



The Parent Connection

Educators and Parents: Together We Can Make a Difference

100 Days and Counting at Ryerson

Teachers and students at Ryerson School celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up as someone 100 years old. Grade 2 teacher, Mrs. Martindell poses with two of the elderly gentlemen in her class. Mrs. Morano



celebrated the day with her first graders who enjoyed spray painting their hair gray, wearing big glasses and walking with canes and walkers.

WEA Announces Its Educators of the Year



Professionals in the field of education are selfless; they give their talents, time, energy, and hearts to their students. In order to celebrate the extraordinary efforts of educators, the Wayne Education Association proudly sponsored the Educator of the Year recognition program. At each building, colleagues and community members submitted nominations for educators that they believed demonstrated excellence. Committees representing each building selected a winner. On May 2, 2017, the winning educators, and the overall WEA's Educator of the Year, Mary Beth Kopacz, were honored at a celebratory dinner for their excellence.

The recipient of the WEA's Educator of the Year Award, Mary Beth, is an art teacher at JFK. Ms. Kopacz is described by fellow educators as someone that "is a team player and collaborates with her colleagues throughout the day." Additionally, staff highlighted her contributions to education by pointing out that she is "keenly aware that all children exhibit different talents and that they each need a place to shine." They also noted that she is "always coming up with new and inventive ways to help bring the community together and promote good will." For her tireless efforts to make the lives of students better, the culture of JFK even stronger, and the capacity of the community greater, the WEA awarded Mary Beth with a much-deserved vacation to Cape May, NJ, in order to rest and rejuvenate.



Future Scientists At Work

George Washington Middle School held its ninth annual science fair on February 2nd in their Media Center under the direction of 8th grade teacher, Ms. Palmieri. Projects were on display for visitors to view, and prizes were awarded after the amazing projects were judged by six science teachers. The students used the scientific method to explore everything from friction to wi-fi signals. There were winners for first, second and third place, as well as a tie for honorable mention. The science fair is part of George Washington's support for STEAM. Congratulations to all participants!



Culinary Skill In the Spotlight

Wayne Valley' & Wayne Hill's future chefs



showed off their skills at the annual Student Culinary Competition. Wayne Education Association members were there greeting attendees and giving out favors to all who were waiting to enter and get a taste of this year's competition. This competition is an amazing example of community members coming together to accomplish something extraordinary.

WEF Music Department Grant:

The Wayne Hills and Wayne Valley Instrumental Music departments each recently received a grant of \$2,500 from the Wayne Education Foundation. WHHS is allocating the funds for a new Jazz drum set, cymbals, hardware and additional percussion equipment. This new equipment will benefit students in the Jazz Improvisation class, the Symphonic Band and the Jazz Band. WVHS is allocating the funds to purchase much needed music stands. These stands will provide each student with basic equipment,



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which is in short supply due to the increasing numbers in the WVHS Instrumental music program.

The WHHS and WVHS music department are both proud to have been selected for this grant. The students, parents and staff of both schools want to express their thanks to the Wayne education Foundation for their support.