

# A Message from the Spackenkill Superintendent



**One District, Multiple Paths to Excellence**

May 21, 2021

Dear Spackenkill Community,

Thank you, Spackenkill Community, for your support of the 2021-2022 Budget!

Budget Proposition 1 passed: 313 to 106.

Capital Reserve Proposition 2 passed: 351 to 95.

Congratulations to newly elected Board members Jeff Cohen and Sasha Barnes!



*Above left:* Dr. Richard Horvath opened the polls on Tuesday.  
*Above right:* New Board member Sasha Barnes with her family at the Budget and Trustee Vote.

## **Mask Guidance**

This past week, Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that fully vaccinated New Yorkers don't have to wear masks in most places, but masks must continue to be worn in schools. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has also relaxed mask guidelines, however it also recommends that schools continue to use the current COVID-19 prevention strategies for the 2020-2021 school year. "All schools should implement and layer prevention strategies and should prioritize universal and correct use of masks and physical distancing."

## **Athletic Signing**

Congratulations to senior Zach Garrant for his commitment to continue his academic and athletic pursuits at Manhattanville College. Zach signed his National Letter of Intent on May 19th and plans to compete on the school's basketball team.



Above: Zach Garrant with his parents, Terri and Stan, and his brother, Stanley, after signing a letter of intent.

### More Sharpe Photos

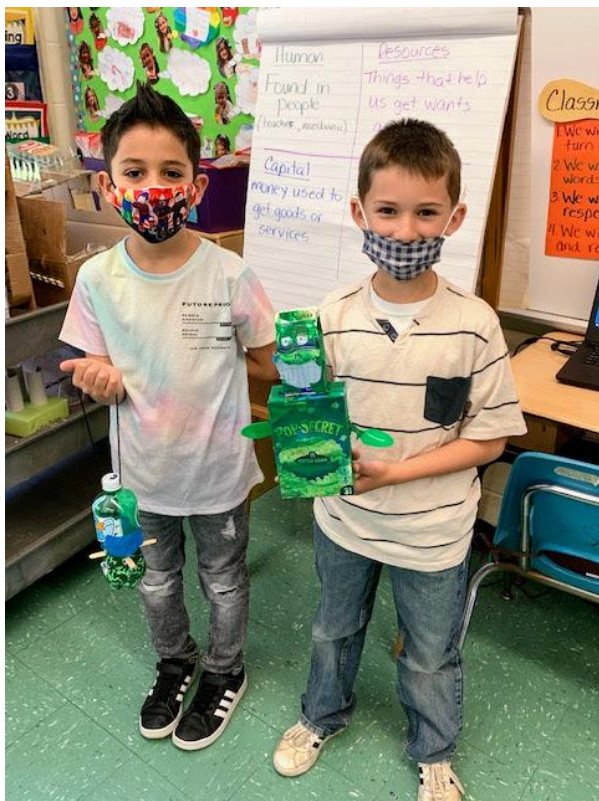
More photos keep coming in from the Sharpe Reservation fifth grade trip last week. Superintendent Fanuele had a chance to visit last Wednesday, and found the students to be super-enthusiastic about the trip. Please enjoy some photos below:



Above: Scenes from Sharpe show students exploring nature and listening to presentations. *Top right and bottom right.* Dr. Fanuele with the students.

### Second Graders Recycle Creatively

To go along with their learning unit on Economics, students in Mrs. Zanca and Mrs. Christolon's second grade class created Recycled Inventions. Using common household items, they engineered and produced their own usable products and presented them to the class. Bird feeders, musical instruments, and games are among the clever examples.



**Mental Health Awareness Starts Early**



Laura Bagnarol, LMSW, the Leave Replacement Social Worker at Nassau, has been working closely with students for Mental Health Awareness Month. She has been visiting all the

classes to talk about what good mental health looks like. In her workshop, she explains her role as the School Social Worker and talks about the ways that we keep our bodies healthy and ways that we can do the same for our minds. She reads students a book, *When My Worries Get Too Big*, and together they explore topics that make them feel good as well as things that can make them feel upset. Next, they identify several coping strategies to use when our worries get too big! Students receive a bookmark to help remind them that talking about how we are feeling is always a good thing!

Above: Laura Bagnarol visits Mrs. Strapec's second grade class to talk about the importance of good mental health.

### Novice Crew Takes to the Hudson



Novice Crew Coach Brittany Hart sent an update on her seventh and eighth grade student athletes. At their Monday practice, they rowed a novice-only full eight boat for the first time this season. It was a beautiful day and the rowers enjoyed their time out on the water!

### Spack Onstage Spring Show

**SPACK** ONSTAGE *The Wedding Singer* was an amazing and inspirational success. The cast and crew of Spack Onstage gave a wonderful performance. Some photos of Saturday evening's event are below:





### 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.

Please keep in mind that next Friday, May 28, and Monday, May 31, school is not in session for the Memorial Day holiday.

Sincerely,

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



Please see flyer that might be of interest:  
[Summer Basketball Camp](#)

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