

Please see flyer(s) below that might be of interest:

[Elementary PTA Golf Outing](#)

[FDR Family Fun Festival](#)



*What's Right with
Spackenkill!*

June 22, 2018

*A tradition of
excellence with a
vision for
tomorrow*

Dear Spackenkill Community,

Yesterday as I was at Todd helping with parking for their Moving Up Day Ceremony, one of our drivers pulled over to say hello. She volunteered how every year at this time she feels both a little melancholy saying goodbye to her student riders and of course happy at the start of the summer. I can relate to those sentiments. I always take pride in the accomplishments of our students and staff, but oddly feel bittersweet as a school year comes to a close.

I hope that you, our students, families, and staff, can look back and appreciate the benefits of your hard work and accomplishments in and out of the classroom and the enjoyment of the personal relationships that come out of being part of the Spackenkill "family." I know that I do.

This is also a time to feel thankful – improved facilities on the horizon, record passing percentage on our school budget vote, and so many local, state, and national academic achievements. I wish our retiring staff well. Your imprint remains cemented in our schools. Class of 2018, you have distinguished yourselves in so many positive ways. And parents and families, we are fortunate for your support.

Please enjoy the welcome break with family and friends. Take care of your body and mind. Find cultural and educational opportunities in every family trip. In closing, we remain Spackenkill Strong and Spackenkill Proud!

My best,



Mark Villanti, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Celebration of Successes



At the last Board of Education meeting on June 18th, the What's Right with Spackenkill Celebration of Successes took place in the Todd Dining Hall.

The purpose of the celebration is to honor and recognize outstanding individuals in the Spackenkill



district. Despite some wild weather, many attended the event, which included a performance by middle school musicians, a tribute to our graduates and outgoing board member, and reminiscences about our retiring staff and teachers.

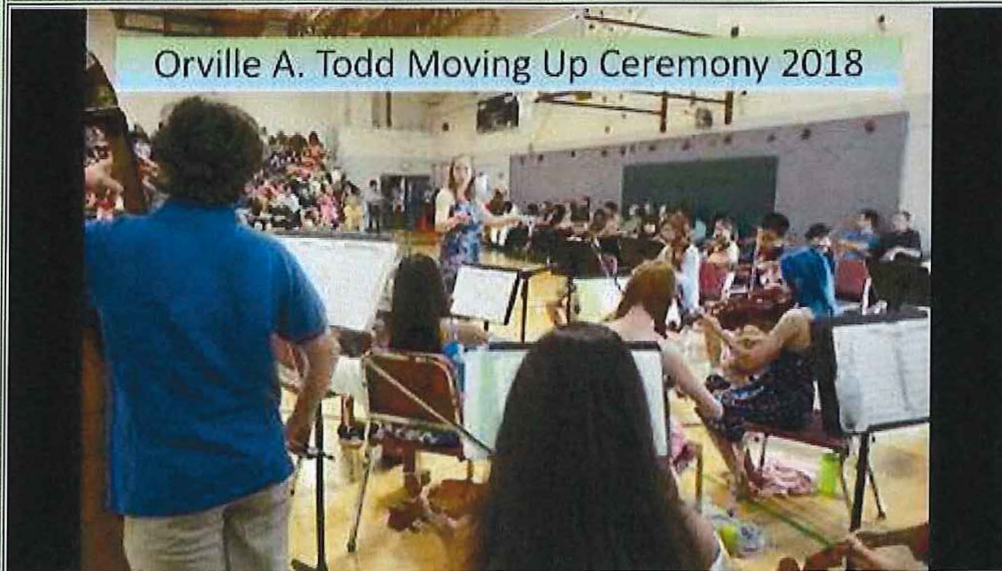
[CLICK HERE TO SEE PHOTOS FROM THE EVENING](#)



On Their Way to SHS...

On Thursday, June 21st, the Orville A. Todd Moving Up Ceremony took place in the gymnasium. Principal Dan Doherty opened the event by reflecting on the challenges of middle school years. He asked the students to join him in applause for parents and caregivers for helping them through this time. He also pointed out that four amazing teachers will be retiring this school year: Mrs Carter, Mrs. Nyugen, Mrs. Strawn, and Mrs Webster. They will be missed by all.

The awards and honors segment of the program followed (see program below for details) with presentations by Mrs. Sobrin, Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Vazquez, Mr. Rawls, and Mrs. Chaoussoglou-Rotter. Three student speakers eloquently offered their thoughts about Todd Middle School and the future. The students then received their diplomas and formed a procession led by SHS Principal Steve Malkischer out of the gymnasium. Congratulations to the future Class of 2022!



[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE PHOTOS.](#)

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Best Day Ever...

Todd Middle School students were rewarded for all their hard work this school year with a fun field day and picnic. The day began with a canine demonstration by Genny the Bloodhound.

Students loved petting this gentle dog afterward. All grades competed in a tug of war in the gym, with the winning team playing the teachers—who won! Students went outside to enjoy a blow-up slide, giant hamster balls, field games, tie-dyeing, and eating ice cream. Students also took a break from the sun to play volleyball, ping-pong, and board and card games. It was a wonderful way to end the year!

TODD PICNIC & FIELD DAY



[CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE PHOTOS.](#)

HAGAN MOVING UP CEREMONY 2018



The Hagan Class of 2018 had its Moving Up and Awards Ceremony last Friday. Before the ceremony began, the students

enjoyed a breakfast courtesy of IHOP while Ms. Valentine's Moving Up Musicians played in the gymnasium for family and friends. One very special guest in attendance was Dr. Eileen Sicina, who got to know the 5th graders when they were in their kindergarten year at Nassau and she was interim principal. Prior to that, she was principal at Nassau and Hagan Elementary schools for many years.

Mrs. Crichton and student speakers welcomed visitors in several languages, including Spanish and Hebrew, and Principal John Farrell gave a speech, noting how much the students had grown over the last year at Hagan and reminiscing about their great experiences together, particularly at Sharpe Reservation. Students were recognized for achievements in diverse areas, from music and art to citizenship. A celebration followed with refreshments! Congratulations to the students, their teachers, and their families!

[CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE PHOTOS.](#)

Fall 2018 Sports Registration Information

Click on the link below to register your child for a fall sport under Intent to Play. The fall season starts August 13th for all JV and Varsity sports and September 6th for Modified sports.

<http://www.familyid.com/spackenkill-ufsd-athletics>

Flag Day Involves All of Nassau

Cub Scout Pack 223 organized a Flag Day Ceremony that took place on June 14th at Nassau School. "It was a great ceremony for all the students to take a moment to recognize what Flag Day is and respectfully honor our flag and country," said Cubmaster Jeff Cohen. Mrs. Ferrarone talked about the significance of the flag in reminding us we are free. Student speakers – including Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts – spoke about the meaning of Flag Day and its history (it turns out a teacher in Wisconsin began the tradition!). The old, frayed flag that waved at Nassau for many years was taken down by Mr. Tony Elting and folded properly with the help of Scout leaders. It will be disposed of respectfully. Afterward, Mr. Elting raised a new flag. The Town of Poughkeepsie Police Color Guard was also there for the occasion. Music teacher Kody Andreas led students and staff in song, with "You're a Grand Old Flag" as the finale.

Thank you to those who worked so hard to make this event a success: all of the scouts, Cubmaster Cohen, Christopher McCracken, Adam Mazzuto, Girl Scout Leader Lisa Brady, Brad Cookinham, the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department, and the Nassau staff.



Elementary Awards Reflect Hard Work

The Third and Fourth Grade Awards Ceremony was held at Hagan Elementary on June 19th. Principal John Farrell explained that the purpose of the awards is to recognize those students who chose to do something extra and participate in an activity beyond the requirements. “Take up an instrument or join chorus. Time goes by very quickly, so make the most of it,” he said. “When you have the chance to do something extra, jump in.” Art teacher Ms. Ciccone presented awards to students who are in the elementary schools’ permanent collections and encouraged the students to pursue art—whether painting, drawing, dancing, or acting—over the summer. Music teachers Mrs. Burgess, Mr. Andreas, and Mrs. Royce handed out band, strings, and chorus

participation certificates, as well as NYSSMA recognition awards for those students who performed for judges at the annual music festival.



Sharing Their Stories

Family members paid a visit to Mrs. Wilcox's second grade class last Friday to see student projects first hand that they have completed over the past several months. The students presented fairytales they wrote themselves as well as portfolio work, which included their 100th Day Project, when they made photos depicting themselves at age 100. It was amazing to see just how far they've come this year!

Around the World

Mrs. Stout & Mrs. Katz's third grade class held their very own World's Fair last Monday. Family and friends visited to hear the students present their work. Students researched countries of their choice and created Google slide presentations complete with illustrations to share all their knowledge. Each presented a favorite slide and then showed additional slides on their Chromebooks for everyone who stopped by. Not only did the students advance their understanding of technology and how to organize their thoughts, but they also learned about important cultural traditions.

The Helping Hands World's Fair 2018



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW MORE PHOTOS.](#)

A Memorable Menagerie

Nassau first graders were delighted last Monday when the Two by Two Zoo visited the school. Members of the Association of Professional Wildlife Educators, the zoo educates and entertains students about endangered species and the conservation efforts being made to help them. Animals from around the world who visited included a lemur, freshwater North American baby alligators, a joey kangaroo, blue and gold macaw, African tortoise, an albino African pygmy hedgehog, Andean chinchilla, bearded dragon, and boa constrictor. None of the animals came from pet stores—they were unwanted or injured animals that the zoo keeps for life (except in the case of the baby alligators, which can be successfully released back into the wild). The students learned a lot about animals of the world and what they can do to help the environment on which they depend. Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring this event!

15 Croft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY

(845) 463-7800

Mission: Inspired by a tradition of excellence and a spirit of continuous improvement, the Spackenkill School District will provide all of our students with the academic and social skills necessary to pursue their goals and become responsible citizens in an interdependent global community.

Vision: All Spackenkill graduates will be lifelong learners who are inspired to pursue their dreams and contribute to the global society.

[Please submit story ideas to mary.forsell@sufsdny.org](mailto:mary.forsell@sufsdny.org)

Issues of the newsletter are available on the [Spackenkill website: www.spackenkillschools.org/district_newsletter_archive](http://www.spackenkillschools.org/district_newsletter_archive)

