

COMMENDATIONS & RECOGNITIONS  
JANUARY 2019

**Boyce**

Sixth grader Rohan Mehta earned first place in the school-level National Geographic Bee at Boyce Middle School. Rohan now advances to the qualifying exam, where the top 100 students qualify to compete at the March 2019 Pennsylvania State Bee in Harrisburg.

Placing at the school-level National Geographic Bee were:

First Place: Rohan Mehta

Second Place: Nathaniel (Nate) Stohl

Third Place Tie: Lylah Kateeb and Braidyn Recker

The National Geographic Bee is open to students in grades four through eight. Students first compete in the school-level, and then champions move on to complete a qualifying test. From the qualifying test, 100 top-scoring students in each state are invited to compete in the State Bees. Each state champion then represents his/her state in the National Geographic Bee Championship.

A team of Boyce Middle School sixth graders earned three first place finishes at the VEX IQ Challenge Tournament- advancing to the state/regional championship in March 2019.

The robotics team, the Gear Grinders, is comprised of:

John (Owen) Bell

Ian Dvorin

Ryan Hyatt

Rohan Mehta

Carlee Santel

During the tournament, the team competed against 22 teams of sixth through eighth graders from throughout the Pittsburgh region. The team earned a total of three first place awards, including: Robot Skills, Teamwork Award and STEM Research Project Award. The team also received the Excellence Award, the competition's highest honor.

## **High School**

The High School Speech and Debate team placed first overall in debate, as well as second in speech at the Sterner Steel City Classics at Central Catholic High School on January 5. Fifteen high schools from throughout the Pittsburgh region competed in the tournament.

Several individuals and teams earned high honors at the event:

### Congressional Debate

First Place: Caroline Wolfe - Outstanding Speaker

### Impromptu

Second Place: Rhea Punjabi

Fifth Place: James (Brandon) Walker

### Duo Interpretation

Second Place: Amelia White and Ellen Duff

### Extemporaneous Speaking

Second Place: Paarth Shankar

Third Place: Hridhay Reddy

Sixth Place: Rushikesh (Rushi) Kulkarni

### Dramatic Interpretation

Second Place: Mayka Chaves

Fifth Place: Bryce Keating

### Humorous Interpretation

Second Place: Soudip (Riwk) Sen

Fifth Place: Madeline (Maddie) Nolen

### Prose/Poetry

First Place: Richa Mahajan

Fourth Place: Annika Chaves

### Original Oratory

Third Place: Neha Patel

### Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Third Place: Claire Chen

Fifth Place: Sunny Chai

### Public Forum Debate

Second Place: Mathena Jencka and Anika Sinha

Third Place: Dina Leyzarovich and Meghan Joon

Fifth Place: Dev Patel and Ashley Eichberg

### Parliamentary Debate

First Place: Arushi Khaitan, Eshita Chhajlani and Mallika Matharu

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

The High School Forensics team had another successful tournament at the North Allegheny Invitational Debate on January 12. The team finished second overall, gathering first place in debate and second place in speech. Twenty-five high schools from Pennsylvania and West Virginia competed in the event.

Other results from the day include:

### Public Forum

Third Place: Yash Jajoo and Devan Ekbote

Fourth Place: Meghan Joon and Dina Leyzarovich

### Parliamentary

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

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

### Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Third Place: Eshita Chhajlani

### International Extemporaneous Speaking

Fifth Place: Antara Cleetus

Sixth Place: Hridhay Reddy

U.S. Extemporaneous Speaking  
First Place: Paarth Shankar

Informative Speaking  
Second Place: Neha Patel

Persuasive  
First Place: Aya Dakroub

Poetry & Prose  
First Place: Annika Chaves

Dramatic Interpretation  
Second Place: Mayka Chaves  
Third Place: Hashim Durrani  
Fourth Place: Samuel (Sammy) Levy

Humorous Interpretation  
Sixth Place: Madeline (Maddie) Nolen

Duo Interpretation  
Sixth Place: Ellen Duff and Amelia White

Parkway West Career and Technology Center released their Director's List of Honor Students for the first quarter 2018-2019.

Students who appeared on the list, are as follows:

Christopher Beaver  
Alexis Boyko  
Ariana Braughler  
Gabrielle Caudill  
Alex Gillespie  
Lucas (Luke) Gillespie  
Ethan Hanson  
Madison Jordan  
Anahya Vidale