

A Message from the Spackenkill Superintendent



One District, Multiple Paths to Excellence

April 23, 2021

Dear Spackenkill Community,

At recent meetings of county superintendents with the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health (DBCH), the agency commended school districts for keeping the in-school infection rate below that of the community due to layered mitigation measures and reported that COVID cases have been declining over the last three weeks. This is good news as we move through the last quarter of the 2020-2021 school year.

As we continue to navigate the pandemic, we also need to remain aware of worries and issues facing our students and encourage honest dialogues and open conversations to help them process current events. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's building principal, guidance counselor, psychologist, or social worker if your family is in need of additional support.

SHS Announces Valedictorian and Salutatorian

We are proud to announce the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for Spackenkill High School's Class of 2021.



Valedictorian Emily Cohen (*above left*) will be attending Northeastern University, where she will study Environmental Engineering and Health Sciences.

Salutatorian Emily Ma (*above right*) will likely be studying Mathematical Sciences at Carnegie Mellon University.

Congratulations to both students!

Pollinator Pathway Comes to Todd



Just in time for Earth Day, we are pleased to announce that the Pollinator Pathway has come to Todd! The Environmental Club, advised by Kim Rogers, has joined this local community group. The club members will be working together remotely and on school property with local schools, colleges, and Town of Poughkeepsie agencies to create awareness of environmental issues in our community. They will be working collaboratively on ways to establish pollinator-friendly habitats and food sources both on the Todd grounds and at home. Last Friday, the students met with local organizer Susan Karnes Hecht to plant the garden with joe-pye weed, black-eyed susan, milkweed, and other native plants.



Above: Local Pollinator Pathway representative Susan Karnes Hecht and Todd teacher Kim Rogers discuss native plants. Students plant the first seeds.



Above: Todd Environmental Club poses after a successful seed planting session. On far left in back row, Director of Facilities Dave Downes worked with his grounds crew to prepare the planting bed.

Spack Onstage Fundraiser & Spring Show

SPACK ONSTAGE

Spack Onstage, the Spackenkill High School drama club, is thrilled to bring live theater back to Spack with our first-ever outdoor production! Based on the hit Adam Sandler movie, *The Wedding Singer* follows rock star wannabe Robbie Hart, New Jersey's favorite wedding singer. He's the life of the party until his own fiancée leaves him at the altar. Enter Julia, a winsome waitress who wins his affection. As luck would have it, Julia is about to be married to a Wall Street shark, and unless Robbie can pull off the performance of a decade, the girl of his dreams will be gone forever.



The production has limited seating and will be presented on the HS football field on May 13, 14, and 15 at 8 pm each night. You will be screened, temperature-checked, and seated with all the members of your party, six feet apart from other groups on the bleachers. Come join us for an evening of live theater under the stars! Tickets will not be sold at the door, so buy now online at: <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/49511>

Would you like to show your support for Spack Onstage? We are currently selling masks, sweatshirts, t-shirts, and other items featuring the Spack Onstage logo to help raise funds for future productions. The past year has not been easy for the arts, but every dollar raised goes directly toward providing our students with meaningful theatrical experiences and our community with high-quality performances. All orders and payments must be received by April 30th using this link: <https://forms.gle/hg4xg1jRPxsFYttn7> Please contact Mr. Maiorana (holden.maiorana@sufsdny.org) with any questions!

COVID-19 Update and Dashboard

Since we started the school year, we have had 93 positive COVID-19 cases. [You can see the breakdown by school on the NY State Report card](#): Please continue to consult the NY 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.

Summer Workers



Spackenkill Union Free School District is now accepting applications from college students who are graduates of the district and high school juniors and seniors for the Summer Jobs Program, which runs from June 29 to August 27, 2021. Must have a valid NYS driver's license. [Applications for positions to assist custodians and grounds are available for download by clicking here.](#)

Applications should be submitted to:

Mrs. Deirdre Caamano
Spackenkill District Office
15 Croft Road
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

Applications can also be dropped off in the mailbox outside of the District Office.

Deadline: May 21, 2021

Looking forward to warmer days ahead!

Sincerely,

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



15 Croft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603; 845-463-7800