



THE STANHOPE CHARGER

Your District Newsletter

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

SPRING 2021

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

Steven Hagemann, Superintendent 973-347-0008 x4102 shagemann@stanhopeschools.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

All dates are tentative.
Check school website for
most current information.

- May 25—1:00 PM
Kindergarten Orientation
(rain date May 26)
- May 26—Walk/Bike
to School Day
- May 31—Memorial
Day—School Closed
- June 10—6:30 PM 8th
Grade Dinner Dance
(rain date June 11)
- June 16—7:00 PM
Board of Education
meeting
- June 17-21—12:15
PM Early Dismissal
- June 18—HSA Movie
Night at VRS
- June 21—Last Day of
School
- June 21—6:00 PM
Graduation (weather
permitting)
- June 22—6:00 PM
Rain date for Gradua-
tion (rain or shine)
- Stanhope Rec Movie
Night at VRS
- September 8—First Day
of School for Students

In a year in which perseverance and the ability to overcome obstacles seemed to be the overarching theme, and all things seem to be labeled as pre- and/or post-COVID, I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize two individuals who've dedicated much of their lives to service, most notably through their years in education.

Mrs. Lori Frazell has announced her retirement after 27 years of teaching in the Stanhope School District. Before transitioning to a special education teaching position, Mrs. Frazell taught wood shop and led the school's Gifted & Talented program for several years. As a special education teacher, she supported students from early elementary through middle school in the areas of mathematics, language arts, science and social studies. Mrs. Frazell has dedicated herself to her students and colleagues and although she will certainly be missed at the Valley Road School, we wish her the very best in retirement!

Mrs. Ellen Mutz, who began teaching math at the Valley Road School in the fall of 2014, has also decided to retire from education at the end of the school year. Before arriving in

Stanhope, Mrs. Mutz taught math in the Dover and Randolph School Districts. She was instrumental in the development of our Algebra program, which has prepared countless eighth grade students for success in Geometry Honors at the high school level. Aside from teaching math, Mrs. Mutz



served as an eighth grade advisor for five years, co-developed our financial literacy program, and led several eighth grade trips to Washington DC. Congratulations on a well-deserved retirement!

Additionally, I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate this year's Governor's Educators of the Year recipients for the Stanhope School District, Mrs. Kim Kranz and Mrs. Jessica Frank. Mrs. Kranz, this year's Teacher of the Year, is an outstanding special education teacher that primarily works with our elementary students. She is a rockstar in the classroom and is so very well-respected by her col-

leagues. Mrs. Kranz goes above and beyond each day to plan and deliver meaningful and engaging lessons for her students.

Mrs. Frank, school nurse extraordinaire, was selected as our District's Educational Services Professional of the Year. Aside from the positive rapport that she's developed with our students and staff, and the positive impact she's made on our school climate, Mrs. Frank has played a significant role in the reopening of our school for in-person instruction. Thank you,

Mrs. Frank, for your hard work and dedication to our school, our students, and the Stanhope Community.

In closing, I'd like to wish everyone a restful and enjoyable summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone back on campus in September!

#WEAREVRS

PRINCIPAL'S PRINCIPLES: VRS STUDENTS GOT TALENT!

Alicia L. Finklea-DiCataldo, Principal 973-347-0008 x4106 afinklea-dicataldo@stanhopeschools.org

This April, for the first time, Valley Road middle school students participated in the New Jersey Consortium for Gifted and Talented, Workshop on the Arts Virtual Challenge. The judges presented students with a scenario for which they composed and

then executed a solo piece in their respective genre. Of our eleven amazing student submissions, we applaud Shea Ewer for a Grand Prize in Dance. Honorable Mention certificates go to Audrey George for Costume and Set Design, Kelly Morales and Ashley Mueller each for Drama and Creative Writing, and Sydney Herold for Dance! We are so proud of all who participated; Sam Balogh, Sam Krauklis, and Michael Kmec for Instrumental Music, Carly Villani and Melia Gomez with Vocal Music, and Mykaela Castillo for Costume and Set

Design. Under the guidance of Ms. Pipher, these students were able to showcase their amazing talents in such a creative manner. Job well done to a group of wonderfully talented students! Art, collaboration and cooperation. We made it!



Shea Ewer, pictured left and right, Grand Prize Winner for Dance in the New Jersey Consortium for Gifted and Talented Workshop on the Arts Virtual Challenge.



THANK YOU AND FAREWELL from Mrs. Ellen Mutz

Thank you so much for making me part of the VRS family for the last 7 years. I want you all to know that while I've had a number of careers in my life, teaching math for 19 years is by far the most rewarding.

The last 7 years here at VRS have been the best experience I could ask for. Board Members, Administrators, fellow teachers, the entire staff as well as the parents in this district ... well, I couldn't ask for a more welcoming, professional and closer "family" to work with.

I'll never forget all of you and your children, especially this last year – really, who could ever forget 2020? The challenges and rewards of teaching remotely have certainly provided me with opportunities to grow and, strange as it may seem, have a closer relationship with my students. They all got to know my classroom (basement), my desk (card table), and of course, my teaching assistant, Einstein, our adorable Havanese dog! He joins many classes, sometimes snoring nearby, sometimes jumping into the sight of the comput-

er just to say "HI" to the students.

I'll miss you all, and plan to stay in touch. Thank you for trusting your children to me. Now on to the next chapter of life.....hmmm, my husband seems worried about what I'll get into next. Ahh... after 47 years of marriage to me, nothing should surprise him! Take care. I will always remember my years with you fondly.

Mrs. Ellen Mutz,
"Retiree" as of 6/22/2021
Wow that sounds cool!

WINNER, WINNER, Chicken Dinner?*

Kudos to the members of our school community who have been recognized for their accomplishments, or contributions, creativity or social awareness.

"Alcohol-Free is the Way to Be" (submitted by Mrs. Fehir)

In light of Alcohol Awareness Month, the Sussex County Coalition for Healthy and Safe Communities hosted its 21st Annual Alcohol Awareness contest, in which students could create and submit an essay encouraging others to refrain from underage drinking by making smarter choices. This year, two of the three county winners were our very own Valley Road sixth-graders, pictured right, **Carly Villani** and **Jake Palermo**, who beat out 10 other schools in the county. The stu-

dents had a chance to tour the WSUS studio and record their Radio PSAs based on their alcohol-free messages to family and friends.



Photo Courtesy of Jen Palermo

This year's Governor's Educators of the Year from Stanhope School District are Kimberly Kranz, Teacher of the Year and Jessica Frank, RN, Educational Services Professional of the Year.

Good job! Keep up the good work.

The Sussex County Superintendents' Student Roundtable Award winner was **Adam Wien!** Congrats Adam. Good luck in High School!

And, congratulations to **Joel Berkowicz**, whose design was chosen for the winter T-shirt contest. The design was an illustration of our *Charger* horse, with the clever caption of "Charging Through Covid!" Well done Joel!

**No actual chicken dinners have been awarded, but our winners have earned the respect and esteem of their colleagues and classmates.*

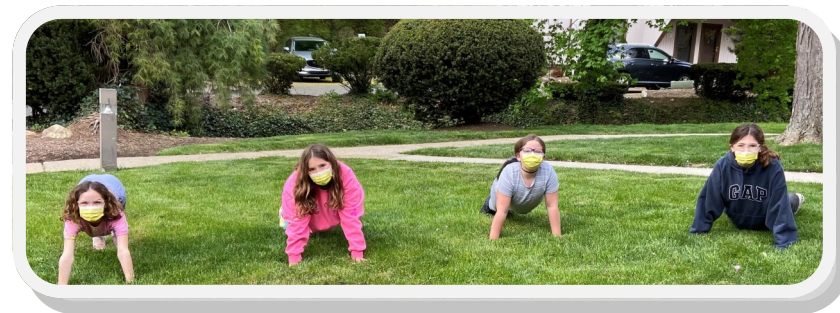
KEEPING IT HEALTHY: Let's Get Moving!

Jessica Frank, RN, BSN, School Nurse 973-347-0008 ext. 4110 jfrank@stanhopeschools.org

Many of us have found that living in this virtual exercise world has limited our ability to be active. Now that the weather is changing, we are able to get up, get outside, and get moving! May is National Fitness and Exercise month as well as National Bike

games or watching TV and finding activities that you can enjoy together as a family. Taking walks or riding bikes around your neighborhood is great exercise and fun for everyone. If the weather is bad, there are many great YouTube videos that lead chil-

likely to keep exercising if they enjoy the activity in which they are engaged. Involving the whole family is an excellent way to motivate children to want to exercise. Invite everyone to participate in the fun activities! For more information on how to get children active, please see the links below. Resources: American Academy of Pediatrics <https://www.aap.org> <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/healthy-living/fitness/Pages/Encouraging-Your-Child-to-be-Physically-Active.aspx> If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 973-347-0008 ext. 4110 jfrank@stanhopeschools.org



Month. Just like with adults, regular exercise is extremely beneficial for children. Some of these benefits include: maintaining a healthy body weight, prevention of diseases such as type 2 diabetes, and reducing stress levels. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all children should get a minimum of 1 hour of physical activity per day. Some tips that you can use to help your child maintain an active lifestyle include limiting time spent playing video

dren and families in an exercise program while indoors. Other ways to encourage your children to be active include being a good role model, using exercise as transportation, and keeping the focus on fun. Children are more

Pictured left and below, left to right: Tess Roth, Claire Frank, Angelina Robles, Kennedy Baadshaug



READ-A-THON: A Huge Success

By Mrs. Meghan Jaust

Our Read-A-Thon was quite a success this year. Our school raised \$2,620.00 and all of the funding will go towards educational needs for the next school year. The VRS students that participated read a total of **14,182 minutes** That is AMAZING!

Scholastic Gift Card Winners:

Eleanor Bonte, Julian Valle, Benjamin Gullota, Steven Frank, Niko Marchitto, Arabella Marchitto, Olivia Yowe, Claire Frank, Charlotte Herold,

Raymond Fromme, Brooklyn Rose, Bella Ribeiro, Maddie Mayhood

Amazon Gift Card Winners: Anaya Morales, Grace Wiseman, Sydney Herold and Sadie Morales.

Congratulations to all students that participated in this year's Read-A-Thon! "The journey of a lifetime starts with the turning of a page." Rachel Anders

GREAT JOB VRS Readers!



GUIDANCE CORNER: Resilience In Stressful Times

Assunta Jardine, Guidance Counselor 973-347-0008 ext, 4108 ajardine@stanhopeschools.org

It's been a long time since things have felt familiar. But now that things are starting to open up and the country is trying to get back to normal, we may experience mixed emotions. The world is still dealing with unexpected changes every day due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The quarantine, the social and physical distancing, school closures, limited activities can impact mental health, especially in children. During a pandemic, children may experience grief, social isolation, stress, and negative thoughts. It is very important to monitor your child's mental health during and towards the end of a pandemic. During these difficult times, children build resilience and use coping mechanisms to combat these feelings during a traumatic event. Talking to your child about the pandemic and how it's affecting them and providing them with the appropriate tools will benefit their well being in the long run.

Children need constant guidance and care, which makes a parent's role very important especially during a pandemic. A study was conducted on parents who experienced the Swine Flu Pandemic in 2009. They reported that their children's mental health was significantly affected by the pandemic. Children experienced stress due to environmental changes. Those who stayed at home due to the pandemic experienced adjustment disorder, acute stress disorder (ASD), and grief. The study showed that children with ASD also experienced sleep-

ing problems leading to having trouble with concentration in school, becoming depressed, anxious, distracted, fearful, and irritated (Ramadhan et al. - Malaysian Journal of Medical Sciences - 2020). Parents should be especially alert to their child's behavior during a traumatic event. A study showed that children as young as two years old can sense changes around them; they notice the absence of their caretakers and consequently become restless (Dalton et al. - The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health - 2020). Parents/caretakers should talk to their children and try to understand how they feel about the pandemic situation. Resilience can buffer children from harm and increase the chances they adapt positively to difficulties such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

To support a child's development during a pandemic, children and youth need to maintain an important and age-appropriate relationship with adults in their lives. Meeting a child's basic needs such as food, clothes, medical, and mental health care is essential to protecting a child during stressful times. It is expected for children to have emotional and behavioral changes during a pandemic, but by providing emotional support from adults or a therapist, most children will return to their typical level of functioning. Another way to help children build resilience and promote their well-being is by parents protecting their own mental and physical health. When parents' and/or care-

givers' needs are met, children are more likely to receive sensitive and responsive care. Whenever possible, take time for yourself, enjoy activities with your family at home, connect with friends, take breaks from work and caregiving responsibilities. Practice self-care such as rest, exercise, mindfulness, reading, etc. Most importantly, reach out to a friend or family member and/or professional who can offer support if you're having emotional and mental health challenges.

Lastly, having positive social connections is important for children and adults. In-person contact may be limited, but physical distance should not turn into social isolation. Spend virtual time with extended family members and friends. Reach out to other families with children to check on their well-being and offer any support and guidance (Bartlett et al. - Ways to Promote Children's Resilience to the COVID-19 Pandemic- 2020). Even as the pandemic winds down it is important that we connect and build a resilient community and to acknowledge our children's and our own mental health. Children and adults WILL survive and even thrive during and after this pandemic. If you would like to contact me to discuss this further or would like me to speak to your child please feel free to contact me at ajardine@stanhopeschools.org.

IT'S ELEMENTARY: Scholastic Insider Program

By Miss Stephanie DiIonno

This year, I have been so excited to take part in the Scholastic Insider program. While this year the program has looked different than it typically does, I still received 12 books from Scholastic to review and share with the community. After passing along the books to various ELA classes in the school, I collected reviews from participating teachers. Here are our books and thoughts!

Allergic by Megan Lloyd; reviewed by Miss DiIonno's 3rd Grade: Are you allergic to pets? Do you like graphic novels? Then this book is for you!! Maggie is a fifth grader going through a lot of changes. The ONLY thing she wants is a dog to get

her through these times. The only problem is that she is ALLERGIC to all FUR!!!

Read this book to find out more. We give this book 4.5 stars!!!!

The Couch Potato by Jory John; reviewed by Miss Reilly's 1st Grade: This book is about a funny potato who likes to slouch on the couch. The story is so hilarious and it teaches an awesome lesson at the end. We recommend this book for K-4th grade students. We give 4.5 stars!

The Little Butterfly That Could by Ross Burach; reviewed by Miss Bove's 2nd Grade: The majority of Miss Bove's class gives the book 5 stars! The book was very funny! We enjoyed the illustrations. Also, we loved the message of being per-

sistent and always believing in yourself.

Mr. Corbett Is In Orbit! by Dan Gutman and Jim Paillot; reviewed by Mrs. Jaust's 3rd Grade: Our class LOVED this book. If you enjoy reading whacky, funny, silly books, this is DEFINITELY the book for you. The class takes a field trip and things don't go as expected! They end up in outer space! We recommend this book to 3rd-5th grade students. We were split on rating this book. Some of us thought 4 stars and others 5 stars! You can be the ultimate judge!



IT'S ELEMENTARY: Second Graders Make UnbeLEAFable

Miss Julianne Bove, Mrs. Karen Henry

Second graders kicked off spring by planting and dissecting lima beans! These amazing VRS students germinated the beans by soaking them in a wet paper towel over night. The next day, they opened up one lima bean with a toothpick. During the dissection, second graders discovered the young plant, seed coat, and cotyledon. Lastly, second graders planted their remaining lima beans in soil and are currently watching them grow! Truly unbeLEAFable!

Pictured right, future botanists Violet Blade-Churchwell and Rosalie Lalama shown with their classmates' seedlings.



IT'S ELEMENTARY: 3rd Grade Book and Cursive Club

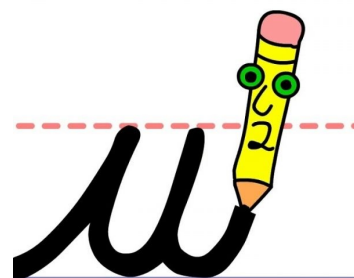
Mrs. Meghan Jaust

In third grade, some students have been joining weekly clubs to learn how to write in cursive and read! Students in Cursive Club have learned all the lowercase cursive letters as well as joining them to form words! The club is currently learning all of the uppercase letters. This is very exciting for the group, because they have been so eager to write their names in cursive!

Students in Book Club have a different theme each week to read and learn about. In April, we focused on different types of

poetry, because April is Poetry Month! Students read and wrote Acrostic, Cinquain, and Haiku poetry. Recently, we had a surprise guest, Ms. Ariel Schmiedhauser, teach us all about comics and graphic novels. We will complete Book Club by reading about origami, limericks, and sharing our own favorite books!

Nice job, Third Grade!



HONOR ROLL: MARKING PERIODS 1, 2, 3



High Honor Roll

Sixth Grade

Jasper Balogh 2; Michael Kmec 3; Jake Palermo 2, 3; Aaron Scharfstein 1, 2, 3

Seventh Grade

Chase De Oliveira 1, Amarna DeGil-Balija 1, 2, 3; Sydney Herold 1, 2, 3; Gavin Mahoney 1, 2, 3; Angela Tapia 1

Eighth Grade

Lucinda Clauson 2; Nathan Gonzalez 2; Samantha Krauklis 1,3; Sean Palermo 1, 2, 3; Santiago Valencia 2

Honor Roll

Sixth Grade

Jasper Balogh 1,3; Mykaela Castillo 2, 3; Carter Clauson 1; Zoey De Oliveira 2, 3; Raymond Fromme 1; Bella Garcia 2,3; Michael Kmec 1, 2; Cameron Mueller 2; Jake Palermo 1; Brooklyn Rose Perez 1, 2, 3; Anjali Portillo 3; Carly Villani 1, 2, 3

Seventh Grade

Paul Andrews 1, 2, 3; Samantha Balogh 1, 2; Chase De Olivera 2, 3; Melia Gomez 1, 2, 3; Emily Kali 1, 2, 3; Sara McNamara 1, 2; Mason Nikituk 1, 2; Scott Percarpio 2, 3; Bella Ribeiro 2; Reese Roth 1, 2; Scarlett Zapata 1, 3

Eighth Grade

Joel Berkowicz 1, 2; Lucinda Clauson 1, 3; Shea Ewer 1, 2, 3; Nathan Gonzalez 1, 3; Lucas Granada 1, 3; Samantha Krauklis 2;

Kelly Morales 1, 3; Ashley Mueller 3; Iann Proano 2, 3; Michael Signorile 2, 3; Sydney Stansfield 2; Santiago Valencia 1, 3; Sara Vallianos 2; Adam Wien 1, 2, 3

CONGRATULATIONS!
Well Done!

Keep up the good work.

#WEAREVRS

STUDENT IMPRESSIONS OF CAREER WEEK

By Mrs. Cathy Yonki

Valley Road School has proudly presented a Career Day event for their students each Spring for five of the last six years including a successful virtual week-long event in late March this year.

Some veteran presenters and some new Career Volunteers, as they are referred to, were happy to make the transition from an in-person career fair to the Flipgrid® instructional video platform used by the school. Careers presented included engineering, nursing, recruiting, consulting, ministry, fitness, cybersecurity, global I.T. business development, physical therapy and occupational therapy. Students in grades Kindergarten through Eighth Grade watched the short career videos created by family members, friends and members of the community.

To get some feedback from students, Principal Alicia Finklea-DiCataldo assembled a couple of students from each class in grades Kindergarten

through 5 in the cafeteria for a socially distanced forum. She asked the students, "What are your impressions of Career Week?"

Fourth grader Kaigen Faessenger, liked all of the videos, but not any one specifically, while third grade student Adrina Nikituk said she "liked listening to all the people's jobs." Ava Vaughn, a fourth grader, liked the video about nursing presented by Danielle DiMilia, an Emergency Room Nurse, who reminded students of the importance of wearing their masks.

Christopher Thornton, a fifth grader, liked watching the videos and learning about cybersecurity from Juan Morales, parent of Sadie and Anaya Morales. In particular Christopher was interested in hearing about the way cars are protected from hackers when cybersecurity experts can lock down the doors if the vehicle is hacked. Jack Lang, a fourth grade student agreed that the cybersecurity presentation was "pretty interesting... that you can

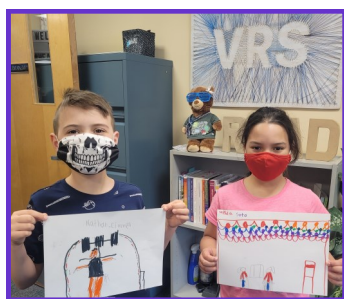
find out what everyone is up to." Lucas Hanusek was another fan of a career in cybersecurity, because you get to do "a lot of cool things." Second grade student Julia Villani also liked hearing about cybersecurity, having had first-hand experience with being hacked, and her schoolmates Amayah Cowley, Olivia Yowe, and Kate Lang liked that video as well. In fact, the cybersecurity video was the most popular with students, followed by the video presented by Jamilia Tunde, Recruiter for ShopRite, who has supported this event in the past.

Among the students who enjoyed Ms. Tunde's presentation about careers at ShopRite were, Kindergarten students Amin Yousef and Eleanor Bonte. Amin enjoyed it because he "likes the food," and Eleanor especially liked hearing about the florist's job at ShopRite. Maria Valencia told Mrs. DiCataldo that she loves going to ShopRite and liked the "ShopRite

STUDENT IMPRESSIONS OF CAREER WEEK... *CONTINUED*

lady, because she gets to pick the people that work at ShopRite, and it is interesting because she gets to be in ShopRite all the time.” Principal DiCataldo, pointed out that she and Maria are “complete opposites,” because she “dreads going food shopping.” Kayla Maitz, another kindergarten, also goes to ShopRite, so she enjoyed that presentation, but also wants “to be an engineer” when she gets bigger like her dad.

In fact, there were two careers presented by engineers: John Shahpazian, brother of Fifth Grade teacher, Rich Shahpazian, talked about what he does as a mechanical engineer, and Nalini Kelly, mother of fifth grader Dylan Kelly, introduced students to the world of chemical engineering and how she uses her expertise in developing products for BASF. Two of Mr. Rich Shahpazian’s students Daniella Ciampa and Jayden Pizarro, enjoyed his brother’s presentation about how engineers “plan stuff out and how they figure out how much it’s going to cost. They also get to build robots.” Jayden thinks that “the way they (engineers) plan out the technology is really cool and awesome.” Engineering appealed to the students



Photos left to right: 2nd Grade Students Nathan Ciampa & Sophia Soto, show their drawings of careers in Cybersecurity and Physical Therapy, respectively. Jamilia Tunde interviews Shop Rite’s Florist Melonie. Cybersecurity expert Juan Morales captures VRS students’ attention, and Michelle Anderson recruited future Physical Therapists. Additional photos on back cover.

across grade levels, as with second grader Anaya Morales who was also interested in a career in engineering because “you get to create stuff and help other people.”

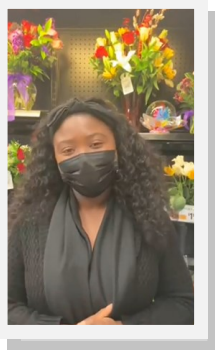
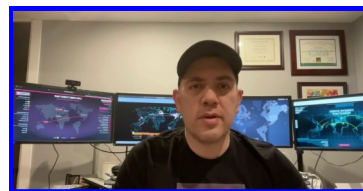
Ben Gullota may have been a bit biased when he told Mrs. DiCataldo that he liked the Physical Therapy video “because I love my mom, and she is a physical therapist.” Ben’s mom, Nicole Gullota teamed up again for Career Day with Michelle Anderson, mother of students Faith and Grace, to demonstrate to Valley Road School students how physical therapists use different devices to help patients regain mobility. Ryan Romanyuk and some of his classmates liked physical therapy, and Chloe Kidaj thought they were very caring.

Middle schoolers gave their impressions of the videos in written assignments discussing what appealed to them about the careers presented.

Miss Bove had her second graders create their own *My Future Career* videos. Ryan Choquette presented his future career on working in cybersecurity, telling his classmates that since Covid-19, the FBI has reported a 300% increase in cyber crimes. Leah Buck, who presented from home via Google Meets, told her peers that she wanted to be a veterinarian and shared that “80% of vets are female.” Amiya Cowley shared with her classmates that she wants to be a gymnast and

showed photos of the different apparatus on which gymnasts perform, like the uneven bars, the trampoline and the balance beam. She let them know that being a gymnast requires balance, strength and flexibility. Another future athlete, Marco Rampone shared his plans to become a football player. Natasha Bhagaloo encouraged her classmates to “be prepared, never give up, and if someone says you can’t do it, don’t listen” if you are planning to become an actor and singer like she is. Future astronaut, Maliya Moodie, impressed her classmates with her plans and let them know that a space suit weighs over 280 pounds. And future ice-skater, Rosalie Lalama loves skating because “it is so fun!”

Mr. Hagemann remarked on this year’s “virtual” event, “I am so incredibly impressed with the hard work and dedication that our staff, particularly Mrs. Yonki and Mrs. DiCataldo, committed to this year’s Career Week. Aside from our students learning about different career choices, it’s also great for them to witness the commitment that our volunteers have to our school and community. Thank you to all our presenters, and I look forward to next year’s event, which should be bigger and better than ever!”



POETRY PAGE



"Sixth Graders are Poets and They Didn't Even Know It!"

By Mrs. Sherry Fehir

For April's Poetry Month, Mrs. Fehir's sixth graders delved into the world of poetry learning different terms, writing different styles, and poetry analysis as well. Check out some original sixth grade submissions below!

DINNER TIME DREAM

"SALLY SUMMERS IT'S TIME TO EAT!!
COME DOWNSTAIRS SO WE CAN FEAST
THERE'S CRANBERRY PIE AND LOTS OF PEAS
APPLE JUICE AND MAC AND CHEESE
SLICED APPLES AND LOTS OF MEAT
CHICKEN SALAD FROM APPLE-BEE'S
HOT WINGS WITH MANY SPICES
AND BEFORE YOU BELIEVE IT,
CRANBERRY SLICES
COTTON CANDY WITH ICE CREAM
CORN, RICE, AND SWEET BEANS...
SALLY??
Wake up it's morning.
Get off your bed at least.
GAHH you look like a BEAST!!
By: Anji P.

Looking for a Friend

The stars tell us of things that happened long ago
They also tell us of what is to come
The stars tell us stories, trying to be our friends
Every night the stars continue to dance before our eyes
Every night the stars look at us, looking for a friend
but not many people ever start to glare back
Ptomly, Hipparchus, and Aristotle all said hello
The stars allowed us to find how gravity works
They did this so we could come closer to them
By Aaron S.

Tears

Your tears fell like a broken sink that never stops trickling.
The rain's rhythm is like a sad song that plays when the clouds feel blue.
Your thoughts are loud as if the tree's were whispering to me.
The clouds hover over your head with a storm,
keeping the negative thoughts drowning your brain.
Your music is like a soft voice talking with comfort and safety
Your heart is like a glass porcelain with a label of fragile on the outside.
Your eyes are like snow globes that rain when the sphere in your throat drops
When hurt, your heart hides in a box to keep safe saying, "Never again."
All your tears hold in my eyes, with a bright smile like I'm trying to cover up a crime scene.
My tears fall like a broken sink that never stops trickling.
By: Nailah G.

Bookstore

My teacher told me, "You need a new book!"
And boom! She snatched it and gave a bad look.
After that, she'd give it back, she swore
But honestly, I'd rather go to the bookstore.
The doors open, and lights shine in my eyes
The book she needed, it's not here to my surprise.
We arrived at another, I could not find it.
But I found the same author! I hope it will fit.
I arrived at my school with my book in my hand
I handed it to my teacher, like I had planned.
She said, "Not this either!" and pushed it back
Why doesn't she like it? Is it the paper-back?
By: Mykaela C.

Allergies

My eyes very are red,
I think I have to lay in bed.
I'm allergic to roses,
That's why I have a runny nose.

I go to bed, wake up
to glued eyes
And then it looks like I just cried.
By: Shane G.
That Day
I remember when my sister was born
As small as a watermelon knowing.
When she was my age I would be.
So much older, my little sister is getting older.
I remember holding her in my arms
knowing she was my sis,
Sitting next to Max both of us thinking
Is she really our sister we couldn't
Believe that this amazing moment was happening.
I remember when we were thinking
how much fun we would have with
Another sibling.
This little watermelon
Is my sister.
By: Matthew R.

"The Storm"

(Adapted from Jaylina Trent's short story Thunderstorm)
Thunderstorm, dark clouds
soft murmur of thunder, rippling ocean,
Thunder bolts, shadowing
Thunderbolts struck, rumbled, and stuttered,
Openings in the clouds!
Skies were torn
brilliant blue bolt spreading light.
Rough, rising high
soaking the sand thunder was drowned.
Storm broke! Violently bright, I could see
The horizon
Again.
By: Jordan C.

Hidden

I wait patiently for someone
Lonely on the shelf
Dust coating my whole body
Hiding behind the new ones
Never looking out
Only looking into darkness
My words are fading
My cover is ripped
I can wait longer for someone to pick me up.
By: Delaney H.



ALUMNI NEWS

"College Decision Day for Lenape Valley High School Seniors!"

By Mrs. Sherry Fehir

Congrats to our VRS Alumni!

Maddie Baisley- Clemson University

Payton Bailey- Rowan University

Ali DiFabrizio- Rowan University

Kelly Thornton- Utica College

Kayla Brennan- Fairleigh Dickinson University

Kelly Ferrone- University of Tampa

Nick Minisi- County College of Morris

Alexandra Novack- Sacred Heart University

Dylan Durand- Rutgers University New Brunswick

Ryan Rappoport- County College of Morris

VRS Alumni goes far in two different ways.

By Mrs. Rosa Taddei

While attending Oklahoma State University, **Armando Taddei**, VRS '09, studied Sports Management as well as worked for the OSU Cowboys (Go Pokes!!). Now he is entering his 6th year of working for a NFL team. He not only travels the country but loves his job! *Way to go Armando!*



HAPPENINGS IN SOCIAL STUDIES

By Mrs. Krista Fetherman

Many of our middle school students are participating in the Sussex County Salute to Veterans Pin Contest. Participants will design a "veterans" themed pin to honor Sussex County military veterans. The contest entrants will receive credit in social studies for their participation and have the opportunity to win \$200! (from the Veterans Parade Committee). The winner will also be a guest at the Sussex County Fairgrounds for the Salute to Military Veterans Parade in November. Entries are due June 4th and will be on display in the middle school hallway, outside of Mrs. Yanakas' room.

Interested in American history that took place right here in and around New Jersey? Our 8th grade students created historical tour itineraries that will take you throughout New Jersey (and just across the Pennsylvania and New York borders), to relive the



American Revolution. Many of these are day trips to locations across our state such as: Washington's Headquarters in Morristown, Princeton Battlefield, Red Bank Battlefield, Washington Crossing Historic Park, and many more. **Ask an 8th grade student for more information!**

Photo credit: Cathy Yonki

STANHOPE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Steven T. Hagemann, Superintendent

Alicia L. Finklea-DiCataldo, Principal

Dr. Steven E. McHugh, Sr.,
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Creating Stanhope's Future...
One Child At A Time!

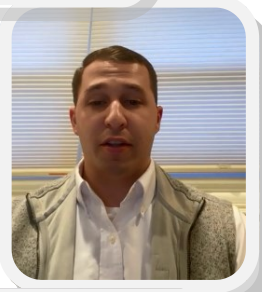
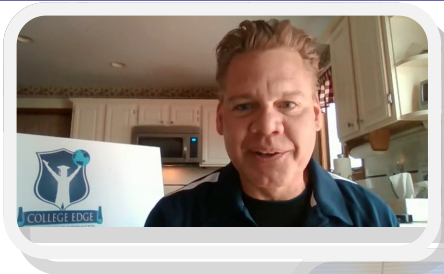
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BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

7:00 PM

Regularly the Third Wednesday of the
Month (check school calendar for updates)

IMAGES FROM CAREER WEEK



Top row: Chemical Engineer Nalini Kelly, Consultant Paul Kelly, E.R. Nurse, Danielle DiMilia
Middle row: Pastor and University Chaplain Timothy Nicinski, Magnets from Chris Palermo's travels, Mechanical Engineer John Shahpazian
Bottom row: Fitness Expert Lois Marchitto, VRS Occupational Therapist Leslie Salmon, Physical Therapist Nicole Gullota