

Project Hope Assembly Shows Danger of Prescription Painkillers

The Project Hope campaign was initiated last October with the goal of reducing prescription drug abuse and addiction. This came on the heels of a national report highlighting an alarming increase in the abuse of prescription painkillers, especially among young people.

The Project Hope campaign, supported by more than 50 area organizations, includes live media advertising, billboards and a documentary on WNED-TV. Other aspects include expanded educational efforts by advocacy groups, physicians and pharmacies, and the establishment of the informational website, painkillerskill.org.



continued on page 2

Two Depew Bus Drivers to Compete at State Competition



Two bus drivers from Depew UFSD scored high enough on the School Bus Safety Roadeo competition held May 17 to earn them a spot in the state roadeo contest in July.

In the vans category, Douglas Sexton earned first place and Tami Wheeler earned second place. Sexton was second in overall points for the entire competition. They will compete in July at the state School Bus Safety Roadeo in Albany.

School bus drivers from various districts in WNY competed in the local roadeo which was sponsored by the WNY Chapter of the NY Association for Pupil Transportation. Drivers competed in two categories; conventional bus and the smaller van-style bus.

Several obstacle course stations were set up in the William Street School parking lot in Lancaster to simulate driving situations that a school bus driver encounters daily including some where students were picked up and dropped off. All contestants took a written exam on New York state rules and regulations and completed a bus pre-trip exam.



Spelling Bee Contests

Fourth-Grade Bee has 'Extreme' Competition



The annual fourth-grade spelling bee held in early June at Cayuga Heights Elementary is always exciting. This year's competition proved once again how well prepared the students were for the challenge. The field of contestants correctly spelled 172 words. When it came down to the final two competitors, Abby Uhrich and Brian Sounevongsa battled through 14 rounds, each holding their own as word after word was presented to them. Brian spelled the words extreme and bookkeeper correctly to win the spelling bee. We congratulate Abby as the 2014 runner-up, Brian as the 2014 champion and all the contestants.

Middle Schooler Competed in Regional Bee

Samantha Maroshick, a seventh-grader at Depew Middle School, advanced to the Buffalo News Spelling Bee competition after winning the DMS school spelling bee. Samantha took the regional test taken by all the individual school champions. Samantha scored in the top 20 of all Western New York to qualify for the Buffalo News Spelling Bee Finals which took place at the Buffalo History Museum on March 9. The winner of this competition would advance to the nationally televised spelling bee in Washington D.C. this May. Although Samantha fell short of the ultimate prize, she made Depew Middle School proud by finishing in the top 12 at the regional finals.



DHS Top Ten Students

See pages 10-11



Project Hope

Continued from page 1

Another integral component of the Project Hope campaign is a high school assembly program. On May 15, Project Hope put on a powerful assembly for the entire Depew High School student body. The speakers included a DEA agent, the father of a young man who lost his life as a result of prescription drug addiction, the mother of a recovering addict, and an addictions counselor.

In the days leading up to the assembly, several Depew High School students worked diligently to ensure that the program was a success. Among their most important

tasks was to assist in the completion of an 8-foot by 8-foot structure portraying the likeness of

Michael Israel, a local young man who tragically died as a result of prescription drug addiction. The finished pictorial was assembled on stage where it remained throughout the duration of the assembly. The presence of Michael's picture added to the emotional impact of the presentation, especially when Avi Israel, Michael's father, addressed the students.

It is believed that the efforts of the Project Hope campaign will have a lasting impact on young people all across Western New York, including the students of Depew High School.



Message from the Superintendent

Focusing on Our Goals and Priorities

On behalf of the students, parents, teachers, administrators and Board of Education we would like to thank the Depew School-Community for supporting the 2014 – 2015 fiscal plan with an approval rate of 74%. Once again, your vote of confidence indicates to us that you are in support of our goals and the direction that we have set for the Depew Union Free School District.



Furthermore, it is important to share with you that as a District we continued our efforts, this past school year, to identify strengths and areas of concern within our programming. It is critical to understand that our continual focus is to monitor specific goals for improvement and thus design our resources around achieving those goals. Over the past four years, several themes continue to emerge as priorities, those items are as follows:

- Student achievement, specifically the achievement of student sub-groups, pursuant to the new educational reform initiatives;
- Financing public education in Depew, particularly related to the continual loss of state aid and the maintenance of the instructional program;
- The examination of enrollment, class size, the assignment of students to schools and building utilization;
- Bolstering relationships with parents in the education of their children;
- District organization and the study of current roles and responsibilities of the administrative staff;
- Negotiated contracts with bargaining units and the associated short term and legacy financial obligations;
- Maintaining the beautiful facilities that we have over the long term;
- Special education, its increasing costs and issues related to various instructional delivery models for our special needs population; and
- Fostering partnerships with the municipalities and neighboring school districts.

I can assure you that as we enter into the 2014-2015 school year, the leadership team of the District will take every opportunity to continue to address these emerging issues in order to continue to achieve our District's mission, which is, "To challenge and inspire students to achieve at the highest level and become responsible citizens". With your continued support we will be able to celebrate our successes, zero in on the issues affecting education and ultimately become a school district of excellence.

Enjoy a safe and relaxing summer season with your families, and I look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Rabey, Ph.D., Superintendent

Congratulations Depew 2014 Graduates!

Message from the Assistant Superintendent

Shared Decision Making Teams Update District Logo



The Depew High School Shared Decision Making Team joined forces with the Cayuga Heights Elementary and Depew Middle School Shared Decision Making Teams to update the district logo. All three schools identified the criteria and what the logo should represent.

Design entries from students, teachers, administrators and parents from all three building and the community were requested and submitted. Each building narrowed their entries and brought these to the joint committee. The joint committee narrowed the selections down and the District CDEP team voted on the final selection.

The Depew Board of Education approved the new logo design at the June 17, 2014, Board of Education meeting. We are excited to begin using this new logo, as it represents our current educational journey to inspire and challenge all students to achieve academic excellence!

Sincerely,
Susan B. Frey, Assistant Superintendent

Students Receive Coveted Internship

Molly Wittig, a sophomore, was selected for a coveted two-year internship through Northrop Grumman's mentoring program. She joins Lily Dietz, a junior, who completed her first year in the program. Molly was one of three students chosen from 25 applicants from WNY high schools. Molly and Lily will work alongside engineers at Northrop Grumman one day each month on real projects. There is a \$20,000 scholarship tied into this provided the girls continue onto college in pursuit of an engineering degree.

2014-15 Board Meeting Dates & Presentation Topics

All board meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Board meeting dates and times are subject to change at the discretion of the Board of Education. Meetings are held in the HS cafeteria.

August 19	Food Service
Sept 16	Academic Report (EOY Results)
Oct. 21	Space Camp
Nov. 18	Transportation
Dec. 16	Building and Grounds
Jan. 20	Business Office
Feb. 24	The Leader in Me
March 17	Technology Dept. Update
April 21	High and Middle School Club & Activity Report
May 12	Budget Hearing
May 19	Cayuga Heights, Budget Vote
May 26	Athletics
June 16	CDEP Report

Immunization Requirements for 2014-15; Consult Your Child's Physician



New York State has changed its immunization requirements starting with the 2014-15 school year. Parents should consult with their child's physician regarding their child's immunization schedule. The complete immunization schedule is available at www.depewschools.org; click Departments, Health Services, Related Files for the 2014-15 Immunization Regulations.

Changes affecting students entering Kindergarten:

- 2 varicella vaccines (chicken pox) or physician documented proof of disease
- 4-5 doses of DPT or DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)
- 1 dose of MMR vaccine (measles, mumps, rubella) however must have 2nd vaccine by age 7
- 4 doses of polio vaccine

Changes affecting students in 1st Grade through 5th Grade:

- 4-5 doses of DPT or DTaP (if fourth dose given after 4 years of age, fifth dose not required)

Changes affecting students entering 6th Grade:

- 2 varicella vaccines (chicken pox) or physician documented proof of disease
- Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) as previously required. 6th grade Tdap is required only if last Tdap was given prior to age 7.
- 3-4 polio vaccines (if third dose given after 4 years of age, fourth dose not required)

This law requires medical exemptions from immunizations to be renewed annually by a medical provider.

The law requires either proof of adequate immunizations signed by the physician or a certificate from a physician stating that your child cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons. If the above requirements are not met prior to entrance of your child into school, your child will be excluded from school by the principal.

Member of Paralympic Sled Hockey Team Visits Cayuga Heights Elementary



Adam Page, a Lancaster resident who represented the U.S. as a member of the sled hockey team at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, visited Cayuga Heights Elementary School in June with a motivational message for students.

Page spoke to the students about his Paralympic experiences in Vancouver in 2010 and in Sochi in 2014. Page is pictured here with his aunt, Lynn Hardin, who is an aide at Cayuga Heights Elementary and invited him to speak to students. He brought along the sled he uses to play hockey so the students could see it.

His message to the kindergarten through fifth-graders was that they should not let anyone put limitations on them. In his 30-minute presentation he told students to believe in themselves and that through hard work they could accomplish great things. The students had an opportunity to ask Page questions and thoroughly enjoyed his visit.

Cayuga Heights Celebrated Olympics with its own Games, Torch Lighting

The 2014 Winter Olympic games came to Cayuga Heights Elementary School in February, complete with opening ceremonies, an Olympic parade, torch lighting and team competitions for fourth- and fifth-graders.

The event, held to celebrate the 2014 Winter Olympics happening in Sochi, was the brainchild of physical education teacher Lindsay Garbacz. She and physical education teachers Tony

Arena, Larry Jones and Jim Steven held pre-qualifier events during gym classes. The fourth- and fifth-grade students could choose two events to try out for. The top six students from each grade earned a spot on a team to compete in hockey, top three for curling, top three for bobsled, top two for speed skating and top two for cross-country skiing.

The physical education staff was creative in developing the game equipment. The speed

skating events used carpet squares to simulate skates. The cross country skiing used carpet squares and hockey sticks for poles. In the bobsled relay event, two students sat on a long scooter while another student pushed the scooter toward a finish line. The curling event used scooters pushed toward a ring on the gym floor.

For the opening ceremony, each classroom in the school got to choose a country to represent. During the Olympic parade, each classroom marched into the gym holding a sign from their country. A torch lighting ceremony opened the festivities. Fourth-grader Dylan Urshel was the torch bearer. He took a lap around the gymnasium, holding a "torch" with paper streamers that looked like real flames. At the exact moment he touched his torch to the Olympic bowl to officially

start the Cayuga Games, a staff member plugged in a fan so it looked like the bowl of flames was actual lit. The whole gym went wild with cheering.

Music teacher Jason Miller accompanied fifth-grader Faith Dyet as she sang the National Anthem.

High school students in the leadership class assisted as volunteers and created the balloon arch that students marched through during the parade.



24 lbs. of Markers are Collected

Fourth-grader Brooke Dehn's project of collecting used markers at Cayuga Heights Elementary School was a success. Throughout the school year, she asked for donations of used markers that were ready to be thrown in the trash. She collected 24 pounds of markers which were shipped to JBI Inc, a facility in Niagara Falls where the plastic pieces will be broken down and converted to diesel and other liquid fuels using JBI's Plastic2Oil® ("P2O") process. This fuel can be used to power vehicles, heat homes, cook meals and more. Through the Crayola ColorCycle program, Crayola pays to ship the old markers to JBI, Inc. Brooke, a student in Mrs. Lorenc's class, researched, coordinated and presented information about the program to school officials. She created the collection bin that was set up in the front foyer at Cayuga Heights.



**Read a
Good Book
This
Summer!**

Fifth Grade Gets "Hearts Smart"

The fifth grade at Cayuga Heights was treated to a special cardio-smart presentation sponsored by the University at Buffalo Medical School. First- and second-year medical students visited Cayuga Heights to educate students on the heart and heart health. Fifth-graders rotated through educational demonstrations including the use of stethoscopes for learning about pulse, an eye opening activity about atherosclerosis, and close-up views of real X-rays. The highlight of the program was close examination of a human cadaver heart! It was an opportunity of a lifetime as our classrooms were quickly turned into miniature medical labs. Thank you again to UB for bringing the program to Cayuga Heights Elementary for an experience our students will never forget.

Bus Driver Applications Accepted

The Depew Transportation Department is accepting applications for bus drivers. Interested applicants can get more information and apply at the bus garage office at 5261 S. Transit Road. For more information, call 686-5140.



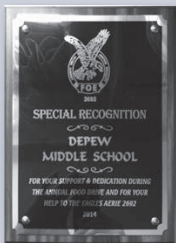
Cut and color your bookmark!





Elementary (6th Grade) ECMEA All County participants (l to r): Jersey Phillips, Kailah Kraus, Riley Williams, Jillian Szykowny, Justin Cwiklinski, Nathan Knight.

FOE Recognizes DMS Food Drive Efforts



Each November and December, the Depew Middle School Student Council, in conjunction with The Fraternal Order of Eagles of Depew, coordinates a holiday food drive. Middle School students

donate non-perishable food items which are distributed by the FOE club. Up to 12 deserving families of Depew Middle School students are notified that bags of groceries, along with gift cards (provided by The Eagles Club) are provided for them in hopes of helping make the holiday season a little cheerier. This year, the middle school collected over 1,200 food items.

On Feb. 15, The Fraternal Order of Eagles held their annual President's Dinner, where they presented Sal Carlino and Dawn Thurnherr (co-advisors for DMS Student Council) with a plaque of appreciation for their tireless efforts and collaboration with The Eagles Club.

Students participating were: DMS Student Council officers Elizabeth Maroshick, president; Alexandria Fazio, vice president; Zoe Kaminski, secretary; Nicholas Sugg, treasurer; DMS co-advisors Dawn Thurnherr and Sal Carlino and various members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Depew Middle School Sends 24 Students to All County Chorus and Band

In March, 24 musicians from Depew Middle School performed with the Erie County Music Educators Association All County Band and Choruses. At the sixth-grade elementary level, five chorus students, taught by Kelly Salas, and one band student, taught by Janine Yelich, performed at the elementary All County on March 8 at Kleinhans Music Hall. At the seventh- and eighth-grade Junior High level, 18 students taught by Mrs. Salas performed March 15 in the SATB and SSA Junior High South Mixed Choruses at Lakeshore High School. Students were selected following an audition process in January which included performing a solo and completing scales and/or a sight-reading excerpt.



Junior High (7th & 8th Grade) ECMEA All County Chorus participants (l to r): Back row: Katelynn Steckstor, Shannon O'Rawe, Rebecca Koteras, Augustine Arricale, Kelly Warzel, Mallory Oddo, Rachel Wagner, Katie Gasiewicz. Front row: Genevieve Weber, Nicholas Sugg, Antoinette Miranda, Cassandra Puglisi, Kelsey Sikora, Elizabeth Maroshick, Alexandria Fazio, Samantha Maroshick. Not pictured: Leanna Bishop and Grant Ihrig.

Freedom in America Contest Showcases Essay, Poster

Depew Middle School crowned the newest winners in the Annual Freedom in America essay and poster contest. This DMS tradition, now 42 years strong, showcased 10 seventh- and eighth-graders, who stood out among their peers. These finalists, all young ladies (a first in the contest's history), showed the Depew Middle School community their interpretations of the theme Freedom in America. Both the judges and the assembled audience were extremely impressed by the hard work and talent exhibited in the essays and posters.

In the poster contest, the top places all went to seventh-graders. First place was awarded to Kelsey Sikora (\$100 cash prize and a plaque), second place was Samantha Maroshick (\$75), and the three runners-up were Eliana Addesa, Sjelyann Bryan and Katelyn Szeffler (\$50 each).

In the essay contest, first place was awarded to seventh-grader Samantha Maroshick (\$150 cash prize and a plaque), second place was seventh-grader Elizabeth Maroshick (\$100), and the three runners-up were: eighth-grader Siera Sadowski, seventh-grader An Tran and seventh-grader Cassie Puglisi (\$75 each).

At the May 27 Board of Education meeting, Kelsey Sikora, the poster winner and Samantha Maroshick, the essay winner, presented their entries to the board and the assembled audience. Also attending the meeting were essay finalists Elizabeth Maroshick, Cassie Puglisi and Siera Sadowski.

The program, run by Sal Carlino, a seventh-grade social studies teacher, and Joe Pagano, an art teacher, was once again a high point on the DMS calendar.





Academy of Finance Chooses First Cohort of Students

The inaugural cohort of students will enter the high school's new Academy of Finance in September. These students applied last spring for admission to the AOF and did a fantastic job in their interviews. Congratulations to Rae Betzig, Jessica Beutler, Kayla Bosworth, Phil Calandra, Kristiyan Iliev, Collin Kazmierczak, John Mietus, Jacob Mlodozienec, Jarred Pride, Jennifer Reynolds, Rebecca Walsh, Amber Warzel, Alex Wysocki and Julia Zelaski.

The AOF Advisory Board members are Eileen Cartonia, Depew High School; John Chmarney, Lancaster-Depew Chamber of Commerce; Scott Cvetkovski, Buffalo Soccer Council; Jeanmarie Danieu, Concentric Leadership Partners; Carl Galante, Classic Cue Billiards; Kathy Gielow, Virtual Enterprise International; Ryan Gorman, Evans Bank; Matilda Lorenzo, Concentric Leadership Partners; David Lyman, First Investors Corporation; Katie Malczewski, Depew High School; Rich Marasciulo, Keller Williams Realty; Mitchell Martin, Community Representative for Senator Patrick Gallivan; Bob Matuszak, AXA Advisors; Kim McEwen, Depew High School; Shannon McNichol, Nichol City Realty; Larry Mietus, Speaking of Strategy; Nick Pyzikiewicz, Key Bank; Jeff Rabey, Ph.D., Superintendent, Depew Union Free School District; Debb Schmitt, Erie Community College; Tim Schunk, First Niagara Financial Group; Sally Stier, United Healthcare; Ann Sweeney, Lancaster-Depew FCU; Steven Witter, The Legend Group; Garett Farrugia, Robert E. Schaff Ltd., Debbie Glowny, Bank of Akron. Matt Murphy, Aurora Imprints, Carol Townsend, Principal Depew High School and Steve Umstead, Key Bank.



DHS Music Students Perform in ECMEA All-County Festival

Congratulations to our high school musicians who, as a result of outstanding auditions in January, were accepted to perform in the All-County Music Festival. They performed with other outstanding musicians from across Erie County in the concert held at the University at Buffalo on March 22.



Business Students Take Learning Outside Classroom in Courthouse Visit



In early February, students in the Depew High School business law class took their learning outside the classroom and visited the Erie County Court House. The sophomore, junior and senior students had the opportunity to sit in on arraignment court, housing court and family court. Judge E.

Jeanette Ogden took the time to introduce all the parties in her courtroom and each gave a brief overview of their education, training and daily job duties. In housing court with Judge Patrick Carney, students saw a lawsuit proceeding between the city, community activists and property owners over a particular historical building. In family court, students were able to speak with the court officers, watch various court cases and speak with the judges about their background and experiences. The day was very informative and interesting.



Pictured in front row (l to r): Sara Keller (clarinet/band), Catherine Veiders (alto/chorus), Katelynn Frawley (French horn/orchestra) and Hannah Steffen (alto/chorus). Back row (l to r) are chorus members: Evan Synor (bass), Audrey Kyle (soprano), Emily Bassett (alto), Barbara Braun (alto) and Ian Liszka (tenor).

DECA's 7th Annual Cruise Night & Car/Bike Show

The DECA members, advised by Jessica Leary and with the assistance of the Academy of Finance students, hosted the 7th Annual Cruise Night Car & Bike Show on Friday, June 6 at Depew High School. This was a great learning experience for the students as they prepared all the advertising including flyers, press releases to local newspapers, and coordinated all the concessions, vendors, sponsors, goodie bags, parking, judging and much more. They worked directly with approximately 40 sponsors from local businesses and outside organizations to make this night a huge success. This year's event hosted approximately 150 cars and motorcycles and approximately 400 community members. A special thank you to this year's top sponsors.



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French 5 Program Receives Grant

Seniors in Madame Gianturco's French 5 class enjoyed offering monthly French lessons to sixth graders as part of their college credit French 5 course. Lessons included French greetings, colors, numbers and the alphabet. This FLES/pedagogy program encourages learning and enjoyment of the study of French by the sixth-graders. It also introduces gifted language learners (high school seniors in French 5) to the field of LOTE education.



In connection with this unit, the Western New York Foreign Language Educators' Council recently awarded a \$200 grant to enhance this program. The grant will be used to buy materials and supplies which will benefit students for many years to come. Pictured are French 5 students Stephen Kasprzak, Catherine Veiders, Evan Synor, Danielle DiGiacomo, Jake Mages, Basmeh Mohamed, Victoria Petherick, Casey Bishop.

Students Named to Lancaster Youth Bureau Hall of Fame

Nine Depew High School students were selected for the 2014 Town of Lancaster Youth Bureau Hall of Fame on May 8. Students can be nominated by a teacher, administrator, counselor or someone in the community who recognizes their outstanding accomplishments and character. These students were honored for their achievements in personal growth and service to the people of our community.



Pictured (l to r) Front row: Sarah Steiner, Sabrina Kwiatkowski, Anna Schiavi, Nicole Becker & Elise Depczynski. Back row: Daniel Mlodozienec III, Ryan O'Hern, Seth Rueger, Heather Brady, DHS Principal Carol Townsend.

French Language Students Earn Award in Albright-Knox Art'scool Contest

Five students in French 4 earned honorable mention awards in the Albright-Knox 2014 Art'scool Inspired contest for grades 9-12.

The winning entries were created by the following students (pictured l to r): Hannah Koteras, Amanda Kosich, Emily Bassett, Alexis Dwyer and Alyssa Kling. The award comes with a prize of \$250 for the high school to purchase art supplies.

French language students visit the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and Burchfield Penney Art Center every year as part of the French art unit of study. The field trip is funded annually by the Blue Cross Art'scool grant. This year, French teacher Mary Ellen Gianturco entered several students' works in the 2014 Art'scool Inspired Contest.

Students and staff attended the opening reception in May to view the artwork and receive the \$250 prize.



Top 3 Students Earn Superintendent's Association Award

Each year the Erie-Niagara School Superintendents Association honors the top three students in each of the public and private schools in Erie and Niagara counties. This year, Denis Vanini (valedictorian), Nicole Becker, (salutatorian) and Basmeh Mohamed (third in class) were honored at the 2014 Erie-Niagara Scholastic Dinner held at Salvatore's Italian Gardens on May 22. The students were given a specially designed crystal buffalo for their achievement. Pictured (l to r) are Denis Vanini, Basmeh Mohamed and Nicole Becker.

Depew Marching Band Earns Trophies at Competition

The Depew High School Wildcat marching band took home several trophies at the Springville Pageant of Bands competition in early May.

The marching band, directed by Mr. Kroetsch and assisted by Mr. Grzybek, received a first place trophy in class A bands. Senior Catie Veiders received a trophy as the best drum major. The marching band also received a Best In Class trophy for class A bands. This competition, held in Springville, N.Y., was a great warm-up for the band and show choir trip to Disney World over Memorial Day Weekend.



Let the Games Begin



Seniors Anthony Buono, Dan Sutch and Brandon Williams turned their Production Systems project into games for the Senior Picnic.





DEPEW HIGH SCHOOL TOP TEN



Valedictorian



#1 Denis J. Vanini

99.88% (4 Year Weighted GPA)

Denis, son of Sam and Cathy Vanini of Lancaster, will be studying biomedical sciences at the University of Buffalo where he was accepted into the Honors College and received a Provost Scholarship.

He plans on becoming a medical doctor and hopes to assist athletes with varying degrees of injury, helping them to quickly return to competitive form.

Favorite Class: English. I had never been in a class with a teacher that has such extensive knowledge of everything he teaches. Mr. Endres always had a vast amount of priceless comments on each topic of the class.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Parrinello. He was never short on jokes, but when it came time for school work, Mr. P. was always prepared to help his students.

Best Advice Received: Coach Jones said, "If you're OK with being OK, then something's wrong." This speaks volumes because everyone should be striving to be great in everything they do. Anybody can be average, but it takes a special person to rise above the rest.

Most Memorable Experience: Mr. Parrinello's classes. There are too many great memories to choose just one; I guess that's what happens when you combine a class of quick-witted seniors with such a humorous teacher.

Thank You To: My brothers for helping me to attain the success that I have. The examples and standards they have set in their lives have provided me with an unparalleled motivation to be the best in everything I do.

Advice: Enjoy high school while you can! You only have four years here, so make the most of them because before you know it, it's going to be June of your senior year and you'll be reminiscing on all of the time you wish you could relive.

Salutatorian



#2 Nicole C. Becker

98.84% (4 Year Weighted GPA)

Nicole, daughter of Donald and Pamela Becker of Lancaster, will be studying pre-pharmacy at the University of Buffalo where she was accepted into the Honors College and earned a Provost Scholarship.

Nicole hopes to eventually get accepted into the school of pharmacy at UB and become a pharmacist.

Favorite Class: Anatomy & Physiology. This class was one of the most interesting classes I have taken and Mr. Grzybek was a great teacher.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Endres. He was a great teacher, very funny and I learned a lot from his class.

Most Memorable Experience: My most memorable experience at DHS was going on the marching band trip to Walt Disney World. I had never been there before and it was so much fun! The trip was a great way to end my senior year and I'll always remember it.

Thank You To: My mom and dad because I wouldn't be where I am today without their support and encouragement.

Advice: Do everything you can in high school, even if you don't think you'll be good at it. Join clubs, try out for sports, challenge yourself with difficult classes. You can't go back and re-do it and you'll regret what you didn't get to do while you had the chance.



#3 Basmeh Mohamed

98.48% (4 Year Weighted GPA)

Basmeh, daughter of Alawi and Faeq Abdulla of Depew, will be at Daemen College where she earned a Presidential Scholarship. She will be studying pre-med and plans on becoming a doctor.

Favorite Class: Anatomy & Physiology. It was an interesting class that helped me decide what field I wanted to go into. Mr. Grzybek was a great teacher.

Favorite Teacher: Mrs. Gianturco. She encouraged me to pursue my dreams of becoming a doctor and was always giving her students advice about college.

Most Memorable Experience: Winning a medal at the Science Olympiad my junior year.

Thank You To: My parents for supporting me. I would also like to thank my teachers for everything they've done for me.

Advice: Continue to work hard and stay focused your senior year. You should also enjoy it and cherish the moments you have with your friends.



#4 Krista M. Mau

98.36% (4 Year Weighted GPA)

Krista, daughter of Michael and Kathleen Mau of Depew, is studying athletic training at Daemen College where she received a Presidential Scholarship. She hopes to become an athletic trainer for either a college or professional sports team.

Favorite Class: Anatomy & Physiology. I have always been fascinated with health-related sciences.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Kroetsch. He's made the last four years of high school very memorable.

Best Advice Received: "Das boot." from Mr. Endres

Most Memorable Experience: Marching down Main Street and seeing Cinderella's Castle in front of me in Walt Disney World my senior year.

Thank You To: All the teachers I have ever had. Each one has challenged me and pushed me, which has helped me become the strong student I am today.

Advice: Don't wait until it's too late to enjoy high school. Enjoy every minute of it because before you know it, it'll be all over with.



#5 Catherine M. Veiders

96.48% (4 Year Weighted GPA)

Catherine, daughter of Ronald and Cynthia Veiders of Depew, will be studying biomedical engineering at the University of Buffalo. Her hopes are to graduate from UB, pursue her Master's degree at RIT and remain employed as a biomedical engineer. In addition, she may pursue psychology because it intrigues her.

Favorite Class: AP Calculus. I enjoyed the curriculum and problems being solved.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Parrinello. He made college chemistry so enjoyable and clearly dedicated himself to the success of his students.

Best Advice Received: My mother said, "Never give up. Hard work always pays off." Whenever there were tears and struggles, she was always there for me and told me to keep my head up.

Most Memorable Experience: The annual band trip. I had the luxury to perform in Walt Disney World twice and those trips, with friends and family, are experiences I will never forget.

Thank You To: My family because every chance they had they would attend my



DEPEW HIGH SCHOOL TOP TEN



events and be there whenever I needed them. I can never repay them for what they have done and will continue to do for me.

Advice: Enjoy high school while it lasts, but also manage time well. Don't overload with work and extracurriculars, that you can't enjoy yourself.

#6 Hannah C. Steffen

96.43% (4 Year Weighted GPA)



Hannah, daughter of Richard and Karen Steffen of Depew, will be at SUNY Oswego where she earned a Presidential Scholarship, majoring in business administration and management. She plans to work as a human resource

manager for an environmental company or a gaming company.

Favorite Class: Astronomy. The class was more about experiencing and focusing on the content than studying and quizzes. It was a very relaxed environment.

Favorite Teacher: Mrs. Malicki. She's a very prioritizing type of person and she was a great English teacher who was really good at discussing what we read in class to where any confusion was made easy to understand.

Best Advice Received: From Ashley Short, "Prioritize what's important first, then work on what isn't."

Most Memorable Experience: Every musical I was ever in since freshmen year and every talent show I was in since sophomore year.

Thank You To: All of my math teachers: Mrs. Ciesielski, Dr. Pawlikowski, Ms. Taber, Mr. Addressa and Mrs. Beltz, for believing in me even though math is not one of my strongest subjects.

Advice: Do things that make you happy, not what others want you to do to make them happy.

#7 Evan W. Synor

95.91% (4 Year Weighted GPA)



Evan, son of Pamela Synor of Orchard Park, was accepted at New York University Tisch School of the Arts, but deferred his registration to pursue a career in film. Evan plans on moving to LA, London or Orlando, depending on the status of his recent audition with Disney.

Favorite Class: Foundations of Music. It taught me in depth how music works and inspired my creativity.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Kroetsch, Mrs. Gianturco, Mr. Bonda and Mr. Parrinello. Rather than getting

caught up in stress or anything really, their passion shows through their individual personas and they can not only teach, but inspire!

Best Advice Received: "Actors have an uncanny way of becoming part of your heart and soul. They raise you and teach you more about life and yourself than anyone else can. That's the profession. You went to med school to make me feel better and I became an actor to show you your life has meaning." Jes Tokarski, fellow thespian.

Most Memorable Experience: The way knowledge could mysteriously osmose into my brain about collegiate chemistry while Mr. Parrinello was always distracted by birds.

Thank You To: Mrs. Gianturco, Mr. Kroetsch, Mr. Bonda and Mr. Parrinello for not just teaching, but inspiring! Mrs. Michelle, my acting teacher, for giving my life meaning and my mom and sister for pushing me to be who I am.

Advice: Think! Be who you are. Never have bad intentions. There's never a good reason to be stressed. Search for your own happiness and never let the image of what someone thinks you should be take precedence over who you want to be.

#8 Elise M. Depczynski

95.74% (4 Year Weighted GPA)



Elise, daughter of the late Jim Depczynski of Akron and Rosanne Depczynski of Depew, will be in the Honors Program at Daemen College as a pre-med student where she earned a Presidential Scholarship. Her career plans are to become an

optometrist in private practice.

Favorite Class: Anatomy & Physiology. The material was interesting, plus I learned a lot about how or why things happen in my body.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Parrinello. He is a great teacher and person. I loved his dry sense of humor; it made every class enjoyable.

Best Advice Received: My dad said, "Never burn your bridges." He always told me to keep who you have in your life. Mr. Grzybek told me that if I keep a strong work ethic, like I already have now, I will succeed in life.

Most Memorable Experience: Getting the chance to work with all the boys that participated in Mr. Depew.

Thank You To: Mr. Cintron. He helped me become so involved with school and shaping me into the person I am today.

Advice: Always participate in school events and sports. Always try your best and if you need help with anything, go to the teachers because they are always so willing to help.

#9 Joelle M. Kozierowski

95.70% (4 Year Weighted GPA)



Joelle, daughter of David and Lisa Kozierowski of Cheektowaga, will be in the nursing program at Daemen College where she earned a Presidential Scholarship. She plans on obtaining her RN degree and then working toward becoming a nurse practitioner.

Favorite Class: College Chemistry. It was challenging, but it pushed me harder and helped me be more prepared for next year.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Franjoine. As a coach, he always went above and beyond to teach us life lessons and the right thing to do.

Most Memorable Experience: The Spanish 5 class this year. It was small, but we had a lot of fun.

Thank You To: Mr. Franjoine for always helping me with anything I have ever needed. You are truly an inspiration.

Advice: Take advantage of teachers' help. They really are there for their students and care that their students do well.

#10 Derrick M. Sekuterski

94.78% (4 Year Weighted GPA)



Derrick, son of Kevin & Cheryl Sekuterski of Depew, will be enrolled in the physical therapy program at Utica College where he earned a Presidential Scholarship. He hopes to enjoy his four years of

college football before graduating and moving on to his career dream which includes opening his own practice with a public gym, as well as training athletes.

Favorite Class: Physics. It makes sense of everything in life.

Favorite Teacher: Mr. Uhrich. He made class fun and exciting.

Best Advice Received: My dad (aka Big Kev) said, "Suck it up cupcake!"

Most Memorable Experience: The run with my brothers to the state semifinals for football.

Thank You To: My parents, grandparents, Uncle Dave, Aunt Julie, Coach Jones, Coach Wilson and my brother, Dylan.

Advice: Take care of your classwork. It will open many doors in the future.



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Continuing Lifelong Learning!

The Class of 2014 has chosen some very exciting paths to continue their learning. We wish them much success!

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| <u>Alfred State College</u>
CAD
Mechanical Engineering
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Criminal Justice
Early Childhood Education
Fashion Textile
Graphic Design
Health-Wellness
Hospitality Administration
Interior Design
Mechanical Engineering
Media Production/Dance
Psychology
Psychology Criminology
Psychology Social Work
Speech Pathology
Theater | <u>Daemen College</u>
Athletic Training
Health Sciences
Nursing
Physical Therapy
Pre-Med | <u>Full Sail University</u>
Music Production | <u>SUNY-Brockport</u>
Computer Science
Nursing
Social Studies Education | <u>Syracuse University</u>
History |
| <u>Canisius College</u>
Animal Behavior Science
Biochemistry
Classical Studies | <u>D'Youville College</u>
Accounting
Occupational Therapy
Pharmacy
Physician Assistant
Psychology | <u>Granville Community College</u>
Business | <u>SUNY-Buffalo</u>
Aerospace-Engineering
Biological-Sciences
Biomedical-Engineering
Biomedical-Sciences
Pharmacy
Pre-Med
Psychology | <u>Trocaire College</u>
Nursing
Radiologic Technology |
| | <u>Erie Community College</u>
Automotive Technology
Business Administration
Computer Science
Construction Engineering
Construction Technology
Criminal Justice
Dental Hygiene
Dental Hygiene
Engineering Science
General Studies | <u>Kent State University</u>
Game Design Animation | <u>SUNY-College-ESF</u>
Aquatic Fisheries Science
Conservation Biology | <u>Utica College</u>
Physical Therapy |
| | | <u>Medaille College</u>
Criminal Justice
Veterinary Technology | <u>SUNY-Fredonia</u>
Biology
Early Childhood
Music Industry
Psychology | <u>Villa Maria College</u>
Graphic Design
Interior Design |
| | | <u>Paul Smiths College</u>
Environmental Science | | <u>Junior Hockey</u> |
| | | <u>Penn State</u>
Biology Neuroscience | | <u>United States Air Force</u> |
| | | | | <u>United States Army</u> |