garrett Wertz, German (Global Seal of Biliteracy)
8. Maya Deur, Spanish (Global Seal of Biliteracy)
9. Kate Steiner, Spanish (Global Seal of Biliteracy and Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy)



Picture: Global and PA Seal Winners
Back Row: Jack Peterman, Jefferson McCoy, Ben Schmouder, Garrett Wertz

Front Row: Madison Brown, Jenna Zelem, and Maya Deur
Missing from Photo: Kate Steiner and Kamsirionna Mabawonku

SENIOR HIGH

SFU- Birds of Prey Workshop

The third workshop in the birds of prey series was held on Monday, September 16, 2024 at the Curry Innovation Center in Altoona. This workshop was for teachers and students from area schools to focus on the STEELS standards with evolution, migratory patterns, anatomy, and sustainability of bird species.

Caleb McAdoo, Grace Onkst, and Andrea Walter took our students to the beautiful Curry Innovation Center where they rotated through each district, presenting a new lesson and hands on experience using the new STEELS standards.



STEM CLUB-STEAM Day Kevin McCloskey

On November 26th, the STEM Club attended STEAM Day (formerly Science Day). It has been held for 30 consecutive years, with incredible keynote speakers in the JFK Auditorium, many smaller, hands-on sessions, and more than 500 high school students attending. Students and teachers always respond positively to spending a day on a college campus, attending STEAM

sessions in a professional conference setting, hearing about various college major and career options, learning new applications of STEAM disciplines, having lunch and quality time with friends, and having a welcome relief from the normal school day. The STEM club and Science Department have been attending this event for over 20 years and are proud to be invited every year to attend. The STEM Club advisor is Mr. Ben Fogle and the Science Department Chair is Mr. Kevin McCloskey

SENIOR HIGH

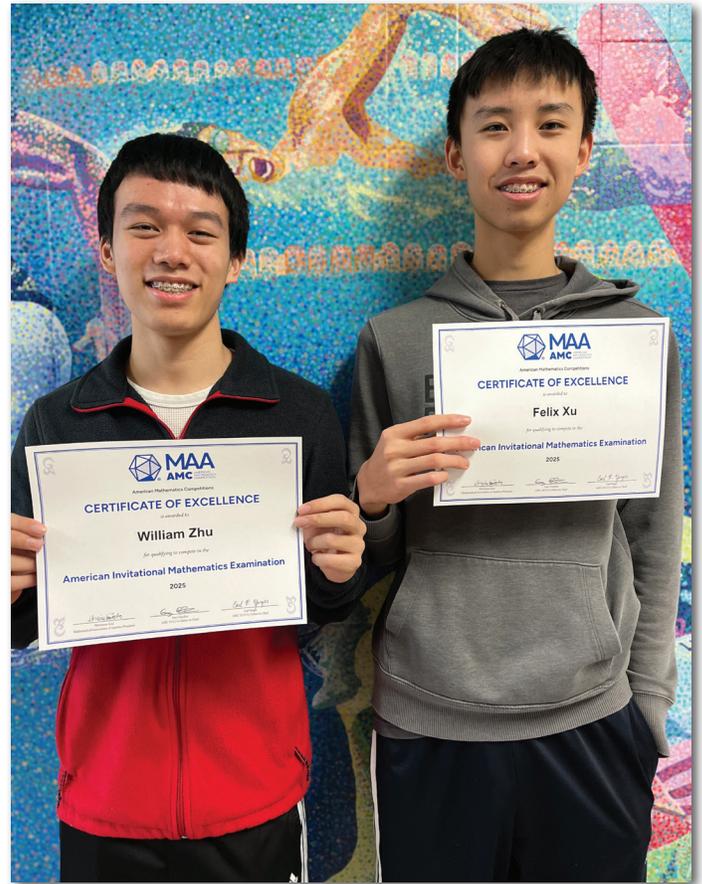
HOLLIDAYSBURG STUDENTS PLACE IN NATIONAL MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Students at Hollidaysburg Area Junior and Senior High participated in the Mathematical Association of America's American Mathematics Competitions (MAA AMC). The MAA AMC program leads the nation in strengthening the mathematical capabilities of the next generation of problem-solvers. The competitions prepare students for future careers in STEM fields and help promote positive attitudes towards analytical thinking and mathematics. The AMC 10 and AMC 12 are both 25-question, 75-minute, multiple choice examinations in high school mathematics designed to promote the development and enhancement of problem-solving skills. The AMC 10 is for students in tenth grade and below, and covers the high school curriculum up to tenth grade. The AMC 12 covers the entire high school curriculum including trigonometry, advanced algebra, and advanced geometry, but excludes calculus.

The AMC 10 and 12 are the first in a series of competitions that eventually lead to the International Mathematical Olympiad. The first Mathematical Contest was held in 1950 by the MAA. It was given to 6,000 students in approximately 200 schools. Today, the competition has grown to over 300,000 students participating annually in over 6,000 schools across the U.S. and internationally. The following Junior High and Senior High students participated in the contests this year: AMC 10- Zach Blescia (Top HASD Score AMC 10), Aran Corey, Lily Davis, Maya Grinberg, Zoe Hammel, Carter Hartman, Sydney Hinich, CJ Howells, Arie Kerstetter, Lakaia Long, Rylan Miller, Lena Ransom, Jace

Ritchey, Addison Smith, Rina Stiffler, Jenna Zelem. AMC 12- Sam Blescia, Andrew Chestney, Evan Daum, Maya Deur, Sebastian Diaz, Aonghus Feathers, Jefferson McCoy, Joel Stock, Felix Xu, Stanley Zheng, William Zhu (Top HASD Score AMC 12)

Remarkably, William Zhu and Felix Xu placed in the top 5% of students in the U.S. who took the AMC 12 Exam making them qualifiers for the American Invitational Mathematics Exam (AIME). This is the 5th year in a row that William has qualified for the AIME and this is Felix's 3rd time qualifying. Congratulations William and Felix!



Pictured: left to right William Zhu and Felix Xu



SENIOR HIGH

Back to Back

Hundreds of teachers and professionals throughout Pennsylvania guide high school students through a natural resource environmental education program called the Envirothon. It combines classroom learning and outdoor activities. This exposure to nature and seeing how humans impact the natural world provide invaluable lessons for understanding ecosystems and our environment.

At the Envirothon, teams of five high school students compete in field testing using their knowledge in five topic areas – Soils and Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife, and Environmental Issues. A current environmental issue is chosen each year as the “hot topic” for the focus of this station.

The teams that represented Hollidaysburg at the Blair County competition were all enrolled in AP Environmental Science. 12 other teams/schools competed in the event. Team 1 from Hollidaysburg placed first overall and had the highest scores in two categories. Team 2 from Hollidaysburg placed 3rd overall and scored the highest in one category. They were as follows:

Team 1 (1st place)

Daniel Theys (Current Event Specialist)

Yvan Chen (Soil Specialist) *Top Score

Andrew Shanafelt (Aquatic Specialist) *Top Score

Joel Stock (Forestry Specialist)

Sam Blescia (Wildlife Specialist)



Team 2 (3rd place)

Maddy Sollars (Current Event Specialist)

Baylee Himes (Soils Specialist)

Claire Muriceak (Aquatic Specialist)

Olivia Miknis (Forestry Specialist)

Lauren Hajnosz (Wildlife Specialist)

Hollidaysburg has now won the Blair County Envirothon in back to back years.

Team 1 will now compete at the Pennsylvania State Envirothon on May 21 at Windber Recreation Park.



SENIOR HIGH

PA MATH LEAGUE STUDENT FINISHES FIRST IN THE STATE

This year HASD's PA Math League team finished first in our region and 10th in the state out of 95 schools that participated. This senior high team including William Zhu, Felix Xu, Stanley Zheng, Sam Blescia, Sebastian Diaz, Claire Muriceak, Caleb Engle, Daniel Theys, Evan Daum, and Jeff McCoy competed in all 6 contests from October through March. In each contest, students worked to solve 6 "out of the box" math problems independently within 30 minutes. Remarkably, William Zhu earned a perfect score on all 6 contests and finished 1st in the League in the State of PA. He is the only student in the entire league to finish with a perfect score this year. Congratulations William!

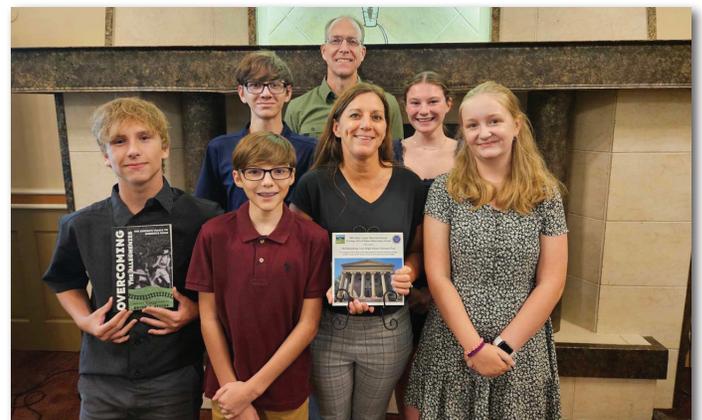


HAHS German Club Wins Heritage Preservation Award

This September, our German Club was honored by the Blair County Historical Society with a Heritage Hall of Fame Preservation Award. They were awarded the Young Citizen Preservation of Blair County History Award for their contributions to the German-American Heritage in Blair County exhibit currently on display at Baker's Mansion as well as for their efforts to promote local German-American heritage. Hollidaysburg Area German Club students were one of nine award winners who were recognized at a special banquet at the Casino in Lakemont on September 26th. German Club students work hard to promote and preserve the German culture and language in our community. They participate in many community outreach programs such as our local Christmas market, Kringle Fest at the Unter Uns, activities with the Almrausch Schuhplattler dance group, visitations to elementary schools, German lessons at the Hollidaysburg public library, caroling at Garvey Manor, participation in the YMCA's family Y-Nights, among other activities. Their contribution to the exhibit at Baker's Mansion includes artifacts from the students' families reflecting their German heritage. They were invited to participate in this project by Harald Dertinger, curator of the German Heritage Exhibit, whose guidance, wisdom, and encouragement was invaluable. Receiving this award was a huge honor.

Photo: German Club students, teacher, and exhibit curator

First Row: Maynard Snowberger, Trent Schmouder, Frau (Alicia) Schmouder, and Lindsey Warmath. Second Row: Ben Schmouder, Harald Dertinger, and Julia Schmouder.



JUNIOR HIGH

JH Frosty Fest

On December 20th, 2024, students got into the holiday spirit with Frosty Fest, a fun and festive event everyone looks forward to each year. Hosted by our awesome Portrait of a Golden Tiger team and Student Council, the day was packed with activities that brought plenty of smiles and good vibes all around.

The gym was full of energy as students either hit the court for an exciting volleyball tournament or cheered from the sidelines, hyping up their friends and classmates. The games were full of friendly competition, teamwork, and lots of laughter—definitely one of the highlights of the day!

For those who wanted something a little more laid-back, the craft area was the perfect spot to chill out and get creative. Students made cool holiday-themed crafts while sipping on tasty hot chocolate - complete with marshmallows, of course! It was a cozy space where everyone could relax, chat, and enjoy the season.

And the fun didn't stop there—PAC set up a special pop-up store with tons of great gift items. Students had a blast picking out unique little treasures for family, friends, or even themselves. It was a great way to do some last-minute holiday shopping without leaving school!

Frosty Fest was a huge hit, bringing students together to celebrate, connect, and have a blast before winter break. Big thanks to everyone who helped make it happen—it was definitely a day to remember!



JUNIOR HIGH

JH Fuel Up

Fuel Up to Play 60 is a nationwide program that promotes health and wellness in schools through physical activity and nutrition education. At the junior high, the Fuel Up team empowered students to take on leadership roles and serve as role models for other students.

Twice, students visited Longer Elementary and led K-2 students through activity breaks which help keep children engaged and focused in the classroom. The junior high students also helped lead stations in the kindergarten physical education classes. To promote healthy choices in the community, students marched in the homecoming parade and handed out chocolate milk to offer a nutritious alternative to candy.



JH Art Club

The Junior High Art Club added some positive messages to support the students of their school this year. The members of the art club created posters with positive affirmations that were then displayed around the school. The students worked both independently and in groups on this project. Many of the posters also had themes of Tiger Pride!

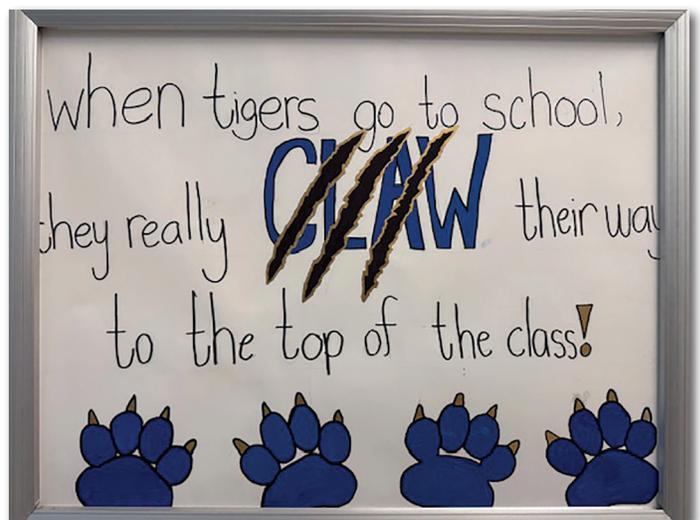


JH Reading Competition

Our junior high reading competition team, Tales of the Golden Tigers, earned an amazing 2nd place finish! Facing off against more than 25 schools at Forest Hills on April 2nd, 2025, our team stood out thanks to their dedication, teamwork, and love of reading. All their hard work and preparation truly paid off, and we couldn't be prouder. Congrats to our awesome team on this well-deserved achievement—way to go, Tigers!



Front row Left to Right: Lilliana Molinari, Alivia Barto, Abigail Onishi, Emmett Wolfe, Casey Lacki, Ayden Hatfield,
Back row Left to Right: Kendall Reed, Lynlee Robison, Taylor King



JUNIOR HIGH

Girls Junior High Track Team – 2025 Season Recap- Middle School Champions!

The Girls Junior High Track Team had an outstanding 2025 season, finishing with an impressive record of 13 wins and just 1 loss. Their hard work and determination paid off as they captured the Altoona Middle School Track and Field Championship title.

Throughout the season, the team delivered numerous exceptional individual and team performances. In total, seven junior high records were broken, and several athletes earned gold medals at the championship meet.

Individual Highlights:

Jaclyn Sahlaney – 4 Gold Medals

Brooklyn Boggetta – 3 Gold Medals

Sydney Ulery – 1 Gold, 1 Silver, and a 4th Place Finish

Samira Patel – 1 Silver and a 4th Place Finish

Layla Budny – 1 Silver and a 7th Place Finish

Ella Diaz – 1 Silver Medal

Julia Van Kleunan – 5th Place Finish

Relay Team Achievements:

400M Relay (Boggetta, Link, Horell, Sahlaney): 1st Place and set a new meet record

1600M Relay: (Zenobia, Van Kleunan, Boggetta, Ulery): 2nd place finish

3200M Relay (Bard, Van Kleunan, Diaz, Sullivan): 7th Place Finish

Congratulations to the entire team on a record-breaking, championship-winning season!

Conzo Places First at District Competition

Freshman Payton Conzo became the first Hollidaysburg Area School District student to win the Rotary Four-Way Test Speech District Competition. The competition took place at Bedford Springs on March 30. In order to achieve this feat, Payton had to work her way through the local and regional rounds of the contest. Although she was the runner-up at the regional level, she was invited to districts when the first place winner could not attend. At the district competition, Payton bested a group of high school seniors, with her impassioned presentation about children aging out of the foster care system. Supported by research and her family's experience, Payton tested her argument according to the Rotary Four-Way Test:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

As a result of her outstanding performance, Payton won the first place prize of \$2000.



Pictured from left to right: Payton Conzo and Jack Collins, Hollidaysburg Rotary President

ELEMENTARY

Foot of Ten MathCounts

The Foot of Ten MathCounts competition team had a great season. At the Blair Region Competition for Grades 6-8 in February, Sophia Zhang won the individual competition and advanced to the Pennsylvania State MathCounts Competition in Harrisburg. The Foot of Ten team of Mitchell Seelye, Peyton Sylvester, Ethan Wang, and Sophia Zhang finished in 2nd place at the regional competition. William Zhu coached the team. Congratulations and great job!

FOT MathCounts Team: Mitchell Seelye, Peyton Sylvester, Ethan Wang, and Sophia Zhang

First Place at Regionals: Sophia Zhang with Coach William Zhu



FOT COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB RMH DRIVE

The Community Service Club completed their annual Ronald McDonald House Toiletry Drive. At the culmination of the collection, the club members assembled bags that will be placed on sinks in guests' bathrooms at the Ronald McDonald House. These bags will be delivered in January to the RMH in Wilmington, DE.



FOT COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB VETERANS HOME

The Community Service Club honored the Veterans at the Vets Home in Hollidaysburg on November 13th, with patriotic music and speeches. They passed out handmade cards and special stones created by 4th grade, as well as spent time chatting with the residents. It was a beautiful evening!



FOT NEW SWINGS

Foot of Ten Elementary is so grateful to have two new additions to the playground for students to enjoy. This past summer, with the help of the Foot of Ten PTO, donors from our community, and Community Service Club, two new swing sets were installed. Thanks so much to all who were involved with this project.



ELEMENTARY

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL PANTRY CEREAL DRIVE

Foot of Ten Elementary school collected approximately 400 boxes of cereal to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Pantry. The classroom with the most cereal and points received a pizza party for their classroom. This truly is a way for kids to help kids.



TIGER PAWS THERAPY DOG

We are thrilled to announce that the Tiger Paws Therapy Dog Program at Foot of Ten Elementary has been officially approved by the school board! Starting in the 2024-2025 school year, our school welcomed a friendly Golden Retriever as part of our new Therapy Dog Program.

Meet Our Therapy Dog: Our new therapy dog is a certified therapy Golden Retriever named Callie, who will be joining us under the careful supervision of Mrs. Donlan, a dedicated teacher at Foot of Ten Elementary and the dog's handler. This furry friend is not only adorable, but also certified by the Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD), ensuring that she meets the highest standards of training and care.

Certification and Training: To become a member of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs, a dog must undergo rigorous testing and evaluation by a Certified ATD Evaluator.

This includes:

A minimum age of one year

A sound temperament

A comprehensive assessment of behavior around people in various settings

Our therapy dog has passed these evaluations with flying colors, making her a well-suited addition to our school community

Therapy dogs offer a wealth of benefits for students, including:

Reducing Anxiety and Stress: Interaction with the therapy dog can help lower stress levels and provide comfort.

Fostering Compassion and Empathy: Spending time with a therapy dog encourages students to develop compassion and empathy.

Enhancing Emotional Well-Being: Research shows that even brief encounters with therapy dogs can positively impact emotional health.

The Therapy Dog Program aims to enrich our school culture and support students' emotional well-being through these positive interactions.

We look forward to seeing the positive impact our therapy dog will have on our students and school community!



ELEMENTARY

FOT STUFFED ANIMAL DRIVE

Elio Parsons, 4th Grade Student at Foot of Ten Elementary, chose to celebrate his 10th birthday by collecting stuffed animals for the Geisinger Janet Weis Children's Hospital. Elio was born 9 weeks premature and spent a month in the hospital. He also had two heart procedures there to repair a hole in his heart. Thank you to everyone who supported his efforts! A total of 751 stuffed animals were collected!



FOT VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY

It is a Foot of Ten Elementary School tradition and honor to celebrate the family members of our Foot of Ten students and staff who have served in our nation's armed forces during war or peacetime.

We held a Veteran's Day Program on Friday, November 8th to honor those that have served. Families provided photographs of their veteran, either military photos or family photos featuring the veteran with their Foot of Ten student, or both. These photos were then combined into a video tribute to honor those who have served.

Cpl. William A. Jones was our Guest Speaker. Students in grades K-5 honored the veterans with songs and several sixth grade students read papers that they wrote about "What Veteran's Day Means to Me".



ELEMENTARY

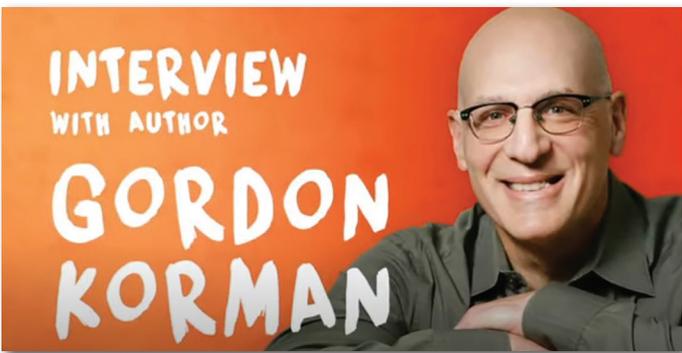
CWL reading lounge

CWL library was awarded a grant from the HASD Foundation for a reading lounge. Check out this space!



Gordon Korman

After reading his books and learning about New York Times bestselling author Gordon Korman, 6th grade students and teachers participated in a virtual visit!



2024-2025 MathCounts

The Frankstown MathCounts competition team had a short but sweet first season. In January, Seth Caldwell and Tensor Long began preparing for the MathCounts competition. They attended the Blair Region Competition in February, and Seth finished in 2nd place overall. Seth also advanced to the Pennsylvania State MathCounts Competition in Harrisburg.



Regional Competition: L to R: Tensor Long, Seth Caldwell

Jarrett J. Krosoczka

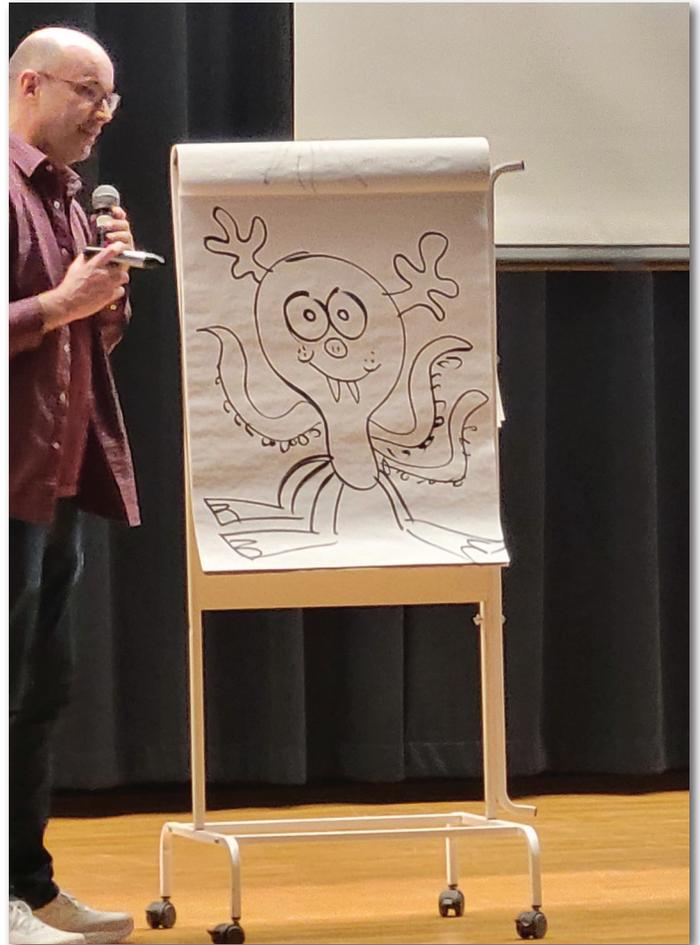
CWL 5th and 6th graders were treated to an author visit this year. The Jarrett J. Krosoczka Visit & Illustration event was sponsored by the Learning Lamp Children's Book Festival, which took place in Johnstown.



ELEMENTARY

Troy Cummings

K-5 students and teachers had a great experience with New York Times bestselling author/illustrator, Troy Cummings!



AP Art and Design Exhibition

The AP Art and Design Exhibition provided seven talented students with the opportunity to showcase the work they had dedicated an entire year to creating. Each piece was the result of a sustained investigation, where students developed a unique theme and explored it deeply through their art. The exhibition, held at the US Hotel on April 23, featured a diverse range of artistic expressions, highlighting the students' creativity, skill, and commitment to their craft. It was a celebration of their artistic growth and the culmination of their hard work throughout the year.



Artistry in the Garden

Mrs. Watt's Art 4 senior students recently collaborated with the Tiger Victory Garden to create floral expressions, including bouquets and crowns. This hands-on project allowed students to engage with nature and develop their creativity. Working together, they crafted beautiful floral arrangements, enhancing their appreciation for floral design and teamwork.



Ap Art and Design Field Trip

The AP Art and Design students took a field trip to downtown Hollidaysburg to explore the local art gallery, where they had the unique opportunity to meet with the gallery owner and engage with the work of talented local artists. As they toured the gallery, the students were inspired by the diverse range of pieces, especially the innovative use of mixed media. After viewing the artwork, they participated in a critique session, discussing the techniques and concepts behind the pieces. This experience proved invaluable, influencing their own creative processes and helping them refine and shape their art portfolios with fresh ideas and perspectives.



Bring Your Special Friend Day

This past May, the Hollidaysburg Area Senior High hosted their annual “Bring your special friend to work day.” This year we had over fifty little friends join the students and the staff at the high school to observe and join in on the daily activities of our school. High school students volunteered their time to prepare and help at a variety of stations throughout the day. This gave the young visitors a chance to learn about our space and experience different offerings at the high school at a simpler level. The little friends had an exciting day visiting all of the classrooms and interacting with high-school aged students. Sarah Urban, an Art 4 student, represented the art program by preparing and teaching a lesson to the young artists.



Community Service at the Veterans Home

This May, a group of dedicated art students from Hollidaysburg High School participated in a meaningful community service project that aimed to bring some cheer and color to the local veterans home. Twelve students collaborated with the veterans' home to design and paint vibrant, summer-themed images on the windows, transforming the space into a lively and welcoming environment. This effort not only allowed the art students to apply their creative skills in a meaningful way but also fostered a strong connection between the younger generation and the veterans who have served their country.



District Art Show at the Casino

The district-wide K through 12 Art Show, held on Monday, April 28, was a resounding success, thanks in part to the generosity of the casino in Lakemont, which offered their space to showcase hundreds of student artworks. This marked the first time the event was hosted at the Casino, allowing for a larger exhibition than ever before. Students from kindergarten through 12th grade had their artwork on display, creating a vibrant and diverse collection that captivated attendees. The show not only highlighted the incredible talent of the students but also marked a significant milestone in the art department's history, drawing a positive response from the community and attendees alike.



Duck Stamp Contest

Each year, talented artists compete to have their wild-life artwork featured on the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, or “Duck Stamp.” More than just a collector’s item for hunters and nature lovers, the stamp plays a vital role in conservation. Proceeds support efforts to protect, restore, and enhance habitats for migratory waterfowl, as well as fund habitat evaluations and waterfowl research. Abe Manfred attempted this contest for the first time this year and won first place in the junior category.



Holiday of the Arts

The high school art students recently volunteered their time to help younger children create festive holiday crafts at C W Longer elementary school. The event brought students together across grade levels, fostering a sense of community and mentorship. The older students guided the children through fun, hands-on activities like making ornaments, decorating cards, and assembling holiday-themed art projects. Their support not only helped the younger kids express their creativity but also created lasting memories and holiday spirit for everyone involved.



After Doug Rhodes Training Center - Senior High

The athletics and arts program worked together to put final touches on a special homage to Doug Rhodes. The athletics program wanted to honor the life and legacy of Doug Rhodes and the impact he left on the Hollidaysburg Area School District. Students Andrew Chestney and Owen Naugle volunteered their time and talents to paint words to commemorate the cardio center and training facility in the athletics wing.



Hollidaysburg Women's Club Sponsored Art Contest

The Hollidaysburg Women's Club reached out to the high school art students to offer an exciting opportunity this year. The club wanted to give the art students a place to shine so they sponsored an art contest for their chapter this year. We had four students place in the contest- Andrew Chestney (colored pencil,) Bryn Licata (colored pencil,) Jack Peterson (charcoal,) and Toby Dodson (graphite.) These students were recognized by the Hollidaysburg Women's Club contest for their impressive art pieces, showcasing their creativity and talent. Andrew Chestney's colored pencil rendition of an Apple store in Germany moved on to the next round of the contest. His success in this competition has earned him a spot in the next level, where he will continue to push the artistic boundaries.



Homecoming Parade

The Hollidaysburg Art Club participated in the homecoming parade by riding on a float that featured the students actively painting. The students painted famous masterpieces while the float was moving throughout the parade route. The art club also had the opportunity to participate in Safe-Trick or Treat Night by hosting fun crafts for children to make.



Horticulture Art National Competition

Abe Manfred's remarkable talent earned him third place in the prestigious national Horticulture Contest, a significant achievement that has garnered attention on a national scale. His artwork, titled Heredity Garden, is a striking 3' x 6' piece that creatively blends personal elements with nature. The piece features Abe melting into a strawberry, with family portraits subtly integrated within the blooms of the strawberry garden, symbolizing the connection between family and growth. His work will be featured at the upcoming convention in Georgia, and a feature article about him will appear in the annual horticulture magazine, further celebrating his unique artistic vision and his success in the competition.



Mikayla's Voice

Mikayla's Voice is a non-profit organization that promotes inclusion and kindness through various programs, including art projects, assemblies, a mentor program, and self-published books. The organization aims to inspire children of all abilities to share the message of inclusion and friendship. The Hollidaysburg Area School District received a grant to participate in this wonderful program. Ten high school students had the opportunity to collaborate with ten students from Longer Elementary to create a beautiful piece of art that will be displayed permanently at Longer.



New York City Field Trip

The high school art club seniors took an inspiring field trip to New York City, visiting the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), exploring contemporary galleries in the Chelsea Arts District, and attending a Broadway musical. They had the opportunity to see the musical *Wicked*, which was celebrating their 20th anniversary. The students worked hard all year to raise funds to experience the Big Apple. The trip offered a rich blend of visual and performing arts, sparking creativity and deepening their understanding of modern art and theater.



New Furniture for the Art Room

A collaboration between the Hollidaysburg Foundation, art alumni, and local art supporters recently made an exciting contribution to Mrs. Watt's art room. These modern, sturdy tables and stools are designed to provide a more functional and creative space for students to explore their artistic talents. With ample surface area and versatile design, the new tables aim to enhance the overall learning environment, making it easier for students to work on a variety of projects, from painting to sculpture. The donation reflects the Foundation's continued commitment to supporting education and the arts within the community. In addition, the funds raised by art alumni and local art supporters provided ergonomic stools to match the tables for functionality. This new furniture will continue to provide an incredible space for many years to come. Thank you to the generosity of all who took part in this campaign.



Outstanding Visual Arts Community

The Hollidaysburg Area School District's Art Department was nominated and awarded the Outstanding Visual Arts Community Achievement Award for 2024-2025. This was the first time that our district received this prestigious award. Our art program demonstrates rigor using standards-based curricula taught at every level by highly qualified and certified arts educators, offers art to all students at every grade level with a sustainable budget and identifies artistic accomplishments and art events using social media. We are so proud of the art department for this award and the students' hard work and dedication.



SAMA Artist of the 21st Century Award Winner

Jaelyn Saxe was the recipient of the second place overall winner award at the Artist of the 21st Century. There were 540 entries and Jaelyn's pomegranate colored pencil claimed second place for Hollidaysburg. The judges' vote was based on technique, craftsmanship, and overall visual appeal. This annual exhibition was held at the Southern Allegheny Museum of Art in Altoona during the months of February and March. Jaelyn not only received an award and a gift certificate from Blick Art Supply, but an invitation for her work to be displayed in summer 2025. SAMA will be partnering with Ligonier Public Library to exhibit the artwork on various participating shops. Her piece will be at the artwalk in downtown Ligonier during June and July.



Pumpkinfest in Downtown Hollidaysburg

The Hollidaysburg High School Art Club took part in the Pumpkin Fest event in downtown Hollidaysburg, where they worked hard to raise funds for their annual New York City field trip. The students set up face painting booths, sold their own artwork, and collaborated with kids' activities, all while bringing their artistic flair to the community celebration. Their efforts not only helped support their educational trip but also allowed them to share their passion for art with the local community in a fun and engaging way.



DRAMA

Copy of The Great Gatsby

Hollidaysburg Area Repertory Players (HARP) presented *The Great Gatsby* in early April of this year, celebrating 100 years since its original publication. This adaptation was an original script written by Holly Mercer, our director. When Nick Carraway (Gideon Karn) moves in next door to the mysterious Jay Gatsby (Jack Peterson), he has no idea of the summer that lies ahead of him, as he gets swept into the past and present lives of Jay Gatsby, Daisy Buchanan (Alice Haslam), Tom Buchanan (Benjamin Gervinski), Myrtle Wilson (Rachel Daras), George Wilson (Aran Corey), Jordan Baker (Sophia Waibel), Henry Gatz (Luca Waibel), Meyer Wolfsheim (Nathan Melbinger), Michaelis (Ben Smith), and Klipspringer (Joseph McNicholas), among many others. *The Great Gatsby* is a novel and story that has stood the test of the 100 years since its publication because of its themes that transcend time, including the elusiveness of dreams, our capacity for wonder, and the human desire to change or rewrite the past. The play was under the direction of Holly Mercer. Holly Mercer also wrote the script for the play, which was adapted from the novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Stephanie Everett was the Technical Director, creating both the Projections and Set for the play. Terri Benton-Monahan designed the costumes.



Beauty and the Beast

Hollidaysburg Junior Theatre presented *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* on Friday, January 31, 2025, at 7PM, Saturday, February 1, 2025 at 7PM, and Sunday, February 2, 2025 at 2PM. *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* told the classic story of Belle (Sydney Hinish), who feels out of place in her provincial town. When Belle's father, Maurice (Israel Hartman), gets lost in the woods, he finds a mysterious castle filled with enchanted objects, including Mrs. Potts (Abigail Hovance), Chip (MaLeah Lynn), Lumiere (Jude Capone), Cogsworth (Trent Schmouder), Madame de La Grande Bouche (Rebekah Bowser), and Babette (Presley McSwain). Belle tries to rescue her father from the castle, but must promise the Beast (Elias Amell) that she will take her father's place. This could be the chance for the Beast to find someone to love him for who he is, rather than what he is, but that plan could be jeopardized by Gaston (Levi Cruse), Lefou (Jacob Ferris), and Monsieur D'Arque (Christian Ruffner). *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* featured a cast of 50 Hollidaysburg Area Junior High School students, as well as 21 students who were part of the Stage Crew and Set Design. The musical was under the direction of Holly Mercer and the music director was Kelly Hartman. Jackie Settimio was the Set Designer/Stage Manager. Ben Gervinski was the Student Assistant Director. Tami Hinish, Jill Furry, Jenn Cruse, and Mandy Lynn designed the costumes.



DRAMA

Tigerpride: Les Miserables School Edition-

Hollidaysburg Area Repertory Players presented Les Miserables: School Edition on November 21-23, 2024 at 7PM in the Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School Auditorium. The musical was under the direction of Stephanie Everett and Holly Mercer. Geoff McKain was the music director and Scott Sheehan was the Pit Orchestra Conductor. The Choreographer was Melissa Baser, the Costumer was Terri Benton-Monahan and Joe Krupka constructed the set.

Les Miserables: School Edition follows the story of Jean Valjean(Jack Peterson), a man who broke his parole and is now seeking redemption, while being actively hunted by Javert(Ben Gervinski). On his quest to his own redemption, he meets Fantine(Alice Haslam) and makes a promise to take care of her daughter, Cosette(Younger: MaLeah Lynn; Older: Nora Stanek). This quest is not without obstacles, as he is continually haunted by guilt over his past deeds and he joins the other idealists, led by Enjolras(Gideon Karn) and Marius(Ben Smith), who are trying to overthrow a corrupt French government. Valjean also must confront the other villains of the story, who previously were Cosette's guardians, Thenardier(Aran Corey) and Madame Thenardier(Rachel Daras), who are parents to Eponine(Younger: Clara Cerully; Older: Arwen Hartman). Set against some of the most beloved Broadway music of our time, featuring songs such as "One Day More," "I Dreamed a Dream," and "On My Own," Les Miserables: School Edition is a beautiful examination of the resilience of the human spirit, the promise of tomorrow, and the ability of people to change for the better.

Following their successful performance in November, HARP also participated in the ACT Isaac Awards in May and were excited to announce the following nominations/Winners.

Student Choreography: Alaina Stump

Student Design: Rachel Daras

Best Actor in a Lead male role: Jack Peterson

Best Actor in a Lead Female Role: Nora Stanek

Best Supporting Actor in a Male Role: Ben Gervinski

Best Supporting Actor in a Female Role: Alice Haslam

Best Featured Actor: Arwen Hartman

Best Musical Number: One Day More

MVP- Gideon Karn

Best Stage Crew

Best Production

HARP is excited to announce that on May 24, 2025, the following students won in their respective category:

Winners:

Jack Peterson- Best Actor in a Lead male role, Alice Haslam- Best supporting Actor in a female role and Arwen Hartman- Best Featured Actor

Runners-Up:

Ben Gervinski: Best Supporting Actor in a male role, Nora Stanek-Best Actor in a Lead female role.

HARP's cast of Les Miserables then had the distinct honor of being named winner of the Best Production.



MUSIC

2025 - Scott Sheehan/Music

Best Communities for Music Education

The Hollidaysburg Area School District has been named one of the Best Communities for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation for the 14th consecutive year! This is a testament to the dedication by our outstanding music faculty, the musical opportunities that are available to our students and their continued success at all levels of the program, and the tremendous support we have from the school district, HAM-PA, and the community.



Hollidaysburg Music Department Week

In recognition of the performances in Walt Disney World, and the ongoing tradition of success by the Hollidaysburg Area Music Department, Hollidaysburg Mayor, Joe Dodson, gave a proclamation declaring April 7 - 14, 2015 "Hollidaysburg Area Music Department Week" in the borough.



Tri-M Music Honor Society

The Music Department held the inaugural induction of the Tri-M Music Honor Society on Wednesday, May 7. Tri-M standard for Modern Music Masters and is a national program sponsored by the National Association for Music Education to recognize outstanding students for their musicianship, academic achievement, service to their school and community, and their leadership and dedication. Fifty-eight students were inducted as the first class of Chapter 9957 at Hollidaysburg.



PMEA Band Festivals

The PMEA District 6 Band festival was held at Bellwood Antis High School on January 22-24, 2025. Participants included (left to right) - Sebastian Diaz, Bailey Ross, Gideon Karn, Ethan Donlan, Jefferson McCoy, Rory Feathers, Addison McCloskey, Kaleb Swalga, Sydney Hull, and Ben Freedman. Sebastian Diaz, Rory Feathers, Ben Freedman, Ethan Donlan, Jefferson McCoy, and Gideon Karn advanced to the Region III Band festival that was held at Altoona Area High School on March 5-7, 2025. Congratulations to Ben Freedman for qualifying for PMEA All-State Band!



MUSIC

PMEA District Jazz Festival

Bailey Ross, Ben Freedman, Addison McCloskey, and Rory Feathers participated in the PMEA District 6 Jazz Festival and Jeff McCoy and Carson Brenneman participated in the PMEA District 6 Vocal Evolutions ensemble that was held at Forest Hill High School in January.



Music Department Visits Walt Disney World

The Music Department had a fantastic trip to Walt Disney World on March 18 - 23! Many thanks to HAM-PA and all of the chaperones who helped make this trip a huge success!



Orange Bowl Performance

Four Hollidaysburg Band Alumni performed in the Orange Bowl that was held in Miami, FL on January 9 as part of the College Football Playoff Series. Representatives from the Penn State University Marching Blue Band include Jada Droesch, Ellie Sheehan, and Jack Bailey. Marching with the Notre Dame Fighting Irish Band is Madeline Waibel. Hollidaysburg is very proud of our students who continue to make music after high school!



Congratulations to Ben Freedman for advancing to PMEA All State Orchestra and for qualifying for the NafME All Eastern Division Orchestra. Both festivals were held in April 2025.



MUSIC

Jazz Band Success

The SH Jazz Band participated in Music in the Parks adjudication in Hershey on Saturday, May 3, and received a Superior rating, which is the highest rating a performing group can receive. They spent the rest of the day in the park dodging raindrops and having fun.

The Senior High Jazz Band also had two great performances at the Lights of Love event at the Presbyterian Village on Thursday, Feb. 13 and on Friday, Feb. 28 at the Blair County Convention Center for the Pennsylvania Association of School Personnel Administrators (PASPA) Conference.



SH Jazz Band at the PASPA Conference.



SH Jazz Band at the Presbyterian Village.



Senior High Jazz Band performed their annual Spring Concert at the Casino on May 8.

Rockin the Strings

On May 10, 2025 The Hollidaysburg Area Sr. High String Orchestra, under the direction of Stephanie Everett, presented its annual, "Rockin the Strings" concert to a very receptive audience. This year's show highlighted the music of Led Zeppelin, Elvis, Michael Jackson, Queen and Deep Purple among other music. We were very excited to welcome the sixth grade strings under the direction of Valerie Montgomery, for one of the selections. This was also a preview of our performance for the Sr. High music department trip to Disney, so it was a special performance for all!!



ATHLETICS

2024-2025 Annual Report of the Hollidaysburg Athletic Department

The following is an annual report of the Hollidaysburg Athletic Department.

The varsity football team, under the direction of Homer DeLattre, finished the season with a 13-1 record. The team defeated Allderdice and then DuBois for the District 6-8-10 5-A Subregional Championship. In the PIAA playoffs, we defeated Abington Heights and then lost to Roman Catholic in the quarterfinals. The JV teams finished with a 13-4 combined record. The junior high programs finished with the following records: 8th grade, 3-5; 7th grade, 1-6.

The girls' soccer team, under the direction of coach Tristan delGiudice, finished the season with a record of 13-6-1. We competed in the District 6 playoffs, beating Tyrone and Bellefonte to win the District 6 Class AAA Championship. We lost to Fox Chapel in the first round of the PIAA tournament. The junior varsity team finished 8-3. The junior high girls' soccer team finished 7-3-1.

The boys' soccer team, under the direction of Craig Shale, finished the season with a record of 15-4-1. We competed in the District 6 playoffs, beating Central Mountain before losing to Bellefonte in the District 6 Class AAA Championship. The junior varsity team finished 13-4. The junior high boys' soccer team finished 13-3.

The boys' cross-country team, under the direction of Travis Singer, finished the season with a record of 9-2. The team finished 3rd in the District 6 Class AAA Cross Country Championships and 2nd in the LHAC meet.

The girls' cross-country team, under the direction of Travis Singer, finished the season with a record of 9-2. The team finished 4th in the District 6 Class AAA Cross Country Championships and 2nd in the LHAC meet. Rylan Carney qualified for the PIAA Championships.

The volleyball team, under the direction of first year head coach Brandon Stitt, finished the season with a record of 16-4. We competed in the District 5-6 playoffs, beating Somerset before losing to Central Mountain. The team lost to Richland in the LHAC Semifinal. The junior varsity team finished with a record of 10-5. The junior high volleyball team finished 13-4.

The girls' golf team, under the direction of head coach Jill Hileman, finished the season with a record of 15-0. Crosby Denis won the District 6 AAA title, finished 2nd in the LHAC Individual Championships and qualified for the PIAA Championships. The team won the LHAC Championship and the first ever District 6 Class AAA team Championship. They finished 7th in the PIAA Team Championships.

The boys' golf team, under the direction of Bryan James, finished the season with a record of 36-2. Isaac Miller qualified for the PIAA Championships. The team finished 2nd at the District 6 and won the LHAC Championships.

The girls' tennis team, under the direction of Brian Denis, finished the season with a record of 20-1 record. We competed in the District 6 team championships beating Altoona in the semifinals and State College to win the District 6 Class AAA Team Championship. We lost to Shadyside Academy in the first round of the PIAA tournament. The team won the LHAC Championship. Crosby Denis and Grace Muriceak won the District 6 Class AAA Doubles Championship and qualified for the PIAA Doubles Tournament, making it to the quarterfinals.

The boys' swim team, under the direction of first year coach Baron Leonard, finished with a record of 8-3. Kaden Henderson won the District Championship in the 100 Breaststroke and qualified for the PIAA Championships. We had many swimmers finish in the top 3 in their events at the District 6 AAA Championships and LHAC Championships.

The girls' swim team, under the direction of first year coach Baron Leonard, finished with an undefeated record of 11-0. The girls won the District Championship in the 100 Free Relay and qualified for the PIAA Championships. The team won the LHAC Championship and the first ever District 6 Class AAA team Championship. We had many swimmers finish in the top 3 in their events at the District 6 AAA Championships and LHAC Championships.

The wrestling team, under the direction of Christian Harr, finished the season with a 7-3 record. Mitchell Baronner, Brayden Sidney, Landon Krupka, Connor Sidney and Rocco Cacciotti qualified for the PIAA West Regional. Carina Parks placed at the District Girls Tournament and qualified for the PIAA Girls Regional. The junior high wrestling team finished 8-2 on the season.

ATHLETICS

The girls' basketball team, under the direction of Deanna Jubeck, finished the season with a 25-4 record. We competed in the District 6-8-9 Class 5-A sub regional playoffs, beating Central Mountain and Greater Johnstown to win the District 4-6 Class 5-A Sub regional Championship. We beat Indiana in the first round of the PIAA playoffs and then York Suburban, before losing to South Fayette in the quarterfinal. The junior varsity team finished with a 12-7 record. The junior high programs finished with the following records 8th grade 12-9, and 7th grade 3-16.

The boys' basketball program, under the direction of Brad Lear, finished the season with 21-4 record. We competed in the District 4-6 playoffs, beating Central Mountain before falling to Greater Johnstown in the Championship game. The junior varsity team finished with a 15-4 record. The junior high programs finished with the following records: 9th grade, 17-1; 8th grade, 15-4; 7th grade, 3-3.

The boys' tennis team, under the direction of Brian Denis, finished the regular season with a record of 16-3 record. We competed in the District 6 playoffs beating Altoona in the semifinal before losing to State College in the District 6 Class AAA Championship. Garrett Bouchard and Felix Xu won the District 6 Class AAA Doubles Championship and qualified for the PIAA Doubles Tournament. The team won the LHAC Championship.

The boys' track team, under the direction of Adam Ulery, finished the season with a record of 14-1 record. We finished 2nd at the District 6 Class AAA Championship meet. They had several athletes finish in the top 3 in their events at the District 6 AAA Championships. Isaac Yarnell won the 200M District 6 Class AAA Championship and finished 4th at the PIAA State Championship meet in Shippensburg. We had many athletes finish in the top 3 at the LHAC Championship meet. The junior high track team finished with an 13-2 record.

The girls track team, under the direction of Don Tantius, finished the season with a record 14-0. We finished 2nd at the District 6 Class AAA Championship meet. They had many athletes finish in the top 3 in their events at the District 6 AAA Championships. Emily Clapper (400M and Long Jump) by hitting the standard, qualified for the PIAA State Championship meet in Shippensburg. We have many athletes finish in the top 3 at the LHAC Championship meet. The junior high track team finished with a record of 13-1.

The softball team, under the direction of Mike Harris, finished the season with a record of 3-18. We competed in the District 6 playoffs, falling to Mifflin County in the District 6 Class AAA Semifinal. The JV team finished with a 2-8 record. The junior high softball team finished a combined 15-12 on the season.

The baseball team, under the direction of head coach Jon Szynal, finished the regular season with a 14-5 record. We entered the District 4-6 Class 5-A Baseball playoffs, beating Shikellamy before losing to Central Mountain in the Championship game. The JV team finished with a 14-3 record. The junior high team finished 15-12-1.

Some of the accomplishments for our department this year include: We continued to hold student-athletes to a high academic standard by strictly monitor the academic eligibility of our student athletes weekly. We had six teams win LHAC Championships. We had multiple Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference MVPs and individual all stars. We will have 18 student-athletes playing at the collegiate level next year. I was elected as Executive Director for the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference (LHAC) beginning the 2025-2026 school year.

We again hosted several District 5-6 playoff games and PIAA inter-district playoff games at our facilities in the sports of football, boys' soccer, girls' soccer, boys' basketball, girls' basketball, baseball and tennis. Golden Tiger Pride Day was a great success and continues to grow each year.

We hope that competing this school year allowed our students to grow physically, mentally, socially and emotionally. We hope they can use the lessons learned such as dedication, team work, sacrifice, goal setting and overcoming obstacles through their lifetime to achieve great things.

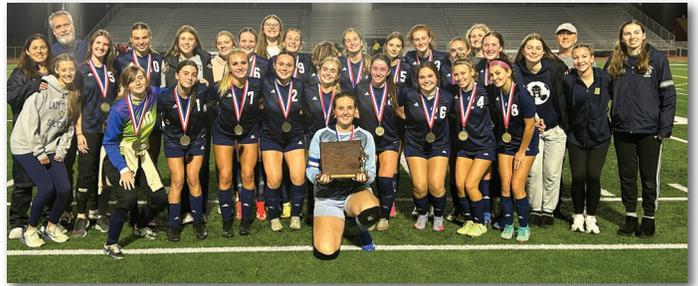
ATHLETICS

Football Team



Subregional Champions

Girls Soccer Team



District 6 Class AAA Champions

Girls Swim Team



District Championship in the 100 Free Relay

Girls Basketball



District 4-6 Class 5-A Sub regional Champions

Girls Swim Relay



District Championships

Swimming



Kaden Henderson
District Champion in the
100 Breaststroke



ATHLETICS

Boys Track



Isaac Yarnell
District 6 Class
AAA Champion

Cross Country



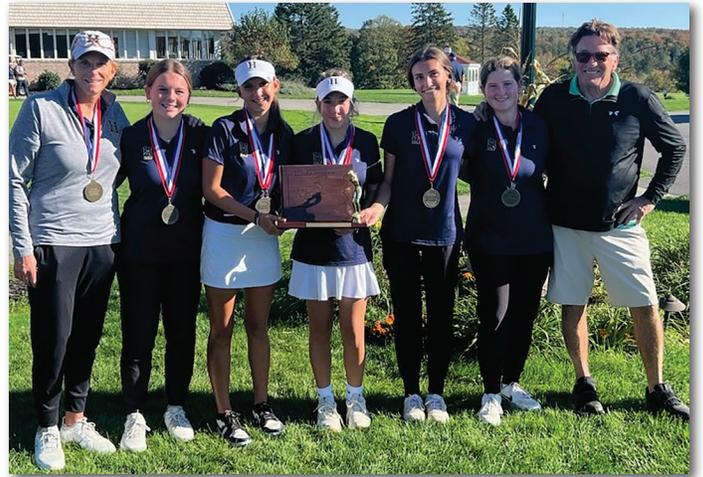
Rylan Carney PIAA
Championship
qualifier

Girls Golf



Crosby Denis
District 6
AAA Champion

Girls Team Golf



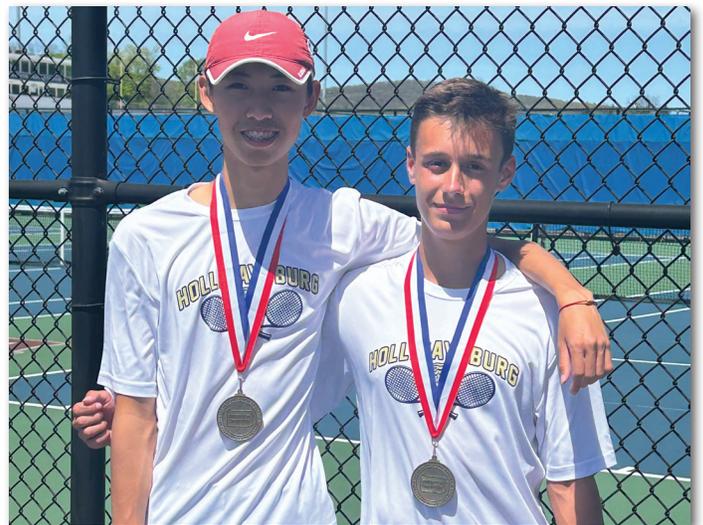
District 6 Class AAA Champions

Girls Tennis Team



District 6 Class AAA Team Champions

Boys Doubles Tennis



District 6 Class AAA Doubles Champions

Doubles Tennis



District 6 Class AAA
Team Champions

Girls Tennis Team



District 6 Class AAA Team Champions

FOUNDATION

2024-25 School Year Foundation Grants



Edible Ink Printer Grant -
Senior High School
Teacher: Kathryn Clever



Art Tables - Furniture
Grant - Senior High
School
Teacher: Alysia Watt



Tiger Victory Garden Grant - Senior High School
Teachers: Andrea Walter (Greenhouse) & Joe Krupka
(Wood Shop)



Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies



FOUNDATION

HASD Foundation Educator of the Year and Impact Awards

Congratulations to the 2024-25 HASD Foundation Educators of the Year:

Mrs. Stephanie Everett Senior High School and Maria Mikolajczyk Frankstown Elementary.

The Educator of the Year Award is sponsored by the HASD Foundation and Horace Mann Insurance.



Secondary EOY

Left to Right: Back Row – Melissa Peppetti, HASD Foundation Board Member; Katelyn Prosser, M. Ed, Director of Special Education; Curt Whitesel, Superintendent; Dr. Tracy Boone, Assistant Superintendent; Deborah Faith, HASD Foundation Director, Autumn Fiscus, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Holly Wertz, Fiscal Coordinator; Ben Caldwell, Human Resources Director; Front Row – Joy Bell, Accounting Operations Director; Dr. Maureen Letcher, Senior High Principal; Stephanie Everett, Teacher Senior High; Dr. Penne Edgell, HASD Foundation President; Peggy Hancuff, HASD Foundation Treasurer.



Secondary Impact Award Winner

Left to Right; Front Row – Mrs. Peggy Hancuff, HASD Foundation Treasurer; Dr. Penner Edgell, HASD Foundation President; Christy Feathers, Paraprofessional Senior High School; Deborah Faith, Foundation Director; Melissa Peppetti, Foundation Board Member; Autumn Fiscus, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Holly Wertz, Fiscal Coordinator; Ben Caldwell, Human Resources Director; Back Row – Dr. Tracy Boone, Assistant Superintendent; Curtis A. Whitesel, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Maureen Letcher, Senior High Principal; Katelyn Prosser M. Ed, Director of Special Education; Joy Bell, Accounting Operations Director.

The 2024-25 recipients of the Impact Award are Christy Feathers Senior High School and Larry Daugherty Foot of Ten Elementary.

The Foundation Impact Award recognizes those staff members that have a positive impact on our students and co-workers. This award is sponsored by the HASD Foundation.



Elementary EOY

Left to Right: Curtis A. Whitesel, Superintendent of School; Peggy Hancuff, HASD Foundation Treasurer; Dr. Penne Edgell, HASD Foundation President; Maria Mikolajczyk, Frankstown Elementary Grade 3; Melissa Peppetti, HASD Foundation Board Member; Deborah Faith, HASD Foundation Director; William Madden, Frankstown Elementary Principal. Back Row – Katelyn Prosser M. Ed, Director of Special Education; Dr. Tracy Boone Assistant Superintendent; Holly Wertz, Fiscal Coordinator; Autumn Fiscus, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Joy Bell, Accounting Operations Director; Ben Caldwell, Human Resourced Director.



Elementary Impact Award Winner

From Left to Right; Front Row – Curtis A. Whitesel, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Peggy Hancuff, HASD Foundation Treasurer; Marissa Cerully, Foot of Ten Elementary Principal; Larry Daugherty, Head Custodian Foot of Ten Elementary; Melissa Peppetti, Foundation Board Member; Deborah Faith, Foundation Director; Dr. Penne Edgell, HASD Foundation President; Back Row- Katelyn Prosser, M.Ed., Director of Special Education; Holly Wertz, Fiscal Coordinator; Dr. Tracy Boone, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Joy Bell, Accounting Operations Director; Autumn Fiscus, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Ben Caldwell, Human Resources Director.

FOUNDATION

Grant Awards and Donors

In the 2024-25 academic year, the HASD Foundation administered over \$56,400.00 in grants for the upcoming school year to benefit students! Each spring, the Foundation awards grants to provide additional opportunities within the district and its classrooms. Grant applications are open to all educators and administrative staff.

2025/2026 GRANTS AWARDED:

Tiger Victory Garden Seating – Senior High – Andrea Walter & Joe Krupka
Mental Health Day Speaker – Junior High Guidance – Keely Myers
Esports JV Equipment – Senior High – Derek Trimmer/Vinny Bonanno
STEM Summer Camp – Administration – Tracy Boone
Science Closet – C.W. Longer, Foot of Ten and Frankstown – Brian Keagy, Brigitte Donlan, Bill Madden.
Remake Learning – Administration – Tracy Boone
Art of Stained Glass – Senior High – Alysia Watt
Quite Corner in the Library – Foot of Ten – Cathy Breisacher
Beating the Odds/Project NASA – Junior High – Rita

Murphy/Brian James
Computer Lab No Peek Covers -Junior High – Courtney Thacker
Creativity in Math – Senior High – Melissa Jack
Comprehensible Input Activities for World Language – Senior High – Kimberly Pope
Art Room Color Printer – Junior High – Jackie Settimio
Wood Shop Jointer -Senior High -Joe Krupa
X-Carve Pro – Senior High -Joe Krupka
Autistic Support Intensive Teaching Material -Frankstown -Maren Cheslock
Autistic Support De Escalation – Frankstown – Maren Cheslock

THANK YOU TO THE GRANT PROGRAM DONORS

Josh Pratt
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Jill McConnell (Gicking)
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American Online Giving Foundation

The Hollidaysburg Area School District Foundation is state approved to accept Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC) and Educational Improvement Organization (EIO) donations from individuals and businesses via tax credits provided to the donor.

THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT DONORS:

EIO

John Horell
Robert & Jill Gildea
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FOUNDATION

Employee Contributions

Elaine Baney
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Susan Benson
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Kelley Breene
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Alexa Ritchey
Karen Rosensteel
Elizabeth Sagaities
Alicia Schmouder

Scott Sheehan
Evelyn Sidehammer
Kelli Singer
Julie Smith
Lauren Sral
Jennifer Stultz
Caitlyn Tay
Courtney Thacker
Robert Valeria
Andrea Walter
Grace Winters
Cynthia Wise
Ashley Young

Employee Contribution Winners

Junior High Staff received a fun start to their day with a coffee & a sweet treat provided by Dirty Soda Shack and funded by the Foundation for the most employee contributions out of all of the buildings.



FOUNDATION

Scholarship Programs Administered by the HASD Foundation

DR. BAKER FAMILY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Lauren Stevenson
Winner: Natalie Foster
Winner: Alexis Peacock

RON HOOVER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Mitchell Baronner

HOLLIDAYSBURG POLICE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Brianna Reily

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Winner: Brady Steiner
Winner: Ty Szynal

BEARD LEGAL GROUP SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Andrew Shanafelt

JEANNE GILDEA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Eliana Bettwy
Winner: Natalie Foster

DR. TERRY ANDREW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Aaron Smith

HASD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Eliana Bettwy
Winner: Natalie Foster

M&T BANK SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Emily Jones

TYLER SLIPPY ART SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Addison McCloskey

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Winner: Olivia Miknis

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Winner: Vian Bongiorno
Winner: Emerson Frazier

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Winner: Addison McCloskey

BE THE LIGHT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IMO OF ELLEN YARNELL

Winner: Claire Muriceak
Winner: Maddox Bainey
Winner: Ty Szynal

KENZI SCHNEEBERGER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Gavin Bell

TAB TIGERS AGAINST BULLYING SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Ty Szynal
Winner: Madeline Hatch
Winner: Yvan Chen

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Winner: Mitchell Baronner
Carson Krupka

LISA MEYERS AUDET MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Adalyn DeStefano
Winner: Sarah Waldron
Winner: Sophia Zangrilli

THE BRUNO AND LENA DEGOL FAMILY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Winner: Madeline Hatch

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Winner: Alexis Peacock
Winner: Wyatt Maines

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FOUNDATION

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SPONSOR A STOOL FOR THE ART PROGRAM

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STRENGTHENING OUR FUTURE GYM EQUIPMENT:

Jonathan Van Kleunen

Restore the Roar Donors

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Andrea Cohen & Phillip Devorris
& Nancy Devorris
Cecelia Miller & Family
John & Barbara Leamer

STRENGTHENING OUR FUTURE GYM EQUIPMENT:

Jonathan Van Kleunen



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Hollidaysburg Area School District Alumni Association would like to congratulate the graduating class of 2025 and welcome them to the HASD Alumni. Best wishes as you move into the next phase of your future!

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDED TWO \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS THIS YEAR.

Eliana Bettwy will attend Mount Aloysius College for Early Childhood Education. Eliana participated in Dance Drill and Theater along with the National Honor Society.

Natalie Foster will attend Geneva College for Secondary Mathematics. Natalie was the Varsity Girls Soccer Captain and Goalie as well as participated in Yearbook, SAAD, Student Council, Spanish Club, and Aevium.

Congratulations to both students on all of their many accomplishments!

THANK YOU TO OUR ALUMNI DONORS:

Timothy Gildea
Angela Crawford
Traci Davis
Jodie Albarano
Nick Panro
Patrick Barnes
Mark Gingrich
Gloria Gates
Jeffrey Ketner
Donald Bookhammer



ELEMENTARY MUSIC

On Friday, April 4th the following students represented Hollidaysburg Area School District at this year's PMEA District 6 Bandfest. These students were chosen for their outstanding musical talent. They spent the day at Conemaugh Township Jr./Sr. High School preparing for an evening concert. The concert was under the direction of Mrs. Jessica Leggett (Guest Conductor). The band consisted of over 160 students representing Blair, Bedford, Cambria and Somerset Counties. The students did an outstanding job and should be commended for all the hard work. Kudos to all!

FOT: Peyton Sylvester (flute), Mitchell Seelye (alto saxophone), Lilly Hite (baritone), and Attley Simonis (percussion)

FKS: Katelyn Stevens (flute), Emma Madden (clarinet), Meredith McCloskey (clarinet), Georgia Saylor (French Horn), and Cohen Muth (percussion)

CWL: Audrey Onishi (trumpet), Sarah Patt (alto saxophone), and Millie Hoover (clarinet)



Front Row: Dylan Fink Second Row: Isabelle Santella, Avalyn Plowman, Claire Mentzer, Clara Cerully Back Row: Lauren Robinson, Aleena Vinglas, Violet Cruse Chase Storm Charlie Wilkes Simon Stephens

The 2025 PMEA District 6 SongFest was held on Friday, May 9, 2025, at Northern Bedford High School. The fifth graders represented Hollidaysburg very well and performed a wonderful evening concert for their families. Participants included students from Frankstown Elementary: Dylan Fink, Lauren Robinson, Isabelle Santella, Aleena Vinglas; Foot of Ten Elementary: Clara Cerully, Claire Mentzer, Chase Storm, Avalyn Plowman; and C.W. Longer Elementary: Violet Cruse, Simon Stephens, Charlie Wilkes. Chorus directors Brandon Harris, Maria McElhinney and Lori Stephens were very proud of the students' success!



WORLD LANGUAGE

Junior High Students Excel on National German Exam

The National German Exam is administered by the American Association of Teachers of German and recognizes student achievement in German language learning through various awards and scholarships. The exam provides students a way to compare their skills against other students in different regions of the USA. This exam is typically taken by the strongest German language students across the country and ranks them by their scores. This was the first year administering the test here in Hollidaysburg.

We had three students in German 2 opt to take this exam and all three received national medals.

German 2:

Bronze Medal: (given to those students who score in the 70-79th percentile nationally)

Camden Black 70%

Maynard Snowberger 75%

Silver Medal: (given to those students who score in the 80-89th percentile nationally)

Avery Black 80%

We also had national medal winners in German 1.

German 1:

Achievement Certificate: (given to those students who score above average nationally)

Samuel Brannock

Silas Wolfe

Bronze Medal: (given to those students who score in the 70-79th percentile nationally)

Zachary Blescia 78%

Silver Medal: (given to those students who score in the 80-89th percentile nationally)

Zoe Hammel 88%

Andy Furry 89% (Andy was only one percentage point away from receiving the gold medal)

Congratulations to these students for their outstanding achievement!



Students win at APPLES World Language Competition

On Saturday, March 29th, 2025, French, German, and Spanish students traveled to the Indiana University of Pennsylvania to compete in the APPLES Foreign Language festival. Students competed in both academic and artistic categories, such as speaking proficiency, composition, listening/reading comprehension, poetry recitation, music instrumental/vocal and various art categories. It was a wonderful day celebrating World Language studies with students from many different school districts. Our students represented Hollidaysburg very well! Congratulations to all who participated, including the following students who placed:



FRENCH: SH

Olivia Bartley - French 2 - 2nd Place Reading, 3rd Place Composition

Amelia Darnell - French 2 - 1st Place Construction Model

Madison Brown - French 4 - 1st Place Listening, 2nd Place Reading, 2nd Place Composition, 2nd Place Speaking

Jenna Zelem - French 4 - 1st Place Reading, 1st Place Composition, 1st Place Speaking, 2nd Place Listening, and Overall French Festival Winner

SPANISH: JH

Logan Burns - Spanish 1 - 1st place reading, 1st place composition, 1st place speaking, 2nd place listening

Selena Dong - Spanish 1 - 2nd place reading 3rd place listening

Catrina Stiffler - Spanish 3 - 1st place writing

SH

Josie Watt - Spanish 2 - 3rd place speaking

Michael Waibel-Maharaj - Spanish 3 - 2nd place listening

Maya Deur - Spanish 4 - 3rd place reading, 2nd place listening

Claire Muriceak - Spanish 4 - 3rd place composition

GERMAN: JH

Carilyn Borowski - German 1 - 2nd place poetry

Presley McSwain - German 1 - 1st place poetry recitation

Trent Schmouder - German 1 - 1st place cultural dance

Zach Blescia - German 1 - 3rd place reading, 2nd place listening

Rebekah Bowser - German 1 - 2nd place reading, 2nd place speaking,

2nd place T-Shirt design

Sean Furry - German 1 - 2nd place composition, 1st place tie listening

Andy Furry - German 1 - 1st place composition, 1st place speaking

Zoe Hammel - German 1 - 1st place reading, 1st place tie listening, 3rd place construction modal

Avery Black - German 2 - 2nd place listening, 1st place composition, 3rd place speaking

Maynard Snowberger - German 2 - 2nd place reading, 1st place listening, 1st place speaking

Rylan Miller - German 3 - 1st place reading, 1st place listening, 1st place composition, 1st place speaking

SH

Lindsey Warmath - German 2 - 1st place poetry recitation, 1st place reading, 2nd place listening, 1st place composition,

Savannah Eardly - German 3 - 1st place poetry recitation

Evan Daum - German 4 - 3rd place Reading, 3rd place listening, 3rd place composition, and 2nd place speaking

Ben Schmouder - German 4 - 1st place reading, 2nd place listening, 1st place composition, 1st place speaking and Overall German Festival Winner

Garett Wertz - German 4 - 2nd place reading, 1st place listening, 2nd place composition, 3rd place speaking

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TWO OVERALL FESTIVAL WINNERS:

Ben Schmouder - German Language

Jenna Zelem - French Language

JH/SH MUSIC

Congratulations to the following students who attended the Keystone String Fest at Clearfield on Friday, January 17th! These students joined forces with students from ten other area schools to rehearse all day with a guest conductor and present an evening concert for their friends and families.

The following students attended the festival: Alannah Laird, Silas Wolfe, Sofia Douylliez, Andrew Stump, Kayla Pappal, Aidan Sleasman, Caliauna Venios

The following students also qualified for the festival but were unable to attend due to a snow day date change: Audrey Blescia, Kelsa Snyder, and Anna Zelem



District and Region Orchestra

The following students participated in PMEA District 4/6 Orchestra in January, 2025.

Front row: Ben Freedman, Olivia Palguta, Tabitha Smith, Bailey Ross, Gideon Karn, Marisa Salisbury, Lindsey Warmth, Ethan Donlan, Caleb Engle.

Back Row: Carson Brenneman, Anna Bender, William Zhu, James Sutton, Michael Waibel, Jeff MCCoy and Sebastian Diaz.

All-State Chorus

Carson Brenneman, Jefferson McCoy, and Nora Stanek all qualified for the 2025 All-State Chorus Festival this year.



Congratulations to the Class of 2025

