# insight





## Wyomissing Area SCHOOL DISTRICT

David P. Krem, Superintendent

July 2010 | Volume 41, No. 3

## The Public Art Workshop Makes a Difference

Following the installation of new playground equipment at the West Reading Elementary Center (WREC) last summer, we now have even more to celebrate! Under the direction of high school art teacher **Mike Miller** and

#### WEST READING ELEMENTARY CENTER

elementary art teacher Rob Kucharczuk, a beautiful mural depicting both the past and present of West Reading was recently installed. High school students enrolled in the Public Art Workshop worked on the mural throughout most of the fall of 2009. The students not only painted the mural material, but were also responsible for transforming the original photos into life-sized works of art using a gridlike system to encompass the entire wall of the property adjacent to the playground.

The students graciously hosted community painting days in West Reading to allow the entire community to take part in this amazing process. Fifth- and sixthgraders at WREC participated by designing stencils and painting them onto the mural to create texture on the overall painting.

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View from the West Reading Elementary Center playground before the mural.



The same view after installation of the mure

## A look inside...

in our schools: Students Excel in Fitness Testing

**NHS Scholars** 



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Helping Haiti May we introduce you to?



Where do we go from here? 2010 Graduates



WAEF Scholarship Recipients



Jennifer Helinek Named to All-State Chorus

The same view after installation of the murai.

## **International Day at WHEC**

Second grade students enjoyed an afternoon of international fun when **Jimmy Coffey**, a Wyomissing graduate, visited WHEC. Jimmy is currently enrolled in the Global Citizenship program at Lehigh

#### WYOMISSING HILLS ELEMENTARY CENTER

University. Using a template, he had students create passports with their names, travel information, and pictures. From there, students chose three destinations around the world they hope to visit. Stu-

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Second grade teacher Erin Tyrell, Jimmy, and art teacher Christine Helinek.



If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this publication, please contact **David P. Krem**, superintendent, at 610-374-0739, ext. 1106, or dkrem@wyoarea.org via e-mail.

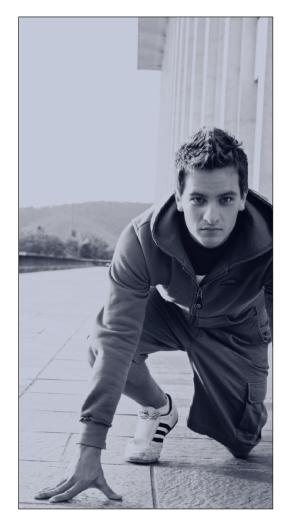
## **International Day at WHEC**

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dents enjoyed learning how to use Google Earth to see aerial views of WHEC and homes in Brazil. Jimmy also taught the children about global awareness and culture. The students handled various artifacts that Jimmy has collected on his trips to Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. We would like to offer our thanks to Jimmy Coffey for showing us a glimpse of the world beyond Berks County.

Jimmy Coffey (center), with his Lehigh University classmates and new second-grade friends.

## Wyomissing Area Students: Not Your Typical Teens When it Comes to Fitness! Students



Many people are aware of the discouraging results from research on childhood obesity and physical fitness. However, national averages do not always accurately represent the populations of individual schools. Such was the case with the results of Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School's 2009-2010 physical fitness testing.

During the 2009-2010 school year, students at the Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School saw an increased emphasis on physical fitness within their physical education units. The physical education department continued to measure students' health-related fitness using the Presidential Physical Fitness Tests. However, this year, students participated in some new units that were designed to specifically target the areas of health-related fitness measured in the Presidential tests. The tests were also incorporated into students' quarterly grades.

Nearly 700 students completed the full series of physical fitness

such as: cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, speed, and agility. As the results of these tests clearly show, the hard work of the students paid off with some truly outstanding results. Listed at right are the percentages of the students who scored above the national averages for the main components of physical fitness.

Additionally, Wyomissing recorded its highest ever total for Presidential Physical Fitness Award Winners. This award is presented to students who score above the 85th percentile on all five physical fitness tests. A total of 95 students earned the Presidential Physical Fitness Award, which is one of the highest percentages of any secondary school in the state of Pennsylvania!

Congratulations to the students of the Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School for their outstanding performances. They continue to demonstrate a commitment to achieving at high levels, both Students above national average in fitness component 63% cardiovascular fitness

> 79% flexibility

85% speed & agility

> 86% muscular endurance

85% muscular strength

tests, which measure elements

academically and physically.

**National Honor Society Induction** 



The annual National Honor Society Induction ceremony was held on February 23, 2010. Congratulations to the students (at right) who are new members:

#### Nicholas Anzalone Elaine Arias Alexa Bickhart John Bonino Matthew Brice Gregory D. Brown Maria Candal Tribe Erica Clapp Rachael D'Addezio Joseph Dougherty Laura Drebushenko Joshua Hamsher Kaitlyn Harris Daniel Helinek

Jennifer Helinek Keito Hoshitsuki Andrew Kaucher Meredith Keller Mark Koslow Julia Masano Ryan Melcher Leanne Mould Laila Muallem Kara Noon Erin Paolini Chelsea Pellicano Sharibel Urena Erin Vail Lauren Wennell Melanie Witman

Names of new Junior High inductees:

Emma Bittner Danielle Carabello Emma Fogel Greta Koch Austin Kuhn Kevin Kusmierz Spencer Lloyd Brinn McClennan Caroline Pattillo Alexandra Portner Alexander Potcovaru Silvio Schiaroli Jenna Wickman



The Wyomissing Area School District would like to welcome Sherri Morett, our new director of special education. Sherri lives in North Coventry, PA and holds certifications for elementary education, special education, reading specialist, and supervisor. Her bachelor's degree, master's degree, and certifications were all completed at Arcadia University.

Sherri comes to us from Unionville-Chadds Ford Area School District, where she was an

#### SHERRI MORETT



assistant director of special education. While working for Unionville-Chadds Ford, Sherri developed, planned, and implemented two new autistic support programs, one at the elementary level and one at the middle school level.

"I'm looking forward to being part of the Wyomissing Area community. The administration, staff, and parents have been extremely supportive and welcoming. I believe that we will work well together to meet the needs of our students," said Sherri.

Sherri's husband, Matt, is the executive chef for the Philadelphia Zoo. Sherri and Matt have three children, Jimi, Jeffrey, and Jordan. Welcome to Mr. David P. Krem, who assumed duties as the new superintendent of the Wyomissing Area School District on July 1, 2010.

Mr. Krem holds a B.S. in education from Kutztown University, an M.S. in education from Temple University, and earned his Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility at Lehigh University. He holds additional PA Department of Education certifications for Elementary K-6, Elementary Principal, and Secondary Principal. His service in public education spans 37 years, including his most recent post as superintendent of the Pottstown School District. He has also served as an adjunct professor at the Temple University Graduate School of Education.

A firm believer in the power of two-way communication, transparency, and integrity, Mr. Krem has consistently made an effort to encourage community involvement. He believes that all stakeholders must work together to improve academic achievement

#### DAVID P. KREM

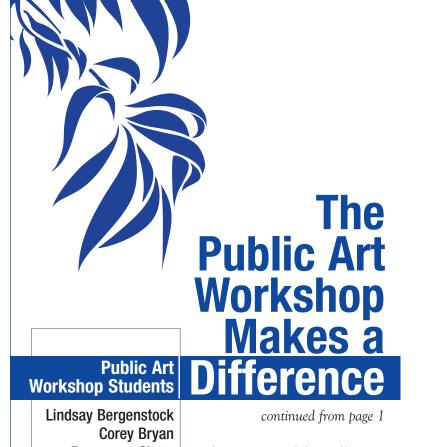


of all students, use data to support decisions, and operate within the district's financial constraints.

He and his wife Christine, also a professional in the field of education, have had the pleasure of meeting a number of people from the Wyomissing Area community and are impressed by the enthusiasm for, involvement in, and commitment to excellence in education.

Citing his favorite quote, Mr. Krem said,

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an art but a habit." –Aristotle



## Wyomissing helps Haiti: Students and Staff Raise More Than \$2,500



During the week of February 15, 2010, the junior and senior high student councils, along with the service club and the environmental club, sponsored a Wyo Helps Haiti fundraiser. Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School raised more than \$200 with Hats for

Haiti and more than \$1,500 with hot chocolate and snacks.

By donating one dollar, students were permitted to wear hats on Friday, with more than 200 students and staff bearing student-

Francesca Ciatto Nöel Geraci **Nicole Green** Anna Lau Elijah Marshall **Elaine Holehan** Stephanie Kotula Leanne Mould Flora Natalini Alex Radaoui Jacob Shott **Carly Shuttlesworth** Marina Tarrach **Myles Troutman** Livia Ungurean **Skylar Weaver Chelsea Webb Stephanie Wert** Alex York

The majority of the wall mural was funded by The Playground Project at West **Reading Elementary Center** along with a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Many thanks go out to Vanity Fair Outlet for the use of a hydraulic lift during the installation phase, **Dean** Rohrbach of the Elm Street Foundation in West Reading Borough for his continued support of the project, and Mr. and Mrs. Greg Braley for providing us with the canvas for this project-the side of their home. Congratulations to everyone involved for a job well done!

designed stickers saying, "I helped." Junior high and senior high school student council members took carts to math, English, and social studies rooms with hot chocolate contributed by the high school student council and snacks donated by the high school cooking club and **Dr. Speace**.

The teachers and staff also participated by donating money to wear jeans, raising more than \$800 with that endeavor alone. The student councils, along with the other service clubs, very much appreciated the cooperation of the administration, faculty, and staff. With their logistical and monetary support, Wyomissing Area was able to raise more than \$2,500 to aid those ravaged by the earthquake in Haiti.

In addition to being a terrific fundraising success, Wyomissing Area demonstrated its ability to utilize the talents of students and school organizations to do its part in helping the Haitian people in this critical hour. The funds are being donated directly to the Berks County chapter of the American Red Cross. Thank you to everyone who participated!

## Where do we go from here?

Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School Seniors' Post-Graduation Plans

Andrew Landis

Pennsylvania College of Technology

Sanaa Ahmed University of Pittsburgh Zeba Ahmed University of Pittsburgh Soukaina Aitelmajouh Reading Area Community College **Nicholas Anzalone** Penn State / University Park Campus Renuca Appadu Penn State / Berks Campus **Rainer Aristy** Hussian School of Art Aysha Awan **DeSales University Michael Baba** Reading Area Community College **Kelsey Bahr** Clarion University **Benjamin Bamberger** Carnegie Mellon University Michael Bell West Chester University Seana Benz Muhlenberg College Sarah Bergenstock Bloomsburg University Erinn Boguslowski Indiana University of Pennsylvania **Dilliane Bonnet** Washington College **Robert Brackbill** Grove City College **Matthew Brice DeSales University Michael Brown** Saint Joseph's University **Corey Bryan Cheyney University** Jennifer Bucolo Lesley University **Julia Carlson Towson University** Alyssa Charlanza University of Missouri-Columbia **Rose Chiango** Millersville University Francesca Ciatto University of Miami Veronica Cintron Reading Area Community College Erica Clapp Syracuse University **Kiana Clifton** Reading Area Community College **Alex Cruz** Millersville University Jesenia Cruz Reading Area Community College Luis Cruz University in Mexico Rafael Cruz Reading Area Community College **Dakota Cruz-Andrews** Full Sail University **Andrew Daniels Temple University Caitlin Dardis** Reading Area Community College Marguerite DeLucas Albright College **Nicole DeMarte** Shippensburg University Anne Dingeldein Reading Area Community College Keith Dmochowski Reading Area Community College **Hillary Dooley** Elon University **Wallace Dorilas** Brooklyn College of the CUNY Laura Drebushenko **Ursinus** College Julia Durinzi Reading Area Community College

#### Edward Early

Franklin and Marshall College Keyona Easton Millersville University Benjamin Eidle James Madison University Cydney Engle University of Colorado at Boulder Hope Fisher Eastern University **Cheuy Francisco** Penn State / Berks Campus **Casey Fromm** University of Michigan Katie Gajewski Penn State / Berks Campus Joseph Garapola Penn State / University Park Campus Elisha Gaylor Ursinus College **Catherine Geraci** Ohio State University **Kyle Gerner** Full Sail University Hannah Geyer University of Pittsburgh Melissa Giannotti Alvernia University Jacob Gonzalez Penn State / Berks Campus **Rohan Gordon** West Chester University Tara Gouldey Reading Area Community College **Kyle Griffith** University of Pittsburgh Andrew Guay University of South Florida, Tampa Jake Gunter **Temple University** Shelby Halter Employment **Cody Heim** Employment **Gavin Heinly** Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University Morgan Heinly Liberty University Aimee Held Penn State / Berks Campus Austin Helm University of Richmond **Ren Hernandez** Alvernia University Michael Izzo **Boston College** Carissa Jambeau Reading Area Community College Haley Johnson Philadelphia University Patrick Johnson Florida Gulf Coast University Ashish Kalani University of Pittsburgh **Oliver Kautter** Kutzown University **Cherise Key** Indiana University of Pennsylvania Christopher Klahr Millersville University Sydney Kline Shippensburg University Jorja Knauer Barnard College Corrine Knop Washington and Jefferson College Callie Koppenhaver **Clarion University Rachel Koslow** Duke University Jaclyn Kovach Clemson University Kenneth Lacis Millersville University

**Michael Leagans** Reading Area Community College Katherine Leiby Yale University **Rebecca Lepore** West Chester University Shawn Little Reading Area Community College **Richard Lombardo** Reading Area Community College **Tierney Loose** Saint Joseph's University Nathaniel Luyben Hiram College Sean MacAusland Duquesne University Patrick Magrane University of Pittsburgh **Catherine Mahony** University of Notre Dame Ali Malik Allegheny College Daniel Malloy University of Pittsburgh Alicia Maslar Widener University **Quentin Martin** Full Sail University **Christopher Martir** Mansfield University **David McCoy** Northampton Community College **Nicholas McKeen** Employment **Rita Mikhail** Reading Area Community College **Erich Mogel** Penn State / Berks Campus **Michael Molinaro** University of Pittsburgh Alex Moll Seminole State College

**Mary Moser Rutgers University** Leanne Mould Duquesne University Jaydee Navedo Reading Area Community College Ama Nimako-Boateng Penn State / University Park Campus **Ashley Ondra** Reading Area Community College **Devin Overley** Valley Forge Military College Jessica Pappas James Madison University Nicole Pellicano University of Pittsburgh **Haley Petrarca** 

John Sawyer Albright College George Sayde University of Pennsylvania Laura Scargle Millersville University Justin Sekulski Reading Area Community College Zachary Sekulski Reading Area Community College Jean Sepulveda Reading Area Community College Natalie Sergi Georgetown University **Rebekah Shaffer** Employment **Taylor Shields** Messiah College **Catherine Shollenberger** Philadelphia University **Caroline Siebens** University of Pittsburgh Zachary Simon University of Michigan Katelyn Sims West Chester University Jonathan Skinner Penn State / Berks Campus Iliana Sobalvarro Indiana University of Pennsylvania Sam Sodomsky Syracuse University/Honors Program Aaron Starr Penn State / University Park Campus **Jazzlyn Steel** Reading Area Community College **Jamey Stief** Employment Lauren Strause Reading Hospital School of Nursing **Charissa Suero** Reading Area Community College **Avalon Swindell-Jones** George Mason University Samuel Tonneslan University of Virginia Samuel VanSickle Penn State / Berks Campus Matthew Vandenbosch University of Virginia **Michelle Viera** The Art Institute of York **Lorren Walker** Millersville University Wayne Waltman Apprenticeship Program Adam Warner **Clarion University** Amanda Weaver Penn State / University Park Campus Jessica Weaver Reading Area Community College Susan Weidman Penn State / University Park Campus Sarah Wenger Employment Lauren Wennell Marist College **Genesis Wentzel** Reading Area Community College **Hilary White Bucknell University Keyaundra Williams** Harcum College **Melanie Witman** Elon University Kay Woodward University of Pittsburgh **Danielle Yoder** Grove City College Katelynn Zabrecchi Reading Area Community College Mirza Zaidov Penn State / Berks Campus

**DeSales University Andrea Philippides Goucher College** Anna Pleet University of Pittsburgh **Drew Pottieger** Duquesne University Erika Rist University of Chicago **Caitlin Robinson** Millersville University Elvin Rodriguez Vaughn College of Aeronautics & Technology Paul Rodriguez Pennsylvania College of Technology Marcos Rojas Reading Area Community College Laura Rolon Reading Area Community College **Steven Sacks Cornell Universitv** Brian Santana Reading Area Community College



presents 2010 scholarships

The 2010 Scholarship Reception was held on Wednesday, April 28. Ten students were awarded scholarships totaling \$11,750.

#### THE WYOMISSING AREA EDUCATION FOUNDATION **SCHOLARSHIP**

Three scholarships of \$1,000 each awarded to juniors with a GPA of 3.0 or better. They must be in the top 50% of the class and be planning a career in one of three designated fields of technology, fine arts, or sports and wellness.

2010 Winners Art – Elaine Arias Sports & Wellness – Emily Kaag Technology – Joseph Dougherty

#### THE CLASS OF '59 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One \$1,000 scholarship awarded to the senior with the most improved GPA between 9th and 12th grades.

#### 2010 Winner – Caitlin Dardis

#### THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF WYOMISSING SCHOLARSHIP

One \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a senior who has performed outstanding service to school and community and demonstrates financial need and academic achievement.

2010 Winner – Ashish Kalini

#### THE SAMUEL R. KOZLOFF **SCHOLARSHIP**

One \$1,500 scholarship awarded to a senior who has demonstrated achievement and interest in social studies or foreign languages.

2010 Winner – Jorja Knauer

THE CLASS OF 1946 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One \$1,250 scholarship awarded to a meritorious member of the senior class who has shown academic and leadership potential.

#### 2010 Winner – Erika Rist

#### THE WEST READING HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI **SCHOLARSHIP**

One \$1,500 scholarship awarded to a senior who needs financial support and is a resident of the Borough of West Reading.

#### 2010 Winner -Marguerite DeLucas

#### THE KOULLIAS FAMILY **SCHOLARSHIP**

One \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a senior planning to study electrical engineering, math or science.

#### WAEF AD HOC SCHOLARSHIP

Missing from photo: Patrick Johnson

Front row: Caitlin Dardis, Jorja Knauer, Erika Rist, Ren Hernandez and Elaine Arias

Back Row: Marguerite DeLucas, Sam Tonneslan, Joseph Dougherty, Ashish Kalini, and Emily Kaag

This award is not given every year, but is a \$1,000 scholarship that this year is being given to a student who showed outstanding effort, attention to detail and creativity in the scholarship application submission process. The committee felt strongly that this effort should be rewarded.

#### 2010 Winner - Ren Hernandez

#### DALE REIGEL MEMORIAL GRANT

One \$500 grant awarded to a senior boy who has played on the varsity basketball and/or golf teams and has shown academic excellence in the field of social studies. (Patrick received the award at the Annual All Sports Award Banquet held in May.)

2010 Winner – Patrick Johnson



## Wyomissing **Student Chosen for All-State Chorus!**

Jennifer Helinek, a Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School student in grade 11, was chosen for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) 2010 All-State Chorus. This student has been recognized as one of the best singers from every public, private, parochial, charter, and cyber high school in Pennsylvania! She participated in the PMEA All-State Festival and concert held in Pittsburgh, PA, April 21-24, 2010. This is the highest level of choral achievement in our state. Congratulations Jennifer!



## School Opens August 30

School Hours Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center Grades K-4 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

West Reading Elementary Center Grades 5-6

8:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

#### Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School

Grades 7-12 7:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

#### **Bus Schedules**

If you have not received your anticipated bus schedule in the mail by August 18, please contact the Transportation Department at 610-374-0739, ext. 1110 or 1101.

### **Volunteer Clearance**

Thank you to the many parents and community members who volunteer with our students and in our schools. For the

safety of our students, volunteers need criminal background and child abuse clearances.

If you already have clearances on file with the District, you do not need to apply again. If you have never volunteered but are interested, please apply for clearances as soon as possible. Processing time can take up to six weeks. The forms can be downloaded from the employment link at www.wyoarea.org or picked up at a school office. Completed forms must be submitted to the District Office.

#### **Cafeteria Prices**

Jr./Sr. High Breakfast: Student \$1.45 Reduced 30¢ Lunch: Elementary \$2.00 Secondary \$2.20 and \$2.70; Reduced 40¢ Milk 50¢

In order to qualify for free and reduced lunches, an application must be completed each school year. Applications are available at each school building office or online at www.wyoarea.org, Food Service Department link.

## mark your calendar

Questions may be directed to 610-374-0739, ext. 1106.

#### August 30 First Student Day

September 3 Schools Closed

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September 6

Labor Day Schools and Offices Closed September 23

JSHS Open House – 6:30 p.m.

#### October 8 & 11

Staff Inservice Days Schools Closed

#### October 14

WHEC Open House/Book Fair 5:30 p.m.

#### **October 21** WREC Open House/Book Fair 7 p.m.

October 23 Homecoming – 1:30 p.m.

## **Attention Residents Age 65 or Older:**

As a courtesy, residents of the district who are age 65 or older and retired staff members may become **Gold Card members**. Members are admitted without charge to all home athletic games, dramatic and musical events. Cards may be obtained at any district office and do not have to be renewed annually.

Questions may be directed to 610-374-0739, ext. 1106.

Official publication of the Wyomissing Area School District This newsletter is published for the citizens o

published for the citizens of the Wyomissing Area School District. We welcome your ideas, comments, and suggestions.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this publication, please contact David P. Krem, superintendent, at 610-374-0739, ext. 1106, or July 2010 | Volume 41, No. 3

#### **Board of Directors**

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> JOHN A. LARKIN VICE PRESIDENT

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## TOMER

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#### dkrem@wyoarea.org via e-mail.

Wyomissing Area School District is an equal opportunity institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504.

#### CAROLYN M. BAMBERGER ANGEL L. HELM SCOTT C. PAINTER, ESQ. GREGORY L. PORTNER LYNN T. SAKMANN ANNE P. SELTZER

#### DAVID P. KREM SUPERINTENDENT (EX OFFICIO)

#### **Our Mission:**

The Wyomissing Area School District, in partnership with parents and community, is committed to:

- educate all students to their fullest potential
- provide all students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to be successful in the 21st century
- encourage all students to be productive, responsible citizens and lifelong learners.