



insight

November 2011 | Volume 43, No. 2

David P. Krem, Superintendent

Remembering a Hero



Flannery Memorial Dedication Ceremony

On Saturday, September 10, 2011, hundreds from the Wyomissing community gathered to pay tribute to SSG. **Sean Flannery**, a 1999 graduate of the Wyomissing Area School District, who was killed in action by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan on November 22, 2010. Wyomissing Area's soccer field was named Flannery Field in honor of Sean, who was a star goalie for the Spartans.

Through generous donations from area businesses and private donors, a flagpole and monument have been erected to celebrate Sean's service and achievements. The memorial was the work of a committee of Wyomissing Area residents

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Flannery Memorial Committee Co-chairs Robert Rader, left, and Michael Kuhn assist Charlene "Charlie" Flannery during the dedication of Flannery Field.



New signage at the Wyomissing Area soccer field honors Sean Flannery, who was a star goalie for the Spartans.

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If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this publication, please contact:

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Superintendent
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A Look Inside Japanese Schools

Jr./Sr. High School Teacher Michael L. Miller selected for Fulbright Japan-U.S. Teacher Exchange Program for ESD

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Last May, **Michael Miller**, art teacher at the Jr./Sr. High School traveled to San Francisco, CA, as a participant in the Japan-U.S. Teacher Exchange Program for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), hosted by Fulbright Japan (Japan-U.S. Educational Commission). He was one of 48 teachers selected from across the nation for the program. The bi-nationally fully-funded program for U.S. teachers took place in two parts: a Joint Conference with Japanese teachers in San Francisco, May 1-4, 2011, and a study tour to Japan, June 21-July 5, 2011. Focused on the theme of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), the program's aim is to deepen mutual understanding and strengthen the relationship between Japan and the United States, as well as to raise awareness of ESD-oriented school programs and enhance ESD-related curricula in both countries.

Miller began his Japanese trip in the city of Kobe, and following a two-day orientation, he traveled on to

Nagasaki Prefecture with a contingent of 16 American teachers. While in Nagasaki, he visited five schools. "Going into the Japanese schools was one of the most fascinating parts of the trip," says Miller. "One noticeable difference from American schools is Japanese students eat lunch in their homerooms (there is no cafeteria). The students are responsible for delivering and serving the food and cleaning up after the meal. Japanese students are also responsible for cleaning the school, sweeping and mopping floors, including lavatories. One Japanese teacher I met has a club where students will meet outside the school day to give extra time to clean areas of the school. You could see how this instilled a shared sense of pride and community in their school building."

Being in Nagasaki, Miller also had the opportunity to visit the site where the nuclear bomb was detonated on August 9, 1945, at 11:02 a.m. "We visited the Zero Marker, directly beneath where the bomb was detonated, the museum that documents and preserves artifacts

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WEST READING
ELEMENTARY CENTER

Rededicating WREC

On the evening of Wednesday, October 12, the Wyomissing Area educational community gathered for the official West Reading Elementary Center Re-dedication Ceremony. Even though the building opened on time to begin the school year, this event signified the culmination of years of study and months of actual construction progress, resulting in our newly renovated building.

The event began with the fifth- and sixth-grade Spartan Singers presenting the national anthem. This was followed by speeches by WREC Principal **Corbett Babb**, Superintendent **David Krem**, Board President **Michelle Davis**, and **Danielle Hoffer**, vice president of Gilbert Architects Inc. The Board of School Directors then joined Director of Building and Grounds **Craig Fries** in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Members of the community, as well as the many dignitaries attending, later participated in self-guided tours of the facility.

Last January, fifth- and sixth-grade students returned from winter break and

attended school at off-site locations for the remainder of the school year. The fifth grade was housed at St. James Church in West Reading. The sixth grade moved to Sts. Constantine and Helen Church, near Berks Catholic High School. This allowed facility-wide demolition, construction, and renovation to begin immediately, greatly improving the timeline for the return of students and staff.

Significant upgrades to the building include six additional classrooms, offices for the guidance counselor and RTII coordinator, a new conference room, and workspaces for services such as speech therapy and social work. Every learning space was completely remodeled and received significant instructional technology upgrades. Building-wide electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and technology system replacements were included in the overall project scope and will ensure an optimal educational environment for future generations of middle school students.

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Remembering a Hero continued

co-chaired by **Robert Rader** and **Michael Kuhn**. **Mark Flannery**, English teacher at the Jr./Sr. High School and cousin of Sean's late father, Michael, was also a member of the committee. Mark said, "It was heartwarming to see the response from the people of our community, as well as the people from Berks County. Actually, we even had people from various points across our nation making contributions for this memorial. Not only did we have a generous response from the citizens of our area, but many businesses contributed materials, labor, and other services to make this project a success."

On hand for the ceremony were local, county, and state dignitaries and clergy. Boy Scout Troop 413 raised the flag as the Wyomissing Area High School Camerata sang the national anthem. Sean's mother, **Charlene "Charlie" Flannery**, expressed her gratitude for the honor bestowed upon her son. A 21-gun salute and taps, played by the Topton American Legion Honor Guard closed the ceremony. Sean's brothers, Brian and Devin, participated in the soccer game that followed the dedication.

Mark Flannery shared his thoughts about the dedication ceremony. "It was beautiful. The sun was shining, the grass was green, and there was even a rainbow in the sky at the conclusion of the event. Flannery Field is a perfect way to honor the memory of Sean M. Flannery. He was an intelligent, compassionate, dedicated young man who died serving our country.



Jim Fromuth (Class of 2001), left, and Ted Lentz (Class of 1986) participate in the alumni soccer match following the field dedication.

On behalf of the Flannery family, I would like to thank all of those who made the Sean M. Flannery Memorial possible."

According to **Jan Cremer**, executive director of the Wyomissing Area Education Foundation, donations came in from places as far away as Arizona, Missouri, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and London. Jan reported, "Due to the generosity of our donors, we will be funding a scholarship/award to a deserving Wyomissing Area student in Sean's honor. The award will be given annually at the end of each school year to a senior student who has demonstrated leadership and patriotism. Donations will continue to be accepted and acknowledged."

Please send all donations to:
WAEF
630 Evans Avenue
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Please be sure to include a note indicating the donation is intended for the Sean M. Flannery Scholarship/Award Fund.



meet our new teachers

WYOMISSING HILLS ELEMENTARY

Patricia Kane, Gifted Teacher -

Kane obtained a B.A. in elementary education and an M.S. in teaching and curriculum from Pennsylvania State University. She is continuing her graduate studies through the University of North Texas and Millersville University. She has worked for various school districts in varied capacities in gifted programs. She has most recently been employed by Reading School District as chair of the Gifted Department.

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Jennifer Texter, Long-term Substitute Itinerant Autistic Support Teacher -

Texter earned her B.S. in elementary/special education from Eastern University. She received her teaching certification in Elementary K-6, Early Childhood N-4, and Special Education. She was a long-term substitute as a special education teacher at Perkiomen Valley School District during the 2010-2011 school year.

JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Peter Beck, Gifted Teacher - Beck graduated from Albright College with a B.A. in political science/pre-law. He received his Elementary Education Certificate (K-6) in 2009. He served as a grade-6 gifted education teacher since 2005 at the Manheim Township Middle School. Beck has been working as a co-curricular advisor in numerous areas of band and drama for Wyomissing Area School District from 2005 to present.



New teachers, back row, from left to right: Peter Beck, Jennifer Texter, Patricia Kane, Cynthia Watras, and Caitlin Frazer. Front row, left to right: Cayla Printz, Emily Duh, Christopher Talley, Nicole Wentzel, Lee Gallagher.

Lee Gallagher, Learning Support Teacher - Gallagher received her B.A. in elementary education/Spanish and her M.S. in special education from Albright College. She is certified in Elementary K-6, Special Education N-12, and Spanish K-12. Gallagher served as an itinerant learning support teacher at Donegal Middle School and also worked at Muhlenberg Elementary Center as an ESY teacher for life skills/autistic support.

Nicole Wentzel, Special Education Teacher - Wentzel received her bachelor of special education/certification in special education from Millersville University. She has served as a substitute teacher in Schuylkill Valley and Exeter Township school districts. Wentzel was a teacher in our ESY program this summer.

Caitlin Frazer, Long-term Substitute English Teacher - Frazer received her B.S. in secondary education, English/communications, from Pennsylvania State University. She taught college preparatory English classes for grades 11 and 12 as part of her professional development school internship.

Cynthia Watras, Autistic Learning Support Teacher - Watras received her B.S. in education with a major in elementary/special education from the University of Delaware. Her past experience includes working as an instructional assistant in both emotional support classrooms and autistic support programs.

Emily Duh, Long-term Substitute English Teacher - Duh received her B.A. in English from Wittenberg University and her M.A. in English (concentrations in writing/

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CORBIN STOLTZFUS



Corbin D. Stoltzfus was hired as the Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director on August 15, 2011. He holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Kutztown University, a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Penn State University and a principal's certification from Cabrini College.

A graduate of Owen J. Roberts High School, Stoltzfus served as a 7th-grade social studies teacher there for 18 years, as well as a 7th-grade team leader and school disciplinarian for the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. He has coached at every level of youth athletics and for one year with the Kutztown University baseball team. He is the current president of the Norchester Youth Athletic Association.

Stoltzfus and his wife, Marisa, a health and physical education teacher at Owen J. Roberts High School, have two sons, Braeden, 2½ years, and Jackson, 11 months. They reside in Exeter Township.

Of his appointment to the Wyomissing Area School District, Stoltzfus said, "I am so excited for the opportunity that Wyomissing has presented to me. Before coming here, I was well aware of the rich tradition that Wyo has both in the classroom and on the athletic field. I look forward to continuing and strengthening this reputation in both areas. The support I have been shown by administration, staff, and community has been overwhelmingly positive and welcoming. It is clear how much this school and its students mean to everyone, and I am honored to be part of this team."

COREY JONES



The Wyomissing Area School District is pleased to announce that **Corey Jones** assumed duties as principal of Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School on July 1, 2011.

Jones holds a B.S. in education from Shippensburg University, an M.S. in educational leadership from Wilkes University, and is currently working on his dissertation toward completion of his Ed.D. in educational leadership at Immaculata University.

His prior experiences in education were as a secondary social studies teacher, director of athletics, assistant principal, and most recently as house principal at Spring-Ford Area High School in Montgomery County.

As a resident of the community, Jones said, "Wyomissing is a fantastic place to live, raise a family, and send your children to school. I look forward not only to being principal of the Jr./Sr. High School, but to opportunities to be involved in the community outside of the school day."

Jones and his wife, Alison, formerly an elementary guidance counselor who now stays home with their children, have two boys, Ryker, age 5, and Jaxon, 1.

Citing his favorite quote, Jones said, "*Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts.*"

—WINSTON CHURCHILL





TERRI LAMPE



Terri C. Lampe joined the WASD in August 2011 as the director of development. The goal of this newly created position is to obtain funds and resources that will provide educational, health, and quality of life opportunities for the school district, students, and community.

Prior to joining the WASD, Lampe served as the director of development for the Pottstown School District and executive director of the Foundation for Pottstown Education. Previously,

she was the economic development director for the Borough of Pottstown and the deputy executive director for the Berks County Industrial Development Authority. Her career also includes 15 years with a commercial property acquisition and management company, an organization of which she eventually served as president.

Her community service includes the Robeson Township Planning Commission, Executive Board of Directors for Camp Adahi Camp Fire USA, MACEF (Mid-Atlantic Consortium of Education Foundations) Board of Directors, and president of Leadership Berks 2011-12.

Lampe has one daughter and an English mastiff named Sadie.

New Teacher Introductions continued

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teaching) and her teaching certification from West Chester University. She substituted at Saucon Valley High School and most recently filled a long-term substitute position at Boyertown Junior High West Center.

Cayla Printz, Emotional Support Teacher – Printz received her B.S. in education from Kutztown University with a major in special education N-12/elementary education K-6 and concentration in mentally/physically handicapped.

DISTRICTWIDE

Christopher Talley, Assistive Technologist/Technology Integration Specialist – Talley received his B.S. in marketing in 2005 from Alvernia University and later received his teaching certification in business/computer/information technology (Grades N-12) in 2011 also from Alvernia University. He completed his student teaching at Spring-Ford School District.

THOMAS SZABO



Thomas Szabo joined the administrative staff in August 2011 as the interim principal at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center. Szabo holds a B.S. in education from Kutztown University, an M.Ed. from Shippensburg University, and an M.S. in administration from University of Scranton. In addition, he earned his Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility at Lehigh University. He also holds PA Department of Education certification for

Elementary Principal and Secondary Principal. He served in public education for 35 years as a teacher, an elementary principal, and a secondary principal in several school districts in Pennsylvania. He currently works as an adjunct professor at Muhlenberg College teaching Young Learners Lesson Design for Pre-K-4 and a class on the history and politics of American education.

He is a strong believer in a child-centered education. Throughout his years of experience, the communication between teachers, children, and parents has been the key to the success of every child. He is extremely happy to be here and help with the transition to the new principal. He looks forward to sharing his years of experience with the staff and parents in the Wyomissing Area School District.

congratulations!

to the following employees who have earned service pins for their ...

5
years

Cathryn Barra
Charmaine Beck
Gloria Claudio
David Clewell
Janice Duquette
Kami Fecho Emerich
Kelly Ferrandino
Shelley Filer
Teresita Gallegos-Rosa
Caitlin Gibbs
Danielle Gingrich
Carol King*
Diana Kissling
Bridgette Kozuch
Amanda Kraft
Linda Lamp
Kim Latino
William Lerch
Kara Les
Jennifer Littlefield
Corinne Mason
Marie Minnich
Joelle Ostrich
Elizabeth Perez D'Amico
Jared Reigel
Stacey Riegel
Laura Schaeffer
Melissa Siegfried
Andrew Siggins
Christopher Stancheck
Diana Swavely
Jill Werley
Kerry Werner
Jennifer Wise
Jennifer Wolfe
John Yoder Jr.
Jon Yorgey
Laura Zamperini*



25
years

Celebrating 25 years with WASD are from left to right: Sharon Luyben, Nancy Robinson, and Nancy Lee Chaiko.

10
years

Tony Alvarez
Barbara DeMoss
Mary Hedbavny
Michele Krick
Chris Nugent
Kathleen Rohm
Betsy Santoro
Margaret Shomgard
Toni Wengerd
Jodi Wirebach

20
years

Linda Bentz
Frank Ferrandino
Amy Miller-Cush
Holli Noll
Tina O'Hara

15
years

Brian Ackerman
Kristin Allen
Michael Gallagher
Joseph Kollar
Jennifer Mangold
Martin Mann
Karen Tripolitis

30
years



Julia Hoffman

*Missed on the 5-year list last year. Presented with award this year.

Advanced Placement Scholars

AP SCHOLAR – Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Elaine Arias
Tyler Bell
Erin Benz
Audrey Blakely
Gregory D. Brown
Sarah Bucolo
Rachael D'Addezio
Morgan Dillon
Joseph Dougherty
Thomas Edelman
Sonja Griesmer
Kaitlyn Harris
Jessica Lazo Quintana
Paul Lutz
Trevor Luyben
Julia Masano
Kara Noon
Alyson Nugent
Shirley Poon
David Reyes
Elizabeth Rush
Shelby Strauss
Samuel Weidner
Christopher Wellock
Benjamin Wertz

AP SCHOLAR WITH HONOR – Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Alexander Altman
Alan Arriola
Andrea Bailey
Nicholas Blanchet
Juliet Bonino
David Ciatto
Meredith Keller
Skyler Lash
Connor Longacre
Zachary Moser
Abena Nimako-Boateng
Tyler Rank
Erin Vail

NATIONAL AP SCHOLAR – Granted to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

John Bonino
Joshua Hamsher
Daniel Helinek
Jennifer Helinek
Keito Hoshitsuki
Mark Koslow
Laila Muallem
Corbin Weaver



AP SCHOLAR WITH DISTINCTION – Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Dylan Anthony	Maria Cosma	Peter McGowan
Alexa Bickhart	Joshua Hamsher	Ryan Melcher
John Bonino	Daniel Helinek	Laila Muallem
Gregory L. Brown	Jennifer Helinek	Colleen O'Rourke
Maria Candal Tribe	Keito Hoshitsuki	Corbin Weaver
Christina Cesarz	Theodore Kolva	Stephanie Wert
William Conlin	Mark Koslow	Madelyn White

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National Merit Scholarship Winners are Announced

The Wyomissing Area School District is pleased to announce that **Sarah E. Bucolo**, **Maria E. Cosma**, **Zachary R. Moser**, and **Colleen M. O'Rourke** received letters of commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Program.

In addition, **Tyler Clore** was named an outstanding participant in the National Achievement Scholarship Program. The National Achievement Scholarship Program is an academic competition established in 1964 to provide recognition for outstanding Black American high school students.

Fulbright Scholar Michael Miller Goes to Japan continued

of the bombing, and the Peace Park, where many countries have contributed beautiful sculptures inspired by the theme of peace. The strong emotions of my own experience stood in contrast to the city bustling around me. There were many school groups visiting the site that day, and their excitement of just being out of school on a field trip at first surprised me. After thinking about it further, I realized our own students have the same attitude when visiting a place such as Gettysburg. Time can often diminish these emotions, especially with sites located close-by or those we may see each day.”

While visiting Nagasaki, Miller lived with a Japanese family. “The home-stay was definitely my favorite part of the trip. This immersion in Japanese culture was far beyond what one would experience as a traditional tourist. As with most Japanese people I met on the trip, my hosts, the Yoshihara family, were very generous and welcoming, despite the difference of language. I spent time in the family’s traditional tatami room sumi-painting with my

“host grandfather.”
What could be more traditional?”

Following the experience in Nagasaki, Miller returned to Kobe for a conference with the same Japanese teachers he met in San Francisco. As the outcome of this conference, he has entered into two collaborations with Japanese schools for the coming year.

The collaborations will involve both writing and art-making with students from both nations. “I look forward to sharing the results of these collaborations once completed,” said Miller. “The projects will involve many students from our school and hundreds of students from different areas of Japan.” If anyone would like to learn more about his experience, please contact him at mmiller@wyoarea.org.



Is your child’s trumpet or violin taking up valuable space in the attic? Now you can clear out that space and help a child learn to play an instrument. **The music department is seeking donations of used band and orchestra instruments to be loaned to students who are unable to afford a rental instrument.** We will be happy to take woodwind, brass, and string instruments. Your donation is tax deductible. Please contact **Cathy Barra** at 610-374-0739 ext. 2264 or cbarra@wyoarea.org with questions.

mark yourcalendar

November 4

School Closed
Staff In-service

Nov. 18-19

SH Drama Presentation

Nov. 21-22

Parent Conferences K-6
No school for K-6

Nov. 23-28

Thanksgiving Holiday
Schools Closed

December 26 – January 2

Winter Holiday –
Schools and Offices Closed

January 16

Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr. Day
Schools and Offices
Closed

January 25

Early Dismissal K-12
JSHS 11:30 a.m.
WREC 12:00 p.m.
WHEC 12:30 p.m.

February 17

Early Dismissal K-12
JSHS 11:30 a.m.
WREC 12:00 p.m.
WHEC 12:30 p.m.

February 20

Presidents' Day
Schools and
Offices Closed
OR Snow Make-up Day



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MICHELLE M. DAVIS
PRESIDENT

GREGORY L. PORTNER
VICE PRESIDENT

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TREASURER

CORINNE D. MASON
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CAROLYN M. BAMBERGER

ANGEL L. HELM

JOHN A. LARKIN

SCOTT C. PAINTER, ESQ.

LYNN T. SAKMANN

ANNE P. SELTZER

DAVID P. KREM (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.

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Winter Concerts



Junior High School
Tuesday, December 6 – 7:30 p.m.
Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

**Wyomissing Hills
Elementary Center**
Grade 3: Thursday, December 8, 6:30 p.m.
Grade 4: Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 p.m.

Senior High School
Tuesday, December 13, 7:30 p.m.
Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

West Reading Elementary
Thursday, December 15, 7:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium