

COMMENDATIONS & RECOGNITIONS
FEBRUARY 2019

BAKER

Student, Avantika Palayekar, finished first in the school-level Spelling Bee and will now advance to the 69th Annual Western Pennsylvania Spelling Bee set for March 9th at Robert Morris University.

Results from the Spelling Bee are listed below:

First: Avantika Palayekar

Second: Saara Iyer

Third: Vivian Sliski

Fourth: Vedant Naik

Fifth: Molly Biedrzycki

EISENHOWER

Student, Siddharth Kumar, finished first in the school-level Spelling Bee and will now advance to the 69th Annual Western Pennsylvania Spelling Bee set for March 9th at Robert Morris University.

Results from the Spelling Bee are listed below:

First: Siddharth (Siddhu) Kumar

Second: Augusta Bottonari

Third: Aidan McGrath

Fourth: Aidan Coulehan

Fifth: William (Will) Mecs

Eisenhower Odyssey of the Mind team earned second place in the Western Pennsylvania Odyssey's Spontaneous Fun Day tournament on Feb. 9th at Penn Hills Middle School.

Students on the Odyssey of the Mind team include:

Michael Earley

Makenzie Smith

Ahana Mendhi

Kiran Khurana

Audrey Chakos

Thomas Garces

Edward Copenhaver

STREAMS

Student, Ava Liu, finished first in the school-level Spelling Bee and will now advance to the 69th Annual Western Pennsylvania Spelling Bee set for March 9th at Robert Morris University.

Results from Spelling Bee are listed below:

First: Ava Liu

Second: Madalyn Burchill

Third: Preston McLeod

Fourth: Elaina (Lainie) Guarino

Fifth: Alexander (Alex) Wise

BOYCE

Student, Shriya Narasimhan, finished first in the school-level Spelling Bee and will now advance to the 69th Annual Western Pennsylvania Spelling Bee set for March 9th at Robert Morris University.

Results from Spelling Bee are listed below:

First: Shriya Narasimhan

Second: Nikhil Chandran

Third: Eitan Schwartz

Fourth: Jacqueline (Jackie) Sharp

Fifth: Rohan Mehta

Boyce Odyssey of the Mind Team earned first place in the Western Pennsylvania Odyssey's Spontaneous Fun Day Tournament on Feb. 9th at Penn Hills Middle School.

Students on the Odyssey of the Mind Team include:

Kurt Baran

Collin Rosenberg

Geneva Eisinger

Lillian (Lily) Simons

Lauren Ginsburg

Eleanor (Ellie) Simons

Addie Young

FORT COUCH

A team of students placed 1st overall in the 2019 Pittsburgh Regional Future City Competition. In addition, they also earned three special awards: Best Essay, sponsored by the Allegheny County Department of Health, Air Quality Program; Protecting the Public's Safety and Welfare Through Competent and Ethical Engineering Practices, sponsored by the Allegheny County Department of Health, Air Quality Program; and 19-Year Anniversary School, presented by the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania and Carnegie Science Center. The team will now move on to compete at the national Future City Competition on Feb 16-20 in Washington, D.C.

Students in the Fort Couch gifted program created this year's winning Future City project, which was presented by:

Carter Chui

Ella Elkoni

Reese Copenhaver

Student, Markella (Kella) Jahn, received honorable mention at the Regional Scholastic Art and Writing Awards in the category: Writing (Category: Short Story).

Student, Priyanka Palayekar finished first in the school-level Spelling Bee and will now advance to the 69th Annual Western Pennsylvania Spelling Bee set for March 9th at Robert Morris University.

Results from the Spelling Bee are listed below:

First: Priyanka Palayekar (for a second year in a row)

Second: Arnav Kumar

Third: Anushka Patil

Fourth: Keshav Narasimhan

Fifth: Roshith (Roshi) Nadimpalli

Fort Couch Odyssey of the Mind team earned first place in the Western Pennsylvania Odyssey's Spontaneous Fun Day Tournament on Feb. 9th at Penn Hills Middle School.

Students on the Odyssey of the Mind team include:

Josilyn (Josi) Seftchick

Reese Copenhaver

Cameron Coller

Rosemary Ramirez

Jack Lowden

Alex Sun

Cameron Weber

HIGH SCHOOL

Parkway West Career and Technology student Lucas (Luke) Gillespie took 1st place during the SkillsUSA District Competition on January 21st. He received 1st place in the Building Construction Technology portion of the competition. Lucas advances to the state competitions to be held in April in Hershey.

Parkway West Career and Technology Center Director's List of Honor Students for the Second Quarter:

Christopher Beaver, Welding

Ariana Braughler, Veterinary Asst.

Lucas (Luke) Gillespie, BCT

Darian Glassey, HVAC

Anahya Vidale, Cosmetology

Robert Wharton, BCT

High School Odyssey of the Mind team earned first place in the Western Pennsylvania Odyssey's Spontaneous Fun Day Tournament on Feb. 9th at Penn Hills Middle School.

Students on the Odyssey of the Mind team:

Maggie Lowden

Isabella Putorti

Christina Conte

Jacob Conte

Gracie Lowden

Anoushka Sinha

Senior, Ayush Sharma, has been selected as a 2019 Gold Medalist in the Congressional Awards Program. Ayush, representing Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, will be recognized at the annual Gold Medal Ceremony in Washington, D.C. during the summer of 2019.

Four seniors were recently named Finalists in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Students were selected on the basis of their SAT scores, grades, essays and letters of recommendation. As Finalists, these students are now competing for National Merit Scholarships that will be offered and announced this Spring.

Student Finalists include:

Reese Benonis

Samuel Ding

Serena Luo

Grace A. Wagner

Four students were recently named 2019 Gold Key recipients and several others received regional recognition in the Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Gold Key recipients will now move on to national judging in New York City and will be considered for National Gold and Silver Medals and Special Achievement Awards

Gold Key recipients include:

Isabela Couoh,

Gold Key – Art (Category: Photography)

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Manjiri Palayekar,

Gold Key – Art (Category: Drawing & Illustration)

Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Digital Art)

Silver Key – Art (Category: Digital Art)

Silver Key – Art (Category: Drawing and Illustration)

Judy Wang,

Gold Key - Art (Category: Painting)

Eden Auslander,

Gold Key – Writing (Category: Poetry)

Regional recognitions include:

Julia Roeschenthaler,

Honorable Mention – Writing (Category: Poetry)

Silver Key – Writing (Category: Poetry)

Claire Chen,

Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Painting)

Antar Cleetus,

Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Painting)

Eileen Guo

Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Painting)

Katherine Li,
Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Digital Art)
Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Digital Art)
Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Digital Art)
Silver Key – Art (Category: Painting)

Lauren Teresi,
Honorable Mention – Art (Category: Photography)
Silver Key – Art (Category: Printmaking)
Silver Key – Art (Category: Photography)

Senior, Alexis Feldman earned the Girl Scout Gold Award. She earned the award from her Take Action project; the project had a goal of creating a space within the high school that focused on personal wellness. Through her efforts, two in-school yoga classes were offered and a monthly schedule of yoga classes has been developed. While her goal of creating a designated wellness space has not come to fruition yet, a committee is exploring options for moving forward.

The Speech and Debate Team finished first in speech, debate and overall at the Pine-Richland Invitational on January 19th.

Results from the event include:

Congress

Merit Speaker Award: Alex Lampe

Impromptu

Fourth: Domenico (Dom) Alford-Egizio

Fifth: Varun Damarla

Extemporaneous Speaking

Third: Paarth Shankar

Fifth: Chand Vadalía

Sixth: Antara Cleetus

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

First: Claire Chen (Undefeated)

Fifth: Sunny Chai

Sixth: Matthew (Matt) Hornak

Public Forum Debate

Second: Devan Ekbote and Yash Jajoo (Undefeated)

Third: Meghan Joon and Dina Leyzarovich (Undefeated)

Fourth: Janki Patel and Brianna Lin

Fifth: Arushi Khaitan and Mallika Matharu

Sixth: Anika Sinha and Mathena Jencka

Dramatic Interpretation

First: Hashim Durrani

Second: Mayka Chaves

Humorous Interpretation

Second: Madeline (Maddie) Nolen

Sixth: Samuel (Sammy) Levy

Prose

Fifth: Wendy Tao

Poetry

First: Annika Chaves

Original Oratory

Second: Vivek Babu

The Speech and Debate team swept the Mercer Rotary Invitational on January 26th, with 1st place finishes in speech, debate and overall – marking the 3rd team sweepstakes title so far this season.

Results from the event include:

Congress

Second: Caroline Wolfe

Third: Alex Lampe

Seventh: Claire Chen

Public Forum Debate

First: Yash Jajoo and Devan Ekbote

Second: Mathena Jencka and Anika Sinha

Third: Sophia Shi and Reshma Gudla

Fourth: Mallika Matharu and Arushi Khaitan

All four are undefeated in preliminary rounds

Informative Oratory

Third: Neha Patel

Persuasive Oratory

First: Vivek Babu

Third: Aya Dakroub

Fourth: Shanthi Krishnaswamy

Dramatic Interpretation

First: Mayka Chaves

Second: Hashim Durrani

Fourth: Samuel (Sammy) Levy

Poetry

First: Annika Chaves

International Extemporaneous

Second: Rushikesh (Rushi) Kulkarni

Fourth: Meghan Joon

Fifth: Antara Cleetus

Sixth: Atharva Barve

Domestic Extemporaneous

First: Chand Vadalia

Third: Dev K. Patel

Fourth: Hridhay Reddy

Fifth: Daniel Paulick

The Speech and Debate team took top honors in the Hampton Talbot Speech and Debate Tournament on February 2nd. They finished first in sweepstakes among 20 competing schools throughout the region.

Results from the event include:

Extemporaneous Speaking

Third: Patrick Joyce

Fifth: Antara Cleetus

Humorous Interpretation

Second: Soudip (Riwk) Sen

Original Oratory

Fifth: Vivek Babu

Poetry

First: Annika Chaves

Second: Anoushka Sinha

Congress

Outstanding Speaker: Caroline Wolfe

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Third: Sunny Chai

Fifth: Matthew (Matt) Hornak

Sixth: Eshita Chhajlani

Parliamentary Debate

First: Ayush Sharma, Abdullah (Basir) Khan and Chand Vadalía

Third: Dev K. Patel, Rushikesh (Rushi) Kulkarni and Andrew Rosello

Fourth: Lucas Manalo, Raam Diora and Atharva Barve

Public Forum Debate

Second: Ashley Eichberg and Shreya Golakiya, undefeated

Fifth: Arushi Khaitan and Mallika Matharu

Sixth: Devan Ekbote and Anika Sinha