

# A Message from the Spackenkill Superintendent



**One District, Multiple Paths to Excellence**

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June 4, 2021

Dear Spackenkill Community,

At our Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, June 1, we appointed John Farrell to the position of Assistant Superintendent for K-6 Instruction and Human Resources commencing on July 1, 2021. Mr. Farrell has been with the District for the past 10 years as an elementary principal. To fill his shoes at Hagan, Clinton DeSouza, certified as a School Building Leader, has been appointed as Acting Principal for the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. DeSouza is completing his 15th year with Spackenkill and has been a social studies teacher and Varsity Football coach at the high school. We look forward to an exciting school year ahead! Congratulations to both!



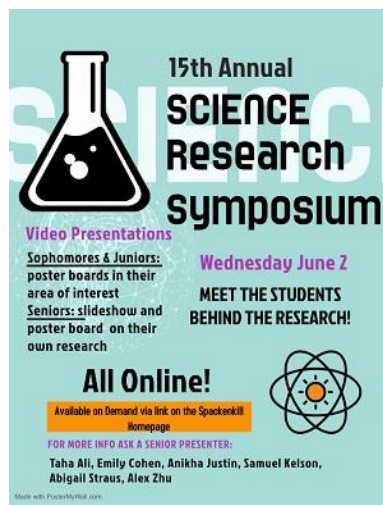
*Above:* John Farrell (*left*) and Clinton DeSouza will move into new positions for the 2021-2022 school year.

Also at the Board meeting, we honored our retirees. Please click on the image below to view the presentation:



## Science Research Symposium

The 15th Annual Science Research Symposium went online on the District and high school websites this past Wednesday. Please click on the image below to view the presentation and learn about our high school students' amazing research!



### Six Teams Are Scholar-Athletes

Congratulations to the following spring athletic teams for qualifying for the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) Scholar-Athlete Team Award. To receive this recognition, the team's average GPA for 75 percent of the roster must be greater than or equal to 90.00.

- Varsity Boys and Girls Spring Track
- Varsity Baseball
- Varsity Softball
- Varsity Boys Golf
- Varsity Boys Tennis



### SGO Spirit Week

Over the last few weeks, the High School Student Government Organization (SGO) held "May Madness." Advisors Mrs. Girard and Mrs. Oakley organized two spirit weeks as well as Teacher Appreciation Week.

The first spirit week ran from Monday, May 10-Friday, May 14 with each day being a different theme:

- Monday: Favorite Holiday Day
- Tuesday: PJ Day

Wednesday: Jersey Day

Thursday: Luau Day

Friday: 1960s Day

During Teacher Appreciation Week, May 17- 21, SGO treated teachers to goody bags, a continental breakfast, and personalized notes. On Friday, May 21, Principal Malkischer held a luncheon for the staff and the PTSA arranged an ice cream truck to stop by for dessert. The ice cream truck also swung by Todd to honor the hard work of the staff there.

During the final week of May, spirit week had even more themes:

Monday: USA Day

Tuesday: Wild West Day

Wednesday: Tie-Dye Day

Thursday: Spack Spirit Day

It was fun to see the students and staff participating and having a fun time following the themes! Enjoy some scenes below.





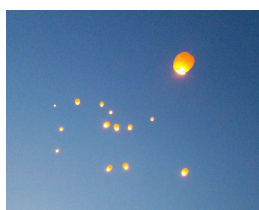
### **French Club Shares a Love of Language**

Over the course of the month of May, French Club Advisor Brittany Hart organized a KinderFrench program with the help of Julie Pineau-Kelsey. Every Friday afternoon, volunteers from the high school French Club visited the in-person kindergarten classes in the outdoor classrooms at Nassau Elementary and taught them a French lesson.

These student-led lessons were designed to introduce kindergartners to the French language in a fun, engaging, and age-appropriate manner. The kindergartners and high schoolers both had a great time! In June the club will be "visiting" the remote kindergarten class as well.



### **Remembrance Walk Returns**



Please save the date, June 11, for the return of LEO Club's annual Remembrance Walk in memory of those who have passed away.

The event will take place in the early evening--details to come! We will walk the Spackenkill track and then gather together for a program of events, including releasing lanterns and honoring people who have passed within the last year. LEO Club welcomes anyone who would care to speak at the event about losing a loved one during the pandemic. If you have lost a loved one please send us a picture of them along with their name so we can honor them in our slide show. Please contact Ria Bhutani at [rbhut20030@sufsdny.org](mailto:rbhut20030@sufsdny.org) if you are interested in speaking or sending a photo.

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

Since we started the school year, we have had 100 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.

We've completed our first week of June and are headed into the home stretch!

Sincerely,

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



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