

TechLife

Your Award Winning News Publication

FALL 2019 / ISSUE 1



IMAGINE

WHAT WE CAN DO!

THE POWER OF PATRIOTISM AT PCTVS *Wreaths Across America... "Remember, Honor, Teach"*

It was a momentous day at PCTVS, and one we will surely remember!

PCTVS was honored to be selected as the first high school district to host a special educational visit from the renowned organization "Wreaths Across America" honoring our nation's veterans and fallen soldiers!

On September 26, a special 58-foot mobile museum from "Wreaths Across America" visited our campus. "Wreaths Across America" is a nonprofit organiza-

tion whose mission to "Remember, Honor, Teach" is carried out by coordinating the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery and other veterans' cemeteries across the nation and abroad. Last year, the organization placed a total of 1.8 million wreaths at Arlington and other cemeteries to maintain and honor the memory of our fallen heroes.

During this special event, students, staff and guests experienced a 30-minute educational tour of the amazing exhibit. "Wreaths Across America" provided wreath-making kits to facilitate interactive wreath making demonstrations for students, as well as discussions about patriotism, remembrance and service. The organization is dedicated to teaching young generations about the values of their freedoms, and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect those

freedoms. We were pleased to welcome many members of the "Wreaths Across America" organization including a surprise visit from founder Morrill Worcester!

This exciting, first-of-its kind visit welcomed numerous area veterans including American Legion State Commander Robert B. Newell and Passaic County Service Officer John Harris, who were provided special tours of the museum and were recognized for their service. Student ambassadors were on hand as they donned special patriotic attire and facilitated the day's events.

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At the event's opening ceremony, Superintendent Diana C. Lobosco and Board of Education/Education Foundation President Al Alexander made a special presentation to "Wreaths Across America" with an outstanding donation of \$2,600 which was the result of a successful faculty "Jeans Day" fundraiser of \$1,300 and matching funds by the PCTI Education Foundation.

Additionally, the opening ceremony featured members of PCTI's ROTC and Vocal Ensemble students, with a special poetry reading by student ambassador Michaela Schwab.

At PCTVS, we are proud of the strong patriotic culture that we have upheld throughout the years. Our close relationships with local veterans' groups, as well as various student-led programs and assemblies commemorating all patriotic remembrance

days throughout the year demonstrate our devotion to patriotism and pride. This pledge holds strong today! PCTVS is planning to continue the momentum created by the "Wreaths Across America" event with our own wreath-commemoration initiatives. We are proud to announce our new partnership with Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Totowa, NJ to lay wreaths on the graves of our veterans on National Wreaths Across America Day on December 14th. The power of patriotism continues to thrive and flourish at Passaic County Technical School District as we always "remember, honor, and teach"!



REMEMBRANCE, RESPECT AND HONOR

Our school community continues its culture of patriotism with a student-led assembly to commemorate the awful tragedies of September 11th, 2001. To demonstrate respect and solemnity, the video presentation included a special tribute to first responders, a video demonstrating the importance of remembering that fateful day, and a showcase video highlighting various 9/11 memorials around the world.

Retired Commander Joe Allegra and Retired Detective Tom Fahy, both of the Passaic County Sheriff's SERT, attended the assembly as special guest speakers. Thank you to all the first responders and volunteers who gave the ultimate sacrifice to save the lives of others.



Golf Scholarship Classic is a Resounding Success!

The beautiful North Jersey Country Club was the perfect setting for the 22nd annual Golf Scholarship Classic which was sponsored by the PCTI Education Foundation on Monday, October 7th. More than a combined 175 golfers, dinner guests, and sponsors were in attendance to support the Education Foundation's student scholarship initiatives!

After a delightful day on the green, guests enjoyed cocktails, dinner and other exciting activities to round out the evening. The event raised more than \$85,000, which brings the total amount raised to \$1,450,000 for student scholarships since the Education Foundation's inception in 1998!

Al Alexander, President of the Education Foundation, expressed his appreciation to all who ensured this year's golf outing was a spectacular success. "We would like to express heartfelt gratitude for the amazing turnout at this year's event. We sincerely appreciate the generous contributions of our sponsors and school community, as well as for the hard work of our dedicated committee members. We hope everyone who attended the outing had a wonderful day on the green!"

The Bulldog family is extremely grateful for the efforts of Mr. Alexander and the members of the Education Foundation for their untiring and selfless dedication to our students and staff through the years!



Supporting Our Students

(DRIVEN
TO
give)



PCTVS enjoyed another successful year with Lincoln of Wayne's "Driven to Give" event! Because of the remarkable participation of our faculty and staff, our Education Foundation received a check for \$8,000 to promote student and teacher educational efforts.

Through this initiative, Lincoln of Wayne donates scholarship funds in exchange for faculty test drives. PCTI's Education Foundation has a demonstrated history of collaborating with regional, business, and community groups to raise funds for the educational enrichment of students and teachers.

A big thank you to Lincoln of Wayne for your continued support!

EXCITING BEGINNINGS S

IMAGINE

WHAT WE
CAN DO!

Our exciting new theme for the 2019-2020 school year is “Imagine”! The theme puts a spotlight on our exceptional ability to “dream big” and represents our passion, responsibility and mission in the integral world of career and technical education.

As a PCTVS community, we all share enormous pride and enthusiasm as one bulldog family.

“Imagine” spotlights our hard work, challenges and commitment through the years that enabled PCTVS to become an award-winning and progressive school district, all because we “dared to imagine” what our future could be!

“Imagine” encourages us to allow our imaginations to run wild to make our schools and our Bulldog community even better than before!

WE’RE IN! ARE YOU?



WELCOME BACK BULLDOGS!

New school theme captures PCTVS pride and dedication to dreaming big!

PCTVS celebrated the first official day of classes on September 4th with a record-breaking enrollment of over 4,000 students along with a strong team of faculty and staff. In keeping with this year’s overarching theme of “Imagine”, we encourage the Bulldog family to dream big and set high-achieving goals!

Let’s IMAGINE how incredible this school year can be as we renew our passion and enthusiasm for career and technical education! The 2019-2020 school year will be full of achievements and unlimited opportunities for every Bulldog!

Best of luck to all members of the Bulldog community as we launch another exciting school year!



SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020

PCTVS WELCOMES THE DIANA C. LOBOSCO STEM ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL!

Passaic County Technical-Vocational School District is proud to include the Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy as the second high school within the district! Upon receiving approval from the Department of Education, the STEM Academy joins the award-winning Passaic County Technical Institute under the umbrella of PCTVS in keeping pace with the future demands of career and technical education.

The district's addition of the Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy High School maintains our strong belief in the importance of vital STEM career paths in Engineering, Biomedical/Life Sciences, and Computer Science. These career pathways, in conjunction with PCTI's integral career and technical education programs, are designed to ensure students' success in the competitive job market.

The Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy High School reflects the PCTVS vision of continued growth and advanced technology in preparing students for future successes!



WELCOME NEW STAFF!

The Bulldog family just got a little bit bigger! As the 2019-2020 school year began, 46 new staff members joined the Passaic County Technical-Vocational School community to fulfill a variety of roles around campus. In August, new faculty gathered for a 4-day orientation program held in the Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy. A variety of topics and informational sessions were presented by Principals Dr. Parent and Mr. Johnson as well as other administrative staff to assist our newcomers as they begin their careers at PCTVS. We extend a heartfelt welcome to each of our new faculty members and wish them continued success!



Two Seniors Are Semi-Finalists for the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program!

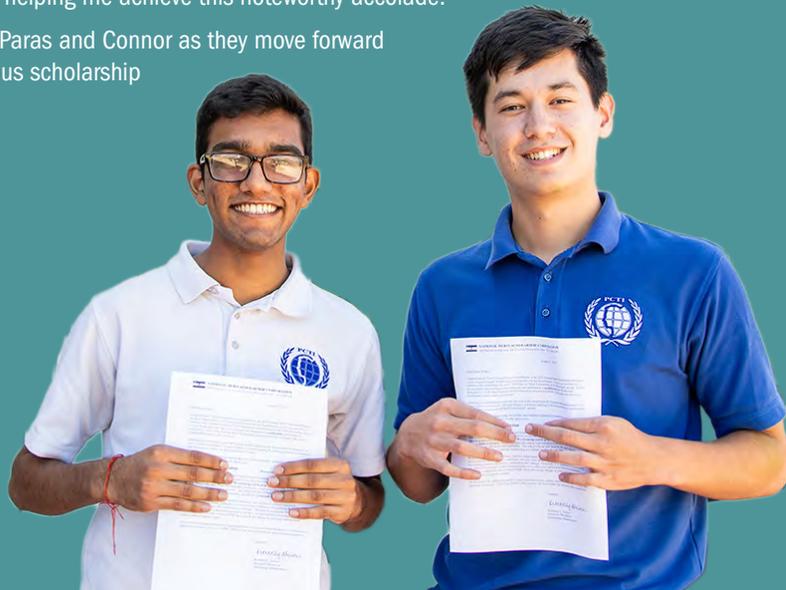
Seniors Paras Nahar and Connor Wang, both students in the Academy of Information Technology, have been named semi-finalists for the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program! Both students submitted a detailed application including academic records and leadership roles and competed with more than 1.5 million students for this highly competitive scholarship. Additionally, only four students from Wayne schools were named semi-finalists, with two of them from PCTI!

In February, Paras and Connor will learn if they have advanced to the finalist stage, and the winners of the scholarship will be announced in April.

"It feels good to see the fruits of my efforts come to me, and I want to thank my teachers who have guided me thus far in my studies and helped me achieve academic success," said Connor. "To me, the honor and recognition are far more meaningful than the scholarship money."

"The education I've received at PCTI and the people I've encountered along the way have greatly shaped my attitude towards academics," Paras added. "Plus, a strong work ethic was instrumental in helping me achieve this noteworthy accolade."

Best of luck to Paras and Connor as they move forward in this prestigious scholarship program!



STEM Academy Joins NCSSS!

NCSSS, the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools offers professional development and networking opportunities for both educators and students. The Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy will join an elite group of other STEM schools in this esteemed consortium. Such a renowned acknowledgment gives the Academy credence for future partnerships and solidifies its role as a leading STEM institution.

As a result of a formal application process, including a mission statement, school profile and comprehensive reference from AT&T, the STEM Academy was quickly accepted into the NCSSS. Now, students can participate in the organization's competitions and attend a student research conference, and educators can benefit from an array of resources including publications and networking connections.



NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

Shefali Topiwala, a sophomore in the Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy, received an Award of Excellence for her attendance at the prestigious National Youth Leadership Forum for Medicine! A student in the Academy's Biomedical and Life Sciences career pathway, Shefali joined other future doctors and health-care practitioners to participate in hands-on medical experiences. Additionally, Shefali and her peers gained insight into their future professions via true-to-life simulations and immersive clinical training.

This year's forum was located in Boston at Tufts University and is held annually at different universities across the nation.

Congratulations, Shefali! Keep up the outstanding work!



TERRIFIC TURNOUT AT THE PCTVS ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE!

It's never too early to start planning your Bulldog experience! The annual Open House was held on a beautiful, sunny Saturday in September and welcomed nearly 5,000 prospective students and their families to our state-of-the-art campus to provide insight into our award-winning schools. It was a perfect way for guests to see "a day in the life" of Bulldogs at PCTVS!

At the much-anticipated event, guests learned about CTE, academic, and extracurricular opportunities available at PCTI and the Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy. The exciting event showcased the innovative areas of campus, including classrooms, labs, and more. Informative video presentations were held in the auditorium featuring momentous school highlights, insight into academic opportunities, and an exciting video showcasing the fall athletic season. Visitors experienced amazing school spirit as the vocal ensemble, cheerleaders and student ambassadors demonstrated their Bulldog pride! The PCTVS family was excited to share their profound school pride with the community!

At the Open House, each program of study held its own exhibit with faculty and students present to answer questions and showcase their respective academic programs. We look forward to seeing prospective students again in the coming months for Saturday Tours held in October, November and December!



AMAZING ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Mike Boorman Named PCCA Coach of the Year!

PCTI Head Girls Softball Coach, Mike Boorman, was selected as the 2018-2019 Passaic County Coach of the Year! Coach Boorman's achievement marks the first time in school history that a PCTI Head Coach has been selected for this prestigious honor by the Passaic County Coaches Association.

Congratulations, Coach Boorman!



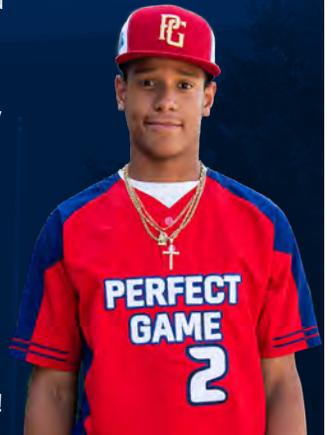
Nazier Mule Achieves National Athletic Recognition!

Nazier Mule is only a sophomore, but his athletic resume is already full of incredible accomplishments! Notably, he played at the "Perfect Game World Series" at the Select Baseball Fest over the summer.

Mule, a standout member of the PCTVS varsity baseball team, was ranked the #1 baseball player in New Jersey and #13 in the United States. He was selected for the USA Baseball National team and was awarded the honor of MVP Pitcher of a Perfect Game in the 14u World Series and also was named MVP of the Little League World Series in Texas.

Additionally, he was named Varsity Pitcher of the Week three times and was the 2019 Perfect Game MVP 5 Tool Player. Notably, Nazier's 94 mph throw earned him a tied spot for the hardest 14-year-old thrower in the nation!

Congratulations to Nazier on all of your impressive accomplishments!



Ice Hockey Joins the PCTVS Athletic Program!

Get ready to cheer for another exciting sport on campus! The newest addition to the athletic program is Ice Hockey, led by Head Coach Andrew Frey and Assistant Coach Lukas Cannarozzi. We look forward to cheering on the Bulldogs as they take the ice!



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Layout, design and printing / PCTI Graphic Arts
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LPN Class of 2019 Graduation

Congratulations to the LPN Class of 2019! On August 1st, 48 Licensed Practical Nurses graduated from the Day and Evening LPN programs.

The Passaic County Technical Institute's Education Foundation presented students with special scholarships and held a special giveaway in which two LPN graduates won iPads to support continued academic success.

LPN Coordinator Noreen Frodella (RN, BSN) and fellow instructors presented graduates with pins and diplomas. Additionally, students showed their gratitude for retiring LPN instructor Sharyn Boyle, M.S.N., R.N., B.C.

Congratulations to all graduates!

