



SCSD News

May 2018

News from the Superintendent ...

School safety and security has once again been a major topic of discussion across America since the deadly school shooting in Parkland, Florida. As a school administrator and parent of three students, I can empathize with the concerns and fears of every parent in America. The Susquehanna Community School District is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all learners. School safety has been a major topic of discussion at the last three work sessions of the Board of Education. Not only discussion has occurred, but action has followed. A training by the county sheriff's office was held on March 26th for faculty and staff related to responding to a school intruder. Additional door security and other protective devices will be purchased for district classrooms in the very near future after an evaluation of the devices occurs. A Pennsylvania State Police safety evaluation of the district campus and facilities has been requested and will occur in the early summer. District and building administrators will be trained in the A.L.I.C.E. Program, a safety training related responding to school intruders, in July. Finally, new security protocols were implemented after the April 20th meeting of the school district safety committee. I'm sure additional changes and improvements will be occurring in the future given that there have been over eleven different school safety-related bills introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature since February 14, 2018. The safety of our students, visitors and employees is the first priority of the Susquehanna Community School District.

News from the High School Principal ...

Students are officially on the homestretch as we enter the month of May. This month also marks one of the busiest times of the school year with numerous events taking place. On May 4, students will be taking part in our annual Pride and Polish community service and picnic. We will be sending our seniors, Student Council, and National Honor Society members out into the community to conduct a morning of service. A special thank you to the members of the community who have reached out to host a group of our students on this morning. We look forward to having enough placements in the community for our entire student body next year. Pride and Polish is closely followed by our Career Day on May 10, 2018. This event allows students to have a personal connection with professionals in literally dozens of career fields. Our high school is lucky to have a Guidance Department that goes above and beyond their daily duties to create this experience for our students. As some of our students think towards their futures, it is important for them to remain focused on the present. The challenge of final exams are just around the corner. Final exams account for ten percent of a student's grade and are a solid indication of the material that was mastered over the course of the year.

News from the Supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment ...

2018 Claire Williams O'Neil Scholarship

Claire Williams O'Neil (1928-1980) was a teacher in the Susquehanna Community School District for over twenty years. Because of her dedication to education and the community, the Claire Williams O'Neil Foundation, a non-profit institution that sponsors educational and charitable initiatives on a community level, awards this scholarship to reflect her belief in the importance of education, both to the individual and to the community. The scholarship is awarded to a Susquehanna Community High School student who has achieved a cumulative average of at least 90% at the end of eleventh grade, and who also possesses a sincere desire to pursue high quality university studies with the potential to contribute meaningfully to the community. The student can be awarded an amount up to about \$80,000 for four years. To date, this award has totaled over \$969,000.

The Claire Williams O'Neil Scholarship has created an incentive for all seniors in our small, rural, and economically disadvantaged school district to look well beyond the typical college options by applying to America's best colleges and universities.

This year, Kaylin Trynoski has been named the recipient of the CWO Scholarship, in the amount of \$40,000. Kaylin is the daughter of Jim and Karen Trynoski of Thompson, PA. Kaylin has been an active member of Susquehanna Community High School by participating in a variety of sports and clubs. She played on the basketball team for four years; volleyball for three years, and track and field for three years. Aside from athletics, Kaylin was a member of the National Honor Society, Envirothon Team, Yearbook club, Scholastic Bowl team, and a student mentor. Kaylin is an outgoing student and has a strong sense of determination to be a successful student. Kaylin plans on attending Binghamton University in the fall studying Economics. She plans on studying under the Harpur Fast Track MBA program, which is an accelerated degree program in economics, where she will receive her masters degree in five years.

Congratulations, Kaylin!

Fifth Annual Natural Gas Technology Scholarship Offered to Susquehanna Student

The Natural Gas Technology Scholarship is sponsored by the Claire Williams O'Neil Foundation, and is fully funded by Bluestone Gathering (a unit of DTE Energy Company). This is the fifth year awarding this scholarship to a Susquehanna senior who plans on attending Lackawanna College in the fall, majoring in the Natural Gas and Petroleum Program. To date, this program has awarded a total of \$40,000 to students of Susquehanna Community. Lucas Marco, son of Nick and Kim Marco, of Susquehanna, PA, has been awarded the 2018 scholarship in the amount of \$10,000.

Lucas has been a member of the cross country team throughout his high school career at Susquehanna Community. During his senior year, he attended the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center studying welding.

Lucas plans on furthering his education at Lackawanna College School of Petroleum and Natural Gas, majoring in Petroleum and Natural Gas Technology.

We wish Lucas the best of luck at Lackawanna College in the fall!!!

2018 DeWitt Family Health Care Scholarship

The DeWitt Family Healthcare Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that two scholarships for graduating seniors from Susquehanna Community High School have been awarded. Ms. Bridget Iveson is receiving a scholarship to assist her in attending Binghamton University where she plans to major in neuroscience. Ms. Morgan Rivenburg is receiving a scholarship to assist her in attending SUNY Broome where she plans to major in health sciences with the ultimate goal of becoming a radiology technician. The DeWitt Family Healthcare Scholarship mission is to provide support for students aspiring to careers in healthcare. Information regarding the scholarship and the committee can be found at <https://dewittfamilyhcsf.org/>.

