



# KENNETT

CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 2014

## Kennett Schools Recognized at State Level

The Kennett Consolidated School District is honored to announce that Greenwood Elementary School and Kennett Middle School have received recognition from Gov. Tom Corbett and the Pennsylvania Department of Education as high-performing schools. Kennett Middle School principal, Mr. John Carr, and Greenwood Elementary principal, Mrs. Tracey Marino, received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Academics along with a celebratory banner and proclamation.

"The Kennett Middle School community is proud to have received this proclamation," Principal Mr. Carr stated. "This accomplishment is a testament to our determined students, active parents, and highly engaging staff. We look forward to a future of continuing excellence."

Only 428 schools across the Commonwealth were recognized for this achievement that required schools to earn a 90 percent or higher on the 2012-2013 Pennsylvania School Performance Profile. Profile scores are calculated

based on academic achievement, closing the achievement gap, indicators of academic growth, and other indicators such as attendance and graduation rates, if applicable.

Schools may also receive extra points based on state and industry assessments and students earning a score of three or higher on AP exams.

Kennett Middle School received a score of 91.4. It scored in the 80s in PSSA mathematics and writing and in the 70s in PSSA reading and science. The school also achieved a 95.75 score in mathematics growth expectations and perfect 100s in reading, science, and writing growth expectations.

The middle school also boasted a 96.38 score in attendance rates and received extra credit points for all four categories of PSSA results.

"The staff appreciates the recognition of its dedication to our school goals and the continuing commitment to the belief that all students can be successful."

Greenwood Elementary School received a score of 92.4, scoring in the 80s in mathematics, science, and writing; reading scored in the high 70s for PSSA testing results. The school boasted perfect scores in mathematics, reading, science, and writing growth expectations and a 96.44 in attendance rates.

Just like the middle school, Greenwood also received extra points in all four PSSA testing categories.

"The staff and students have worked very hard to achieve this level of academic performance," Mrs. Marino stated. "Greenwood's ongoing commitment to teaching and learning is exemplified by this honor. We are so proud of our hard work and very happy to have it recognized."

"These schools serve as a role model to their peers across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for their ability to showcase what can be achieved when quality educational programs, enthusiastic teachers and staff, dedicated administrators,

parents, and a supportive community come together on behalf of students," Gov. Corbett wrote in a proclamation to the schools.

The other schools in the District also came close to scoring in the 90s:

- Kennett High – 88.9
- New Garden Elementary – 87.0
- Bancroft Elementary – 86.2

On behalf of Kennett Consolidated School District Board of Education and its administration, Superintendent Dr. Barry Tomasetti extended sincere congratulations to the students, families, teachers, and support staff for this outstanding academic achievement award.

"These awards are a wonderful opportunity to really celebrate two of our schools," Dr. Tomasetti said. "They are a sign that our students have been growing in every building." Access to the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile is available at [www.paschoolperformance.org/Downloads](http://www.paschoolperformance.org/Downloads).

## 2014-2015 School Year Calendar Overview

The 2014-2015 student school year will begin on Monday, August 25, 2014. The winter holiday will run from Monday, December 22, 2014 through Friday, January 2, 2015, with school resuming on Monday, January 5, 2015. Spring break will be Monday, March 30 through Friday, April 3, 2015.

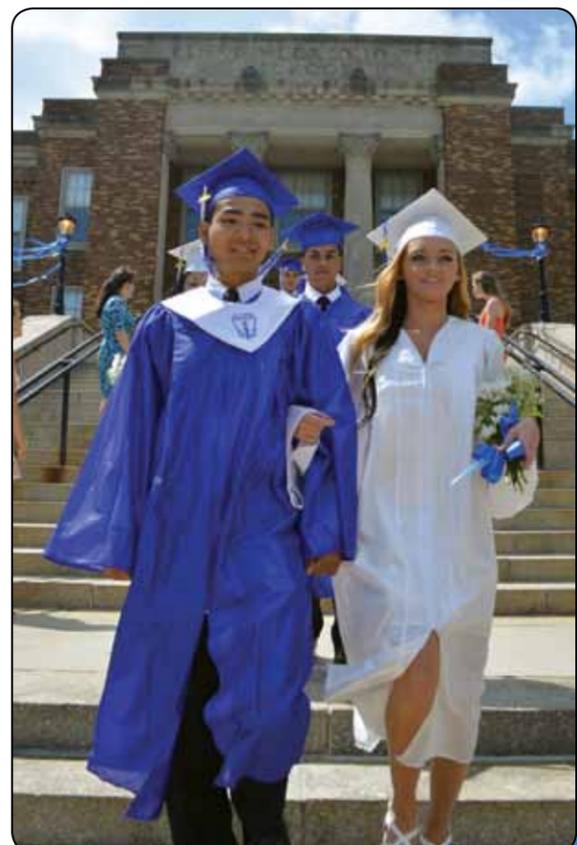
Nine (9) inclement weather make-up days have been built into the calendar and will be used in this order – December 22, and December 23, 2014, February 6, June 11, June 12, February 16, March 30, March 31, and April 1, 2015. Additional days will be made up at the end of the school year. There are five days designated as "local holidays" in accordance with the ruling of the Department of Education. The designated local holidays are Monday, January 19, 2015 (Martin Luther King holiday); Monday, February 16, 2015 (President's Day holiday); and Monday, March 30 through Wednesday, April 1, 2015 (spring break).

The complete calendar of conference days and school activities will be posted on the District's website in August.

## Celebrating the Class of 2014

On June 14, the 303 members of the Class of 2014 walked down the steps of Kennett High School with their heads held high. Students and administrators addressed the graduates, and opportunity, knowledge, and courage were among the recurring themes of the day.

Additional photos, quotes and a list of this year's graduating class can be found throughout this issue.



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## District Directory

### KENNETT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

300 East South Street  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
610-444-6600  
Fax: 610-444-6614  
www.KCSD.org

#### Board of School Directors

Heather Schaen, President  
Douglas B. Stirling, Vice-president  
Michael Finnegan, Treasurer  
Kendra LaCosta  
Joseph Meola  
Aline Frank  
Dominic Perigo  
Rudy Alfonso  
Janis Reynolds

#### District Office Administration

Dr. Barry Tomasetti, Superintendent  
Mark T. Tracy, Assistant to the Superintendent  
– Business Affairs  
Nancy L. Tischer, Director of Human Resources  
Sharon Bennett, Director of Special Education  
Robert J. Perzel, Director of Construction and Facilities  
Jane Pedroso, Curriculum Supervisor for Language Arts and Social Studies

#### Kennett High School (grades 9-12)

100 East South Street  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
610-444-6620  
Dr. Michael Barber, Principal  
Raymond Fernandez, Assistant Principal  
Dr. Tomorrow Jenkins, Assistant Principal  
Jeffery Thomas, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director

#### Kennett Middle School (grades 6-8)

195 Sunny Dell Road  
Landenberg, PA 19350  
610-268-5800  
Dr. John E. Carr, Principal  
Lorenzo DeAngelis, Assistant Principal  
Jeremy Hritz, Assistant Principal

#### Bancroft Elementary School

181 Bancroft Road  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
610-925-5711  
Leah McComsey, Principal

#### Greenwood Elementary School

420 Greenwood Road  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
610-388-5990  
Tracey Marino, Principal

#### Mary D. Lang Kindergarten Center

409 Center Street  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
610-444-6260  
Carla Horn, Principal

#### New Garden Elementary School

265 New Garden Road  
Toughkenamon, PA 19374  
610-268-6900  
Susan McArdle, Principal

#### Non-Discrimination Policy

The Kennett Consolidated School District will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Kennett Consolidated School District students and parents who have an inquiry or complaint of harassment or discrimination, or who need information about accommodations for persons with disabilities, should contact the Superintendent's Office at 300 East South Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348, telephone (610) 444-6600.

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For questions or comments email us at [PR@KCSD.org](mailto:PR@KCSD.org)

## Alumna Spotlight: Kennett Alumna Finds Inspiration From Past Teacher

Ms. Tricia Finn, Kennett High School Class of 2010, was a member of Mrs. Sue Yocum's second-grade class when Mrs. Yocum wrote and published her book *Let's Go to a Mushroom Farm*. It was this book and Mrs. Yocum's nurturing nature that inspired Ms. Finn to write her own book, *A Trolley Ride Through Kennett Square*.

"I had many great teachers during my time in the Kennett Consolidated School District," the recent West Chester University graduate said. "But Mrs. Yocum stands out in my mind. Even as a second-grade student, I felt her love for children and for teaching."

Ms. Finn's book tells the story of a fourth-grade student who takes a magical trolley ride with William Penn to local historical sites. As a member of West Chester University's Honors College, Ms. Finn was required to complete a capstone project that identified, investigated, and creatively addressed an issue relating to her major. The book, as she explained, addresses the introduction of nonfiction reading in elementary classes as part of Pennsylvania's Core Standards.

"My topic and the age of the main character are in line with when Pennsylvania history is taught in elementary school," Ms. Finn said.

Ms. Finn's activities outside of the classroom included serving as an on-campus tutor for three years, as well as the historian of an environmental club.

A secondary education major with a concentration in English literature, Ms. Finn believes she will write again. "I have always loved writing and would like to write books that my future students can relate to as a way to enrich the curriculum," she commented.

Ms. Finn's love of writing and creativity runs in the family. Her brother is a singer/songwriter living in California and her sister is a professional singer living in Germany. Her parents reside in Kennett Square.

While at Kennett High School, Ms. Finn was involved with the school's musicals and productions at the Kennett Amateur Theatrical Society.

If you know of a Kennett High School alumnus who would be a good candidate for a spotlight, please email [PR@KCSD.org](mailto:PR@KCSD.org).



## Elementary Students Debate Alternative Energy

Armed with color-coded index cards and confidence in their research, fourth-grade gifted students at Bancroft and Greenwood elementary schools debated alternative energy in front of their peers. "As the gifted coordinator for the District, I try to do things to enhance the curriculum for my students," commented Mrs. Mary Ella Verdes, the K-5 gifted coordinator. "A debate provides an excellent opportunity for students to use their skills of reading, thinking, writing, speaking, and listening."

The students began preparing for their debate in January by researching their assigned alternative energy source as well as the energy sources of the other three students.

"Not only did the students need to understand fully the ins and outs of their energy source, they needed to understand the other energy sources in order to refute or defend particular arguments," explained Mrs. Verdes. She further explained that in order to align with the Pennsylvania Core Standards, the students must cite their sources, which is a challenge for them.

At the debate, the students began by explaining how each energy source is created and works. From there, the students cited problems with the other sources presented by their opponents, which prompted students to defend their particular energy source. Greenwood Elementary School fourth-grade student Scott Meadow, who was assigned solar



Greenwood Elementary School students (L-R) Adam Luo, Katherine Maroko, Scott Meadows, and Jesse Comanda debate the pros and cons of alternative energy sources as part of the District's gifted program.

power, said that finding the cost-effectiveness of each source was the most challenging for him. Scott's classmate Adam Luo said that finding credible websites that defended and refuted arguments was his biggest challenge; Adam debated in favor of nuclear energy.

As the debate continued, the students addressed issues of sustainability and cost-effectiveness.

This was the second year for the Alternative Energy Debate. Mrs. Verdes

explained that she picked alternative energy as the topic for debate because the students do discuss fossil fuels and alternative energy in science class and because alternative energy is a growing industry. "I try to tie current issues into the academic content in the hopes of making the work appealing to the students."

Both debates were decided by the student audience, who used a rubric to decide who answered questions the best.

# Celebrating the Class of 2014

Here are a few selected quotes from commencement speakers, members of Kennett High School's Class of 2014.

## Invocation

Everything we have done up to now has created who we are and what we will become. So, take a deep breath. Be grateful and embrace this moment together as we all step forward and move out of the world we've known for the past twelve years and into the world we will create.

- Jennifer A. Reynolds

## Knowledge

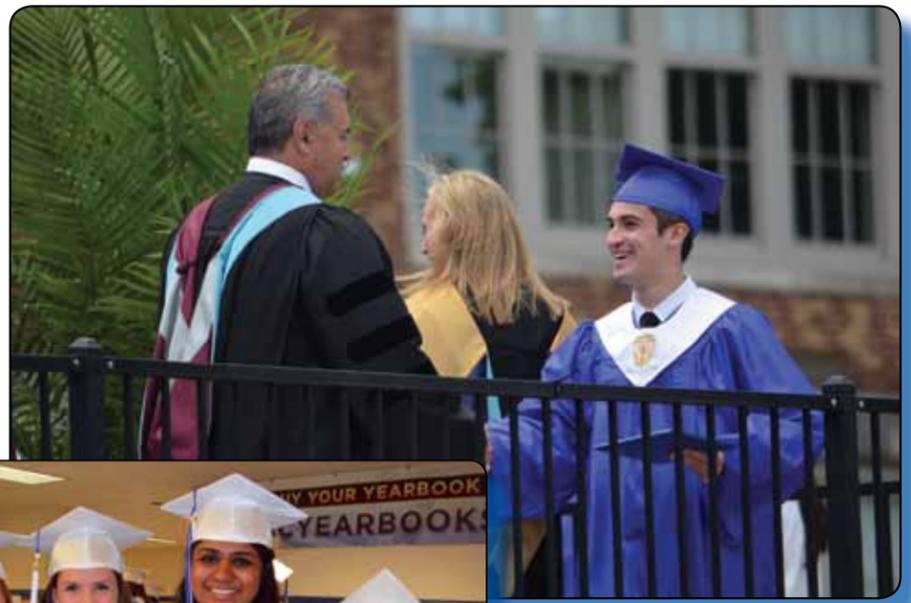
Life is an endless pursuit of knowledge. Although today may be the last day of formal education for some, our learning never ceases and our knowledge never fades.

- Aaron M. Hrenko

## Opportunity

Behind us are the challenges we've met. Before us lie new possibilities. New dreams. Today, we choose the direction of our lives.

- Liam P. Clark



## How to Deal With Name Calling and Teasing

Adults often underestimate the stress and anguish teasing and name calling cause children. Teasing and name calling are common social interactions and can be used in a playful manner among friends and classmates and between parents and children. However, it is the hurtful way that teasing and name calling often are used that may discourage school attendance for many children and erode their feelings of self-confidence. Children who call names and tease typically view their comments as mild, but their victims do not see it that way. Name calling and teasing can also be an unhealthy way to respond to one's own emotions.

Young children typically display playful teasing by laughing at others, saying silly things, and at times innocently commenting about something new or different about a child. Young children say what is on their mind and have not yet learned to filter comments. Based on the reactions of others, children begin to learn what it feels like to be teased as well as how to respond to teasing. Young children are aware that things they do can hurt others, but their teasing or name calling tends not to be deliberate. Young children with siblings may also be exposed to name calling earlier than children without siblings. Children as they enter kindergarten learn to follow rules and want to belong to a group and fit in; that is, they want friends to play with and to be invited to parties and playdates.

In elementary school years, social acceptance becomes increasingly important. Children may take part in teasing and name calling to show their power and affiliation with a peer group; conversely, children may express being the victim to gain attention and sympathy from the social group. Elementary school children tend to use more hurtful comments in their name calling as they develop better language skills. They also learn to be subtle about when and where they tease to be sure adults are not around to hear

them, and they typically deny any wrongdoing when others report them.

While adolescents become more empathetic about situations such as illnesses or loss of a parent, they can become quite hurtful toward peers. Adolescents have developed the verbal skill and the cognitive ability to find an individual's vulnerabilities and target them. Teasing at this stage is meant to hurt, embarrass, and humiliate peers in front of others, often as a means of gaining social acceptance from a desired peer group.

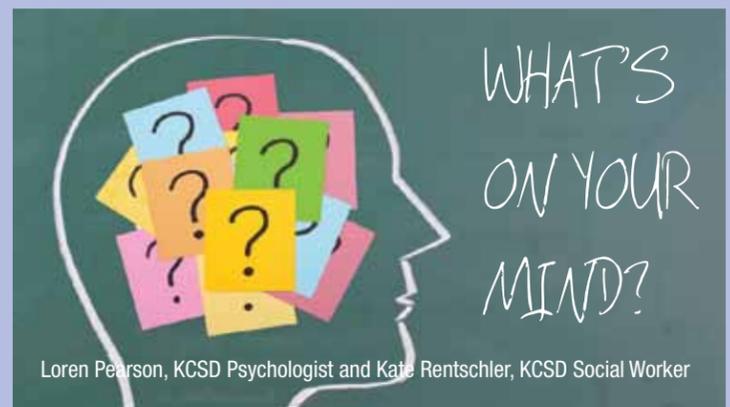
There are gender differences in the types of name calling and teasing. Boys tend to target overtly and embarrass each other, while girls tend to be more subtle by engaging in name calling and spreading rumors. Both boys and girls can make fun of each other's physical appearance that often results in intentionally or unintentionally excluding someone from the group.

Many children and adolescents lack effective problem-solving, coping strategies, and social skills to deal with teasing and name calling. When they appear upset and hurt by teasing, that becomes a signal to others to continue the teasing because they have caused a reaction. Adult efforts to intervene, such as telling children to ignore the teasing, do not usually work because victims do not know how to hide their hurt emotions effectively. Children also feel that adults do not realize how much pain they are experiencing from teasing and name calling. It is crucial that parents and teachers intervene to help children cope and interrupt the negative consequences of name calling and teasing.

### Strategies

Children need parents to validate their feelings and help them feel supported.

Talking to your children and, when appropriate, role-playing various strategies and solutions can help your child



feel more confident and less like a victim when facing difficult teasing situations.

- Listen and validate your children's feelings when they say someone is calling them names and teasing them.
- Try not to evaluate how well your children handled teasing; instead, praise your children for trying to handle this difficult situation.
- Strategies that help children cope with stress will be effective ways to deal with teasing and name calling.
- Help your children develop a repertoire of confident responses, using previous name calling situations as examples for practice.
- Have your children practice through role-playing pretend scenarios, being assertive, and showing confidence and strength.
- Teaching your children to appear calm and in control during teasing situations is an effective practice for dealing with future stress throughout their lives.
- Encourage acts of kindness and compliments. Don't accept teasing behavior.
- Work closely with other adults to help promote more positive social interactions and change inappropriate behavior.
- Find ways to highlight the strengths or special talents of children who tend to be targets of teasing and name calling.

### Resources

Beane, A. (1999). *The bully-free classroom: Over 100 tips and strategies for teachers K-8*. Minneapolis: Free Spirit. ISBN: 1575420546

Freedman, J. (2002). *Easing the teasing: Helping your child cope with name-calling, ridicule, and verbal bullying*. New York: McGraw-Hill/Contemporary Books. ISBN: 0071381759

Kaufman, G., Raphael, L., & Espeiland, P. (1999). *Stick up for yourself: Every kid's guide to personal power and positive self-esteem*. Minneapolis: Free Spirit. ISBN: 1575420826

Northway Ogden, S. (2002). *Words will never hurt me: Helping kids handle teasing, bullying and putdowns*. Seattle: Elton-Wolf. ISBN: 1586190318

### Websites

The Committee for Children: [www.cfchildren.org](http://www.cfchildren.org)

The Safe & Responsive Schools Framework: [www.indiana.edu/~safeschl](http://www.indiana.edu/~safeschl)

*This article is adapted from Helping Children at Home and School II: Handouts for Families and Educators (NASP 2004).*

## Members of the Class of 2014

Jamie Lynn Achey  
 Gabriela Maria Acosta Inoa  
 Edwin Aguilar Torres  
 Brandon Mauricio Alcantara  
 Liam Murray Allenstein-Lyon  
 Maria de los Angeles Almanza Romero  
 Jose Antonio Alvarez Marcelo  
 Erica Nicole Angeline  
 Jonathan David Angeline  
 Iesha Aponte  
 Margaret Ann Arriaga  
 Amor Noe Avila  
 Jonathan Ayllon Flores  
 Edgar de Jesus Ayllon Garduno  
 Maria Concepcion Ayllon Ortiz  
 Mairead Kathleen Barrett  
 Julia Marguerite Baumel  
 Jaden Hope Bedwell  
 Justin Thomas Beldyk  
 Tyler Joseph Bell  
 Amanda Patricia Bellino  
 Judybeth Benitez-Bernal  
 Damian Maurice Bennett  
 Samantha Joyce Bennett  
 Berenice Bernal Castaneda  
 Angelica Bernal Torres\*  
 Anna Elizabeth Birmingham  
 Sean William Reese Bonnage  
 Lauren Michelle Bontrager  
 Alec Wells Bottari  
 Casey Nicolle Bowe  
 Erica Noell Bowman  
 Taylor Damon Boyer  
 Kellie Erin Boyle\*  
 Harrison David Brown  
 Justin Buckley Brown  
 Logan Jeanne Buchanan  
 Michaela Annabelle Burns  
 Riley Samuel Burton  
 Brian Michael Bush  
 Kelsie Nancy Cairns  
 Nicholas Vincent Calderaro  
 Jeffrey Thomas Cappie  
 Diana Carmona\*  
 Jaclyn Marley Carpenter  
 Luis Enrique Carrillo Avalos  
 Lauren Rose Carroll\*  
 Kaitlyn Marie Cassel\*  
 Fernando Castaneda Ayala  
 Efrén Castaneda Bernal  
 Karen Alejandra Castaneda Lemus  
 Jaqueline Castano Garcia  
 Breanna Castillo  
 Myshel Castillo-Avalos  
 Jesus Eduardo Castro  
 Jose Refugio Castro  
 Emily Elizabeth Cattafesta  
 Peter Edward Cavallaro  
 Aubrey Ann Chase  
 Sara Chavez Morales  
 Margarita Cintora Lopez  
 Efrain Cintura  
 John Civiletti  
 Liam Patrick Clarke\*  
 Max Aaron Colby  
 Gregory Andrew Cole  
 Marco Antonio Colin Flores  
 Christian Cordova-Pedroza\*  
 Katherine Rebecca Coughlan\*  
 McKenna Shaye Coyle\*  
 Baylee Jade Crawford  
 Raul Cruz Gonzalez  
 Emily Kate Cziraky\*  
 Philip Erik Dardine  
 Carly Jasmine Dargitz  
 Santos De Larosa, III  
 Katherine Ann DeStefano  
 Haley Fairchild DeVoe\*  
 Alec Ryan DellaVecchia  
 Emmet Michael Devlin\*  
 Tristan Matthew DiCicco  
 Olivia DiFilippo  
 Mia Angelyse DiFrancesco  
 Hannah Elizabeth Dilcher  
 Ilirian Disha

Riley Cole Divins  
 Kiara Dominguez  
 Thomas Cody Dougherty  
 Michael Daniel Downes  
 Eric Ashlar Dreisbach  
 Rachael Grace Ellen Eagle  
 Pedro Echevarria DeJesus  
 Sydney Erin Eckert  
 Danielle Kathleen Eland\*  
 Stephanie Johana Escalona  
 Karina Escobar Hernandez  
 Carlos Brandon Esparza  
 Marlette G. Esparza  
 Hernan Esparza Rodriguez  
 Angela Whitney Estes  
 Kevin Fabrizio  
 Anthony Felizardo, Jr.  
 Peter Ferranto  
 Abrya Jalaysia Emonie Fields  
 Sara Eileen Finfrock  
 Luis Fernando Flores Flores  
 Pedro Flores Velazco  
 Jennifer Fonseca Salce  
 Daniel Alexander Fournier  
 Eduardo Franco  
 Mary Kate Elizabeth Fulton  
 Adan Galarza Santoyo  
 Molly Elizabeth Gallagher  
 Alejandro Gallardo  
 Jackson Houser Garrett\*  
 Cristian Gasca  
 Henry Collins Gaver  
 Breana Genaro\*  
 Alex John Giarocco\*  
 John McColm Gibson  
 Catherine Marie Gilmore  
 Katharine Elizabeth Godfrey  
 Briana Carissa Gramig\*  
 Matthew James Griffin\*  
 Julio Cesar Guzman Silva  
 Rudy Guzman Zavala  
 Quinn Danielle Haas  
 Breanna Lee Haight\*  
 Arron Franklin Hall  
 Tyler Anthony Joseph Halloran  
 Andrea Nicole Hamilton  
 Jacalyn Marie Hamilton  
 Chelsea Reed Hammond  
 Brooke Mackenzie Harner  
 Michael Edward Hemsarth  
 Ryan Christopher Herman  
 Edie Hernandez  
 Jose Brian Hernandez  
 Soraida Hernandez Garcia  
 Kyle James Hicks  
 William Lukas Holbrook  
 Aaron Michael Hrenko\*  
 Kira Ann Hulsey  
 Eric John Hynzy  
 Selena Ibarra Aguilar  
 Jacob Todd Istre  
 Christine Elizabeth Jameson  
 Zakaria Zane Jamshidi  
 Mackenzie Elizabeth Jaros\*  
 Michelle Jennifer Johnson  
 Shelby Elizabeth Johnson  
 Mark Johnson-Hoagland  
 Evan Sumner Jones  
 Isaiah Louis Jones  
 Marisol Juarez Bedolla  
 Kiera Sweeney Judge\*  
 Jacob Thomas Jury\*  
 Janis Minsun Kang  
 Ross Thomas Karwath  
 Elizabeth Anna Kauffman  
 Christopher Jack Kienzle  
 Yohsuke Kobayashi\*  
 Daniel John Kolman  
 Sonja Leigh Laaksonen\*  
 Matthew Allan Lafferty  
 Yareli Lara  
 Marco Jovani Lara Quintino  
 Salud Nallely Lemus Almanza  
 Estefania Gabriela Lemus Zavala  
 Belen Leon

Jaquelin Leon Zurita  
 Elizabeth Mae Leonard  
 Noah Zachary Lessner  
 Gabriel James Leto\*  
 Tyler Raymond Logsdon  
 Mitchell Tebell Long  
 Katia Jazmin Lopez  
 Aguilera  
 Guadalupe Estefania  
 Lopez Lopez  
 Lidia Lopez Lopez  
 Mayra Yeraldin Lopez  
 Lopez  
 Yanira Lopez Orozco  
 Javier Lopez Villagomez  
 Veronica Lopez  
 Shoshanna Pearle Lustig\*  
 Harry Richard Luzetsky, Jr.  
 Chloe Marie Major  
 Andrea Elizabeth Mancino  
 Aaron Maravillas-Rivera  
 Maddison Noel Marini\*  
 Alyssa Theresa Marino  
 Daisy Nayely Martinez  
 Gloria Martinez Lopez  
 Yony Martinez Martinez  
 Estefany Martinez Zurita  
 Josseph Emanuel Mata Talavera  
 Emily Rose Matthias\*  
 Madison Ann Mazzulo  
 Austin McDonough Fisher  
 Collin Douglas McDougall  
 Brooke Anne McGirr-Crowley  
 Madeline Paige McGirr-Crowley  
 Monica Ann McGuire  
 Kathleen Anne McQuiston  
 Leslie Maryn Medina  
 Jesus Salud Medrano Lemus  
 Brittany Ann Meola  
 Michael Anthony Merulla  
 Sean Maures Middleton  
 Kristen Elizabeth Miller\*  
 Kyra Mansfield Miller\*  
 Robert Joseph Miller  
 Lucero Moreno Diaz  
 Luis Enrique Moreno Diaz  
 Bryan Neil Moriarty\*  
 Kaitylyn Kimberly Mullins  
 Kathryn Shizue Murashige  
 Juan Murillo Tenorio  
 Sara Elizabeth Myers  
 Gabriel Navarrete  
 Silvestre Navarrete Arroyo  
 Emily Ann Nordgren  
 David Michael O'Connor  
 Kenneth Sean O'Kelly  
 Ilayda Jinjee Orankoy\*  
 Gregorio Orrostieta  
 Maribel Orrostieta-Acosta  
 Catalina Ortiz Lopez  
 Katherine Marie Otto\*  
 Anthony Joseph Pannell, IV  
 Branden Joseph Papi  
 Darshan Bharatbhai Patel  
 Krishna P. Pathak\*  
 Kyle James Pawloski  
 Dante Michael Pena  
 Karen Pena  
 Bailey Foley Phillips  
 Rachel Clare Pickard  
 Lucio Renato Pizzini, III  
 Justin David Plyler  
 Madeline Kierra-Larae Poe  
 Jesenia Quintana  
 Katie Helen Reidinger  
 Jennifer Ann Reynolds  
 Courtney Elizabeth Rhoades  
 Rebecca Anne Rhodes\*  
 Guadalupe Rios Perez  
 Julia Christine Rivera  
 Kimberlee Marie Rivera  
 Abigail Gwen Roberts\*  
 Jose Mateo Rodriguez Herrera, Jr.  
 Joseph Robert Roman  
 Sean Thomas Rook



Brett Taylor Rose  
 Marina Grace Ruggieri  
 John Marshall Rush  
 Kyler Henderson Rush\*  
 Devon Patrice Salasin  
 Maria Seleste Salinas Lopez  
 Eric William Salter  
 Leonardo Javier Sanchez Lopez  
 Vivian Sanchez Pedroza  
 Kristin Elizabeth Schaeen\*  
 Hunter Steven Schmeusser  
 Jacob Charles Seamon  
 Benjamin Stephen Shaffer  
 Jade Aleece Shelton  
 Kyle Geoffrey Simpson  
 Daniel Peter Sirusas  
 Sofie Marie Sirusas  
 Hunter Dunlap Skross  
 Nathan Tyler Smith\*  
 Norris Leroy Smith, III  
 Emma Kazan Spear\*  
 Kathryn Elizabeth Spence  
 Chelsea Noelle Sprague  
 Lydia Mairaed Stahl  
 Morgan Victoria Staley  
 Paul Joseph Steiner  
 Kiara Aneas Stevens  
 Katharine Elizabeth Stinson  
 Brenda Tapia Castaneda  
 Andrew Scott Taylor  
 Amelia Kendall Singleton Thomas  
 James Emory Thompson  
 Erica Tlaseca  
 Cory Gino Tomasetti  
 Abraham Alfonso Torres  
 Mary Noel Transue\*  
 Noah Joseph Turner  
 Shannon Eileen Turner  
 Kelsey Nicole Tynes  
 Tabitha Emile Vallee  
 Stephen Brian Van Veen  
 Ixzayana Vega  
 Alexander Robert Versagli  
 David Michael Villafane  
 Chad Wesley Waddell  
 Jacob Allan Wagner  
 Alec Michael Wantoch Davis  
 Maya Linn Webb  
 Daniel Rudolph Wellnitz  
 Benjamin Austin Welsh  
 Kyle John Werner  
 Brandon Kristopher Whisman  
 Mark Dakota Williams  
 Stephon Aanjai Wilson  
 Miles Robert Wistar  
 Nicole Marie Woodward  
 Victor Paul Yokimcus  
 Fabian Zamores Rodriguez  
 Diego Zavala Juarez  
 Ivan Zavala Zavala  
 Nancy Zavala Zavala  
 Marco Antonio Zavala\*  
 Dalva Elizabeth Ann Zunino  
 Giselle Zurita Rodriguez  
 Chris Zurita-Fonseca

\* members of the Blue and White Chapter of the National Honor Society

# Class of 2014

## Scholarships & Awards

The American Mushroom Institute's Community Awareness Scholarship.....	Lucero Moreno Diaz & Kiara Stevens
The Corene Amoss Award.....	Krishna Pathak
The Susan B. Annand Creative Writing Scholarship.....	Ilayda Orankoy
The Susan B. Annand Memorial Scholarship.....	Devon Salasin
The Applestone Foundation, Inc., Scholarship.....	Jonathan Ayllon Flores, Abrya Fields, Christine Jameson, Juan Murillo Tenorio, Darshan Patel, Jose Rodriguez Herrera, Vivian Sanchez Pedroza
The Art Honor Society Award.....	Olivia DiFilippo
The Kennett Rotary Club Harvey Atkinson Memorial Music Scholarship.....	Michaela Burns
The Becker Locksmith Services, Inc., Scholarship.....	Anthony Pannell
The Jonathan Beech Scholarship .....	Aaron Hrenko
The Horace W. Cloud, Jr. & Sara E. Thomas Cloud Memorial Scholarship .....	Jesus Castro
The Helen Corson Peace Prize.....	Krishna Pathak
The Barbara DeCarlo Scholarship.....	Emma Spear
The Robert A. DePippo Scholarship.....	Maddison Marini
The Gabe DeVitto Memorial Scholarship.....	Lauren Carroll
The Victoria Fianza Dickens Scholarship.....	Quinn Haas
The Eugene & Mary DiFilippo Scholarship.....	Yareli Lara
The E. Kneale Dockstader Foundation Scholarship.....	Katherine Coughlan
The Eberle Triplet Scholarship .....	Jesus Castro & Jose Castro
The Garage Community and Youth Center Scholarship .....	Edwin Aguilar Torres & Stephon Wilson
The Genesis HealthCare Scholarship.....	Danielle Eland
The George Family Award for Outstanding Creativity .....	Andrea Mancino
The Greenwood Elementary PTO Scholarship.....	Julia Baumel
The Sam Hoadley Scholarship*.....	Kathryn Spence
The George Holman Memorial Rotary Club Scholarship.....	Jennifer Reynolds
The Italian American Citizens League Scholarship.....	Nathan Smith & David Villafane
The Carol Karkosak Scholarship .....	Mairead Barrett
The KCSD Board of Education Award for Greatest Growth.....	Sara Myers
The KCSD Board of Education Award for Excellence in Vocational Education.....	Leslie Medina & Alec Wantoch Davis
The Kennett Alumni Association Scholarship.....	Liam Clarke & Molly Gallagher
The Kennett Amateur Theatrical Society Award.....	Kyler Rush
The Kennett Education Foundation Scholarship .....	Kaitlyn Cassel
The Kennett Education Foundation Angel Scholarship .....	Diana Carmona
The Kennett Education Foundation Reach for the Sky Scholarship .....	Sean Rook
The Kennett High School Blue Demon Award.....	Jacob Ettinger & Kenneth O'Kelly
The Kennett Square Historical Commission Award.....	Rebecca Rhodes
The KHS All-Around Student Scholarship .....	Emily Cziraky
The KHS Faculty Sunshine Scholarship.....	Jamie Achey
The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholarship.....	Olivia DiFilippo, Kiara Dominguez, Alyssa Marino, Guadalupe Rios Perez, Maya Webb, Ivan Zavala Zavala
The KMS PTO Teacher Appreciation Scholarship .....	Emily Matthias
The Krapf Bus Company Scholarship.....	Shannon Turner
The Lions Club of Kennett Square Scholarship.....	Kellie Boyle
The Cameron Logan Scholarship.....	Angelica Bernal Torres & Fabian Zamores Rodriguez
The London Grove Grange #63 Scholarship.....	Mackenzie Jaros
The John Michael Manfredi Memorial Scholarship.....	Yohsuke Kobayashi
The Jeanne Ramsey McCune Scholarship.....	Bryan Moriarty
The Wesley McDowell Scholarship.....	Kathryn Spence
The Donald McKelvie Memorial Chemistry Award .....	Katherine Otto
The Mercer Restorations, Inc., Scholarship.....	Amor Avila
The Grace Milhous Merrick Memorial Scholarship .....	Kristin Schaan
The Sara Chandler Merrick Scholarship.....	Haley DeVoe
The Sandra E. Miller Award.....	Karen Castaneda Lemus
The Evelyn Moyer Memorial AP English Award.....	Christian Cordova-Pedroza
The Evelyn Moyer Memorial AP German Award.....	Nathan Smith
The Evelyn Moyer Memorial AP Spanish Award.....	Matthew Griffin
The Evelyn Moyer Memorial AP Spanish Award.....	Marco Zavala
The Raymond Moynihan Memorial Prize.....	Kristen Miller
The Claire M. Mulvaney Prize.....	Kathryn Murashige
The Mary Myers McComsey Scholarship.....	Casey Bowe
The Nelms Economics Prize.....	Kyle Hicks
The New Garden Elementary PTO Scholarship.....	Chelsea Sprague
The New Garden Monthly Meeting of Friends Scholarship.....	Joseph Roman
The Anna M. Ott Memorial Physical Education Award .....	Emily Cziraky
The Ray Lyman Ott Memorial Award for Music .....	Ilayda Orankoy
The Ralph Parrett, Jr., Memorial Scholarship.....	Sean Bonnange
The Roscoe A. Peters Memorial Award.....	Kaitlyn Cassel
The Richard J. Posey Law Enforcement Scholarship.....	Catalina Ortiz Lopez
The Diana Reece Memorial Award in Music.....	Emily Cziraky
The Russell A. Reidinger, Jr., Memorial Prize.....	Katie Reidinger
The Russell A. Reidinger, Sr., Memorial Prize.....	Gabriel Leto
The Skip Reynolds Scholarship.....	Jacalyn Hamilton
The Steve Robison Memorial Scholarship.....	Katherine Coughlan
The Kacie Erin Rumford Memorial Scholarship.....	Amelia Thomas
The Mary A. & Arthur C. Santora Memorial Scholarship.....	Carly Dargitz
The Sinton Air Conditioning & Heating Scholarship.....	Juan Murillo Tenorio
The Pat Smith Memorial Scholarship.....	Fernando Castaneda Ayala
The Susan E. Spahn Memorial Scholarship.....	Breanna Haight
The Nancy Stees Memorial Biology Award.....	Kristen Miller
The Aaron Taylor Summers Memorial Scholarship.....	Nicole Woodward
The Swayne-Campbell-Testa VFW Post #5467 Award.....	Kiera Judge
The Emma Taylor and Joanna Taylor Nieweg Scholarship.....	Mary Transue
The Scott Thompson Student Assistance Scholarship.....	Dalva Zunino
The Alvin Wakeland Memorial AP English and AP Latin Award.....	Brooke Harner & Kristen Miller, respectively
The James G. Warburton Memorial Scholarship.....	Marco Zavala
The Kenneth A. Webb Citizenship Award.....	Emmet Devlin
The John M. Whiteside Scholarship, The Advisor's Cup, and The W. Earle Rupert Memorial Cup .....	Emily Cziraky



# A Spotlight on the Class of 2014

Our Kennett High School graduates worked hard, persevered through hardships, and will continue to make a difference in the world. To give you a glimpse into the lives of our graduates, we would like to introduce you to the following students who represent this year's graduating class.



Although **Julia Rivera** has not decided on her major, she is bubbling with excitement to be attending Auburn University

this fall. "I fell in love with the campus from the moment I arrived," Julia commented. "And I am very excited to live in the south." A dedicated student, Julia was recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Program. Her interests outside the classroom included Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Mock Trial Club, choir, the Quidditch Club, Farrago (the high school's literary magazine), playing the mellophone in marching band, and Model UN. She was named to the honors choir. Julia and her team placed first at the statewide FBLA in entrepreneurship, qualifying them to compete at the national level this summer. She also placed third in business ethics. Outside of Kennett High School, Julia was a member of the Jersey Drum & Bugle Corps for two years. She is looking forward to participating in marching band at Auburn University.

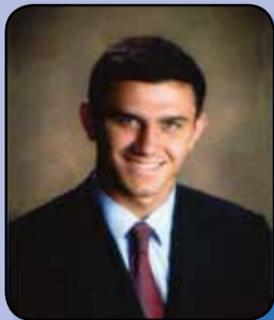


**Evan Jones** currently works as a freelance photographer and writer for the Daily Local News (West Chester), the Kennett

Paper, and The News Journal (Wilmington, Del.). His father, a photography and design professor, encouraged Evan's love of photography. "My goal is to be a war photographer," Evan said. "I like

to tell stories, and it is easy to tell a story with a camera." Evan has won numerous photography awards, but he is most proud of his photo of a Philadelphia gang member that was nominated for Sony's Image of the Year.

In addition to being a gifted photographer and journalist, Evan is an accomplished runner. As a member of the high school's track and cross country teams, he holds the school records in the 800, the 4x400 meter relay, the 8x800 meter relay, the distance medley relay, and the sprint medley relay. Evan looks to Mr. Shawn Duffy and Mr. Scott Hammel for his inspiration, stating, "They are both down-to-earth, real men who have had their struggles but are always optimistic and happy." Evan will be heading to Boston University in the fall to major in journalism. His long-term goal is to travel the country, documenting his travels by taking photographs.



**Kyle Werner** credits his father for helping him to become the young man he is today. "My dad is a Philadelphia police officer; he

runs a strict household." Kyle knows that his upbringing will help him during his time at The United States Military Academy at West Point, as well as during his active service after graduation. Kyle is proud to be following in the footsteps of his brother, who serves in the U.S. Army. Kyle's intended major is civil engineering, and while he would like to be a member of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, his ideal goal is to become a member of the Special Forces. Kyle is a talented linebacker and wrestler, and he has served as a captain for both teams. He was also named to second team All-Ches-Mont for football his junior and senior years. In addition to playing sports, Kyle served as a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Special Friends Club, Mock Trial Club, and Student Council. Kyle leaves for boot camp on July 2 and will be spending his time after graduation preparing for that experience.



**Cory Tomasetti** is proud to be one of 300 candidates who will become a member of the United States Coast Guard Academy's

incoming freshman class. "I think attending the academy is an incredible opportunity to receive a great education while serving my country," Cory stated. An accomplished athlete, Cory has played center for the football team and has wrestled for three years. He served as a captain for both teams his senior year and was named Kennett High School's Outstanding Wrestler. He was also named to second team All-Ches-Mont for football his junior and senior years and for wrestling his sophomore, junior, and senior years. In addition to sports, Cory was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Special Friends Club. Cory will major in mechanical engineering and will play football for the academy. He left for Swab Summer, a seven-week traditional military indoctrination designed to help young civilian students transition into the lifestyle of Coast Guard Academy cadets, on June 30.



**Krishna Patnak** credits her family with helping her to see the global world we live in. Her parents immigrated to the United

States in the 1980s from Gujarat, India. In addition to speaking English, Krishna speaks Gujarati, understands Hindi, and is learning Spanish. Krishna will major in international affairs at George Washington University and hopes to attend law school one day. Her inspirations for this path of study were classes she took: Advanced Placement European History, World Studies, and Comparative Government and Politics. Krishna was instrumental in establishing the Mock Trial and Quidditch clubs as well

as starting the tradition of the spring benefit concert for the Humanitarian Club. She was a member of the National Honor Society her junior and senior years, was named an AP Distinguished Scholar, and received the Widener High School Leadership Award and the Rising Leadership Award.



**Kiera Judge** wants to make a difference in the world. And for her that means studying constitutional law so she can fight against

the injustices in the justice system. She will begin her postsecondary education at Washington and Lee University on a full scholarship. She will double major in economics and philosophy. Kiera's extracurricular activities included Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Mock Trial Club, Model UN, Academic Team, swimming, and the National Honor Society. In 2013 she was a national finalist in the entrepreneurship event for FBLA. As a member of the swim team, she qualified for district competition her freshman through senior years; her favorite events are the 500 freestyle and the 200 individual medley. Academically, Kiera has taken 16 Advanced Placement (AP) exams. She has been named a National Merit Finalist and a National AP Scholar. She has also received the Harvard Book Award, the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award, and the Kennett Education Association Awards for excellence in mathematics and social studies.



**Maria Seleste Salinas Lopez's** love of doing hair has brought her to the career of her dreams as a stylist. She currently works at

Salon Secrets Spa in Kennett Square and is looking forward to taking the cosme-

## Bancroft Parent Shares His Passion for Art

Third-grade student Bella Passarelli is very proud of her father's artwork. So proud, in fact, she invited him to visit her and her classmates during art class at Bancroft Elementary School.

Mr. Robert Passarelli began the 50-minute class by telling the students that his artistic career began when he was their age. He then shared samples of his work with the students and took them through a hands-on lesson of drawing eyes with expression.

"The students were enamored with seeing a real artist and his work," Mr. Passarelli commented. Mrs. Janice Finn agreed, saying it is great for kids to see that art extends beyond their 50-minute class. "Creativity applies to so many areas of their lives; it is everywhere."

Mr. Passarelli graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in illustration. He attained membership into the PGA of America in 2003. During his 20-year career in professional golf, his art experience evolved into advertising and marketing responsibilities for his respective organizations. Several commissions for paintings and illustrations at prestigious golf clubs in the Philadelphia area have provided the fuel for his return to art. He will begin as an adjunct professor at Wilmington University in the fall.

"I love having guest speakers visit my classes," said Mrs. Finn. "They bring a new dimension to our studies."



Third-grade students Jocelyn Espinoza and Ryan King enjoyed holding samples of Mr. Passarelli's artwork during his visit to their class.

tology test this summer. "I am looking forward to the ongoing challenges and experiences that working in a salon will bring me," said Seleste. She acknowledges Ms. Chanel August for encouraging her to consider attending vo-tech after their many conversations about hair and makeup. She also credits her vo-tech teachers for encouraging her to work hard. The hard work paid off. Seleste is proud of her first place finishes in the local and district makeup competitions through SkillsUSA. She is a member of the Honor Society and was named Outstanding Senior of her class.



During her time at Kennett High School, **Kristin Schaen** has been a force on and off the field. In addition to running the 200 meter as a member of the indoor track team, she has played varsity lacrosse and varsity field hockey for four years. In her senior year, she was named the captain of both the lacrosse and field hockey teams. In lacrosse, she recorded over 100 career goals and earned herself an athletic scholarship to continue her lacrosse career at Lafayette College, where she will major in economics and international commerce. She was selected for the All-Ches-Mont League First Team. Kristin is a member of the National Honor Society and received a scholarship for fine arts from the Kennett Education Association. She also received the Dr. D. Duer Reynolds Memorial Cup, which is awarded to one senior female and one male athlete who have earned the school letter and contributed the most to athletics during their entire high school career. Kristin will spend the summer as a sailing instructor at the Lewis Yacht Club in Lewis, Delaware. Kristin has been sailing for eight years.

During her time at Kennett High School, **Kristin Schaen** has been a force on and off the field. In addition to running the 200 meter as a member of the indoor track team, she has played varsity lacrosse and varsity field hockey for four years. In her senior year, she was named the captain of both the lacrosse and field hockey teams. In lacrosse, she recorded over 100 career goals and earned herself an athletic scholarship to continue her lacrosse career at Lafayette College, where she will major in economics and international commerce. She was selected for the All-Ches-Mont League First Team. Kristin is a member of the National Honor Society and received a scholarship for fine arts from the Kennett Education Association. She also received the Dr. D. Duer Reynolds Memorial Cup, which is awarded to one senior female and one male athlete who have earned the school letter and contributed the most to athletics during their entire high school career. Kristin will spend the summer as a sailing instructor at the Lewis Yacht Club in Lewis, Delaware. Kristin has been sailing for eight years.



**Dante Peña** is a talented storyteller and is anxious to begin his academic journey at Emerson College, where he will study film and screenwriting. "I wanted to attend a school that has a big focus on entertainment and the arts because I love storytelling and cannot see myself doing anything else," he said. "My ideal job would be writing for comics and video games that have a story woven into the action." Dante has created several videos for KTV and has received two scholarships to attend Emerson College, one of which was for his video application. Dante has been named to the distinguished honor roll and received the National Hispanic Scholar Award as a senior. In addition to his participation in KTV and the Senior Video Club, Dante played junior varsity baseball his freshman and sophomore years and freshman football.

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**Lidia Lopez** has always wanted a career in which she could help people on a daily basis. For her, this dream translates to becoming a prenatal nurse. An accomplished baby sitter, Lidia was present for the births of her nieces and nephews and found it to be fascinating. Lidia volunteered with her church's Confraternity of Christ (CCD) classes and with the District's Reaching out the Community (ROC) program that placed high school students in Mary D. Lang Kindergarten Center classrooms to work alongside

ing a prenatal nurse. An accomplished baby sitter, Lidia was present for the births of her nieces and nephews and found it to be fascinating. Lidia volunteered with her church's Confraternity of Christ (CCD) classes and with the District's Reaching out the Community (ROC) program that placed high school students in Mary D. Lang Kindergarten Center classrooms to work alongside

teachers. She will begin her postsecondary career at Delaware County Community College with the goal of transferring to a four-year college. Lidia is the first member of her family to graduate high school and to attend college. She is looking forward to transitioning to college and the flexibility that comes with that experience.



After shadowing a speech language pathologist at Alfred I. DuPont Children's Hospital, **Emily Matthias** fell in love

with the profession. More research led her to Duquesne University. "Duquesne is in a perfect location and has a great program that will allow me to graduate with my master's degree in five years," she explained. Emily was an active member of the Kennett High School community. She served as secretary of her class for four years and as historian of the Interact Club. She was an editor of the yearbook, a member of the Special Friends Club and ROC, and participated in the musical. She is a member of the National Honor Society and was named a Kennett High School Student of the Month by the Rotary Club. Emily was also a Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Ambassador in her sophomore year and volunteered for the program during her junior and senior years. Outside of school, she babysat every day and served as an alter server at St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Church.



**Hernan Espaza Rodriguez** dreams of owning his own auto shop one day. He is already an ASE Certi-

fied technician and is working with Goodyear in Oxford. "I plan on working for one year and then attending Universal Technical Institute's diesel program," Hernan said. He says he is fortunate that he will be doing something he loves every day in a field that is constantly growing. Hernan credits his automotive service shop instructor, Mr. John Dowling, as making a lasting impact on his life, stating that "Mr. Dowling is more than a teacher, he is a role model." Hernan wrestled during his first three years of high school, but a bad knee sidelined him for his senior year.



Although **Christian Cordova-Pedroza** is undecided about his major, he is certain that it was because of the support of

many people who believed he could do great things that he indeed has accomplished great things; the least of which was being accepted to Harvard University. "I owe my success to the many talented and brilliant teachers, friends, and family members," Christian commented. Upon graduating from Harvard, he is considering taking a gap year before pursuing a graduate degree from Oxford University, the London School of Economics, or Harvard Law School. Christian was a member of the National Honor Society and was named an AP Scholar with Distinction. He was also a member of Unidad, the Academic Team, the Humanitarian Club, and Adelante, a middle school/high school peer-mentoring program. Christian also volunteered with Kennett Run Charities and contributed to Farrago. This summer, Christian will intern at the Philadelphia Museum of Art through a program sponsored by the Smithsonian.

## Kindergartners Celebrate Dr. Suess's Birthday

Students at Mary D. Lang Kindergarten Center joined millions of their peers across the country to celebrate the 16th annual National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America Day in March. The event celebrates Dr. Suess's birthday and the joys of reading.

This was the first year that Mary D. Lang Kindergarten Center held a schoolwide celebration. The day kicked off with a schoolwide assembly where the students, who were dressed as their favorite book characters, sang "Happy Birthday" to Dr. Suess. "It was a fun assembly," kindergarten teacher Mrs. Kara Marchini commented. "We had a lot of princesses, pirates, and astronauts, as well as super heroes celebrating a beloved author."

During the day, the students participated in various reading-based activities including guest readers, a door decorating contest, and DEAR time (drop everything and read). Guest readers included high school students, Superintendent Dr. Barry Tomasetti, Nurse Kelly Hostetler, and an assistant high school principal, Mr. Ray Fernandez (pictured to the right).

While at the school, Dr. Tomasetti judged the door decorating contest. Prizes were awarded to Mrs. Mary Beth Kufen's, Ms. Samantha Budelman's, and Mrs. Lisa Murphy's classes.

"The day was a blast," Mrs. Marchini said. "I am looking forward to making the celebration a tradition at Mary D. Lang."



# Holocaust Survivor Shares Experience with Kennett High School

Kennett High School students and faculty had the opportunity to hear firsthand about one of the most significant events in history. Born in Kobylnik, Poland on March 5, 1931, Mrs. Ann Jaffe was only 10 years old when the Nazis invaded her small village. Immediately, the Nazis imposed harsh rules for the Jews in the village — they had no rights, children were not allowed to attend school, they were forced to wear yellow stars on their clothing, and all of their valuables were taken away.

She told the audience that every day for the 15 months her family lived in their village after the Nazis arrived there was killing. The first to be killed were the leaders of the village, the educated, and their families. “I cannot describe to you the feeling of constant fear, from morning until night. We had no idea if we would see the next day,” she said. But, she added, they couldn’t escape, for every day roll call was taken, and if one person was missing, 10 people would pay with their lives.

Mrs. Jaffe spoke of extraordinary, heroic people who would help the

Jews. For her family, it was a neighboring farmer who brought a jug of milk to the family’s back step every night. She explained that when the Nazis came into the village, they took the family’s cow; the milk was for her newborn brother. This farmer also offered safe hiding for the family should they have the chance to escape.

“It was extremely brave of this man to help a Jewish family. If he was caught, he would be killed along with us,” Mrs. Jaffe said. “At my community center in Delaware, we have a garden to honor the heroic gentiles.”

On two separate occasions, Mrs. Jaffe and her family were among those chosen to die. The first time they were saved because her mother, a seamstress, was chosen to make dresses for a Nazi officer’s wife. The second time they were saved because her father’s work was considered valuable to the Nazis. Each time, they were among the only ones who were saved.

Eventually, her family was sent to a ghetto in a neighboring village. On

November 1, 1942, a group of freedom fighters attacked the town and freed the Jews from the ghetto. A fighter told her family to run into the woods and hide. With several siblings in tow, including her baby brother, her family escaped into the woods where they spent the next 20 months.

“Nobody wanted to be with us because we had a baby. We were left all alone at a bonfire,” Mrs. Jaffe said. “I wished I was dead. It was very cold, we had no food, and the infestation of lice came immediately. We also were in constant fear of being captured. It was extremely difficult, and at that time, I preferred being dead to this difficulty. But I want you to know it was worth it.”

On July 4, 1944, Mrs. Jaffe and her family were liberated from Nazi control by the Soviets. She explained that at that time, they had no idea about what had been going on throughout the rest of Europe. She said she and her family survived simply because they were lucky, for out of the 350 Jews from her village, just 32 survived.

Her family eventually made it to the United States. She chose to be married on July 4 and is grateful that she was given the opportunity to raise a family in “this great country.”

When asked why she travels to tell her story, Mrs. Jaffe answered, “Because I feel an obligation. It is my duty. There are so few left who can share this message. For many, it is still too painful to speak.”

Mr. Michael Waite, chairperson, social studies department at Kennett High School, commented on the impact of her message. “I thought her message of having tolerance for others was powerful. Many students walked away talking among themselves about just that.”

Mrs. Jaffe’s presentation tied in with the high school’s social studies and history curricula. Mr. Waite explained that from the genocide project that freshman complete to the World War II elective that is open to all students, the Holocaust is a topic of discussion for students.

## KHS Students Rise to the 10-Day Film Challenge

Is it possible to make a short film in only 10 days? If you ask that question of Kennett High School film students, the answer is, “Yes.”

In March film students accepted The 10-Day Film Challenge and used 10 class periods to create a three- to four-minute short film. These films were screened competitively in April at the United Artists Theatre at Penn’s Landing in Philadelphia.

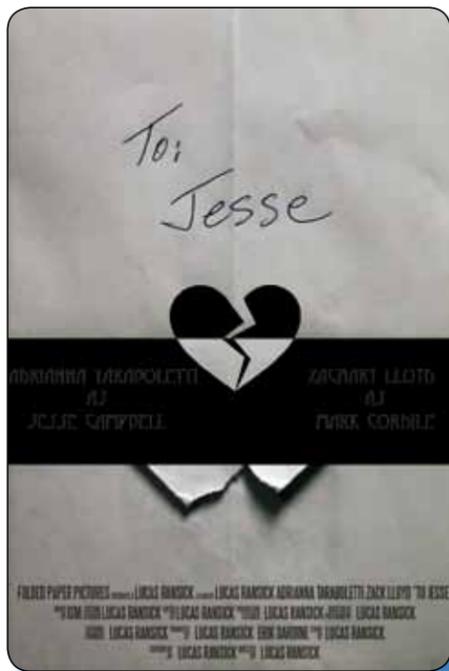
Creating a short film in only 10 days was not the biggest challenge for these students. On the first day of the challenge, students were given a specific genre, a character’s name and occupation, a prop, and a line of dialogue required to appear in every film. According to the film challenge organizer, Mr. Mike Nicholson, this adds an extra element of pressure for the young filmmakers.

Kennett High School’s video and film teacher, Mr. Frank Vanderslice, said, “On the first day, the students’ heads were spinning. Once they received those required elements, they worked with their production teams to come up with a plot, script, and shooting schedule quickly. It was great to see them work together under such a tight deadline.”

The top 30 films from Pennsylvania schools were selected to be screened at the United Artists Theatre. Overall, more than 50 high schools, impacting nearly 2,000 student filmmakers, from six states submitted entries. Awards were given for best cinematography, best editing, best music, and best screenplay, as well as several other categories.

Kennett High School took awards in several categories. Lucas Ransick, a junior, won Best Screen Graphics for his film “To Jesse” (pictured above). The team of Max Breen, Evan Morson, and Ryan Rhodes (all juniors) won two awards. The soundtrack to their movie “Sasquatch” took the Best Music category, and their film finished in the top five overall. Their film will now be entered in the national contest to be held this month.

“All of my students worked hard for those 10 days. They were under a lot of pressure to plan, prepare, and produce a film that met all the criteria for the challenge. Of its 12 films entered, Kennett High School had six selected by the committee to be screened,” said Mr. Vanderslice. “That’s quite an accomplishment for students new to film production.”



## Parent/Student Resource Corner



Your student may be singing no more school, no more books, but summer days are no time to become lazy when it comes to your child’s education. Here are a few resources to help your child stay at the front of the class when school busses start rolling again in August.

Good Sites for Kids ([www.goodsitesforkids.org/literacy.htm](http://www.goodsitesforkids.org/literacy.htm)): Good Sites for Kids is a strong literary resource for students in grades three through eight. This website guides students and parents to a variety of other literacy websites targeted to help students get some extra practice on their individual and grade-specific needs.

Online Writing Lab for Elementary Students ([www.edina.k12.mn.us/concord/teacherlinks/sixtraits/sixtraits.html](http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/concord/teacherlinks/sixtraits/sixtraits.html)): This website is a great resource for students in our younger grades to explore writing with their parents. It focuses on six traits that make good writing work and provides useful information as well as activity ideas. No username or password are required to access this website.

Study Island ([www.studyisland.com](http://www.studyisland.com)): This website includes reading and math activities for students in grades three through eight. Activities are specifically designed to help students master the content specified in the Pennsylvania Assessment Anchors and assessed on the PSSA. Usernames and passwords are assigned by classroom teachers.

First In Math ([www.firstinmath.com](http://www.firstinmath.com)): This website reinforces basic math skills for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. After completing certain skill set requirements, students can play bonus games that serve as incentives and encourage students to continue to achieve. Usernames and passwords are assigned by your student’s math teacher.

Brightstorm ([www.brightstorm.com](http://www.brightstorm.com)) This website provides free tutorial videos created by teachers to help students with their math and science homework and prepare them for SAT, ACT, PSAT, and AP exams. Teachers explain math and science concepts and work through sample problems covering topics such as Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry, Precalculus, Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. No username or password are needed for this website.

Summer reading: parents be sure students complete their summer reading assignments which are posted on each school’s website, as well as the District’s homepage.