

A Message from the Spackenkill Superintendent



One District, Multiple Paths to Excellence

June 11, 2021

Dear Spackenkill Community,

There's a lot going on as we come to the end of the school year. Over the last week, we've held a fun event for the class of 2022 as well as the Senior Prom. Tonight, the Remembrance Walk will take place at the high school. Next week, we look forward to the Senior and Athletics Awards Ceremony, 8th Grade Dinner Dance, and High School Graduation on June 18th. The following week we will have the 5th and 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremonies as well as the 2nd Grade Sendoff. It will all go by in a flash, so enjoy every moment.

Computer Students Excel in Competition



Mrs. Fletcher's computer programming students did an outstanding job in Siena College's 33rd Annual High School Programming Contest, which was held on June 2nd. Over the years, thousands of high school students have participated in the contest. Working in small teams on a challenging set of problems for several hours, students have tested their programming skills and problem-solving abilities.

Spackenkill had three teams participate. Teams were challenged to solve seven problems in 2.5 hours. They had to work together remotely. All the teams were able to solve some problems and for most of them it was their first competition. One of our teams tied for 3rd place (first time there was ever a tie!) and will be sent a trophy! They are Connor Schnackenberg, Dan Eng-Kohn, Nicholas Busaba, and Satvik Kukreti. The other teams' members were Jonathan Raz, Alex Daley, Elena Sung, Joanna Wong, and Sarah Lu. Congratulations to these students!



Clockwise from top left: Connor Schnackenberg, Satvik Kukreti, Daniel Eng-Kohn, and Nicholas Busaba.

Hagan Runners Support Charity

Ever since the spring, Hagan students, district staff, and parents have been tracking their walking, running, and cycling miles to benefit the Sparrow's Nest charity. Since there was no Junior Spartans Running Team event this year, the team decided to jump on the Sparrow's Nest 30-mile challenge as a way to keep kids active while also benefiting the community. Twenty students, six staff members, and five parents joined the team. Altogether the team logged 251.55 miles. "The charity was more than happy to let us join with our entry fee providing the only donation needed. However, our team went above and beyond and raised \$1,900, even though it was not required!" said Hagan teacher, running advocate, and Sparrow's Nest supporter Mrs. LaGasse. "We are so proud of the team that continued to show they cared, even when times are tough for everyone."

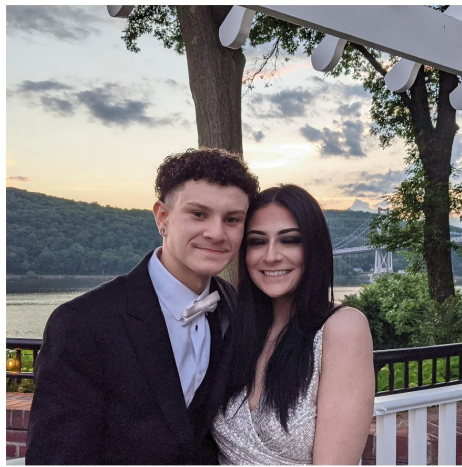


Above: A photo of the Hagan Junior Spartans Running Team from May 2019.

Seniors Celebrate Prom

On Wednesday evening, our soon-to-be 2021 graduates enjoyed a beautiful evening at the Grandview, with sunset views of the river. It was wonderful for the seniors to come together in a relaxed setting. Enjoy some moments from the evening below. Graduation is only one week away!





Juniors Look Forward to Summer

The Class of 2022 Summer Countdown (aka Junior Non-Prom) took place last week on the High School Athletic Field. A food truck visited and there were fun outdoor games at this new take on the prom.

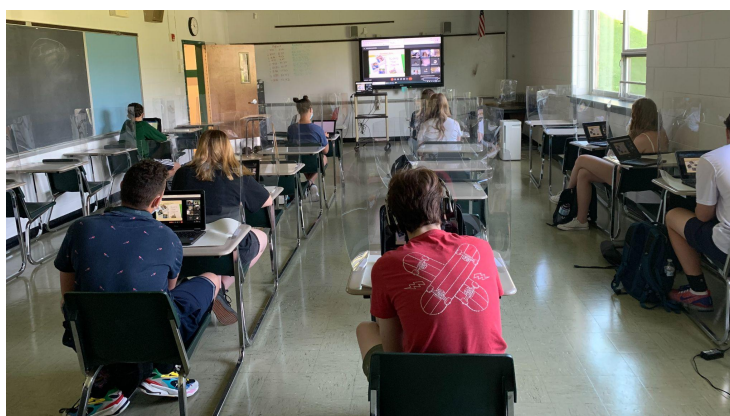


Ready to Move Up

Mrs Turner's 2nd grade full remote students came to Nassau School last Tuesday and decorated their memory rocks for the 2nd Grade Sendoff in the outdoor classroom. Our outdoor classrooms have been utilized frequently in recent weeks and add a fun element to learning.



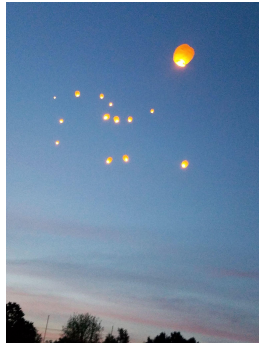
Students Encouraged to 'End the Silence'



NAMI Mid-Hudson presented to all our high school health classes this week. The organization's mission is to educate the public about mental health, de-stigmatize mental illness, and advocate for and support individuals living with a mental health condition and their families. By watching the presentation "Ending the Silence," students learned mental illness warning signs, facts and statistics and how to get help for

themselves or a friend. To learn more about the organization, visit namimidhudson.org.

Remembrance Walk Tonight



This evening, Friday, June 11, from 7:30 to 9 pm, LEO Club's annual Remembrance Walk in memory of those who have passed away will take place. At this free event, participants will walk the Spackenkill track and then gather together for a program of events, including releasing lanterns and honoring those who have passed within the last year. The event will be held light rain or shine.

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 gotten through this pandemic by joining forces and sticking together and we are almost at the finish line for this school year. Admittedly, there have been hiccups along the way, but if we talk about issues together, we can figure it out and do the best we can. We wouldn't be where we are today without the community and we are grateful for your support. Remember, on June 18th there is no school in observance of Juneteenth.

Sincerely,

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



Please see the following flyers that might be of interest:

[Dia Teens Application](#)

[Summer Youth Employment Application](#)

[Rebuilding Together Dutchess County Application](#)

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