

## LAUREL HIGHLANDS STUDENTS REPRESENT AT STUDENT FORUM

We are very excited to share an update on the tri-county student forum. Student forum is a three county (Fayette, Washington and Greene) committee of high school leaders who represent approximately 20 schools. Each year students meet monthly to work towards several identified goals that range from addressing problems, policies, etc. within their respective schools to improving school climate. This year's student forum has come to a conclusion at a recent banquet. Senior, Gino Mollica, represented Laurel Highlands very well as the forum president of over 70 plus students in three counties. In addition, Laurel Highlands Junior, Cameron Lizza, has been elected vice president for next year's student forum! This will be the third consecutive year that Laurel Highlands will have a student member as one of the three elected officials to serve on student forum. Mr. Chad Miller, school sponsor, sums it up the best by saying, "I cannot be more proud of all of my forum members as they are true leaders and representatives of Laurel Highlands School District."

## PJAS REGIONAL WINNERS

Congratulations to our students who participated in the PJAS (PA Junior Academy of Science) competition held at California University of PA. The students presented projects before a panel of judges and students averaging a score of 4 out of 5 or above are deemed first place and qualify for the State competition at Penn State in May. The following students from the high school qualified for the state competition: Duane Phelan, Ethan Glad, Elizabeth Rockwell, and Abigail Phillian. Qualifying from the middle school (Mrs. Johnson, sponsor): Jillian Verbus, Hope Purnell, Taylor Smith, Jordan O'Brien---who earned a perfect score, Timothy Smith, and Emile Glad. Good Luck at State competition!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO TEACHER FEATURE MS. AMBER HUGHES

*Behind every great student is a great teacher. These teachers make learning fun by thinking outside the box and creating classroom experiences that resonate with their students. They serve many roles in their schools, as spelling coaches, school bee coordinators and judges; more often than not, they are motivators who encourage their students to be the best they can be.* Mrs. Amber Hughes, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School teacher was recognized for great work and selected as "Teacher Feature" by The Scripps National Spelling Bee. According to Mr. Mike Rozgony, Mrs. Hughes is "phenomenal with the kids" and always does her job with enthusiasm. As a reading teacher who emphasizes vocabulary and spelling on a daily basis, Mrs. Hughes was a perfect fit to lead her school's spelling bee efforts. She inspired student council to create care packages for all participants to show the spellers their classmates are proud of their hard work and effort. Students also made a special package for the winning student with inspirational quotes and letters. Mr. Rozgony believes that "her love for teaching and inspiring students is remarkable," and the successful first spelling bee program is just another example of her dedication to her students. By building positive relationships with her students, she is showing them from the very beginning of adulthood that their opinions do matter and that they can make a difference in the world around them. The Scripps National Spelling Bee and Laurel Highlands School District would like to thank Mrs. Hughes for valuing her students' opinions and helping them realize their goals by dedicating herself to the school.



## DOWNLOAD THE DISTRICT'S NEW APP

The **district app** is now available on both Apple and Android mobile devices. You can download the app at either the iTunes Apple or Google Play stores. Receive up to date information from the district or specific buildings through the notification feed. The district will continue to utilize the automated phone system. If you do not want to receive these calls, please contact the building principal.

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QUALITY education"*

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