

BRAGGIN' About

The DRAGONS



An official publication of Spring Cove School District

Spring 2017 • Building a Foundation of Excellence...One Student at a Time • Vol. 6, No. 2

Safe Schools Grant Supports SCSD Officer

A recent \$59,500 grant is helping to create a safer and more productive learning environment at all SCSD schools.

In January, **Rick Brozenich** joined SCSD as its Chief of School Police. In his new role, Chief Brozenich is working to foster the safety and well-being of all students by being present on the SCSD campuses, enforcing District safety and security



As part of his duties, Chief Rick Brozenich uses sophisticated safety and security equipment to monitor the CHS campus and other District sites.

policies, and helping students understand the legal ramifications of inappropriate or disruptive behaviors. His position is supported through the 2017-2018 school year by a Pennsylvania Department of Education Safe Schools grant.

“Chief Brozenich has been a vital addition to our team,” said **Dr. Betsy Baker**, Superintendent. “His student-focused efforts have made a noticeable impact across the District. He is also helping us meet our goal of creating the safest environment possible for our students, faculty, staff, and visitors.”

As part of his responsibilities, Chief Rick Brozenich makes regular visits to SCSD schools to build strong relationships with students. Here he talks with MES students after stopping by the school earlier this month.

As a retired 24-year veteran of Pennsylvania State Police, Chief Brozenich brings a wealth of knowledge to the position. He is using this experience to reduce vandalism and theft; quickly respond to real or potential threats to students, faculty, and staff; build positive relationships with students; and meet other safety and security objectives.

Chief Brozenich can be reached at rbrozenich@springcovesd.org.

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From the Superintendent's Desk



It's hard to believe that the 2016-17 school year will soon come to a close. We have made great strides in heightening student achievement and preparing our learners for future success. To highlight a few of our endeavors, this edition of Braggin' About the Dragons outlines our updated graduation requirements

as well as new course offerings planned for the coming school year. Our dual-enrollment courses, in particular, are expanding to offer our college-bound students a real jumpstart academically and financially. Also, new electives will provide opportunities for all learners to pursue diverse interests.

*In addition, we have continued our focus on improving school safety, with the District's first School Police Officer joining our team in January. The Dragon Pride Foundation has been instrumental in supporting start-up costs associated with this new position. We encourage the community to continue to support our Foundation through donations and participation in the joint Rotary / Dragon Pride Foundation Golf Tournament on **Friday, June 9**, at Iron Masters. It's not too late to enter a team or an individual golfer. For registration information, contact Heidi Kreider at (814) 207-0924 or hkreider@nasonhospital.com.*

In addition to the generous support from the Dragon Pride Foundation, two Safe Schools Grants have provided nearly \$85,000 toward our school safety initiatives. As a condition of these grant awards, we are required to conduct surveys of our District stakeholders regarding school climate. The PA School Climate Surveys are available for community members and parents/guardians. To access the surveys, go to www.paschoolclimatesurvey.org and click the link in the blue box to enter an invitation code. The invitation code for parents/guardians is OYIV7L. (Note: All characters in this code are letters, not numbers, except for the 7.) The invitation code for community members, who are not parents/guardians of SCSD students, is VCUNF6. Please take a few moments to support our school safety initiative through participation in this survey.

Thank you to all of our stakeholders for your investment in the education of our students and in the future of our community. Join us in proudly Braggin' About the Dragons to your family, friends, and neighbors. Together we soar!

*Sincerely,
Dr. Betsy Baker
Superintendent*



Calling all golfers! The Dragon Pride Foundation and the Morrisons Cover Rotary Club are looking for you!

The organizations are hosting a combined golf tournament on **Friday, June 9** at the Iron Masters Country Club with proceeds benefitting several area organizations, including the Dragon Pride Foundation to support an array of SCSD programs.

Sponsors and golfers are welcome and can contact **Heidi Kreider** at hkreider@nasonhospital.com or 814-207-0924 for more information.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: New Immunization Requirements for 2017-18

Please be sure to review the enclosed flyer on new immunization requirements for the 2017-2018 academic year. The vaccination requirements have been established by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Please discuss your child's vaccines with your child's doctor. Parents will receive a notice from the school nurse if your child needs a vaccine prior to the first day of school on August 24, 2017.

Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter.

SCSD Staff Completes Life-Saving Training

Every SCSD teacher, staff member, and administrator recently completed “STOP the Bleed” training, a comprehensive course that teaches participants how to identify and control severe bleeding by using tourniquets, packing wounds, and applying pressure.

Members of UPMC Altoona’s Regional Trauma Center conducted the program as part of a nationwide effort to train everyday people, who are usually the first on the scene of an accident or injury, to act quickly. The UPMC Altoona Foundation is also supporting the project through a \$10,000 contribution that will place bleeding control kits in SCSD and other Blair County schools, as well as many public places.

“Bleeding can be controlled or stopped by any trained bystander, much like anyone in cardiac arrest can be saved with someone who has CPR training,” said **Simon Lamperd, MD, FACS**, a trauma surgeon and medical director of UPMC Altoona Trauma Center. “It’s buying time until the injured person can receive care.”

Spring Cove School District is the first district in Blair County to participate in the life-saving program. Additional districts are expected to complete the training soon.

SCSD Board Approves New Graduation Requirements

The SCSD Board of Directors recently approved revisions to the District’s graduation requirements, with the changes effective for the 2017-18 academic year.

While requirements in the core subject areas of English, math, social studies, and science will

remain the same, students will now also be required to take courses in the areas of music, art, family consumer science, and/or technology education in order to meet the State standards.

“The revised graduation requirements provide our students with a broad foundation in order to

better equip them for future success,” explained **Dr. Betsy Baker**, Superintendent.

Students will still be required to complete all components of the Graduation Project, including career research and eight hours of community service per school year.

Beginning with the Class of 2019, students will also be expected to demonstrate proficiency on the Literature, Algebra I, and Biology Keystone Exams or the associated Project-Based Assessments.

Minimum Graduation Requirements (Effective August, 2017)

Courses	2017-18	Beyond 2017-18
English	4 courses	4 courses
Mathematics	4 courses	4 courses
Social Studies	4 courses (3 courses for CTC students)	4 courses (3 courses for CTC students)
Science	4 courses (3 courses for CTC students)	4 courses (3 courses for CTC students)
Physical Education	3 courses	3 courses
Health	1 course	1 course
Music, Art, FCS, & Tech. Ed.	2 courses	3 courses
Minimum Number of Electives	7 courses	6 courses
Minimum % Grade Required for Credit	70%	70%
Number of Credits Needed to Graduate	Varies: 27-32	Varies: 27-32

CHS Offers New Courses in 2017-18

Students at CHS will have more opportunities to earn college credits before graduation thanks to a recent expansion of the District's dual enrollment program. Elective courses have also been revamped to be more relevant to students' interests and complement the new graduation requirements.

Beginning next year, CHS will offer Pennsylvania Highlands Community College dual enrollment courses in accounting, psychology, sociology, microcomputer applications, and public speaking. In addition, Mount Aloysius College (MAC) will expand its dual enrollment courses to include American history. Students can currently enroll in calculus, statistics, American government, world civilizations, English, biology, and chemistry through MAC. Advanced dual enrollment Spanish courses will continue to be available through Saint Francis University.

New music, art, family consumer science and technology education elective courses have also been added to the CHS curriculum so

that students can more readily meet SCSD's revised graduation requirements. New courses include Mixed Media; Business and

Personal Finance; Driver's Education; Entrepreneurship; Literature of a Genre in horror, and science fiction/fantasy; Literature of a Theme in outdoor literature; Marketing; Model Rocketry; Music Theory; SAT Prep; the Bible as Literature; Vocal Performance; and Work/Social Success.

"Our new electives are a much better reflection of students' interests and career goals," said **Candace Claar**, Director of Curriculum. "In addition, since many of the courses focus on music, art, family consumer science, and technology education, students will have a clear path to quickly and easily meet our new graduation requirements."

Students who are interested in pursuing dual enrollment credits should simply make these course selections as part of the standard scheduling process. For questions, contact **Ms. Jessie Gordon** jgordon@springcovesd.org.



CHS Students Compete at Foreign Language Festival

Twenty-four CHS students recently competed at the Foreign Language Festival at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. This was the largest group of CHS students to ever compete at the festival, an achievement that marks students' growing interest in and appreciation of other cultures and languages.

The students from *el señor Kevin Buynack's* Spanish I class and *la señorita Louise Wilson's* Spanish II class competed in a variety of categories. Categories included listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as well as literary recitation, music/vocal, music/instrumental, drama, dance, art/reproduction, art/original, tee-shirts, and construction models.

Eight CHS students earned 1st, 2nd or 3rd place honors for their efforts, including **Jaraka Waite**, 1st place, Art/Reproduction; **Clint Curfman**, 2nd place, Construction Models; **Desiree Willey**, 2nd place, Spanish IV Listening; **Madeline Metzler** and **Mason Butler**, 2nd place, Tee-shirts; **Alyssa Reed**, 3rd place, Spanish II Composition; **Tylar Smith**, 3rd place, Spanish I Literary Recitation; and **Breana Weimert**, 3rd place, Spanish III Literary Recitation.

Felicitaciones to all of the students who participated!



The CHS festival team included (sitting, l-r) Victoria Waite, Hailey Ritchey, Kathryn Cuomo, Desiree Willey, Jaraka Waite; (standing, row 1, l-r) Emily Sutton, Shayla Brantner, Alyssa Reed, Reagan Bush, Ashley DiNicola, Taylor Dick; (standing, row 2, l-r); Mason Butler, Madeline Metzler, Tylar Smith, Alexandra Carroll, Clint Curfman; (back row, l-r) Senor Kevin Buynack, Alison Appleman, Rachel McCready, Jocelyn Miller, Kase Smith, Dane Cross, Denia Thompson, Breana Weimert, Samantha Dively, and Seniorita Louise Wilson.

Interactive Legos Take SCE 2nd Graders By Storm

Spring Cove Elementary 2nd graders have been busy boosting their Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) skills as they delve into the exciting world of Lego Mindstorms.

With support from the Blair County Library System, each 2nd grade class has been expanding their problem-solving skills as they create a section of a large moving, talking robot. **Veronica Berry**, an AmeriCorps service member at SCE, leads students as they cooperate in small groups using engineering skills to piece together the legs, arms or the head. Once their assigned part is complete, they bring their robot to life by learning how to program through the use of computer coding software.

When the project is complete, the students can see their finished robot in action.



SCE 2nd graders (front row), Jacob Heuston, McKenna Smith, (back row, l-r), Corbin Mobley, Kyle Gach, Camryn Brumbaugh, Addison Long and Veronica Berry, SCE AmeriCorps member, show off their Lego Mindstorm robots.

“Through their combined efforts, our 2nd graders have created a robot that walks, senses how close he is to an object, launches a ball forward, laughs, and then backs up,” said Mrs. Berry.

“The project has truly engaged our students and encouraged them to learn in new ways,” noted **Adam Macak**, Principal, SCE. “It’s been a great learning experience and we look forward to more opportunities like this in the future.”



Special 3-D glasses like those worn by SCMS 6th graders Jada Singer (front) and Ashley Dively helped bring anti-bullying messages to life during a recent bullying prevention assembly.

Bullying Prevention Goes 3-D

In mid-April, students at SCMS took part in a dynamic 3-D assembly to help them recognize bullying behaviors, and learn more about the steps they can take to minimize bullying or support a classmate in need.

Throughout the 90-minute assembly, students donned special 3-D glasses to watch interactive videos that literally brought bullying to life. Using hand-held ‘clicker’ devices, they also voted on how the video scenarios would play out, giving teachers and assembly organizers immediate feedback on how students interpret and react to a variety of peer-to-peer situations. The assembly followed a school-wide effort in February in which students, teachers and administrators discussed bullying and conflicts, what to do in those situations, and how to report them.

“Programs like this, especially interactive assemblies geared to tech-savvy middle-schoolers, can help us combat bullying behaviors and increase awareness of how our students can help prevent bullying incidents,” said **Breanne Venios**, Principal, SCMS.

Spring Cove Middle School was selected to host the assembly as part of the Life Changing Experiences Community Education Project. The project has been proven to effect change, including improvements in students’ social problem-solving knowledge, social attitudes about bullying, empathy for victims, and feelings of responsibility to help in bullying situations.

“This was one of the most effective assemblies I have ever attended,” Mrs. Venios continued. “It really engaged our students and generated many discussions that will help shape our bullying prevention efforts moving forward.”

The 3-D program is a collaboration between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Departments of Education, Corrections, and Human Services, and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

SCMS Students Support the Community and Each Other

Breanne Venios, Principal, SCMS (l), and Courtney Tenerowicz, School Counselor, SCMS(r), get ready to 'high five' students at the end of the school week.



Students in Mr. Frederick's 7th grade homeroom prepare plastic grocery bags for a school-wide sleeping mat project.



SCMS 8th grader Cassimier Lowery displays a completed grocery bag sleeping mat, one of dozens that students helped make for area homeless shelters.

Two new programs at SCMS are recognizing students for their positive behaviors and encouraging students at every grade level to give back to the community.

Dozens of students have enthusiastically answered the call by joining the SCMS Student Empowerment Team (SET), organizing community service projects, and working hard to become a Distinguished Dragon.

"Positive energy is contagious," said **Breanne Venios**, Principal, SCMS. "Through these programs, our students are sharing uplifting messages and activities that are important to them. As a result, positive actions and behaviors are really growing and spreading throughout our school."

For example, SET was launched earlier this year after SCMS teachers nominated more than 65 students to get the club started. At its first meeting, members laid out goals and expectations to help them highlight positive actions among their peers. This included simple but

effective ideas such as sending birthday greetings to teachers, placing post-it notes with encouraging messages throughout the school, and sharing lunch with students who may be sitting alone. With support from **Courtney Tenerowicz** and **Becky Bianconi**, SCMS teachers and SET advisors, members also organized a school-wide project that helped create dozens of plastic bag sleeping mats for area homeless shelters.

Students are also vying for a place as a Distinguished Dragon. Each day, teachers nominate students who demonstrate positive social or academic behaviors. Students can win prizes or be one of the lucky few to participate in Friday High Fives.

"Every Friday, a teacher joins me to give our students a 'high five' with big red foam hands as they leave for the weekend," Mrs. Venios said. "We remind them that we appreciate the good choices they make and that we can't wait to see them on Monday. The students really love it so we've expanded it to allow Distinguished Dragons to high five their peers. It's been fabulous to see the smiles and the joy that this positive interaction brings to our school community. We're already looking forward to taking all of these programs to new levels next year."

SCE Students Shine During Kindness Week



Kindergarten students Benjamin Decker and Camryn Parrilla play on a new Buddy Bench on the SCE playground. The SCE PTO donated two Buddy Benches to the school.

Students, teachers, and staff at SCE recently donned colorful superhero costumes, mustaches, tie dye t-shirts, beach gear, and sports jerseys to celebrate the power of kindness –and remind everyone that a little bit of kindness can go a long way.

Throughout Kindness Week, the SCE school community practiced random acts of kindness, created inspiring posters to decorate the cafeteria, and even supported the Mending Hearts animal rescue program after donating coins to vote for their favorite teachers' pets. Jinx and Gracie, Mrs. Josette Rhykerd's family pets, earned the coveted Favorite Teacher's Pet honors.

At the end of the week, the SCE PTO graciously donated two Buddy Benches that have already been installed on the school playgrounds. Buddy Benches give students who may feel lonely or excluded a place to sit so that other students can join them and include them in playground activities.

"We are very grateful to the PTO for their gift," said **Adam Macak**, Principal, SCE. "Their donation was a fitting end to a positive week that showed everyone how easy it can be to brighten someone's day."

Kindness Week was held March 20 – 24.

Family Nights Promote Literacy at SCE, MES

With summer quickly approaching, educators at SCE and MES are encouraging their students to keep reading and let books take them on an array of adventures throughout June, July and August. Teachers and administrators at both schools jumpstarted their summer reading program during recent Parent Involvement Nights. More than 200 people attended the Dr. Seuss pet-inspired reading program at SCE in March.

As *Braggin' About the Dragons* was going to press, MES organizers were putting the finishing touches on their May program.

"We decided to hold the May event at the Martinsburg Library this year," said **Kendra Pritchett**, Principal, MES. "We wanted to show students how easy it is to sign up for a library card and to let them know the library is full of interactive resources that can help them explore the world around them."

The event also featured a scavenger hunt to familiarize students with the library and its summer programs.



SCE student Laura Longwell listens as Cindy Pfister, an animal behavior counselor, demonstrates how to train a pet at home. The demonstration was part of Parent Involvement Night at SCE.

A Round of Applause!

During the past few months, students across SCSD have been using their skills and talents to excel outside of the classroom. We congratulate our many students who have recently earned accolades in a variety of academic, performing arts, technology, and athletic events.

- CHS students **Lauren Brumbaugh, Miranda Snyder, Samuel Gunnett, Sarah Soyster, and Brooks Bouffard** (l-r) were named Teen Tech Week winners for their efforts to showcase technology literacy, as well as ways in which digital library resources can help students explore, create and share content to prepare for 21st century careers.



- **Alexis Hicks** (l) and **Brooke Edmundson** (r), pictured with CHS music teacher **Janelle Parker**, were selected to participate in the 2017 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Regional Chorus in February.



- CHS senior **Dillon Over**, a percussionist, broke the school record when he was selected to the All-Pennsylvania State Band for the third consecutive year and participated in the all-state festival in Erie in late April. Dillon took 3rd chair at states, making him the 3rd best drummer in Pennsylvania.



- CHS point guard **Hannah Johnston** passed the 1,000 point mark during her last regular season home game. The senior received the game ball from head coach **Rob Mock** after achieving the impressive milestone.



- CHS and Spanish II student **Alyssa Reed** recently won the Millersville Language Camp Scholarship and will attend the camp this summer. She is the first CHS student to ever win this award!



- **Hunter Stultz, Anna Ormsby and Jenna Metzler** (l-r) were recently awarded Keystone FFA Degrees at the 2017 Pennsylvania Farm Show at Penn State. This is the highest award FFA members can receive. Honorees are selected based on their leadership, FFA involvement, and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs. Less than 4 percent of PA FFA members qualify for a Keystone Degree each year. 



- Band members **Jacob Orczeck, Katie Ponder, Danielle Peck and Dillon Over** (l-r) represented CHS at the recent District Band competition. 

Congratulations!

- **Cayden Wright**, a 7th grader at SCMS and participant in the Blair County Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA), was recently awarded \$250 for developing a prototype and business plan for FlashTag, his idea for an interactive nametag that could scroll information. Applications for the 2017 YEA program are now available in the SCMS office. 



MES Blood Drive Exceeds Goal

One lucky CHS senior will receive a \$250 college scholarship at the upcoming Senior Awards ceremony thanks to community members who helped Martinsburg Elementary School reach its American Red Cross blood drive goal.

Blood drive organizers hoped to collect 29 units during the recent event but ended the day with an impressive 34 units. Exceeding their goal enabled the team to offer the scholarship to eligible CHS seniors.

Several seniors who have helped organize blood drives during the school year submitted applications for the scholarship.

“Our annual blood drive is a win-win for everyone,” said Kendra Pritchett, Principal, MES. “It replenishes the American Red Cross blood supply, strengthens our sense of community, and can help a CHS senior defray college costs. It’s a great event and we’re happy to be a part of it.”

Calendar

MAY

5/29 Memorial Day -No School

JUNE

6/2 Early Dismissal - Secondary 11:45/Elementary 12:30
Class of 2017 Commencement

6/6 Student Services/Activities Committee Meeting

6/9 Dragon Pride Foundation/Rotary Golf Tournament

6/12 School Board Meeting- Committee of the Whole

6/19 School Board Meeting - Regular Meeting

JULY

7/17 School Board Meeting - Regular Meeting

AUGUST

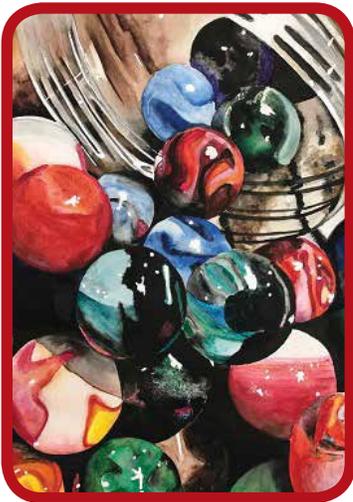
8/14 First day of Fall Sports Practice
School Board Meeting - Combined Meeting

8/21 School Board Meeting - Regular Meeting

8/24 First Day of Classes

The Artist's Corner

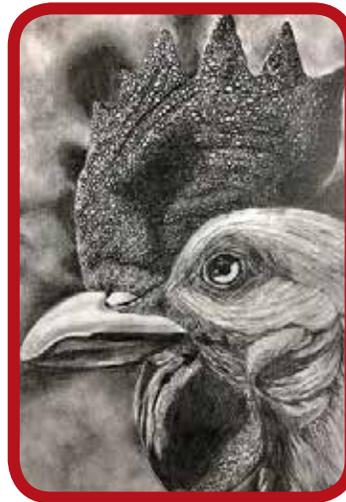
Students in Mrs. Heather Trimeloni's art classes at CHS have explored and studied an array of artistic styles throughout the school year. Here is just a small sampling of their impressive work across several genres. These and other pieces by CHS students are being displayed at the Blair County Arts Festival on May 20 and 21 at the Slep Student Center at Penn State-Altoona. Congratulations!



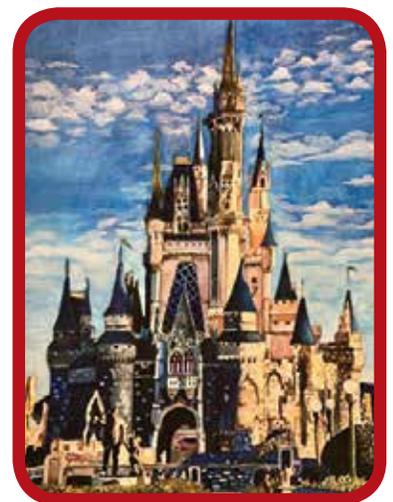
Alexis Hicks
Senior, Studio II
Watercolor



Robyn Pheasant
Senior, Studio Art II
Pen and Ink



Jessi Delozier
Senior, Creative Art I
Pencil Drawing



Brittany Albright
Junior, Studio I
Watercolor Painting

Sports News

As we head into the final days of the school year, we congratulate our 2016-2017 student-athletes for representing SCSD with honor and integrity in every sport. This spring, more than 200 student-athletes participated in junior high and varsity sports in track and field, baseball, softball, and boys' volleyball. They follow the many students who also competed in winter sports, including girls' basketball, boys' basketball, wrestling, and swimming. Here is a recap of winter sports achievements ...

Girls' Varsity Basketball: The team finished with an outstanding 19-7 record. **Hannah Johnston, Cassie Mock,** and **Tierney Fernandes** were named as Mountain League All-Stars; Hannah, who reached the 1,000 point milestone, was also selected to play in the annual Altoona Mirror Basketball Classic game.

Girls' Junior High Basketball: The team continued to refine its skills throughout its 6-14 season.



Varsity Wrestling: The team finished with a 16-10 record, including a 4th place finish in the District Dual Meet Championships. The team also finished 2nd at the Claysburg Kimmel Duals and 3rd at the Everett Bloody Run Tournament. Junior **Jared Smith** and Senior **Brock Biddle**, who was named a Mountain League All-Star, also made it to the state tournament in Hershey.



Boys' Varsity Basketball: The team completed a stellar season by posting a 16-8 record, including a memorable District 6 semi-final home win over Tyrone HS in front of a packed gym of Central fans before moving on the District 6 championship and state play-offs. **Josh McKnight, Kyle Dodson,** and **Jacob Muthler** were named Mountain League All-Stars; Coach **Reggie Nevins** was also named to coach the boys Altoona Mirror Classic game which featured **Dodson, Muthler, McKnight,** and **Brandon Buchart.**

Boys' Junior High Basketball: The 9th grade team worked hard throughout the season to post a solid 13-6 record.



Junior High Wrestling: The young team continued to strengthen its skills during its 4—17 season.

Swimming: Independent swimmer **Christopher Bush** had an outstanding winter season. He qualified for the PIAA District 6 Swim Meet in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke categories, and earned silver medals in both events. The CHS sophomore continues to swim and excel in many YMCA and Junior Olympics events during the offseason.

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District Administration
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Martinsburg Elementary School
793-2014

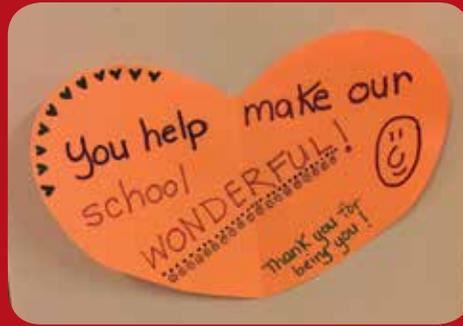
Spring Cove Elementary School
224-2311
877-695-4859 (toll-free)

Spring Cove Middle School
224-2106

Central High School
793-2111

Don't forget to visit
<http://scsd.schoolwires.net>
for the latest news, sports
schedules and calendar information.

What's Happening



SET members at SCMS are posting encouraging notes like this throughout the school.

Physics students Eric George (l) and Kazen Wilkins (r) and their classmates used Model Smart software to design and test a truss style bridge that will be weight-tested this month. Good luck!

A record-breaking 13 teams competed in the recent MES Battle of the Books. Kudos to Mrs. Garwood's Book Troopers for their 1st place finish!



SCE 1st grader Landon Mohny had a good time at the SCE Barnes and Noble Day. The event raised funds to support SCE programs.

