

A Message from the Spackenkill Superintendent



One District, Multiple Paths to Excellence

October 16, 2020

Dear Spackenkill Community,

As we look ahead to winter, we are planning our procedures for weather-related changes in our schedule. As in the past, please expect a phone call, email, and/or text in the morning. Information will also be posted on our website, as well as cancellations.com and on radio stations listed on our website under [Closings and Delays](#). This year, we could have fully remote learning days or traditional snow days when there is inclement weather. You might still receive your daily screening app when schools are closed or on a fully remote schedule, but you do not need to fill it out on those days.

COVID-19 Updates

An article that appeared on October 14th in the online version of the *Poughkeepsie Journal* referring to a positive COVID-19 case in the Spackenkill District did not accurately reflect the [NYS School COVID-19 Report Card](#). The case at Hagan was *off site*. The on-site positive case was for Todd Middle School. An on-site student is described as any student attending school in any manner of operation. In other words, if a student tests positive and is in a hybrid cohort that is not in school, that student is still considered on site. If a student or staff member is determined to be positive for COVID-19 and was present in a school building, the Spackenkill District will be in contact with the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health for their guidance. Please keep in mind that the laboratory results posted on the School Report Card may or may not be those of a student who attends school in our district. Always check our [COVID-19 Info Center](#) for COVID-related information.

National Principals Month

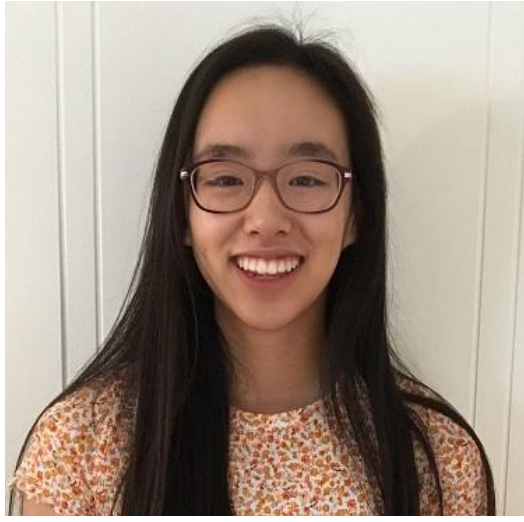


October is National Principals Month, and we are grateful for the principals at all our schools who have tirelessly worked to open our schools and keep our students and staff safe. Visit www.principalsmonth.org, where you can find ideas for thanking your principal!

Merit Scholars Announced



The National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced the names of 16,000 high school seniors who qualified as semi-finalists in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program by their outstanding performance on the PSAT/NMSQT. We are proud to announce that Alexander Zhu was named as a semi-finalist. Alexander will have the opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 7,600 Merit Scholarship awards to be offered next spring. Congratulations on a job well done!

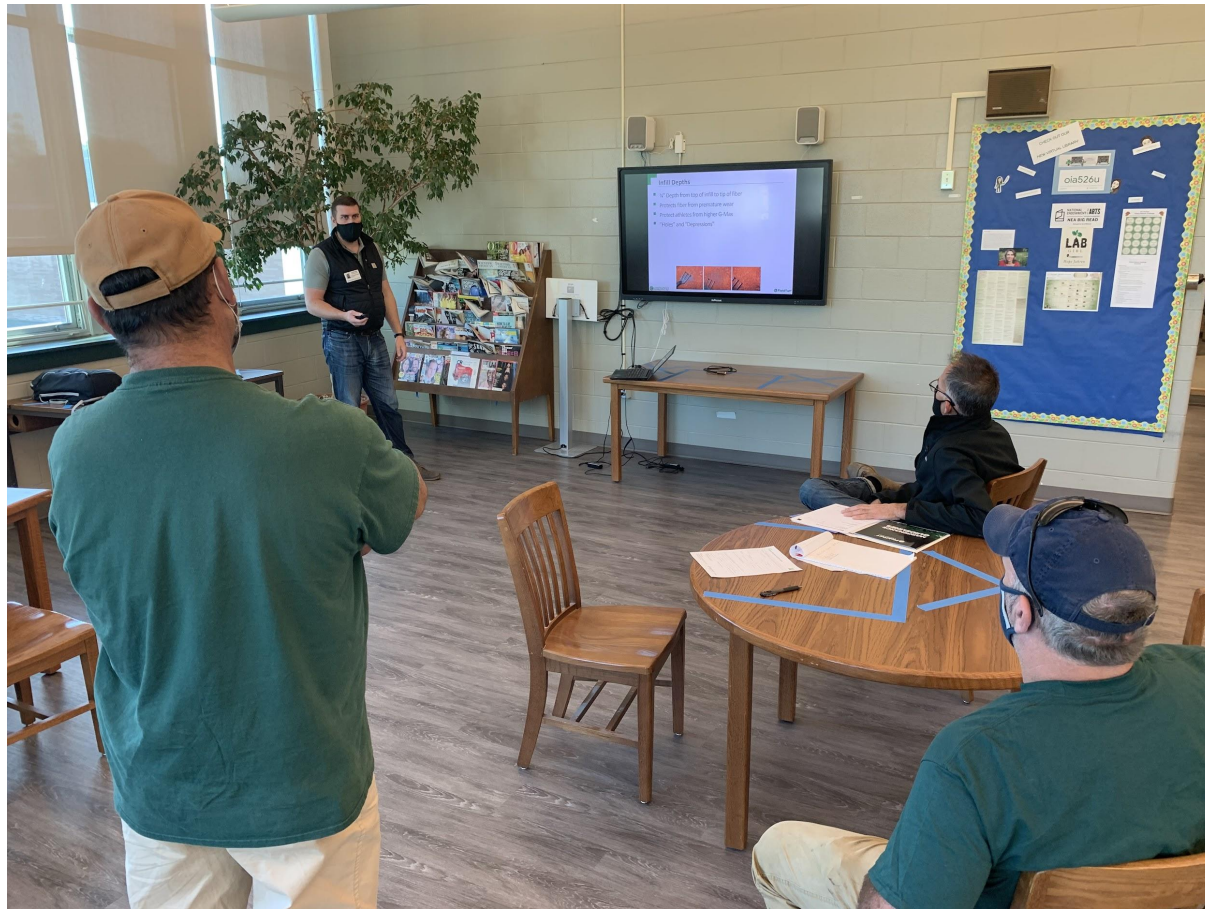


National Merit Scholarship Corporation has announced the names of about 34,000 commended students in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program. We are proud to announce that Emily Ma (*above left*) and Sanjana Shahani (*above right*) are being recognized for the exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance. Commended students place among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2021 competition by taking the 2019 PSAT/NMSQT. Congratulations to both of you on this significant achievement!

More Photos from around the District



Above: In the Hagan front office, Pat Sample and Diane Pitcairn handpainted a beautiful bulletin board that is now on display. In the top photo, notice the desktop monitor with a how-to video for painting a tree. Great job!



Above: Chris White, marketing manager at Chenango Contracting, held a turf field maintenance workshop this week at the high school. Chenango Contracting is the company that installed the synthetic turf this summer. They provided information and an on-field demonstration on how to care for and maintain the athletic turf field. In attendance were Athletics Director Marco Lanzoni and Facilities Director Dave Downes, along with Jose Fernandez and Patrick Reid from the facilities and grounds department.



Last week, we showed photos of Mrs. Romani's art students working on a ceramics project. This week, the students are glazing their work. *Clockwise from top left:* Mrs. Romani teaches students in person and online. Students glaze their pinch pots with multiple colors. Superintendent Fanuele visits with art students.

Enjoy your weekend!

Sincerely,

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



Please see flyer(s) that might be of interest:

[Art Effect Virtual Portfolio Day](#)

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