

Monroe County Schools

Photo courtesy of Cindy Williford, Peterstown Middle School Staff

Monroe County Agriculture Students Support Farm to School



Monroe County Technical Center students in the Agriculture programs of study recently volunteered time and effort shucking corn for the county lunch program. The corn was purchased from a local producer for two separate meals in the month of September. Corn was delivered to MCTC, shucked and sorted by students, then delivered to each school in time for preparation for the upcoming lunch meals.

The Farm to School initiative provides a market for locally grown food items, while encouraging students to eat fresh fruits and vegetables. Locally grown produce that can be processed nearby often retains more flavor and nutrition than foods that are commercially processed, packaged, and shipped.

Monroe County Technical Center has long been involved in Farm to School and Farm to Table activities. Through grants, students in the past planted, cultivated and harvested potato crops for local food banks, thus providing a food source for local residents while learning valuable farm production skills. The grant-funded commercial kitchen is still in operation at MCTC, providing local producers an inspected kitchen site for processing their harvests. The kitchen has been the site of home canning/preserving workshops, and several local producers have used the kitchen to create and package value-added food products for sale at farmers' markets.



Agriculture students shucking local corn for school lunch, and providing an inspected kitchen for use by local producers – more examples of MCTC: Making Connections and Taking Charge.



WE WILL NEVER FORGET

By: Zoey Snider, 8th Grade Student at Peterstown Middle School



Pictured: Peterstown Middle School NJHS, State Police, Deputies, and Local EMS Workers

Sixteen years ago, on September 11th, tragedy struck our great nation. While some may not give much thought to this tragedy on its anniversary, at Peterstown Middle School the student body, faculty, and many other honored guests and parents, gathered to commemorate the lives lost and affected by this sorrowful time in America's history. The NJHS sponsored a ceremony in the school's gymnasium the morning of September 11. This was a time of remembrance, but also recognition of our local emergency care workers and police officers. NJHS member Isabelle Mann led the pledge of allegiance after the

James Monroe JROTC posted the colors. Next, our honorary officers, EMT's, and EMS volunteers were escorted in by the playing of bagpipes. NJHS vice president Brianna Anderson, and president, Kasadee Ferguson read background information of the events of 9/11. Teachers Leslie Ferguson and Seth Elmore sang "The National Anthem" as well as "God Bless the USA", while Tania Gravely signed the lyrics. Following a moment of silence to remember those lives lost, Mr. Elmore played "Taps" on the trumpet. He then sang Allan Jackson's famous song "Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning"

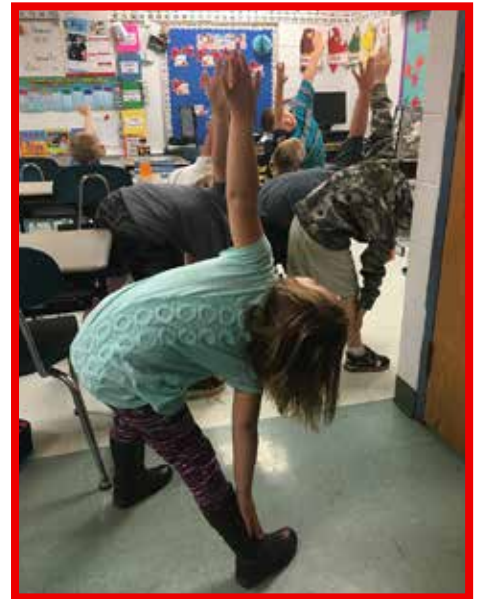
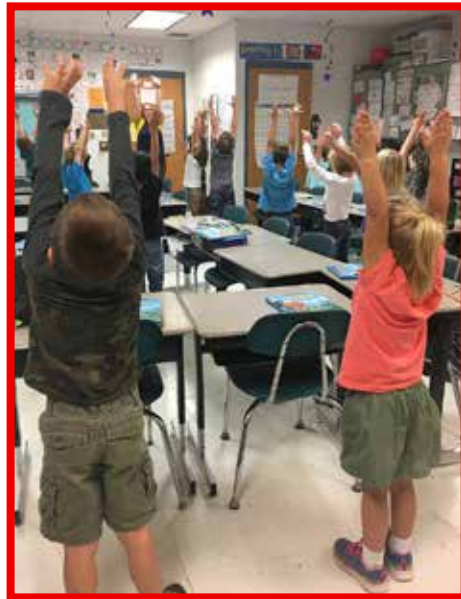
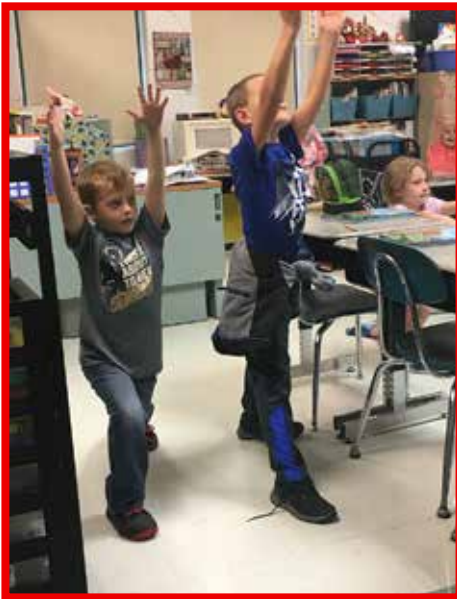
while playing the guitar. A poem was also read by Zoey Snider entitled "We Shall Never Forget." Again, we would like to thank the hard working men and women from our local fire and rescue departments, the State Police, and the Sheriff's Department Deputies, who were also in attendance for this event and honored for their service. PMS would also like to thank the parents, board members, and Superintendent Basile for attending the ceremony. May we always be able to continue this tradition here at Peterstown Middle School, and may everyone never forget 9/11.



Meeting Wellness Policy Requirements & Having a Blast!

Young students enjoy the fun part of yoga and do not even realize that they are building concentration, managing stress, and increasing confidence and a positive self-image. What a win-win activity that can be done in a short amount of time and in an area of limited space!

In September, kindergarten, first and second grade classes at Mountain View Elementary/ Middle School were pleased to host Victoria Cox from the WVU Extension Office. Ms. Cox led students in fun yoga exercises in the classroom while emphasizing the importance of staying physically active every day.



Magical Character Education



Peterstown Elementary School hosted Steve Somers and his character education magic show during character education week, which students thoroughly enjoyed while learning more about positive behaviors and academic achievement.



Maverick English Department Theater Trip

This past week, students from James Monroe High School attended the theater production “To Kill a Mockingbird” at the Greenbrier Valley Theater. Students from grades 9th through 12th went on this trip with their English teachers. This production was professionally performed and acted out. Students were in awe and impressed with every aspect of the play. After the students watched the play they were able to ask questions and speak to the actors and actresses. Many students had many questions

to ask or wanted to complement their acting skills. Students’ questions and comments included “where are you from?”, “your accent in the play seemed so real,” and “Are you all professional actors?” Student Colten Waldron said “I really enjoyed watching the play and would like to go back to see another. It was honestly a great experience!” Overall, every student seemed to enjoy themselves and had a wonderful time.

Annual NJHS Toy Drive

By Zoey Snider

8th Grade Student- NJHS Reporter

During the entire month of September, the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) had the honor of sponsoring the annual toy drive at Peterstown Middle School. This year’s drive exceeded its goal of 200 toys, and each toy will be gifted to the children at the West Virginia Oncology Clinics. The toy drive is in honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness month. With the entirety of the Middle school’s participation, along with Peterstown Elementary school, we are able to give happiness and joy to children when they are

in need of it most, and that is the will help in the future so that we true gift! The NJHS would like to may accomplish even greater goals give a huge thank you to all those and deliver even more cheer to the who participated, and we hope you children fighting cancer.



8th grade PMS Honor Society with toys collected for toy drive

Dental Exams at PES

Effective July 1, 2014, WVBE Policy 2423 was renamed Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and was expanded to require a dental examination as part of the current comprehensive physical for new enterers in Pre-K and Kindergarten and subsequent grades 2, 7 and 12. The policy will be phased in, beginning with Pre-K and Kindergarten for School Year (SY) 2015-16, grade 2 (SY 2016-17), grade 7 (SY 2017-18) and grade 12 (SY 2018-19).

Thanks to Dr. Abby Kilcollin and Kilcollin Dentistry, Monroe County students are well



(molars) that prevent dental decay. When combined with appropriate use of fluorides, dental sealants can virtually eliminate dental decay, the most prevalent dental disease! School-based dental sealant programs have been shown to reduce cavities on the chewing surfaces of back teeth by 60 percent over a 5-year period.

The Kilcollin crew is scheduled to visit all Monroe County schools this year.

on their way to meeting this requirement and having healthy teeth and gums. Dr. Kilcollin performed dental exams on over 300 students at Peterstown Elementary School in October making recommendations for treatment and care. During the next several weeks a dental hygienist from Kilcollin Family Dentistry will return to PES to perform routine cleanings and sealant application to students as recommended by the dentist.

Dental sealants are plastic coatings applied to the chewing surfaces of back teeth



High Tunnel Update



Students from the 3rd and 4th grade began fall planting in the High Tunnel Greenhouse at Mountain View Elementary School. Students worked with county extension agent Brian Wickline to plant a variety of cool weather



vegetables. Students have also kept busy recording temperatures and making observations of plant growth, and keeping a plant journal.

The high tunnel is a project intended to give students first-hand experience with planting, growing, harvesting and marketing vegetables. The project also focuses on nutrition and health awareness.



Peterstown Middle School NJHS Officers



Each year, the National Junior Honor Society nominates and elects their officers. For the 2017-2018 school year, officers are President Kasadee Ferguson, Vice President Brianna Anderson, Secretary Isabelle Mann, Reporter Zoey Snider, and Treasurer Brianna Smith. The roles of these officers helps to teach these students life skills as leaders.

(Pictured left to right: Zoey Snider, Kasadee Ferguson, Brianna Anderson, Brianna Smith, Isabelle Mann)

Autumn Harvest Festival Art Show

Students from JMHS participated in the Autumn Harvest Festival Art Show this fall. The art show is a wonderful opportunity for our high school art students to show off their talent to the community. Mrs. Porterfield, the JMHS art teacher, is very proud of the students and the work they put into their art. Congratulations to all of the winners!

ART SHOW WINNERS:

9th Grade

Hailie Kupner - 1st Place
Kerian McClagherty - 2nd Place
Kelly Belcher - 3rd Place

10th Grade

Courtney Perdue - 1st Place
Taylor Massey - 2nd Place
Courtney Perdue - 1st Place Canvas Painting
Taylor Massey - Honorable Mention

11th Grade

Colton Waldron – 1st Place
Colton Waldron – 2nd Place
Isabel Dotson - 1st Place Canvas Painting

12th Grade

Hannah Clarkson - 1st Place & Best in Show
Kaitlyn Perdue - 2nd Place
Olivia Dillon - 3rd Place
Kaitlyn Perdue - 1st Place Canvas Painting



MCTC Students Participate in Statewide Taskforce

Two MCTC students, Sarah McClure and Cameron Wickline, were invited to participate in the statewide Simulated Workplace Economic Development Taskforce. Students from Career and Technical Education (CTE) centers were asked to study the economic partnerships of their regions, identify economic strengths and weaknesses, and brainstorm ideas for connecting CTE skills and career/college pathways to those economic strengths and weaknesses.

McClure and Wickline then traveled, with their findings, to Charleston, WV September 10-12. While there, they worked with their regional team members to compile data and ideas. The goal of the statewide summit was for each economic region to develop ideas for stimulating the economy within their regions, but also statewide. Each region then presented their ideas to the taskforce members and Dr. Kathy D'Antoni, WVDE Associate Superintendent and Director of Technical Education & Governor's Economic Initiatives. Students also participated in creative thinking workshops and networking opportunities.

McClure and Wickline are students in Marshall Neel's business courses and MCTC, and also bring knowledge of robotics technology and agriculture to the project.

The next statewide Student Economic Development Taskforce Summit is scheduled for late October. Work on regional and local projects is ongoing. The work being done by McClure and Wickline is yet another example of the MCTC motto in action; Making Connections, Taking Charge.





Employee Recognition



Peterstown Elementary Employees of Month

PES would like to recognize Mrs. Amanda Hill for her dedication, creativity, enthusiasm, and leadership. She sets the bar daily for professionalism and personally reflects the modeling that our students greatly benefit from. We are very lucky to have her at our school. We would also like to welcome Mrs. Cassie Reed and Mrs. Kim Cody to our family. We are very excited to have them on board and they have already made an impact with their positive work ethics and modeling of Pirate Pride with our faculty, students, and families.

MCTC Instructor of the Month

Mrs. Lindsay Miller is the newest addition to the Business Education department at Monroe County Technical Center. Miller has been teaching for 4 years. She is a graduate of JHMS and attended Bluefield State College where she earned a B.S. in Business Administration. Mrs. Miller teaches accounting, office management, personal finance, web page publishing and digital imaging. She serves as advisor for FBLA, and is currently fulfilling her dream of coaching volleyball at JMHS.

Mrs. Miller is married and has two “furbabies;” Remi and Bella. She loves to travel, and has visited Belize, Honduras, Cozumel, Jamaica, and Cayman Islands. She is planning a trip to Cancun in 2018. MCTC welcomes

Business Instructor Mrs. Lindsay Miller, and congratulates her on being MCTC Teacher of the Month.

Peterstown Middle School Employees of the Month

Peterstown Middle School faculty and staff would like to welcome and recognize Ashley Williams as our new 7th grade science teacher as well as our professional employee of the month. She has made a wonderful addition to our 7th grade team and everyone is so happy to have her back home. She has provided many hands on activities for our students and has shown a true passion for teaching. We appreciate all that she does.

Bus driver, Allen Sizemore, is Peterstown Middle School’s service employee of the month. Alan runs a tight ship and is always willing to take trips with our students. He does an excellent job of keeping his kids safe and secure, whether he is taking them home or traveling to a ballgame. We would like to thank Alan for all of his hard work

James Monroe High School Employee of the Month

By: Bryce Dickerson

Mrs. Broyles, an English teacher at James Monroe High School, is teacher of the month. She is currently teaching all grades and is working on obtaining her master’s degree from Concord University. Mrs. Broyles was

not originally from the United States; instead, she was born in Poland and went to Warsaw University in 2002. Ironically, Mrs. Broyles did not learn English until she was 15 years old. When she went to school in Poland as a child, she was taught Polish and Russian. However, she was frequently seeing and hearing English due to the American culture around her. Since Mrs. Broyles has been a part of the James Monroe family, she has really enjoyed the personal connection she has made with her students. She very much enjoys the football games and especially spirit week. The sense of togetherness, support, and community is one of the many things she loves about James Monroe.

By: Whitney Hunt

Trina Shoda, head of the financial department, is service employee of the month at James Monroe High School. Mrs. Shoda has worked in the Monroe County school system for fourteen years and she has been at James Monroe for nine years. Growing up she wanted to be a wife and mother, so she could have a family to love and support. Working at James Monroe has been a bonus to that wish because it has given her another family whom she cares about very much. Mrs. Shoda does more than just the finances around James Monroe, she is also the school’s self-acclaimed biggest fan. You can find her cheering on her favorite sports teams and clubs all throughout the year. When asked what her favorite event was, she said she just couldn’t pick, everything at James Monroe is



Employee Recognition



too much fun to be a part of. Other than cheering on the Mavericks Mrs. Shoda says her favorite past times are, “ Getting into fun adventures with her family, and spending time with her loved ones”, especially her two very special granddaughters.

Mountain View Employees of the Month

Donna Galford is Mountain View’s Service Employee of The Month. Mrs. Galford is the head Cook at Mountain View. She has worked as a cook, waitress, inventory specialist and counselor. Donna also has a CNA in Nursing.

She likes to go to the movies, lay in the sun, listen to music, and complete search & finds. Donna’s husband is the love of her life! She loves her friends, the Beach, her grandbabies, her pets, her mother and lots of sweets!

People may not know that Donna is almost deaf and wears hearing aids. She does not like drama. Donna loves children because they are very interesting.

Melissa Griffith is Mountain View’s Professional Employee of The Month. Mrs. Griffith is in her 11th year of teaching. She has taught 9 years in Special Education and this is her second year teaching in kindergarten. She has a certification in Pre-K and Kindergarten certification, K-6

multi subject certification, SPED K-12 multi-subject certification, and a Masters with a certification in Administration.

Mrs. Griffith enjoys spending time with her family. She really enjoys helping others and can find the positive in almost every situation.

Mrs. Griffith likes riding in a Jeep with the top down, hiking, going on family trips and movie night at home.

Mrs. Griffith thinks the best part of teaching is when a child runs up with a huge smile on their face to see her! She enjoys working with children because they are so full of life and love! She says that all kids want to please others or themselves, and they just need guidance on finding it.



“The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled.”

~ Plutarch