



## ***Superintendent's Report***

To: Board Members

From: Leah M. Christman

Date: March 09, 2015

- The Comprehensive Plan was officially approved by the PA Dept. of Education and will continue to guide our work through 2018. The Plan is posted online.
- Planning for the new elementary building has been a top priority with weekly meetings involving administrators, architects and engineers. Plans are well underway and on track with updates posted monthly on the website. We appreciate everyone's diligence in keeping to our tight timeline.
- As you all know, winter has been exceptionally difficult this year with the Weather Channel up to 24 named storms for the season- including Sparta! As of now, the last day of school for students is Wednesday, June 10. Teacher in-service will follow on June 11 with the last day for teachers being Friday, June 12. Academy days will occur the following week for any teachers who have not met their Academy requirements. We are hopeful Mother Nature will be cooperative and bring us no more delays or closures for this school year!
- It has been a very busy Winter with many noteworthy accomplishments by students and staff members:
  - Mrs. Kelly Dougherty, first grade teacher at Liberty Bell is a finalist for the PA Teacher of the Year.
  - Mr. Rick Colelli was named 2015 Warner Professional Practice Award for Region 1 by Epsilon Pi Tau and ITEEA's Distinguished Technology and Engineering Professional (DTE) professional based upon evidence of leadership/management skills, continuing participation in and demonstration of leadership in association, community, and personal activities. He will be recognized at the ITEEA conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the end of March.
  - Matt M., a senior, won his 100th match as a Southern Lehigh Varsity wrestler- he is the first in school history to accomplish this success. The Athletic Department presented him with the 100th Win Wrestling Banner in his last home match on Wednesday Feb. 4. Matt just completed State level competition with a 7<sup>th</sup> place in his weight category.
  - Abby C. was named the Lehigh Valley Soccer Scholar Female Athlete of the year.
  - Travis E. was named top football scholar athlete for the National Football Foundation's Lehigh Valley scholar athlete program.
  - Our MS 8<sup>th</sup> grade video team won Outstanding Program for their production about Crayola in the "What's So Cool About Manufacturing" regional competition.

- Christina L. and Adam L. both placed at the PMEA District level orchestra earlier this month to advance to the next level, a seat in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Region V Orchestra. While at Scranton they will have the opportunity to earn a place in the PMEA All-State Orchestra.
- Six Southern Lehigh students earned top honors at the Skills USA District 11 competition, held Feb. 4. First place awards went to Joshua L. in Advertising Design; Alejandro R. in CNC Turning; and Alex H. in Web Design. Second place honors went to Lance G. in Job Skill Demonstration and Daniel W. in Precision Machine Technology, and Anthony P. earned a third place in Related Technical Math.
- Student members of the High School Literary and Art Society were recognized for achievement in the Scholastic Regional Writing Contest. Talia T. won a Gold Key in Flash Fiction, a Silver Key in Poetry and honorable mentions in both Short Story and Science Fiction, while Savannah T. earned an Honorable Mention in Flash Fiction and Keelin M. took Honorable Mention in both Flash Fiction and Poetry.
- Twelve High School students were recognized for achievement in Photography, Drawing and Illustration, Mixed Media, Comic Art, Fashion and Digital Art in the 2015 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Lexi B. took home four Gold, two Silver, two Honorable Mentions and an American Visions Award; Michelle J. earned a Gold and Silver; Kelly K. earned two Golds and a Silver; Maggie M. won two Silver and an Honorable Mention; Peter N. won a Gold and a Silver and Jacob Z. earned a Silver and Honorable Mention. Sydney D., Noor J., and Mindy W. each won Gold; Alex N. earned a Silver and Bazaan S. got an Honorable Mention. The students' works will be on display at the Allentown Art Museum through Sunday, March 15th. All the GOLD key works are being judged at the National Level in New York City.
- District student art is being showcased throughout the region. Yogurtree in Quakertown recently hosted an elementary art show and will display 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade art again on March 27. The Southern Lehigh Public Library will showcase our student's art March 23-May 1. Student art winners from the 2015 Scholastic Exclusive Affiliate Awards are also on display at Central Office.
- The HS Speech and Debate Team's earned national qualifier status for the Allentown Diocese Forensics League. Fourteen students have an opportunity to compete in the National Catholic Forensic League' Grand National Tournament in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. In May.
  - Fiona B. and Lucy Z. - 1st place Duo Interpretation
  - Naomi L.- 1st place Original Oratory
  - Jason R. - 1st place Extemporaneous Speaking
  - Jake S. - 1st place Student Congress
  - Mindy W. - 1st place Dramatic Performance
  - Ben B. - 2nd place Student Congress
  - Joe F. - 2nd place Original Oratory
  - David K. 2nd place Dramatic Performance
  - Georgian F. and Talia T. - 3rd place Duo Interpretation
  - Maddie H. - 3rd place Lincoln-Douglas Debate
  - Sarah M. - 3rd place Original Oratory
  - David R. - 3rd place Dramatic Performance
  - Katie C. and Angela J. - 4th place Duo Interpretation
  - Alex C. - 4th place Dramatic Performance