

## A Message from the Spackenkill Superintendent



**One District, Multiple Paths to Excellence**

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April 9, 2021

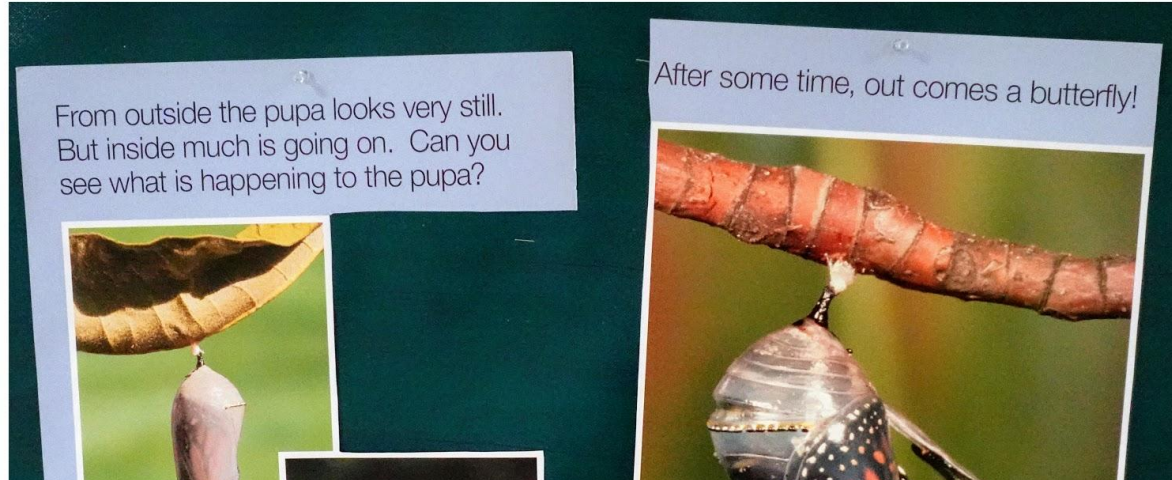
Dear Spackenkill Community,

Now that we're back from break, it's time to move forward with learning. For the elementary schools, outdoor classrooms are coming to life, with plenty of seating for all grades at Hagan and Nassau. These outdoor learning environments not only ensure social distancing and healthy ventilation, but they also offer a refreshing change of spring scenery for students.



Above: A batch of newly constructed benches just delivered to Hagan.





Above: Kindergarten students are learning all about the life stages of butterflies.

### Todd Declares Winner in March Mammal Madness

March Mammal Madness at Todd has come to an exciting end as the Red Kangaroo defeats the Harpy Eagle for the win. It was a battle to the finish with Mrs. Burns and Ben Raz fighting for the final 13 points. Ben secured his victory on March 31 and took home the trophy. [Click here to learn more about how to play March Mammal Madness.](#)

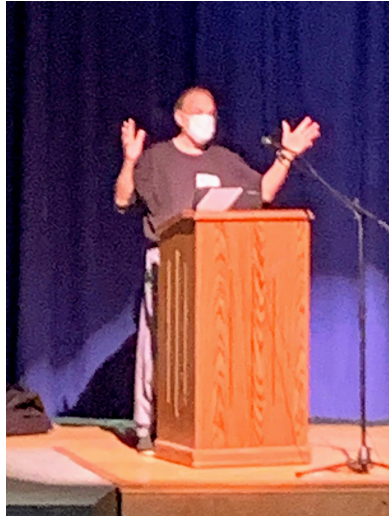


Clockwise from top: Mammal Madness trophies on display in showcase in Todd



lobby. Runner-up Mrs. Burns pretends to take the trophies all for herself. Seventh grader Ben Raz is the winner! Congratulations to all who played and learned!

### Music Professor/Producer Visits SHS



Music students at the high school attended a talk with Dr. Greg Knowles (*left*), a Professor of Music at The Juilliard School. In addition to his teaching career, Dr. Knowles was a full-time record producer and record label executive in Los Angeles for 27 years and continues to be a producer who champions new artists. Dr. Knowles is also a drummer and percussionist who spent many years touring with major rock bands.

During his talk, Dr. Knowles spoke about the history of music recording and how that has changed in the present day, including how radio has impacted music artist development. Students learned about what it is like to be a music producer, songwriter, engineer, and artist and even heard some information about auditioning for college entrance as a music student. A lively question-and-answer period followed the talk.



Above: High school music students attend a socially distanced talk.

### Athletics News



Above: Varsity Boys Soccer played Onteora on Wednesday, winning 4-0.





Above: Work on the concession stand continues at a fast pace. It should be completed in the near future.

### **COVID-19 Update and Dashboard**

Since we started the school year, we have had 87 positive COVID-19 cases. [You can see the breakdown by school on the NY State Report card.](#) This week, we had one student at Todd test positive for COVID-19. Following the latest Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health guidelines, students who have to quarantine have been contacted. Other students who were indirect contacts did not have to quarantine and will receive a SchoolMessenger with further information. Please continue to consult the New York State Report Card for updates. It's important that, even when they are remote, if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, they should email their principal so that we know what's going on in the community and can continue to make informed decisions.

Stay strong as we launch into the last quarter of the year!

Sincerely,

Paul M. Fanuele, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



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