

BRIDGER BULLETIN

Winter 2023

Ambridge Area School District

Dear Ambridge Area School Community,

As a refreshing chill graces our campuses, signaling the arrival of crisp weather, we welcome you to a new edition of our school newsletter. A vibrant tapestry of the happenings and achievements that define our educational journey. With each passing day, our students continue to inspire us with their curiosity, creativity, and unwavering enthusiasm for learning.

In this edition, we celebrate the accomplishments of our students, applaud the dedication of our educators, and share the exciting events that have shaped the fabric of our school community. From academic achievements to artistic endeavors, athletic triumphs to community outreach initiatives, there is much to be proud of within the walls of our beloved Ambridge Area Schools.

As we navigate the academic year ahead, we invite you to join us on this thrilling adventure of discovery and growth. Together, let us foster an environment where every student can flourish and reach their full potential. We extend our gratitude to parents, teachers, and staff for their ongoing support in creating a nurturing and empowering learning environment.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Ambridge Area School District family. We look forward to sharing the exciting journey ahead with each and every one of you.

Warm regards,

Ambridge Administrators

State Street Elementary

STATE STREET ELEMENTARY STARTED THE YEAR OUT RIGHT. THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL STUDENTS WERE GREETED BY THEIR TEACHERS IN STAR COSTUMES WELCOMING THEM BACK TO THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR. MUSIC PLAYED AND STUDENTS HIGH-FIVED AS THEY ENTERED THE BUILDING. THEIR STAR COSTUMES ARE PART OF OUR SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR PROGRAM. THE NEXT DAY THERE WAS AN ASSEMBLY FOR THE STUDENT BODY GOING OVER THE STAR/KINDNESS PROGRAM AND EXPECTED BEHAVIOR FOR THE YEAR AND HOW TO EARN RED/KINDNESS TICKETS AND PRIZES.



AUGUST 25" THE GYM ROCKED WITH "BASKETBALL JONES." HE DID MANY FUN TRICKS AND GOT OUR STUDENTS INVOLVED, TOO. EVERYONE HAD A BLAST!!

**SEPTEMBER 5" MARKED OUR SECOND
"BACK TO SCHOOL BASH "
SPONSORED BY OUR VERY OWN PTO.
FOOD TRUCKS, STEEL DRUMS, JUMP
HOUSES, AND VARIOUS GAMES WERE
SET UP FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.**



**CANINE OFFICER JOHN CASEY CAME TO OUR SCHOOL TO
TEACH US ABOUT WHAT
THE STATE POLICE DO WITH THEIR DOGS. WE WERE SO
HAPPY TO MEET HIS
CANINE AND WATCH IT DO A QUICK SEARCH!**



WE LOVE OUR BRIDGERS AT STATE STREET AND SO WE HAD A PEP-RALLY TO SHOW OUR BRIDGER PRIDE AND TO RECOGNIZE ALL OF OUR STUDENTS THAT PLAY VARIOUS SPORTS. WE WERE OUTSIDE AND OUR CHEERLEADERS LED US IN SOME CHEERS!!



SILAS PATERESON, PRE-K STUDENT WAS DRIVEN TO SCHOOL ON A FIRETRUCK. SILAS WAS THE LUCKY WINNER OF THE PTO CONTEST BRINGING AWARENESS TO FIRESAFETY. THE STUDENT BODY GREETED HIM AS THE TRUCK CAME INTO THE SCHOOL LOT WITH SIRENS BLARING. FOLLOWING THE DROP OFF OF SILAS, THE BADEN FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTED A PROGRAM ON FIRE SAFETY AND HOW TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE DURING A FIRE. THANK YOU TO THOSE FIRE-FIGHTERS THAT TAUGHT US THINGS THAT WE NEED TO KNOW.



STATE STREET SUPPORTS THE CARING PLACE FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN RAISING MONEY THAT HIGHMARK MATCHES DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR. STUDENT COUNCIL ATTENDED A SUMMIT WITH MANY OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON OCTOBER 18TH. STUDENT COUNCIL IS GETTING READY FOR GRIEF AWARENESS DAY SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER.





KDKA'S METEOROLOGIST MARY OURS VISITED STATE STREET ELEMENTARY. SHE TALKED TO THE STUDENTS ABOUT HER JOB AND WHAT SHE DOES. SHE TAUGHT KEY WEATHER TERMS THAT SHE USES ON THE NEWS. SOME STUDENTS MADE A TORNADO OUT OF A WATER BOTTLE. THEY GOT TO SING WEATHER SONGS AND POSED FOR PICTURES FOR "TALK PITTSBURGH". A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL.



In the spring of 2023, the 4th grade students at State Street Elementary announced the introduction of a pollinator garden. The garden is used to engage students in inquiry-based and hands-on learning in an outdoor classroom setting. Through this wonderful space, students benefit from exposure to a natural, outdoor learning environment and develop a curiosity for our natural world. Students learn to identify native plants and pollinators as well as their importance to our everyday lives.

Plants native to western Pennsylvania were selected based on spring, mid-summer, and fall bloom times for bees, birds, and butterflies to enjoy all growing season. Golden Alexander, Anise Hyssop, Wild Bergamot, and New England Aster are a few examples chosen for their nectar, while Rose (Swamp) Milkweed was chosen as a host plant for the amazing Monarch butterfly. Both eggs and caterpillars of the Monarch and Black Swallowtail butterflies were discovered in the garden this fall and brought into the traditional classroom to teach lessons on insect anatomy, life cycles, life span, habitats, migration, mimicry, and, of course, pollination. Students even tagged and registered the adult Monarchs prior to their release so to track their incredible migration to their over-wintering grounds in Mexico.

Seeds for annual plants were sown in the classroom during the winter months using a sophisticated lamp system. Students learned about germination, plant parts, life processes, photosynthesis, soil and light conditions, etc. as they observed and nurtured their Zinnias, Mexican Sunflower, and herbs. Once the steppingstones designed in art class with Mr. Frost were in place, the students transplanted the plants into the garden space. Finally, hard-working and dedicated students and parents volunteered for weekly maintenance over the summer months.

State Street's pollinator garden has provided invaluable lessons for our students and would not be possible without the support of Principal Hoover and the school's Parent Teacher Organization. In addition, donations from the school community, Elements Landscaping Management, and a grant from the Beekeepers of Beaver County contributed to the garden's success. If you or your business would like to get involved or make a donation, you may contact Mrs. Suzanne McKenzie at 724-266-2833 Extension 4253 or at smckenzie@ambridge.k12.pa.us.



ECONOMY ELEMENTARY



MRS. NICOLE DARROCH, ELEMENTARY STEAM TEACHER, ACCEPTED THE ANNUAL SHELL SCIENCE LAB REGIONAL CHALLENGE AWARD ON BEHALF OF THE ECONOMY ELEMENTARY STEAM PROGRAM. SPONSORED BY SHELL USA, INC. (SHELL) AND ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHING ASSOCIATION (NSTA), THE COMPETITION ENCOURAGED K-12 TEACHERS WHO HAVE FOUND INNOVATIVE WAYS TO DELIVER QUALITY LAB EXPERIENCES WITH LIMITED SCHOOL AND LABORATORY RESOURCES TO SHARE THEIR APPROACHES FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A SCHOOL SCIENCE LAB MAKEOVER SUPPORT PACKAGE.

AS PART OF THE AWARD, MRS. DARROCH ATTENDED THE NSTA NATIONAL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 25-28 IN KANSAS CITY WHERE SHE LEARNED METHODS OF TEACHING USING PHENOMENON-BASED INVESTIGATIONS. THE ECONOMY ELEMENTARY STEAM PROGRAM RECEIVED A SCHOOL SCIENCE LAB MAKEOVER SUPPORT PACKAGE VALUED AT \$15,000. MRS. DARROCH WAS ABLE TO USE THIS MONEY TO PURCHASE SCIENCE FOR THE CLASSROOM KITS FROM THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE. MRS. DARROCH NOW ADVANCES TO THE NATIONAL PHASE OF THE COMPETITION, IN WHICH SHE WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN AN ADDITIONAL \$5,000 OF SUPPORT TO ATTEND A FUTURE NSTA NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE EDUCATION.



Economy students participated in an interactive welcome back assembly to promote good behavior and kindness. Our students continue to meet success with the implementation of our School-Wide Positive Behavior Program. Our STAR Matrix provides students with a set of expectations for good behavior in both structured and unstructured school settings. Economy Elementary is striving to receive state recognition from the PaPBS Network for Tier 2 Sustainability. Our students get very excited about the monthly ticket drawings for our STAR Program and Kindness Program. Winners receive Gift Cards to McDonald's, Five Below, and Walmart.



Student Council

Our fifth graders at Economy Elementary participated in a campaign to elect their peers to serve on Student Council. Our Student Council members are as follows:
Ellie Young, Avery Brodmerkel,
Kason Ross, Carter Batch, Mia Pagani, and Milania Tekula.



Mobile Agricultural Science Lab

Economy students in Pre-K through fifth grade enjoyed hands-on activities in the Mobile Science Lab. The lab is delivered to us with science manipulatives and a science teacher to provide students with lessons on agriculture and the role that Pennsylvania farmers play in our food supply.

Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center, Science on the Road, came to Economy Elementary to present a science assembly on Engineering to all of our students. This assembly was made possible by our parents participating in the Shop 'n Save SEED Program.

Fire Prevention Week

The Economy Fire Department made a visit to Economy Elementary to present ways to keep safe should a fire present itself. Our students were given the opportunity to hear the firefighters speak and to get a close look at the fire trucks.

Red Ribbon Week

Economy students participated in Red Ribbon Week with a "Say No to Drugs" Theme each day. The 2023 Theme is "Be Kind to Your Mind. Live Drug Free."

After-School Programs

Many of our students had the opportunity to participate in after-school Tennis and Crazy Chemworks, sponsored by Mad Science of Pittsburgh.

On November 14, 2023 we had 49 students in the elementary schools and middle school participate in the Academic Games, Propaganda, at Geneva College. Seven of our students at the elementary division (5th and 6th grade) level earned a qualifying score for the national games and one of our middle school students (7th and 8th) earned a qualifying score for the national game. In the Elementary division we had the second most students earn a qualifying score in the county. Students who earned a qualifying score in Propaganda will need to also need to earn a qualifying score in at least one other game to be fully qualified for the national tournament held in the spring in Georgia.

Congratulations to the following students

Elementary Division Qualifiers

**Adam Dunn
Jace Singh
Landon Musser
Milania Tekula
Kylee Wolf
Mia Paganie
Simon Singh**

Middle School Division Qualifier

Christian Roberts

After each nine weeks, Economy Elementary students are recognized for Perfect Attendance with a Gym Reward class and Honor Roll students are recognized with a Movie and Popcorn, In addition, high grade level scorers in Accelerated Reader receive a Gift Card to Barnes & Noble.



The PTA has been very active in sponsoring Family Movie Night, the Fun Run, Wheel Rodeo and fundraising events to provide our students with additional opportunities to learn and have fun.

I would like to extend a special thank you to all of the Economy parents for their continued support!!!

**Thanks,
Aphrodite**

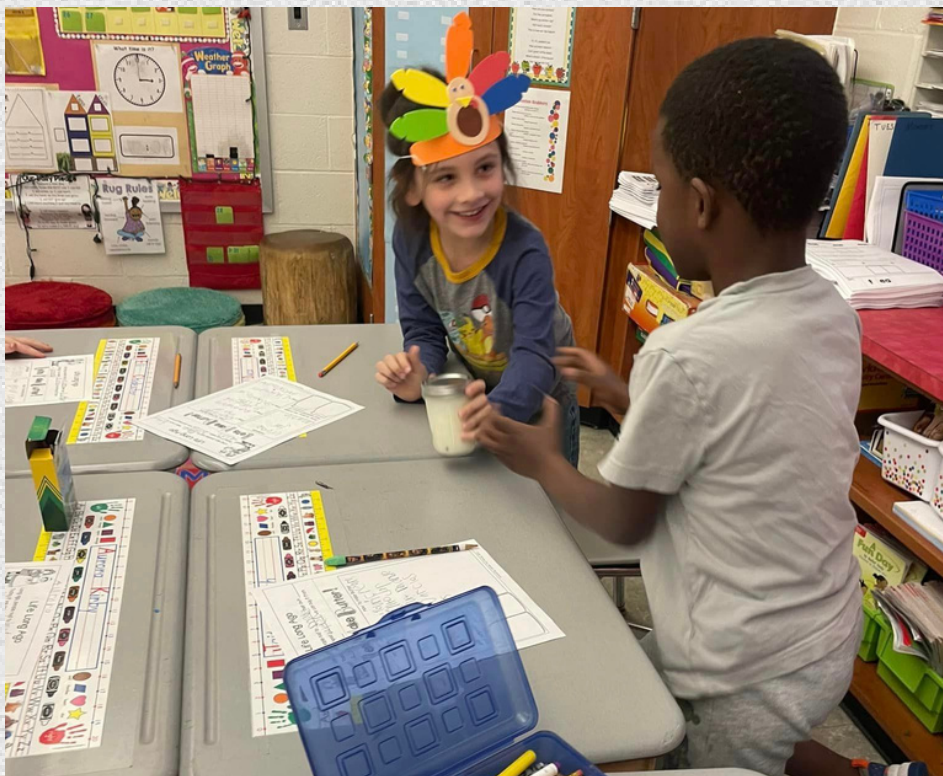
Highland Elementary



Highland Elementary welcomed Staff Sergeant Daniel Rosko and Staff Sergeant Brittini Turner to the school to educate the students about the military and the duties that come along with it. Specialist and first grade student teacher, Ms. Timko, also read a book to the students and talked about her experience in the military.



For Thanksgiving, Highland's first grade made their very own butter. By working in groups and exploring their ingredients, they were able to create delicious butter to try!



The Harlem Wizards visited Highland for a very "tricky" assembly! Congratulations to Pre-K student Mase Shepherd for winning a jersey and tickets to the game



Ambridge Middle School

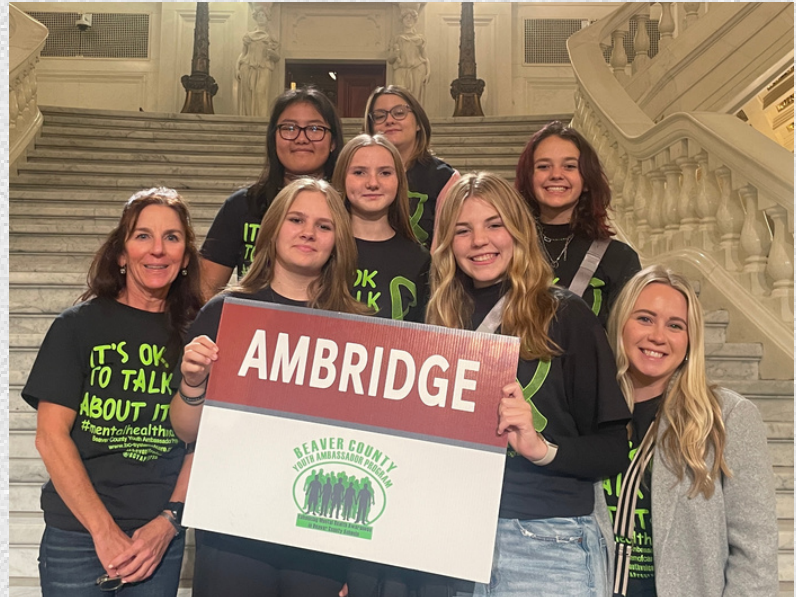
The following students attended a field trip Wednesday November 15, 2023 to Harrisburg .

High School Students:

- Avery Kelley
- Ashley Mickle
- Zoey Setzenfand

Middle School Students:

- Daniela Miller
- Madison Kellerher
- Josie Noulett



They participated in a jam-packed agenda for Student Mental Health Advocacy Day.

The trip was sponsored by the PA Youth Advocacy Network and there was no cost to the families or school.

Beaver County schools were permitted to take 8 total students and sponsors. 3 high school students were in attendance with HS School Social Worker, Ms. Sarah Schaffer and 3 middle school students attended with MS School Counselor Genifer Scaletta.



AAMS Newspaper RETURNS!

“What’s in the spotlight?” Soon, this saying will be heard around the Ambridge Area Middle School. Welcome to the first mini issue of the revitalized Ambridge Area Middle School newspaper, The Spotlight.

The school newspaper was always a staple at the Ambridge Area Junior High...yes, you read that correctly...we used to only have grades 7 and 8 until 2017. With the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year, our building became a middle school to hold grades 6-8.

With National Junior Honor Society members taking the lead, the newspaper staff has been working hard to report on the most important and interesting stories around our middle school and surrounding communities.

The Spotlight will be distributed every nine weeks. Mrs. Braund, the newspaper advisor, is always searching for stories to give to the newspaper staff, so if anyone in the middle school or the community has a story to be told, please let our staff know.

We look forward to bringing the news to you! In this sneak peek issue, get to know the newspaper staff and what to expect in the future, so do you know “What’s in the spotlight?”





The Ambridge Area School District would like to congratulate Mr. Becker and the 31 amazing and musically talented Middle School students.

They were invited to play by the Assistant Manager, David Arias, who is a former band student and Ambridge graduate.

These students were hand selected to play for the Grand Re-Opening of the Baden Walmart. This included a charity check presentation for the Walmart Front Door Grant that the Middle School secured. This will be used for the food pantry and to supplement our Friday food bag program.

They played in front of 300 Walmart employees, community officials, Baden Legion representatives, Economy police officers, Dr. Pasquerilla, Dr. Filipowski, Mr. Heard, parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters. They played an excellent musical Armed Forces medley in the newly renovated produce department.

**CONGRATULATIONS on a job well done!
You make us all proud to be a Bridger!**





Mr. Ayers 8th graders got to learn about and use the microscopes.



Ambridge Area High School

The Ambridge Area High School Interact Club put on its annual Halloween night for the elementary students in the district. Each year, the club decorates hallways and dresses up in themed costumes to hand out candy to younger students. The members also provided games for the students with non-candy prizes. This is a favorite service project for the Interact Club as they recall their attendance at the event during their elementary school years. Additionally, our Book Club also handed out free books to all the children in attendance.

This year, the club paired with the district's "Spooktacular" Title I event and brought even more trick-or-treaters to the school. The students are looking forward to the event for next year.

The High School Interact Club also continues to fulfill Rotary International's motto of "Service Above Self" through their volunteer activities. They have helped our Elementary schools with a variety of activities including the always anticipated Santa Shops and helped at the Harlem Wizards game. The club brought back its kindness initiative to "Be the 'I' in Kind." The club has planned even more activities for the upcoming semester.



The High School Tech Production Club and teacher Mrs. Holmes, made keepsake ornaments for the younger elementary students. The ornaments are a true keepsake since the drawings are from the child. This is becoming a Tech Ed holiday tradition. The ornaments were laser engraved, lightly sanded, strung and packaged for holiday delivery. The high school students enjoyed this production activity. "We hope everyone has a lovely holiday and cherishes their keepsake!"



Home Repair is a newly added course offering hands-on learning with common hand tools and materials. Recently, students repurposed wooden pallets into holiday designs and crafts. Teachers, Mrs. Dowlin and Mrs. Holmes, are planning more interactive projects like: string art, drywall patching and installing locks and hardware for the upcoming weeks. Graphics design students additionally were challenged with the task to design and create a wooden masterpiece with paints, vinyl and other materials.



News from the Vo-Tech

Kiarrah Byrd was named Health Occupations Student of the month for September at BCCTC.

Beaver County Career and Training Center students have earned the following industry credentials/certifications so far during the 2023-2023 school year:

Arlof, Troy D - Single and Extension Ladder (GP); Articulated Ladder (GP); Mobile Ladder (GP); Step Ladder (GP) For the Program - Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician

Bedillion, Kylie A - S/P2-Culinary (GP) For the Program - Institutional Food Workers

Bischak, Michael P - Step Ladder (GP) For the Program -Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician

Borriello, Luca P - Step Ladder (GP) For the Program - Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician

Byrd, Kiarrah L - Stop the Bleed (GP) For the Program -Health/Medical Assisting Services, Other

Chalupiak, Dean - Scissor Lift For the Program - Carpentry/Carpenter

DeSantis, Jason W - Written Communication;Teamwork For the Program - Management Information System, General

Ford, Sydney A - Stop the Bleed (GP) For the Program - Health/Medical Assisting Services, Other

Harshman, Elijah James - Scissor Lift For the Program - Carpentry/Carpenter

Jaworzcykowska-Edwards, Alora N - OSHA Certification (GP) For the Program - Veterinary/Animal Health Technology/Technician and Veterinarian Assistant (Old 510808)

VO-Tech Continued...

Mahmoud, Taryn O - Cyber Safety Awareness For the Program Management Information System, General

Mickle, Ashleigh Elizabeth - Stop the Bleed (GP) For the Program Health/Medical Assisting Services,

Pintur, Isaac - OSHA Certification (GP) For the Program - Logistics and Materials Management

Quinerly, Adon - Scissor Lift For the Program - Carpentry/Carpenter

Robinson, Tyuan - Step Ladder (GP) For the Program - Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician

Turko, Kailyn Communication Skills; Interview Skills; Internet & Computing Core Certification (IC3) (GP); Cyber Safety Awareness; Time Management; Communication Skills for Business For the Program - Management Information System, General

Warren, Violet - Cybersecurity Essentials for Work (GP); Time Management; Communication Skills For the Program - Management Information System, General



FLAG – Fly Like a Girl Drone Academy

Throughout this past summer, Lily Carpenter and Samantha Patton took part in an amazing, all girls, STEAM learning opportunity under the supervision of Ambridge High School Math Teacher, Emily Schultz. FLAG is an eight-week summer program where girls from districts across the area take place in learning how to operate a drone while understanding all of the rules and regulations that come with it. It's a program organized through the Baldwin – Whitehall and South Fayette School Districts and led by Dr. Lori Paluti of Pittsburgh Drone Services. Both Carpenter and Patton were able to bond with students from both districts along with students from Beaver Area HS and McKeesport HS while strengthening their already found interest in drones. They will be eligible to take the FAA 107 test to receive their drone pilot license through spring of 2024, so wish them luck!



The Ambridge Area High School's Holiday Extravaganza

By Madelyn Palmer

Twask' the night of the AAHS Holiday Concert, and all through the audience, people were clapping and making a sound. Between the jazz and steel band and our newly added show choir and percussion ensemble, the holiday spirit was alive and jolly. The performances and efforts were displayed with great pride. The jazz band commenced the night of joy with three songs, one including vocals by our very own Zoe Elias. Following the jazzy, swing songs, our varsity steel band ensemble played two songs debuting a new holiday song, Trinidad Tidings . Our choir then presented three cheery, entertaining songs where the singers got to highlight their months of hard work. After choir, we brought out our new, recently introduced show choir with their adaptation of A Holiday Road of Carols featuring an instrumental trio playing in the background of the student choreographed song. Before the last ensemble of the night, Toboggan , a fully percussion played song representing a fast-paced toboggan ride in the winter, was executed by our new percussion ensemble.

Closing the night out, our concert band, made up of over sixty students, played three pieces highlighting the various instruments, musicians, and their talents. As guests exited the performance, Sourdough, our student run band, appeared on stage to play some of their funky tunes.

Shining Our Light in the Community

By Madelyn Palmer

The Ambridge Area High School's steel band program is comprised of over 70 enthusiastic students and run by one very passionate teacher, Mr. Todd Hartman. Over the years, the steel band has preformed at many different places , played many music pieces, and gone to many events. Through the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, the steel band has had many outreaches shining a light in the heart of our community as well as others. Most recently, the ensemble performed a collection of tunes at the Fire and Ice Festival in New Brighton following our steel and jazz band outreach to Edgeworth Elementary in Sewickley. In the month of November, the steel band was cordially invited to perform at the Veteran's Day Breakfast at State Street Elementary, under the direction of Mr. Stephen Rodgers. In October, the ensemble spent the weekend spreading the holiday spirit and shining our sunlight at Christmas in the Woods at Shaker Woods in Columbiana, Ohio. Towards the beginning of the school year, the steel band had the pleasure of showcasing our talents at the Good Samaritan Church Festival here in Ambridge, helped State St. Elementary kick off their new school year, and then entertained the residents at Atria's Senior Living in Cranberry Township. The steel band also found out that they were selected to perform at the annual PMEA State In-Service Conference in Erie, PA this coming April. We thank our instructors, fellow musicians, and uplifting community for always supporting the activities of the AAHS steel band ensemble.

Band/Chorus Honors

One student made PMEA
District 5 Honors Chorus at
Westminster College
Joey Bellinger - Tenor



Three students made PMEA District 5
Honors Band at Slippery Rock
University
Samantha Waschak - Bass Clarinet
McKayla Lebeck - Euphonium
Zoe Elias - String Bass

Five Students participate in 2023 Beaver County Band at South Side High School

Joey Bellinger – Tenor
Jason DeSantis – Bass
Cosette Rotondo – Alto
Lainee Summers – Soprano
Kailyn Turko – Soprano





STUDENT SERVICES SUPPORTS

The Ambridge Area High School Guidance Department would like to share information for additional supports for you and your student:

The Ambridge Area High School Guidance Department is committed to providing students with the additional support they need to succeed. As such, we would like to share some information with you on the resources that are available to both you and your student.

One such resource is our school counseling services. Our counseling team is dedicated to helping students improve their academic performance, as well as their social and emotional well-being. The team can provide academic guidance, social-emotional planning and help with post-secondary planning. The Counseling team is made up of professionals from various disciplines who work together to identify and address issues that may be hindering a student's success. They can provide support for issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, mental health concerns, and academic struggles. Any social-emotional concerns can be directed to Mrs. Linda Prevost at 724-266-2833, ext. 2102. For all other inquiries, please reach out to Guidance Secretary Mrs. Misencik at 724-266-2833, ext. 2377 to be directed to the correct staff member.

Additionally, we offer a variety of programs that range from counseling and community service organizations. We encourage you and your student to take advantage of these resources and reach out to us whenever you need support. Together, we can help your student achieve their goals and reach their full potential.

The Psychology and Learning Center:

724-371-2000

The Psychology and Learning Center is a valuable resource for school students seeking individual counseling services during the school day. The Center collaborates with the Ambridge Area School District to provide individual counseling services to students who may need it. If you are interested in availing of these services, all you need to do is request a referral form from the High School Guidance Office. Alternatively, you can also call Vanessa Casper, the School Based Liaison at 724-371-2000. With the help of the Center's trained professionals, you can work towards overcoming any personal or academic challenges that you may be facing. Don't hesitate to reach out for assistance if you feel like you could benefit from these services.

Positive Steps Counseling with Western PA Psych Care:

724-266-2833, ext. 2223

Positive Steps Counseling Program is a resource available to students seeking help in getting behavioral, social or emotional concerns addressed. The program can be accessed by either making a referral through the school or by signing up directly. During the sessions, a primary therapist will be emphasizing on parent training in behavior modification strategies, psycho-education, community resource and care coordination, brief family therapy, and motivational enhancement strategies. Additionally, consultations with school staff are also conducted to address the child's concerns effectively. The consultations may involve the child's teachers, paraprofessionals, and school administration. The concerns that the program addresses include difficulty making friends or frequent complaints of bullying, school avoidance/refusal, frequent school disciplinary actions or truancy, frequent physical complaints, failing grades or frustration in completing school work, change in sleep/eating habits, behavior, or interests. You can contact the High School Guidance Office at 724-266-2833 ext. 2223 for more information about enrollment or if you have any questions.

Student Assistance Program "SAP":

724-266-2833, ext. 2102

The Student Assistance Program (SAP) is a process for identifying students who are experiencing barriers to their learning and success in school. SAP offers support to those students, and their families, to help them overcome these barriers. Behaviors that the Student Assistance Program can help with include but not limited to: Withdrawing from family or friends, No longer has the same friends, Depressed, Talking about suicide, Acting aggressive, Defying authority at school and home, Lying, Sudden drop in grades, Poor school attendance, and/or Experimenting with drugs or alcohol.

If your child is experiencing any of the above-mentioned behaviors or any other difficulties that are affecting their academic performance, the Student Assistance Program (SAP) is here to help. SAP is a confidential and voluntary program that provides support to students who are facing challenges that may be impacting their academic or personal life.

The SAP team is comprised of trained school and community staff who work together to identify and assist students who may be struggling. They can help connect your child with services that are available both in school and in the community, such as counseling, tutoring, and mentoring programs. The SAP team also works closely with families to provide guidance and support to help their children succeed.

It's important to note that SAP is not a disciplinary program, nor does it replace the role of parents or guardians in addressing their child's needs. Rather, it is a collaborative effort between school staff, families, and community resources to ensure that students receive the support and resources they need to overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.

If you have concerns about your child's academic or personal well-being, don't hesitate to reach out to your school's SAP team. They are there to help and support your child's success. Please call Linda Prevost at 724-266-2833, ext. 2102.

The HELP team c/o Pressley Ridge: 724-630-5189

Pressley Ridge Help Team is a mobile crisis and short-term service that provides assistance to individuals in transition age. The team is available to respond to calls within an hour and aims to make face-to-face contact within 24 hours. The service helps to assess, stabilize, and link families to available supports and services with side-by-side support. Referrals can come from various sources including providers, schools, parents/guardians, students, or other outside agencies.

If you are interested in their services, immediate crisis referrals can be made 24 hours a day at 724-630-5189. Alternatively, referrals can be made via the Ambridge Area School District. For those requesting a referral for their student at Ambridge Area High School, please contact Linda Prevost at 724-266-2833, ext. 2102. The team is committed to providing prompt and effective support to those who seek their help.

After School Tutoring: 724-266-2833

If your student is struggling with their coursework, it may be helpful to arrange for them to stay after school with their teacher for additional assistance. The teacher of record is available for tutoring from 2:30 - 3:00 PM, and the time can be arranged directly with the classroom academic teacher. If you need to find the contact information for your student's teacher, you can find a full e-mail and faculty directory on the Ambridge School District website at www.ambridge.k12.pa.us. By taking advantage of these resources, your student can receive the support they need to succeed in their studies.

Coats, Gloves, Hats and Winter Items: 724-266-2833, ext. 2377

In the event that a student or an acquaintance requires winter clothing such as coats, gloves, hats, or scarves, kindly contact the High School Guidance Office at 724-266-2833, extension 2377. We are committed to providing necessary clothing supplies for students in need.

The Highmark Caring Place: 888-734-4073

Finding Support Through Grief at the Highmark Caring Place: Losing someone we love is a journey into a new world, one that we didn't choose to enter. How do we navigate this new world and find a "new normal"? There is no guidebook or map to follow, and well-meaning advice from those who haven't experienced such a loss can often be misguided. However, at the Highmark Caring Place, you can find the support and nurture that you need to cope with this difficult time.

Here, both children and adults are surrounded by others their own age who can relate to their experience of loss. Peers, as well as caring volunteers and staff, provide the support that is necessary to move forward. Through sharing memories with one another, individuals come to find a new place for their loved one in their lives. This support helps to manage the pain of grief, and allows individuals to continue living life in the midst of their sorrow. The program is free of charge to all families and students.

To access this support, please reach out to the High School Guidance office at 724-266-2833, ext. 2377 or contact The Highmark Caring Place at 888-734-4073.

Crises Text Line: Text "PA" to 741741

If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time, it's important to know that there are resources available to provide support. One of these resources is the free, 24/7 support offered by texting "PA" to the number 741741. This service is provided by Crisis Text Line, a non-profit organization that aims to provide confidential crisis support to anyone in need.

In addition to the Crisis Text Line, the Beaver County Warmline is also available for support. You can call them at 725-775-9507. The Warmline is staffed from 6PM - 9PM by individuals who have lived experience with mental health challenges and are trained to provide supportive listening and encouragement.

Remember, it's okay to reach out for help when you need it. These resources are available to provide support and connect you with the help you need.

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988 24/7 Call, Text, Chat

You're absolutely right! It's essential to know that it's okay to ask for help when you need it. Mental health is just as important as physical health, and taking care of your well-being is crucial. Fortunately, there are many resources available to provide support and connect you with the help you need.

One of the most recent initiatives is the implementation of a new three-digit emergency hotline number, 988, which can be used by anyone experiencing a mental health crisis. This number connects you to a trained professional who can provide you with support, guidance, and connect you with resources in your area.

In addition to the 988 hotline, there are also many other resources available. You can speak to your doctor or a mental health professional, reach out to a support group, or access online resources. Many organizations, both national and local, provide free or low-cost mental health care, and it's worth researching what is available in your area.

Remember, asking for help is a sign of strength, and seeking support can make a significant difference in your mental health and well-being. Don't hesitate to reach out for support and connect with the resources available to you.

National Suicide Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK

It's important to prioritize mental health and seek help when it is needed. If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts or ideation, it's important to reach out for help. One resource that can offer support and guidance is the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK. This hotline is available 24/7 and staffed by trained professionals who can provide crisis counseling, support, and referrals to local resources. Remember, you don't have to go through it alone. Reaching out for help is a courageous step towards healing, and there are people who care and want to help you through this difficult time.

If you or someone you know is experiencing suicidal thoughts or ideation, and/or needs to reach out for help, please call the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK.

Women's Center of Beaver County: 724-775-0131

Since 1976, victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence have found the help and hope they need at the Women's Center of Beaver County. We are here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call our HELPLINE at 724-775-0131

Our services are always confidential and provided free of charge. We provide crisis intervention, emergency shelter, counseling, legal and medical advocacy and prevention education.

The Women's Center advocates for ALL victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault without regard to status, race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, physical ability or language.

Center for Hope: 724-251.4899

The Center for Hope is a faith-based, nonprofit organization that is committed to serving the community of Ambridge, Pennsylvania. Our goal is to provide residents with access to food, clothing, education, and youth programs in order to help them thrive and succeed. We are dedicated to ensuring that everyone in our community has the resources they need to live happy, healthy, and fulfilling lives.

If you or your family are in need, we invite you to contact us at the Center for Hope. Our facility is located at 740 Park Road in Ambridge, PA, and our phone number is 724.251.4899. We are here to support you and your loved ones in any way that we can, and we welcome you to reach out to us anytime you need assistance.

At the Center for Hope, we believe that every individual has the potential to achieve greatness, regardless of their circumstances. That's why we are committed to providing a wide range of services and programs that are designed to empower and uplift those who are in need. We look forward to the opportunity to serve you and to help you achieve your goals.

P.S. We hope you and your family have a wonderful and Happy Holiday!