I am pleased to present the 2014-15 Seneca Valley Annual Report. Like all annual reports, this one features many of the statistics, figures and demographics you have come to expect when perusing such a compilation. However, I’ve often said, and truly believe, that an organization whose goal is to educate young people cannot - and should not - be defined by numbers alone.

Therefore, in the pages that follow, you will have the opportunity to view the necessary and important District statistics. But woven among the pages, you will find the stories of several Seneca Valley Graduates. They represent a variety of careers based on their interests and passions. Notably, they also offer incredibly relevant insights as to how Seneca Valley helped build the foundation for the lives they are living today. These “Onward” Alumni Features truly help to tell our story. I can’t describe for you the pride I feel when I read about and often meet with those who possess a Seneca Valley Diploma. As Superintendent of Schools, I find it vital to our continued success to hear their stories and consider the feedback they share with us so we can best understand how and what worked to help them develop into the individuals they are today.

In addition, these pages are filled with photos, awards, recognitions and program features that bring into focus a full picture of who we are today and what we are doing to make sure tomorrow’s graduates continue to reach their goals once they, too, graduate from Seneca Valley.

I thank our students, staff, parents and community for a year filled with accomplishments and accolades that reached state and national levels. Time and again, I am inspired by the work we are doing at Seneca Valley and hope you will continue to work with and support us as we move Onward and Upward.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tracy Vitale
Superintendent of Schools

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) studies are an integral part of the learning that takes place at Seneca Valley, grades K-12. Hands-on activities, field trips, guest lecturers, mentorships, internships, job shadowing and scholarships are just some of the many opportunities we are able to provide in support of student STEM growth.
Seneca Valley was awarded four awards in the Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association’s (PenSPRA) “Excellence in Education Communications” 2014 Contest and also received another four awards in the National School Public Relations Association’s (NSPRA) 2015 Publications and Electronic Media Contest.

From PenSPRA, the Seneca Valley communications department received an Award of Excellence for the E-Newsletter Raider Pride, an Award of Excellence for the E-Publication of the 2013-14 SV Annual Report, Sharing Our Vision, an Award of Excellence for the SV School District Website and an Award of Honor for the 2014-15 SV Calendar “Stand Out!”

From NSPRA, the Seneca Valley communications department received an Award of Merit for the E-Newsletter Raider Pride, an Award of Merit for the 2014-15 SV Calendar “Stand Out!,” an Award of Honor for the SVTV High School Lip Dub, and an Award of Honor Honorable Mention for the Seneca Valley Academy of Choice K-8 Families brochure.

Seneca Valley had three perfect ratings from Great Schools, which is a non-profit organization with profiles of more than 200,000 pre-K-12 schools – public, public charter and private – and over one million reviews from parents, teachers and students. Haine Elementary School received RAMP designation

Haine Elementary School was named a national American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) for making an exemplary commitment to comprehensive school counseling programs, ASCA officials announced in January 2015.

The RAMP designation, awarded to schools that align with the criteria set in the ASCA National Model, recognizes schools that are committed to delivering a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program and an exemplary educational environment. Only 550 schools have been designated as RAMP since the program’s inception in 2004.

“I am so proud of the staff at Haine Elementary School. Without their recognizing the importance of the impact the school counseling program has on our students, we would not have received this recognition. It truly was a team effort,” said Ms. Rozann Lamberto, Haine Elementary School Counselor (now retired) and RAMP application author.

“Seneca Valley had the highest achievement rating in the "Return of Educational Investment" report by the Center for American Progress.

Seneca Valley School District was ranked 70th in the state and 17th in Pittsburgh with an ‘A’ rating by Niche. Niche was founded in 2002 by Carnegie Mellon University students to provide students, families, and professionals with reviews and insight to make choosing a neighborhood, college, or K-12 school a more transparent process. Both Cranberry and Jackson Townships were on the “Best Suburbs to Raise a House in America” from Niche.

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Seneca Valley had three perfect ratings from Great Schools, which is a non-profit organization with profiles of more than 200,000 pre-K-12 schools – public, public charter and private – and over one million reviews from parents, teachers and students sharing information about the schools they know best.

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Onward

people forget about. I love it all.

products!—but there’s a ton of “real” work that
dinners, etc. There are many incredible aspects to
celebrity appearances, private concerts, extravagant
technically, so they throw parties that often involve
a beauty brand. Again, they’re pitching to us,
head out around 7:30 p.m. for an event hosted by
down all day, with a quick lunch at my desk, I usually
office looking for material to post. After being up and
the Allure Snapchat handle so I’m always around the
phone constantly. Aside from this part of my job, I run
and makeup artists, and cosmetic chemists on the
products to me. Also, I interview dermatologists, hair
months in advance) or a beauty brand that’s pitching
where we’re at with the issues (we work about three
writing, almost every hour I have a meeting with either
the print magazine. Although most of my day is spent
writing, I’ll get to the office at 1 World Trade Center by 10
a.m., respond to any urgent emails, and start writing.
My job involves pitching, researching, reporting, and
then writing a ton of content for both Allure.com and
makeup all day—but I do a lot of writing and reporting on health, skincare,
I’m the Assistant Beauty Editor at Allure magazine. On the surface, I play with

Where do you work, what do you do, and do you enjoy your profession?
I’m the Assistant Beauty Editor at Allure magazine. On the surface, I play with
makeup all day—but I do a lot of writing and reporting on health, skincare, hair,
and makeup-related topics, as well. I love my job.

Please share with us some information about your family.
I grew up in Cranberry Township with my father (Ken), mother (Marta), and
younger sister (Amanda). Amanda actually lives in New York now, too.

How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today,
both personally and professionally?
I was super involved in a bunch of different activities like Student Council,
Chorus, and National Honors Society, all the while balancing challenging
Advanced Placement classes and dance classes after school. Consequently,
I learned to be a leader and was encouraged to find and pursue my passions.
I would not be the same person I am today had I not experienced these things
at such a young age.

What makes Seneca Valley such a special place to learn and grow?
There is a strong sense of community and inspiring spirit in every SV school
that is truly unique for a public school system. Living in New York City, I now
realize how much I look for granted. I had every resource I needed for a
successful, enjoyable education and I’m so grateful for that.

Kristie Dash, 
SV Class of ’10

A day in the life
My work day usually starts around 8:30 a.m. at a
breakfast meeting with a beauty publicist. It’s my job
to be on top of everything in the market, including
makeup, skin care, hair care, body, health, and fitness,
and to find any trends or interesting concepts for
stories. Plus, they want to know what I’m working on
to see if anything could be a good fit to pitch for their
clients, so the relationship is important on both sides.
I’ll get to the office at 1 World Trade Center by 10 a.m., respond to any urgent emails, and start writing.
My job involves pitching, researching, reporting, and
then writing a ton of content for both Allure.com and
the print magazine. Although most of my day is spent
writing, almost every hour I have a meeting with either
the Allure team, brainstorm ideas and check in on
where we’re at with the issues (we work about three
months in advance) or a beauty brand that’s pitching
products to me. Also, I interview dermatologists, hair
and makeup artists, and cosmetic chemists on the
phone constantly. Aside from this part of my job, I run
the Allure Snapchat handle so I’m always around the
office looking for material to post. After being up and
down all day, with a quick lunch at my desk, I usually
head out around 7:30 p.m. for an event hosted by
a beauty brand. Again, they’re pitching to us,
technically, so they throw parties that often involve
celebrity appearances, private concerts, extravagant
dinners, etc. There are many incredible aspects to
my job that I’ll never take for granted: free beauty products—but there’s a ton of “real” work that
people forget about. I love it all.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach/SV staff member?
Honestly, there are too many to name. I was a major teacher’s pet. You know who you are! 😊

What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley?
I went to many interesting conferences for Model UN and Student Council and
they were always so fun. Looking back, these unique opportunities to meet all
kinds of people from other schools and cities helped me to become a good
communicator.

If you had one message for teachers or staff, what would it be?
That you are appreciated and students look up to you—even if they don’t act
like it all the time. The relationships you form with your students are something
they remember for years to come. Any time I see old friends from school, our
favorite thing to reminisce about is YOU.

2014-16 Enrollment Tally

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<th>K</th>
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<th>2</th>
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<td>595</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Nicole Fenello, a Seneca Valley senior, started the “Spread the Word to End the Word” campaign across the District for her graduation project, and with members of Best Buddies and SVTV, she created a public service announcement and a Create a Respectful Environment (CARE) activity that was shared on March 4, National R-Word Day.

Miss Fenello also sold “Spread the Word to End the Word” T-shirts to profit the Best Buddies program at Seneca Valley. In her efforts, she raised over $1,500 for the program. Ms. Fenello and other students and staff across the District were seen wearing the T-shirts on March 4 to support the cause. SV also campaigned for Nicolette through the district’s social media accounts. On Facebook, Nicolette had 378 likes, 26 positive comments and over 240 shares, on Twitter she had 42 retweets and 68 favorites and on Instagram she had over 80 likes!

“The R-Word Campaign asks people to stop saying “retarded” (the R-word) as a starting point toward creating more accepting attitudes and communities for all people. According to The R-Word Campaign, language affects attitudes and attitudes affect actions.”

The Seneca Valley School District’s Special Education Department is committed to meeting the needs of students with disabilities and helping them reach their potential. The Seneca Valley School District offers a continuum of services and placement options to meet the needs of each student. Services include but are not limited to:

- Life Skills Support
- Learning Support
- Emotional Support
- Autistic Support
- Speech and Language Support

In addition, services for eligible students may also be provided by Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV (MIU-IV). Services provided by MIU-IV may be provided in the district by itinerant MIU-IV staff or in multi-district programs. Multi-district programs include: Deaf/Hard of Hearing Support, Blind-Visually Impaired Support, Life Skills Support, Autistic Support, Speech/Language Support and Multiple Disabilities Support.

Café brings coffee, confidence

Special Education students are gaining business and social skills through the Practical Assessment Exploration System (PAES) Café on the secondary campus which delivers coffee and tea to staff daily.

Last spring, Mr. E.G. Sipp, career development specialist, and Ms. Kathy Senn, special education paraprofessional, wanted to expand the PAES program to allow students to transfer these skills. Together, they decided to create a student run business, the PAES Café.

“It has been very nice to see the students’ progress and to watch them interact appropriately with students and staff,” said Mr. Sipp. The students came up with the name, and designed the labels and brochures for the business. The students, with support, are responsible for every aspect of the business including making, delivering and billing. Students rotate days that they work in the café and are responsible for all coffee orders on the secondary campus. “We have noticed a change in these students’ confidence while here at school,” explained Mr. Sipp. “For some of the students, social interactions can be difficult for them and PAES Café is a real-life situation that gives them an opportunity to work on these skills.”

PAES is a program that the district has been using for six years for students with various needs. This program helps students explore different jobs that fit their interests and strengths.

Highlights in Special Education

Best Buddies

The Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Cafeteria was full of laughter and chatter in October 2014, when students spent time meeting their new “buddy” and making new friends through the Best Buddies Program. Students engaged in the program completed an application process and were paired one-on-one with a student with a disability. Together, the duos participated in monthly activities and school-wide events.

Best Buddies is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships for people with and without intellectual disabilities. In addition to the life-changing friendships they support, the organization offers leadership training and opportunities for students with and without disabilities. Best Buddies serves over 800,000 individuals each year and has participants in every state in the US and in 52 countries worldwide.

Students in the Best Buddies chapter make a one-school-year commitment to contact their buddy once a week and do something with them in person twice a month. These in-person activities can take place on or off campus. While the Best Buddies leaders work to provide opportunities for socialization as a chapter, they encourage buddy pairs to spend time together on their own engaged in their typical activities, such as attending school sporting events or eating lunch together.
**Students achieve this status through weighted classes in College in High School (CHS), National Advanced Placement (AP) classes or accelerated classes.**

Students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT ®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

Students Who Accepted Various Scholarships/Awards. There were also awards given to the top 10% of Juniors and Seniors – 57 Juniors and 58 Seniors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT/National Merit Qualifiers</th>
<th>National Merit Finalist</th>
<th>National Merit Scholarship</th>
<th>National Merit Semi-Finalist</th>
<th>Received Letter of Commendation</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Students Who Graduated with a 4.0 or Higher

- 13* SAT/National Merit Qualifiers
- 1* National Merit Finalist
- 1* National Merit Scholarship
- 1* National Merit Semi-Finalist
- 5* Special Corporate Scholarships
- 13* Received Letter of Commendation

Number of 2015 Seniors in the National Honor Society 109

Number of 2015 Seniors in the National Honor Society 82

Number of Students in 2015 Senior Class 568

Vocational Choice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>218</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seniors planning to attend a four year accredited college, state university system, state related, private or out of state

Seniors planning to attend a two year community or junior college

Seniors planning to enter trade, technical, business, art or beauty school

TOTAL number of Seniors planning to continue education beyond high school

Employment

Military

Undecided/Unknown

- Students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

- **Students achieve this status through weighted classes in College in High School (CHS), National Advanced Placement (AP) classes or accelerated classes.**
Where do you work, what do you do, and do you enjoy your profession?

Ansaldo-STS/Hitsachi, it is a global engineering company specializing in the design, implementation and management of systems and services for signaling in railway and urban traffic/mass transit. I manage all technical training and professional development, as well as talent and performance management for USA and Canada. I have a PhD in Management (emphasis in instructional design). I enjoy engineering because it is ever-changing. One day it’s a project for a driverless metro in Lima, Peru then I walk down the hall and see testing in progress for software for Union Pacific (largest Class I railroad in the USA).

How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?

Professionally: Seneca Valley taught me to embrace learning and to always invest time in educating myself and others.

Personally: Seneca Valley taught me about the true meaning of lasting friendships, some 28 years later some of my best friends are those that I met in junior and high school.

What makes Seneca Valley such a special place to learn and grow?

The distribution of students per building and the size was perfect. It was big enough that I didn’t know everyone’s business, yet small enough that I know the majority of my classmates as well as those in the graduating classes above and below me.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach/SV staff member?

My favorite teacher was Ms. Patricia Ruzga. I had her for Latin (three years) and while I did not learn how to speak a second language it did make the SAT critical reading section easier as most words have Latin roots so I was able to determine the meaning of vocabulary words quickly.

What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley?

When I was awarded the Ruth Otto scholarship during my senior year. Attending college was going to be a financial hardship so this was an invaluable gift to help pay for my freshman year tuition.

If you had one message for teachers or staff, what would it be?

I have vast experience in teaching and learning (I was an adjunct professor for 11 years at Carnegie Mellon, Pittsburgh Technical Institute, Point Park and La Roche and my career is now in corporate training). This quote by Gandhi would sum up my advice ‘Live as if you were to die tomorrow; learn as if you were to live forever.’ Learning is not a sprint, it should be a marathon you continue your entire life. Challenge yourself to learn something new professionally and personally whether it is a new feature in PowerPoint or to learn how to play the guitar.

Is there anything else you’d like to share about your time at Seneca Valley or your time since Seneca Valley?

Don’t think small, aim big. There is no falling at life, there is only learning valuable lessons that make you a better person in the future. Take the advanced class, join a new club, complete community service with classmates and get to know your teachers as they are truly there to help you succeed.

Dr. Pamela Golubski, SV Class of 89

Advanced Placement

Receive Full Additional Weight (Number of AP Credits x 0.35) divided by number of years available for students to choose

- AP Language and Composition
- AP Literature and Composition
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics
- AP Computer Science A
- AP Music Theory
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Physics C: Mechanics/Electricity and Magnetism/CHS Physics
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Human Geography
- AP Psychology
- AP U.S. Government and Politics
- AP World History (10th Grade Only)
- AP French Language and Culture
- AP German Language and Culture
- AP Latin
- AP Spanish Language and Culture
- AP Studio Art: 2-D/Drawing
- IB Informational Technology in a Global Society HL

College in High School

Receive Full Additional Weight (Number of CHS Credits x 0.25) divided by number of years available for students to choose

- Argument 1
- CHS Argument 2
- CHS Calculus with Analytic Geometry
- CHS Statistics
- CHS Accounting 1
- CHS Accounting 2
- CHS Introduction to Programming
- CHS Intermediate Programming
- AP Physics C
- IB Film SL
- IB Philosophy SL
- IB Informational Technology in a Global Society SL
- IB Mandarin ab initio SL
- IB Business and Management SL

Advanced Placement (Accelerated)

Receive One-Half Additional Weight (Number of Honors Credits x 0.125) divided by number of years available for students to choose

- Honors American Literature
- Honors British Literature
- College Writing 1
- College Writing 2
- Honors English 9
- Honors English 10
- Honors Western World History & Geography
- Honors Eastern World History & Geography
- Honors U.S. History 1
- Honors U.S. History 2
- Honors U.S. History 3
- Honors U.S. History 4
- Honors Economics
- Honors Government and Issues
- Honors Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry
- Honors Geometry
- Honors Algebra 2
- Honors Organic and Biochemistry
- Honors Physics
- Honors Molecular Biology
- Honors Biology
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors Engineering Applications
- Honors Women in Engineering
- Honors Engineering Experimentation
- Honors French 2
- Honors French 3
- Honors French 4
- Honors German 2
- Honors German 3
- Honors German 4
- Honors Latin 2
- Honors Latin 3
- Honors Latin 4
- Honors Spanish 2
- Honors Spanish 3
- Honors Spanish 4

Honors Weighted (Accelerated)

Receive One-Half Additional Weight (Number of Honors Credits x 0.125) divided by number of years available for students to choose

- Honors American Literature
- Honors British Literature
- College Writing 1
- College Writing 2
- Honors English 9
- Honors English 10
- Honors Western World History & Geography
- Honors Eastern World History & Geography
- Honors U.S. History 1
- Honors U.S. History 2
- Honors U.S. History 3
- Honors U.S. History 4
- Honors Economics
- Honors Government and Issues
- Honors Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry
- Honors Geometry
- Honors Algebra 2
- Honors Organic and Biochemistry
- Honors Physics
- Honors Molecular Biology
- Honors Biology
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors Engineering Applications
- Honors Women in Engineering
- Honors Engineering Experimentation
- Honors French 2
- Honors French 3
- Honors French 4
- Honors German 2
- Honors German 3
- Honors German 4
- Honors Latin 2
- Honors Latin 3
- Honors Latin 4
- Honors Spanish 2
- Honors Spanish 3
- Honors Spanish 4

Learn more at:

- Seneca Valley Elementary Curriculum
- Seneca Valley 7-12 Program of Studies
- Seneca Valley Academically Advanced Courses
  - Grades 7-8
  - Grades 9-12
- Butler County Area Vocational Technical School

www.svsd.net
Summary: From 2013-2014 to 2014-2015 Seneca Valley students who scored proficient or advanced in the area of Biology increased by 4.2%.

2014 SAT Scores

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2014 ACT Scores (Composite)

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<td>23.3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

State Norms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Below Basic</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Norms</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>21.0</td>
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</table>

National 5 Year Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Area</th>
<th>Below Basic</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algebra 1</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>41.4%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>68.9%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
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</table>

Keystone Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Area</th>
<th>SVSD: Below Basic</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SVSD: Percent of Students who scored proficient or Advanced</td>
<td>59.8%</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>71.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>SV Math</th>
<th>SV Reading</th>
<th>PA Math</th>
<th>PA Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3</td>
<td>90.6%</td>
<td>85.2%</td>
<td>74.6%</td>
<td>70.2%</td>
</tr>
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Grade 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>SV Math</th>
<th>SV Reading</th>
<th>SV Writing</th>
<th>PA Math</th>
<th>PA Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4</td>
<td>91.4%</td>
<td>82.6%</td>
<td>82.9%</td>
<td>75.9%</td>
<td>68.6%</td>
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</table>

Grade 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>SV Math</th>
<th>SV Reading</th>
<th>SV Writing</th>
<th>PA Math</th>
<th>PA Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>60.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>SV Math</th>
<th>SV Reading</th>
<th>SV Writing</th>
<th>PA Math</th>
<th>PA Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>71.7%</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>SV Math</th>
<th>SV Reading</th>
<th>PA Math</th>
<th>PA Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 7</td>
<td>91.7%</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>71.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>SV Math</th>
<th>SV Reading</th>
<th>SV Science</th>
<th>SV Writing</th>
<th>PA Math</th>
<th>PA Reading</th>
<th>PA Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 8</td>
<td>84.7%</td>
<td>92.8%</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
<td>92.8%</td>
<td>73.1%</td>
<td>79.3%</td>
<td>60.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where do you work, what do you do, and do you enjoy your profession?

M: I currently work for Northwest Savings Bank as a Commercial Credit Analyst. I’ve been in the role for over a year and a half now (I held various other positions in retail banking prior to that) and really love the job. The bulk of my day-to-day activities involve underwriting new commercial loan requests that come in locally. I work with a really talented and fun group of people that take pride in what they do, which makes coming to work every day all the more enjoyable.

B: I currently work for General Electric Power Conversion as Lead Services Project Planner. I manage multiple short- to medium-term service contracts and maintenance upgrades for several government customers including the US Navy and Coast Guard. The work is fast-paced and constantly changing and I really enjoy the challenge of team faces of delivering quality and meaningful products to support our armed forces.

While we both enjoy our day jobs, what we’re really passionate about is writing. On evenings and weekends, we moonlight as the authors behind Ashwood Academy: The Bloodline (available on Amazon under the pen name M. B. Cohen, a tribute to my wives). I don’t think either of us ever expected to become writers or storytellers, as our original inspiration came from our shared love of reading. We started with a rather impromptu paragraph and the enjoyment and ease of that surprised both of us and eventually led to the creation of the entire Ashwood Academy world.

The fact that we were able to complete the middle-grade/young-adult series (which recently peaked at number four in our genre: Fantasy and Supernatural) and still be motivated and inspired enough to want to write a second (and more!) is more than we could have hoped, and I think it was after the first story was done and out there in the world that we really knew that writing/storytelling was our passion.

Please share with us some information about your family.

M: I am married to Julie (Cohen), a 2001 graduate of Seneca Valley and we have two children, Annabelle (8) and Jack (1.5). We live in Cranberry Township, seven houses down the street from Brandon (for the record, we lived there first).

B: I am married to Jackie (Cohen), also a 2006 graduate of Seneca Valley and we recently welcomed our first child, Elijah (March 2015). Together with our dog Dille, we live in Cranberry Township. Jackie is a Spanish teacher at North Allegheny.

How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?

M: From a professional standpoint, I think one of the best things that Seneca Valley does for its students (and I hope they continue to do) is to offer such a wide array of class options. I know my days went from studying Latin to Physics to business classes (with some dodgeball in there somewhere). That kind of variety and exposure helped keep me interested in classes and helped me to determine what I wanted to do in college and what I wanted to do when I graduated. From a personal perspective, I made a bunch of great friends (many of which I still see) and I met the love of my life… what could be better than that?

B: One of the most important things I learned during my time at Seneca Valley was to never be content to just sit there and be bored with anything I do. For those who are open and willing, there are always additional challenges and stretch assignments to help you to continue to learn and grow. At Seneca I found this to be through the Purpose (Gifted) Program, which helped me to go beyond the standard classroom and set me up for a lifetime desire to always want to do and learn more. When I entered the workforce, I immediately pursued a master’s degree and have continued to seek out ways to put learning at the forefront of my job. When I discovered my passion for writing, I knew I would stop at nothing until we finished our book. Seneca helped to form this foundation for self-initiative and solidify the knowledge that with consistent effort, discipline and drive, anything is possible.

What makes Seneca Valley such a special place to learn and grow?

M: The biggest thing that stands out to me looking back on my high school years is the sheer number of great teachers I had. I’m thankful to have had many teachers that genuinely cared about me and pushed me to be a better person.

B: For me, the greatest strength of Seneca Valley has always been the dedication of its teachers to enrich the lives of their students. Being married to a teacher, I now fully understand and appreciate the great challenge teachers face as they work to develop responsible young adults (and that many of these extra efforts are done without compensation). When I think of my time at Seneca, I recall all of the ways my teachers went above and beyond to challenge students, encourage them to think critically and provide them with an education far beyond the set curriculum.

What writing process itself is the fun part – we each bounce back and forth arguing the merits of a different idea (or word) or direction to take the story pointing out the pros and cons of each option. Once we settle on a direction, the best part is coming up with something completely unexpected… and then realizing how brilliantly it works and formulating a plan to fit it into the story. I don’t think that either of us could have written the book individually. While I have the writing talent (something Matt admits he would struggle with), Matt definitely drives the process forward whereas I would still be sitting on the first chapter re-writing a single sentence over and over again “perfecting” it and never moving on to a new section. Together, we complement each other coming up with new ideas and each driving force to advance the book.
Athletics

Fall – 2014
Cross Country, Boys
- Overall Boys Record: 7 – 1
- Boys team finished 5th in WPIAL’s
- Michael Kolor finished 5th at WPIAL’s and Tanner Quiggle placed 18th
- Michael Kolor and Tanner Quiggle were PIAA State Qualifiers; Michael Kolor medaled in 23rd place

Cross Country, Girls
- Overall Girls Record: 7 – 1
- WPIAL Team Champions
- Girls team qualified for PIAA’s and finished 6th
- Three top-10 finishers at WPIAL’s: Rachel Hensler (5th), Julia Kooser (6th) and Mariah Mack (7th)
- Two state medalists: Rachel Hensler (20th) and Mariah Mack (23rd)

Football
- Overall Record: 2 – 7
- All Quad-A Conference First Team: Tyler Hudanick and Corbin Kessler

Golf, Boys
- Overall Record: 9 – 5; Section Record: 8 – 2
- Qualified for WPIAL Team championships, missing finals by one shot
- WPIAL Individual championships semi-finalists: Ross Bondo, Evan Hangliter, Garrett Schlick and Andy Smathers

Golf, Girls
- Overall Record: 4 – 12
- WPIAL Individual championships finalist: Courtney Wahlstrom

Soccer, Boys
- Overall Record: 16 – 3
- Section 2 Champion with 11 – 1 mark
- WPIAL Quarterfinalist
- All Section: Michael DiMichele, Jorge Olan, Matt Saluga and Danny Wallowicz

Soccer, Girls
- Overall Record: 23 – 1
- Section 2 Champion with undefeated 12 – 0 record
- WPIAL Champion
- PIAA Quarterfinalist
- All Section: Sarah Anderson, Alicia Hart, Claire Kocur, Lexus Lambert, Caroline Miller, Jess Neill, and Kelsey O’Connor

Tennis, Girls
- Overall Record: 9 – 8

Volleyball, Girls
- Overall Record: 18 – 5
- Section 3 Champion with 11 – 1 mark
- WPIAL 3rd place finish
- PIAA top 8 finish
- All WPIAL: Melissa Carter, Bre Damiani, Sydney Martini, and Madeline Poirier
- All Section: Melissa Carter, Madison Chapman, Bre Damiani, Sydney Martini, Madeline Poirier, Tatsumi Poirier, and Bella Seman

Basketball, Boys
- Overall Record: 13 – 9
- All Quad-A Conference First Team: Zach Snyder

Basketball, Girls
- Overall Record: 13 – 10
- WPIAL Qualifier
- All Quad-A Conference First Team: Erin Danik
- All Quad-A Conference Second Team: Meghan Hess and Lexus Lambert

Swimming, Boys
- Overall Record: 7 – 6
- WPIAL’s – 11th place team finish
- PIAA Qualifiers
- Michael Palatski (50 free and 100 free)
- Spencer Tretter (200 free and 500 free)

Swimming, Girls
- Overall Record: 8 – 4
- WPIAL’s – 9th place team finish
- PIAA Qualifiers
- Abby Parsons (100 yard back)

Wrestling
- Overall Record: 6 – 6
- PIAA Medalist
- Louis Nowell – 8th place medal
- Section 3 Individual Championships & WPIAL Qualification
- Alex Lynch, Runner-Up & WPIAL Qualifier
- Louis Nowell, Runner-Up & WPIAL 3rd Place
- Dante Santelli, 4th Place & WPIAL Qualifier

Track & Field, Boys
- Overall Record: 5 – 2
- PIAA Medalist
- Michael Kolor, 2nd place – 1600m
- Tanner Quiggle, 8th place – 1600m
- Creamon Frazier, 8th place – Triple Jump
- PIAA Qualifiers & Medalists
- Michael Kolor, 2nd place – 1600m

Track & Field, Girls
- Overall Record: 5 – 2
- PIAA Medalist
- Isabelle Blase, 3rd place – 800m & 2nd place – 1600m
- Rachel Hensler, 5th place – 3200m
- Julia Kooser, 8th place – 3200m
- Emma Zizewski, 5th place – Triple Jump
- PIAA Qualifiers
- Isabelle Blase, 800m & 1600m
- Rachel Hensler, 3200m
- Julia Kooser, 3200m

Volleyball, Boys
- Overall Record: 16 – 4
- Section champion with 11 – 1 record
- PIAA Semi-Finalist
- WPIAL Runner-Up
- All State: Troy Herrmann, Stephen Jones, and Taylor Matthews
- All-WPIAL: Austin Herrmann, Tyler Herrmann, Stephen Jones, Taylor Matthews, and John Price
- All-Section: Austin Herrmann, Troy Herrmann, Stephen Jones, Taylor Matthews, and John Price

Spring – 2015
Baseball
- Overall Record: 14 – 7
- Section champion
- All Quad-A Conference First Team: Vince Augustine and Johnny Brittner
- All Quad-A Conference Second Team: Mike Collins, Corbin Kessler and Troy Martin

Lacrosse, Girls
- Overall Record: 9 – 8 overall, 8 – 4 section
- WPIAL Qualifier
- All-WPIAL: Hannah Kendrick
- All-Section: Mallie Gallagher and Hannah Kendrick
- Pittsburgh Positive Athlete for Girls Lacrosse: Matyson Zeckzer

Softball
- Overall Record: 15 – 4 overall, 11 – 3 section
- WPIAL Quarterfinalist
- All Quad-A Conference First Team: Nikki Matz and Jess Neill
- All Quad-A Conference Second Team: Morgan Abel, Marie Marnik, Elayna Nagy and Julia Zeikora

Tennis, Boys
- Overall Record: 8 – 7
- Pittsburgh Positive Athlete for Boys Tennis: Patrick O’Connor

Track & Field, Boys
- Overall Record: 5 – 2
- PIAA Medalists
- Michael Kolor, 2nd place – 1600m
- Tanner Quiggle, 8th place – 1600m
- Creamon Frazier, 8th place – Triple Jump
- PIAA Qualifiers & Medalists
- Michael Kolor, 2nd place – 1600m

Track & Field, Girls
- Overall Record: 5 – 2
- PIAA Medalists
- Isabelle Blase, 3rd place – 800m & 2nd place – 1600m
- Rachel Hensler, 5th place – 3200m
- Julia Kooser, 8th place – 3200m
- Emma Zizewski, 5th place – Triple Jump
- PIAA Qualifiers
- Isabelle Blase, 800m & 1600m
- Rachel Hensler, 3200m
- Julia Kooser, 3200m

Softball
- Overall Record: 15 – 4 overall, 11 – 3 section
- WPIAL Quarterfinalist
- All Quad-A Conference First Team: Nikki Matz and Jess Neill
- All Quad-A Conference Second Team: Morgan Abel, Marie Marnik, Elayna Nagy and Julia Zeikora

Tennis, Boys
- Overall Record: 8 – 7
- Pittsburgh Positive Athlete for Boys Tennis: Patrick O’Connor

Tennis, Girls
- Overall Record: 9 – 8

Track & Field, Girls
- Overall Record: 5 – 2
- PIAA Medalists
- Isabelle Blase, 3rd place – 800m & 2nd place – 1600m
- Rachel Hensler, 5th place – 3200m
- Julia Kooser, 8th place – 3200m
- Emma Zizewski, 5th place – Triple Jump
- PIAA Qualifiers
- Isabelle Blase, 800m & 1600m
- Rachel Hensler, 3200m
- Julia Kooser, 3200m

WPIAL School Sportsmanship Award

The WPIAL Sportsmanship Committee selected Seneca Valley High School as one of five member schools to receive the 2014-15 Sportsmanship Award.

Seneca Valley was chosen because students promoted and demonstrated the elements of good sportsmanship during the 2014-15 school year during the fall, winter and spring sports seasons. School representatives were honored at the WPIAL Sportsmanship Summit at the Pittsburgh Regional History Center on November 12, 2015.
Onward with SV Alumni

Cory Mazzoni, SV Class of ‘08

Where do you work, what do you do, and do you enjoy your profession?

I am a pitcher for the San Diego Padres. I am very thankful and blessed to be able to pursue my dreams as a professional baseball player.

How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?

I think it personally made me the person I am today because it professionally made me who I am because I met a lot of great people, made lifelong friends and learned it professionally made me in the world. It professionally made me who I am because the baseball program was great and I loved playing for Coach Eric Semega.

I was lucky enough to meet a lot of great teachers and staff throughout the years at Seneca Valley. Coach Semega influenced me the most by helping me strive to become a better baseball player and person.

What makes Seneca Valley such a special place to learn and grow?

Seneca is a special place because of the people that attend and work there. I made lifelong friends there and learned a lot and it helped me prepare for college and my career.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach/SV staff member?

I was lucky enough to meet a lot of great teachers and staff throughout the years at Seneca Valley. Coach Semega influenced me the most by helping me strive to become a better baseball player and person.

What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley?

One of my favorite moments from my time at Seneca Valley was when the baseball team won the state championship game in 2007. The memories and friendships I made with my teammates will be moments I will never forget.

If you had one message for teachers or staff, what would it be?

I would like to thank the teachers and staff for their support and dedication. The education and life lessons I was able to acquire during my time at Seneca Valley helped mold me into the person I am today.

Onward

Athletics

2014 SV Hall of Fame

The Seneca Valley Sports Hall of Fame Committee is honored to announce the 2014 Induction Class:

• 1995 PIAA State Championship Seneca Valley Baseball Team coached by Bob Rebecca. Dave Florio and Bill Allen. Members include: Tim Miskевич, Aaron Gray, Jon Maschak, Steve Gosecki, Mike Wenderowski, Steve Sarver, Jason Harshaw, Shane Young, Brent Ruby, Kevin McCormick, Matt Koger, Josh Boren, Wayne Roccia, and Todd Ratheil.

• Kristen Cheman, Class of 2000

• Peet Poillon, Class of 2005

• Jim Harshaw, Class of 1994

• Terry Henry, Former Coach and Athletic Director

Pictured above: Row 1: L to R: Terry Henry, former Athletic Director and Head Football Coach; Kristen Cheman ’00, cross country, swimming, and track; Jim Harshaw, Jr. ‘94, wrestling; and Peet Poillon ’88, lacrosse. Coaches and Players from the PIAA Championship Baseball Team Row 2: Tim Miskевич ’96, Aaron Gray ’96, Jon Maschak ’95, Steve Gosecki ’95, Mike Wenderowski ’95, Row 3: Dave Sarver ’86, Jason Harshaw ’96, Shane Young ’95, Brent Ruby ’95, Coach Bob Rebecca. Row 4: Kevin McCormick ’96, Coach Dave Florio, Matt Koger ’95, Josh Boren ’96, Row 5: Wayne Roccia ’96, Todd Ratheil ’96, Coach Bill Allen.

On Friday, Sept. 12, 2014, Seneca Valley celebrated the 2014 SV Sports Hall of Fame festivities. Four individuals and 18 members of the ‘95 baseball team returned to campus for an informal reception in the senior high, followed by pre-game recognition in NexTier Stadium. The baseball team hosted its inaugural ‘95 PIAA Championship team vs. SV Alumni Alumni baseball game that afternoon on Saturday Sept. 13. That evening, Peet Poillon ’85, Kristen Cheman ’00, Jim Harshaw, Jr. ’94, and retired coach and Athletic Director Terry Henry joined the players and coaches from the ‘95 baseball team for their induction into the Hall of Fame. The banquet was followed by the ceremony and speeches in front of an audience of about 150 family members, teammates, and fans.

Legacy Raider Level ($12,000 - $49,999):

Cranberry Township Noon Rotary Club

Founding Member ($1,000+):

Anonymous

BASF Corporation

BNY Mellon Community Partnership

Mr. Jim Pearson

Dr. Tracy and Mr. Greg Vitale

Foundation Fellow Level ($500 -$999):

Ms. Madelin Clements

Mr. Anthony Conti - Seneca Valley Class of 1988

Ms. Heather Levin

Mr. Frederick and Mrs. Cecelia Peterson

Mr. David Silverman

Ms. Elizabeth Williams

Seneca Valley Class of 2003

Foundation Patron Level ($100-$499):

Anonymous

Ms. Elizabeth Allen-Boyle

Ms. Lynn Burner

Ms. Jana Greco

Mr. Richard and Mrs. Mary Jane Hadley

Mr. Anne Koch

Mr. Gerald and Mrs. Joan Miller

Ms. Joanne Ranayossaint

Mr. Jeffrey Roberts

Ms. Joyce Starba

Mr. Dean Walker

Mr. Kelly Weston

Ms. Claire Zovko

Foundation Partner Level ($75-$999):

Ms. Cassandra Dogrell

Mr. Bryan Popp

Foundation Friend Level ($50-$74):

Ms. Karen Martini

Mr. Tod and Mrs. Ann Cotter

Ms. Jon A. O’brien

Mr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Sherry Potter

Mr. Michael and Mrs. Susan Seman

Ms. Susan Collier

Ms. Anna Capone

Honor Roll Level (gifts given in honor of a Seneca Valley Teacher/Stu dent or Community Member):

Ms. Jana Greco in honor of Haine Elementary Paraprofessionals

Memorial Level (Any memorial donations):

Ms. Lisa Long in memory of Ms. Linda Bishop

Your gift has funded equipment for Connoquenessing Valley Elementary’s Inspiration Station, secured new books to support early literacy in all of our elementary schools, and provided funding for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives in our secondary schools. We plan to continue our commitment to early literacy and STEM projects, and expanding the number of other projects and programs we can fund—and you’re helping us do all of that.

Click

Visit www.svsd.net/SVF to learn more about the many ways your gifts impact our students’ lives.

We thank our many donors for their support of the Seneca Valley Foundation

The Seneca Valley Foundation is a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to encouraging excellence and innovation in the Seneca Valley Schools. The Foundation will achieve this by seeking donations and patrons to facilitate the development of new capital projects, programs and scholarships. Its board members will consist of stakeholders from local business leaders, community leaders and school leaders.

As a non-profit organization, the Foundation is also utilized as a vehicle by which memorial and other charitable donations may be made to the Seneca Valley School District.

The following are our 2014-15 donors:

Legacy Raider Level ($12,000 - $49,999):

Cranberry Township Noon Rotary Club

Founding Member ($1,000+):

Anonymous

BASF Corporation

BNY Mellon Community Partnership

Mr. Jim Pearson

Dr. Tracy and Mr. Greg Vitale

Foundation Fellow Level ($500 -$999):

Ms. Madelin Clements

Mr. Anthony Conti - Seneca Valley Class of 1988

Ms. Heather Levin

Mr. Frederick and Mrs. Cecelia Peterson

Mr. David Silverman

Ms. Elizabeth Williams

Seneca Valley Class of 2003

Foundation Patron Level ($100-$499):

Anonymous

Ms. Elizabeth Allen-Boyle

Ms. Lynn Burner

Ms. Jana Greco

Mr. Richard and Mrs. Mary Jane Hadley

Dr. Anne Koch

Mr. Gerald and Mrs. Joan Miller

Ms. Joanne Ranayossaint

Mr. Jeffrey Roberts

Ms. Joyce Starba

Mr. Dean Walker

Mr. Kelly Weston

Ms. Claire Zovko

Foundation Partner Level ($75-$999):

Ms. Cassandra Dogrell

Mr. Bryan Popp

Foundation Friend Level ($50-$74):

Ms. Karen Martini

Additional Donors ($5-$49):

Mr. Tod and Mrs. Ann Cotter

Ms. Joan A. O’brien

Mr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Sherry Potter

Mr. Michael and Mrs. Susan Seman

Ms. Susan Collier

Ms. Anna Capone

Honor Roll Level (gifts given in honor of a Seneca Valley Teacher/Stu dent or Community Member):

Ms. Jana Greco in honor of Haine Elementary Paraprofessionals

Memorial Level (Any memorial donations):

Mr. Thomas Hallman in memory of Ms. Linda Bishop

www.svsd.net
Seneca Valley Foundation

Score one for the Seneca Valley Foundation

It was a beautiful day for golf at our second annual outing, The Gift of Hope Golf Classic, on Aug. 7, 2014 at the award-winning Cranberry Highlands Golf Course. The event provided our many parents, staff, community supporters and vendors with the opportunity to join us in raising funds for Seneca Valley students and student programs.

We would like to thank our Platinum Sponsor: ComDoc
We would also like to thank our Gold Sponsor: Westinghouse Electric Company
We also appreciate the support of our Silver Sponsors: Concessus Technologies Fagan Sanitary Supply Highmark
NexTier Bank
Finally, a big thanks to all of our tee sponsors, green sponsors and golfers!

Seneca Valley Social raises $18,000

A little rain didn’t keep people away from an evening filled with silent auction items, live music, performance art, great food and fun networking on April 16, 2015.

We would like to recognize and thank the many individuals and organizations who donated goods, services and/or financial assistance for the Social. Your generosity speaks volumes about your commitment to children and public education.

Inspiration Station

Seneca Valley Administrators, Board Members, SV Foundation Board of Trustees, parents, teachers and students all gathered in fall 2014 to watch learning go high tech.

The school unveiled the Situated Multimedia Arts Learning Lab (SMALLab). A large piece of hands-on computer hardware, the lab was installed in a completely redesigned room at Connoquenessing Valley Elementary School.

The SMALLab is an embodied learning environment that allows for Kinect-type interactivity within a learning module. Imagine a giant iPad that’s the size of a boxing ring. It is essentially motion sensor technology used for special effects in movies. This technology is being used for core subject instruction in a completely innovative and extremely promising manner for young learners.

This $45,000 project was made possible through donations and grants, and was funded at no cost to the district. The Allegheny Intermediate Unit’s (AUIU) Center of Creativity STEAM grant through the Grable Foundation made a commitment to provide $20,000 of funding for this project. The Seneca Valley Foundation also provided a generous donation of $15,000, and the CVE PTO donated $10,000.

STEM Donations

The Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF) is proud to say our fundraising efforts have provided Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) mini-grants to assist students with high-intensity projects as part of the annual STEM Fair. The Foundation has also served as the sponsor of the Seneca Valley Engineering and Industrial Technology Club. On the elementary side, SVF has approved the donation of funds to our K-6 schools so they may purchase literacy materials for the classroom. As we move forward, plans are underway to develop mini-grants for classroom projects and activities our students would not otherwise experience.

Levels of Giving

For those giving to the Seneca Valley Foundation, you will be recognized in the Honor Roll of Donors in the Annual Report. These are the levels:

Individual Levels of Giving:
- Friend - $0 - $74
- Partner - $75 - $99
- Patron - $100 - $499
- Fellow - $500 - $1000

Corporate Levels of Giving:
- Blue Level - $500 - $999
- Black Level - $1,000 - $3,999
- Arrow Level - $4,000 - $6,999
- Raider Level - $7,000 - $9,999
- Seneca Level - $10,000 +

Legacy Giving:

Legacy Raider - $2,500+/year

Legacy Raiders must commit to three years of annual giving to receive the following for their generous donor commitment:
- For corporations/businesses - one complimentary quarter-page ad in the annual report (circulation to 16,000 homes and businesses in the Seneca Valley School District Community)
- Recognition on the SVF Foundation web page (with business link, if applicable)
- Introductory listing in the Foundation Agenda
- Name (with business link, if applicable), for six months (six issues) in the Seneca Valley electronic newsletter
- Opportunity to be listed as a sponsor of one District Educational Workshop
- For corporations/businesses – business/corporate logo placement on all SVF Foundation invitations
- Invitations to all Foundation programs

Seneca Valley Foundation Board of Trustees

- Ms. Linda Andreassi - Trustee and Seneca Valley Communications Director
- Mr. Patrick Boylan - Trustee and Director of Boylan Funeral Homes
- Ms. Lynn Burtner - Foundation Treasurer and Seneca Valley Business Manager
- Mr. J. Victor Conrad - Trustee and Independent Financial Advisor, Founder of PINNACLE Financial Strategies
- Ms. Jana Greco - Trustee and Kindergarten Teacher at Haine Elementary School
- Mr. Patrick Kerrish - Trustee and Founder of Kerrish Charitable Trust
- Ms. Amanda Kie - Trustee and Gift Officer for Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- Ms. Jeanette Lahm - Trustee and Member of the Seneca Valley Board of School Directors
- Mr. Michael Latko - Trustee and Vice President of Strategic Planning for Westinghouse
- Mr. Douglas Matthews - Trustee and Senior Vice President for Tubular Operations, US. Steel
- Mr. Sean O’Shea - Trustee and Director at AstraZeneca
- Mr. David Silverstov - Trustee and Managing Director of Technology for BNY Mellon
- Mr. Terry Shutsky - Trustee and Attorney at Bachman, Ingersoll & Rooney
- Mr. Paul Snyder - Trustee and Vice President for PNC Asset Management Group
- Dr. Tracy Vitali - Foundation Executive Director and Seneca Valley Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Dan Walker - Trustee and Physics Teacher (Department Chair) at Seneca Valley Senior High School
- Mr. Jason Wehrle - Attorney at Mintzer Sarowitz Zeris Ledwa & Meyers
- Ms. Beth Zupics - Trustee and President of NexTier Bank

Additional Programs for Giving:

Alumni Race: Seneca Valley Graduates are invited to join their fellow classmates in an ongoing competition to see which class can donate the most. For $50, you can join the alumni race and we will add you to the growing list of alumni who are giving back. Join today and move your graduation year to the head of the class.

Name and Graduation Year: ___________________________.

Honors Race: The Seneca Valley Foundation is pleased to announce a program to honor students and educators in this community. At any time of the year, you can honor a teacher, administrator or student through a tax-deductible contribution of $25 or more to the Seneca Valley Foundation. A donation to the Foundation is a meaningful way to say “thank you” for many occasions.

Name of honoree: ___________________________.

Memorial: A memorial donation to the Foundation is a wonderful way to remember someone who made Seneca Valley School District an integral part of their life. Name of person being memorialized: ___________________________.

If applicable, SV Class of:_________________________.

Please make checks payable to: Seneca Valley Foundation and mail to: c/o Lynn Burtner, Foundation Treasurer 124 Seneca School Rd., Harmony, Pa. 16037
Evans City Elementary students during an archaeological field trip to the Meadowcroft Rockshelter in Washington County, Pa.

Mark Milanick, Ph. D., SV Class of ’72

A day in the life
In the morning, I design and carry out experiments to test my ideas. In the past, I have had funding from the National Institutes of Health and I would do experiments to test ideas that I had thought of for my grants. Now I am able to just do experiments to try and understand how the body works or to develop simple at-home tests for checking on different aspects of health. In the afternoon, I teach students about physiology. Depending upon the day and the semester, I teach undergraduate students some general biology education courses, such as: Toxins—the Good, the Bad and the Beautiful; Bodily Fluids and Their Functions; the Science of Sex, Drugs and Rock ‘n’ Roll; I also teach prenursing and prehealth professional students physiology. I teach graduate students about membrane transport physiology and research ethics. I also teach medical students gastrointestinal (digestive) physiology.

Where do you work, what do you do, and do you enjoy your profession?
University of Missouri. I teach and do research. I thoroughly enjoy my profession.

Please share with us some information about your family.
I’ve been married for 31 years and have a son in college. We currently have two dogs and a turtle as pets.

How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?
Professionally: Miss Walker taught me how to read critically and that has been a tremendous help. Mr. Parker did a wonderful job teaching me and giving me confidence in math. The English teachers exposed me to great literature which I still enjoy and helped me with writing and research skills. Personally: All the other students helped me grow, discovering more about myself, and were very patient in teaching me important social skills.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach/SV staff member?
Lots of favorites including Miss Walker, Reading Specialist; Mr. Parker, Math, Mr. Imes, Biology and Advanced Biology; my ninth grade basketball coach; Mr. Richard Lane, football and track coach and trainer; and Mrs. T, Creative Writing Teacher.

What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley?
It is hard to recall a particular moment, but Seneca Valley allowed me to pursue lots of different interests. I can recall, as a senior, having to get to school by 6:30 a.m. to practice showing foul shots and then being challenged in classes to think about Romeo and Juliet. I then had to think about wildflower biology, then learn some math and history, and play the trombone (even though I was lousy). Then I had basketball practice after school and rehearsed the senior play (I played the butler and my only lines were ‘You rang’ and then I was found hung in the closet which took some key stage setting!).

If you had one message for teachers or staff, what would it be?
Continue to think about how your actions and words are perceived by students and continue to try to nurture them, balancing their need for praise and for constructive criticism.

Is there anything else you’d like to share about your time at Seneca Valley or your time since Seneca Valley?
High school is a time of discovery and I look back on the total experience with mixed feeling as I certainly made lots of mistakes and the tolerance and support of teachers, staff, and my peers, were certainly very important and helped me to then, and now, enjoy the times when I had successes or good tries, even when I did not succeed.
The Board of School Directors unanimously passed the 2014-15 general operating budget for the Seneca Valley School District in June 2014. A home with a market value of $150,000 will pay approximately $88 more in taxes per year—or about $7 a month more with the millage increase.

The board has and will continue to focus on reducing spending and finding new revenue streams while pursuing cost avoidance efforts. The budget helps, in part, to support ongoing technology and curriculum improvements and maintains our district facilities, including the enhancement of building security features.

The development and final adoption of the budget is a very detailed and complex process for which the board of school directors is responsible by state law per Section 679 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949.

The final document is a product that was developed with the cooperation and effort of the board, administration and staff. The process and final budget provides for the best education possible for our students as well as sensitivity to the burden of expense on the local taxpayer.

### 2014-15 Final Budget General Information

**ESTIMATED REVENUE - $107,262,101**
- Value of a mill increased to estimated 2014-15 value, 2.22 percent increase
- Total millage included at 116.45 mills, an increase of 3.7 mills, 3.28 percent
- Earned Income Tax revenue increased to reflect improved collections
- No additional or increased student fees
- Basic Education subsidy and other state subsidies held at current estimates
- Retirement and social security subsidy from the state increased due to expense increase (50 percent state share)
- ACCESS revenue decreased to reflect changes in program administration

**ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES - $108,763,338**
- Contractual salary increases included
- Healthcare rates increased by 11 percent
- Retirement rate increased from 16.93 percent to 21.40 percent
- Service contracts increased by 2 percent, linked to Consumer Price Index
- Student transportation and fuel costs increased to reflect new transportation requirements for Cardinal Wuerl High School
- Building and departmental discretionary budgets frozen
- Interest payments reduced, principal payments increased, to reflect refinancing and new debt
- $1,000,000 increase in textbooks and learning resources for the classroom

*We approved a deficit budget to intentionally use fund balance savings as a way to help limit the tax increase.*

*The budgeted expenditures exceed estimated revenue by approximately $1.5 million. This is an intentional use of fund balance directed to textbook adoptions and to mitigate the current year’s increase in retirement rates.*
Artwork lines the walls and hangs from the ceiling at Haine Middle School.

What makes Seneca Valley a special place to learn and grow are the vast opportunities that the school presents to its students. Seneca Valley, being a large school, allows for students to be offered a great variety of classes and extracurricular activities to choose from. This broad range of choices allows students to really round themselves out through participating in new activities or taking classes that many other schools are not able to offer. My time at Seneca Valley taught me to take charge of my academic/career path and to work hard and persevere to meet my goals.
- Dr. Richard Skalos, Emergency Veterinarian at Pittsburgh Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Center (PVSEC), SV Class of ‘02

I just want to say that I am so proud to be a Seneca Valley graduate. When you grow up surrounded by caring adults and teenagers with good hearts, you automatically assume the world is filled with the same. This is not the case. Seneca Valley is a special place.
- Markie Maraugha, Owner of Nancy’s East End Diner, SV Class of ’11

Seneca Valley prepared me to attend Northwestern University, where I ran track, studied economics and music, and helped organize concerts at the Student Union. Serving as Seneca Valley’s senior class president truly helped give me the confidence to succeed at Northwestern, and then later at IBM, George Washington University Law School, EDS, and four large law firms before starting my own firm. Although Seneca Valley was significantly smaller back in the 1970s, there was always a sense of camaraderie and teamwork. I truly enjoyed my years at Seneca Valley, and I’m excited and proud to see how it’s grown and become successful.
- Franklin Blackstone III, Lawyer at Blackstone Counsel, SV Class of ’77

Seneca Valley provided fantastic examples of passionate teaching from which I have drawn as a summer school teacher and as a teaching assistant at Pitt. The opportunities to participate in Model UN, National History Day and theater at SV instilled a lasting love of debate and performance. My teachers’ individual commitments to their students have provided a model against which I judge other classes in which I have been a student and a teacher. My time at SV gave me a special appreciation for individual teachers’ dedication to students’ curiosity -- something not common in many public schools. I never felt as though I was being directed into any one career path or narrow future prospects. My teachers often listened to my interests and respected my opinions and ideas as they would an adult, rather than telling me that my educational aspirations were impractical.
- Simon Brown, PhD History Student at University of California, Berkeley, SV Class of ‘11

The State most SV Alumni reside in outside of Pennsylvania

Florida

The number of SV Alumni featured in the 2015 SV Alumni Directory

20,694

The oldest records SV has on file for academic student performance

1898

The time of Commencement Exercises on June 2, 1959, at Zelienople High School

8:15 p.m.
Staff Stats

Professional Staff Degrees:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>Bachelors</th>
<th>Bachelors+24</th>
<th>Masters</th>
<th>Masters+15</th>
<th>Masters+30</th>
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<td>330</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2014-15 Staff Population

Professional Staff (Administration, Teachers) | 569
Classified Staff (Attendance, Teachers) | 242
Total District Employment | 811

Ted A. Mellors
Director, Center for Community and Public Safety
Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus

SV teacher Awarded Outstanding Middle Level Educator

Mr. Michael (Mickey) Flood, Seneca Valley Middle School Health Teacher, was awarded the Anne Monis Outstanding Middle Level Educator of the Year Award for the 2014-15 school year from the Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education (PAMLE).

This award is presented to a middle level educator that has made professional contributions that have positively influenced middle level education and students within their school, has a passion for teaching that is contagious to those around them, and someone who creates positive and caring relationships with their students and their colleagues.

“Mr. Flood has a genuine interest in engaging kids. He is constantly creating opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom for kids to participate in activities that foster a healthy lifestyle,” said Mr. Robert Ceh, principal at SVMS. “I think my invitation to serve on the PSU EOC SEAL Challenge Advisory Committee speaks to the quality of the Seneca Valley School District,” said Mr. Logsdon. “We are able to provide our students with a dynamic and diverse curriculum, which promotes student growth and success in and outside of the classroom. Student success and participation with previous years SEAL Challenges exemplify why Seneca Valley is such a great school and community.”

By serving on the committee, Mr. Logsdon will have the opportunity to guide continued development of the Sea, Air and Land Challenge, to help prepare students for their future, and to promote and advocate the importance of career awareness, exploration and planning.

“Our student involvement has grown from two teams and 12 students initially when the SEAL challenge was piloted in 2012-13, to this year having seven student teams, roughly 45 students, participating in this year’s SEAL challenge,” he explained. “The growth of student interest and involvement has been made possible due to expanded engineering curriculum/course offerings and financial support from the district and the Seneca Valley Foundation.”

The PSU EOC is committed to encouraging young men and women to pursue STEM related careers. As a University Affiliated Research Center for the United States Navy, EOC also encourages these young adults to pursue engineering careers that support the Department of Defense.

SV teacher Awarded Advisor of the Year

Ms. Katie Halliday, Seneca Valley Senior High School mathematics teacher and student council advisor was awarded with the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils (PASC) District 2 Advisor of the Year for 2014-2015.

PASC District 2 includes Lawrence, Beaver, Butler, Clarion, Armstrong, Jefferson, Indiana and Mercer counties.

The mission of the PASC is to offer year-round opportunities to develop and apply leadership and life skills for middle level and high school students throughout Pennsylvania.

For those of you familiar with social media and, more specifically, Facebook, you may be aware of “Humans of New York,” a wildly popular social media page and related book of the same name. Both feature human interest photos and captions of everyday people.

We have decided to borrow this idea and create our own feature for the District’s website and Facebook page called, quite simply, “Staff of Seneca Valley.” This light-hearted feature was created to share with our followers the more human interest side of our staff that parents and students don’t always get to see. We hope you join in with light-hearted comments or smile at their words.

"When one little boy asked me one day, ‘Why are you quitting, Mrs. L.? I had to stop a moment and collect my thoughts. I told him that I wasn’t quitting, but I was retiring. Of course, being educators, you know the next question, ‘What does retiring mean?’ How do I tell a little child that I am leaving something I have always loved to do, to go do something that I have never done before? I am very proud to call myself a teacher from Seneca Valley School District. Thank you for believing in me 35 years ago. I guess my advice to leave with my fellow teachers and staff would be: Enjoy the ride and teach from your heart.”

-Nancy Lintelman, Haine Elementary Second Grade Teacher

See regular additions to Staff of Seneca Valley on our Facebook page or at www.svsd.net/StaffofSV
Where do you work, what do you do, and do you enjoy your profession?
After graduating from Seneca, I attended Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) majoring in Computer Science. I am now a software engineer at Google in Pittsburgh and thoroughly enjoy it. I became interested in programming and computers in middle school. The classes I took in high school at Seneca Valley solidified my decision to go into the field.

Please share with us some information about your family.
Both of my parents were computer science majors and my older brother works with computers which probably helped spur my interest in the field. My parents still live in Cranberry, my youngest brother is a senior at Seneca Valley and my mom also works at Seneca Valley.

How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?
Seneca Valley was a huge asset in figuring out what I wanted to do professionally. They have a large variety of classes, and for me, the computer science courses enabled me to figure out what I wanted to do and choose a college that specialized in the field. I was surprised at how many students started college not quite knowing what they wanted to do. Thanks to the courses I took at Seneca, I knew the field I wanted to go into and was able to take full advantage of my four years at CMU. I’m also grateful for the little things. I learned at Seneca that many friends of mine from other schools didn’t, such as how to sew, how to write checks, and even the variety of sports I was exposed to through gym classes.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach/SV staff member?
There were too many influential staff members to be able to pick just one. The ones that come to mind are Mr. Russo (Calculus and Statistics), Frau Smith (German), Mrs. Lintelman (3rd Grade), Mr. Roccia (Track coach), and Mr. Robertson (Programming).

What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley?
My favorite moment was at the WPIAL semi-finals for track in 2004. It was my junior year and I’d been running track for three years at that point but had never been one of the top runners. I came to every practice though, put in the time and effort, and the coaches gave me the same coaching as their top athletes. We made it to the semi-finals, which was a big deal and they could only take the fastest athletes. I went as an alternate and the girl who was supposed to compete in the 400m had an injury flare up, so I ended up racing. I ran my fastest time, scoring a point for the team and we ended up winning the meet on a tie breaker. This taught me that even if you don’t immediately excel at something, with enough time and dedication, you can become good at anything.

If you had one message for teachers or staff, what would it be?
Continue to encourage unstructured learning. I learned a great deal of things during spare time in classes such as programming graphing calculators, writing games during programming class, and playing around with Lego Mindstorms. All of these things weren’t part of the curriculum. A strict teacher would have yelled at us for doing these, but we had completed our assignments, weren’t bothering other students, and learned a ton in the process.

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A typical day for me usually includes practicing, listening to music and perhaps a rehearsal, recording session, or writing an arrangement in the afternoon, followed by some type of gig/performance in the evening.

I would love to invite anyone who may be interested to stop by my website or Facebook music page to say “hello” and have a look around. In addition to a biography and a lot of other information on these sites, I am continually posting about upcoming public performances, photos, audio and video clips, and other exciting news.

www.boscotrombone.com
www.facebook.com/Boscotrombone

I am a professional musician in New York City and I currently reside in Astoria, NY in the NYC borough of Queens. I primarily play tenor trombone and bass trombone. I make a living doing all types of musical engagements in a variety of genres; Jazz, Big Band, Broadway, Studio Recording/Jingle dates, Rock ‘n Roll, Club Dates, writing music and arrangements, etc. I have had the great fortune of performing and/or recording with such renowned artists as: Don Henley, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Frankie Valli, Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Regis and Joy Philbin, Chita Rivera, Natalie Cole, Carole King, Aloe Blacc; Michael Feinstein, Birdland Big Band, Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, Arlo Shaw Orchestra, among many others. I enjoy my profession immensely and I feel very lucky to be making a living doing something that I love.

How did Seneca Valley help you become the person you are today, both personally and professionally?
The wonderful teachers and staff at Seneca Valley provided a positive and nurturing learning environment and I owe a lot of my success, personally and professionally, to many of them.

What makes Seneca Valley such a special place to learn and grow?
The teachers, staff and fellow students at Seneca Valley felt like one big family. There was always a teacher there willing to work with students one-on-one and/or provide individualized help or advice on whatever the topic, even if it was something completely unrelated to a particular class or assignment.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach/SV staff member?
I actually have three. Mrs. Sue Van Arsdale, Mr. Robert Matchett Jr. and Mr. Robert Matchett III. Mrs. Van Arsdale was my very first trombone teacher at Evans City Elementary School when I came in as a 6th grader in the fall of 1993. I had previously studied only piano up until that point. I had both Mr. Matchett Jr. and Mr. Matchett III as band directors during my tenure at SV from 8th grade onward. It was wonderful having band directors who played the same instrument as me (trombone) and I studied privately with both of them during those years. All three of these individuals had a huge impact on me as a musician and person and I wouldn’t be where I am today without them.

What is one of your favorite memories from your time at Seneca Valley?
It is hard to choose just one. The trips we took with the Seneca Valley bands to various competitions were highly successful and always garnered Superior ratings and top awards for us. These were very proud moments for all of us involved as was simply being a part of a band organization that had an incredible reputation and has continually maintained a standard of excellence.

If you had one message for teachers or staff, what would it be?
Thank you all for everything you do for each and every one of the students who walk in those doors at all of the different SV schools. Your dedication and passion for education is second to none and I consider myself lucky to have come up through a school district that was such a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Is there anything else you’d like to share about your time at Seneca Valley or your time since Seneca Valley?
My education at Seneca Valley was a great foundation to build on and after graduating from SV in 2000, I went on to further my education and attained two degrees: I hold a Bachelor of Music from Youngstown State University (2004) and a Master of Music degree from Manhattan School of Music (2006).
“All of our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.”

-Walt Disney

Seneca Valley School District Mission Statement
In collaboration with family and community, the mission of the Seneca Valley School District is to provide an academically rigorous learning experience in a progressive environment, emphasizing civic responsibility and global awareness.

Send questions or comments about the annual report to the Communications Department,
124 Seneca School Road, Harmony, PA 16037, 724-452-6040, ext. 1756 or email andreassil@svsd.net