

The RV Buzz

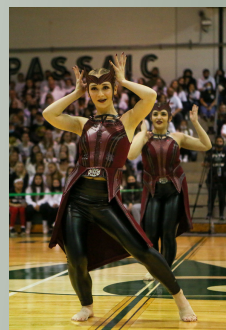
An Official PVRHS Publication



The Buzz | Winter 2022

Girls Show 2022

THE SHOW MUST GO ON



The White Flag Rises After an Unforgettable Girls' Show

On Friday, February 25, after an incredibly close competition, the 77th annual Girls' Show ended with a white flag rising for the night. This year, the White Team claimed victories in Cheer, Exercise (X), Dance, Novelties and Relays, and the Green Team took home the flag for Posters. From the exceptional routines to the athleticism and sportsmanship of the participants, audiences were blown away by the variety this year's Girls' Show brought. Regardless of the results, all participants were successful in showing the time and dedication put into the event on the floor that night, reminding everyone of the tenacity and commitment that keeps the Girls' Show tradition going.





ENHANCING PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Superintendent's Ambassadors are an elite group of Passaic Valley Regional High School students in grades 9-12. The PVSA program will support the district's vision, mission and goals through student input and participation in areas that impact academic performance, learning environment, involvement in activities, and overall student experience at Passaic Valley.

"It was a very competitive process with over 85 students submitting applications and several teachers involved in the selection process" said Mr. Healy. The individuals that were selected for this committee meet with the Superintendent monthly to collaborate and share ideas, providing students with a voice. The Passaic Valley Superintendent' Ambassadors committee will help shape the future of PVRHS.

Congratulations to this year's Superintendent Ambassadors:

- Grade 12: Jenna Anevski, Chyna Sinclair, Jessier Soriano
- Grade 11: Katherine Cottone, Sophia Guarente, Leith Matari
- Grade 10: Damian Kribs, Kaiden Rodriguez and Ali Stefanelli
- Grade 9: Kacey DiPasquale, Ayden Mulroony, A'Meire Simpson

PV PAINT NIGHT

On three separate nights the staff, students, and community members volunteered to help brighten the hallways of PV with a fresh coat of paint.

Superintendent Healy believes that it is important for students to be a part of the positive culture we are building here at PV. The purpose of the three day event, was to encourage greater interaction with others who are committed to the school and reinforce a reason to be academically motivated. There was a huge outpour of support with over 150 volunteers for the project.



14 DAYS OF ACTION / SANDY HOOK PROMISE



Passaic Valley joined Sandy Hook Promise in commemorating the ninth remembrance of the 26 lives lost on 12/14/12 at Sandy Hook Elementary School's mass shooting tragedy. **We are dedicated to raising awareness of the warning signs and empower our students to speak up and make a positive impact in each others' lives.** During the first two weeks of December we participated in Sandy Hook's 14 Days of Action Challenge. Senior Mentor Advisors, Ms. Vigilante and Ms. Morris planned 14 days of activities to help get the whole district involved. We dedicated a tree in the front lawn of PV to the Sandy Hook Promise and wore PV colors to show our loyalty. Passaic Valley is proud to take meaningful actions to honor the precious lives taken – and every life taken by gun violence – and help prevent another tragedy.

ON-SITE ADMISSION DAY



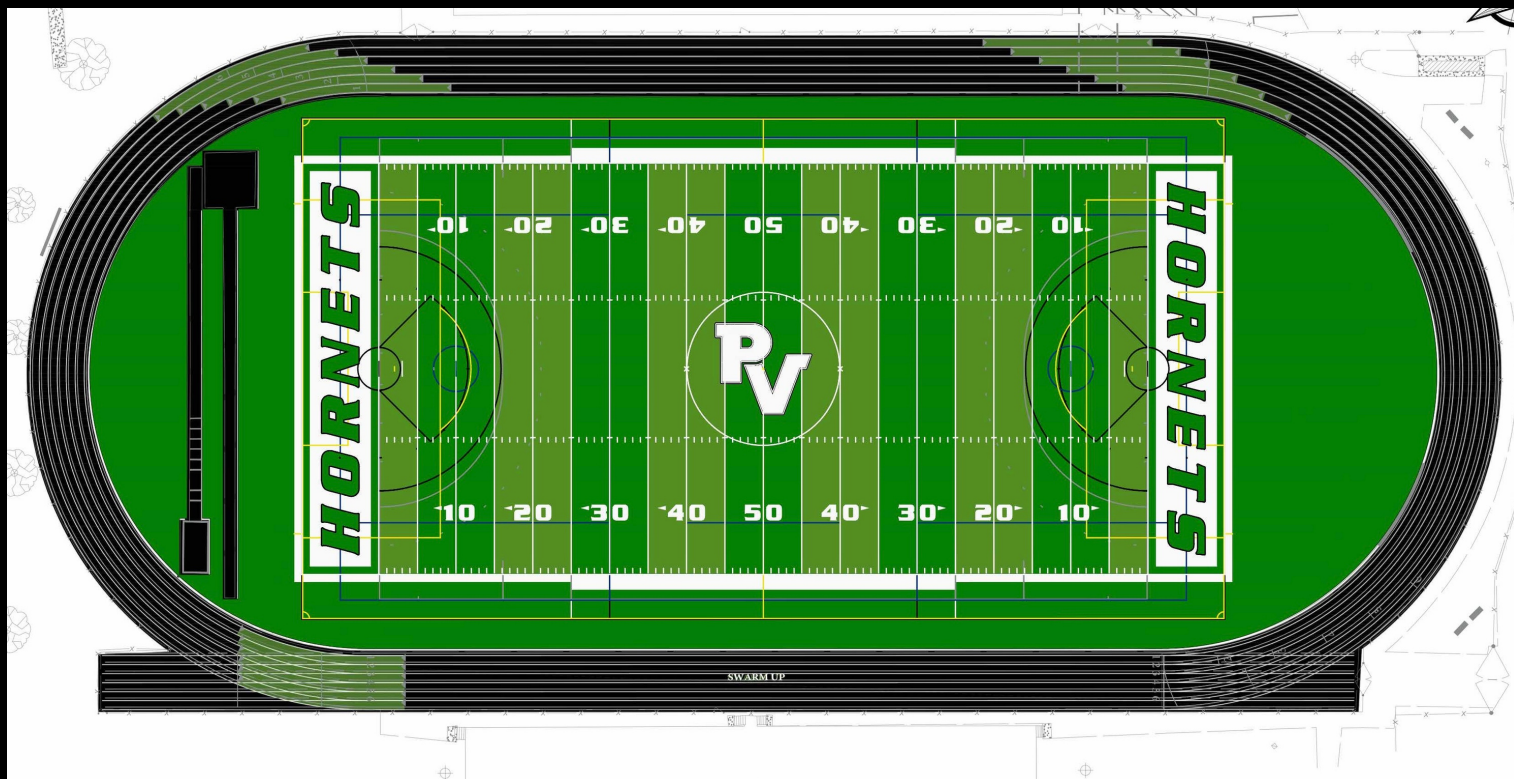
On-Site Admission Day for seniors was on Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Admissions representatives from 14 New Jersey colleges/universities reviewed applications, interviewed each senior individually, and made an admission decision that day. Passaic Valley had 52 students participate, 134 acceptances, 19 pending acceptances and 4 waitlisted, as well as 52 scholarships awarded adding up to \$590,000. Congratulations to all! The time, hard work and dedication students put into their education is especially noticed on days like this.

PV BREAKS GROUND INTO A NEW ERA

On February 11, 2022 Passaic Valley officially broke ground on our new turf field and track project. We are excited to provide our students, staff and community a state-of-the-art facility for all to enjoy. Our administration and Board of Education is committed to ensuring that our students receive the best educational experience possible. Our attention to academic programming, student activities and facilities will continue to be a major focus as we move into a new era at Passaic Valley. In the past, the field would be unusable for days after rain. "The field is rendered useless and unavailable for weeks on end because of the mud that results from it," Mr. Healy said. However, with a turf field, sports activities can be continued even after inclement weather.



Not only will there be a new turf field, Mr. Healy shared on Instagram that lights will be installed surrounding the field. "Friday night games will bring younger generations and parents who are interested in seeing them play under the lights," Mr. Benvenuti said. If all goes to plan, construction will be finished in May 2022. "This is a huge project for us, not only for our athletes but for all the students and members of this proud community," Mr. Healy commented. Mr. Healy has advised many changes and renovations at PV since he started, his goal is to make this a proud place to be, where students want to learn and teachers want to teach.

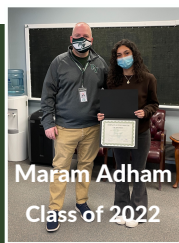


WINTER HORNETS OF THE MONTH

Academic Spotlight



Ava is a devoted student of literature who strives to think critically and analyze deeply. Her written expression is excellent, and she revises extensively, constantly growing as a writer.



Maram is one of the strongest students in AP Literature and Composition. Her writing is always clear and articulate and shows her strong, analytic thought. In class, she consistently participates in discussions, and there are moments when her teacher feels she can just turn class over to her and the focus of the discussion would be in good hands. She deeply cares about the quality of her work and her intense focus on her academic success is commendable.



Sophia is an outstanding student. She brings the same spirit of competition and perseverance to the classroom that she brings to the varsity softball field. She brings an element of fun and positivity to everything she participates in.



Willa has over a 100% in Honors Geometry and has maintained an A average throughout the first half of the school year. Willa takes pride in her studies. As a result, she is excelling in all of her other classes, including three additional honors courses. Willa's positive demeanor is contagious and helps to foster a positive classroom environment. She is an absolute pleasure to have in class.



Amani has an amazing work ethic. She faces her challenges, pays attention to detail and seeks out help when she needs it. She always stays on top of her assignments and performs above average on her assessments.

Character Spotlight



Haifa is a very kind Hornet. She goes out of her way to say hello to each of her classmates while leaving nobody out. If someone makes a mistake in class she puts a positive twist on it to ensure that they don't feel bad about their mistake, even if its against popular opinion.



Gabrielle is a Valley Echo reporter, and known for her professionalism while conducting interviews. She shows great interest in her writing and is an absolute pleasure to work with. Her competence and friendly demeanor will absolutely have great things ahead for her!

Athletics Spotlight



Katharine was the North 2 Group 2 State Sectional runner up, breaking a 19 year drought of having a lady hornet make it to the Group Championship meet. Katharine leads the ladies with class and poise. She has solidified herself as one of the all time Best Lady Hornet runners!



Connor took first place at the opening day Mahwah Wrestling Tournament on December 18th. He also took third place at the toughest Region in NJ and represented the Hornets in Atlantic City for the 2022 NJSIAA State Championships.



Amean is a committed and hardworking student. His easy-going personality exudes kindness and genuineness. Amean conducts himself with integrity and respect for others as well as for himself.



Noah has stepped up tremendously in the past month as a senior member of choir, he has been in choir since Freshman year and has continued to grow leaps and bounds each year. He has voluntarily took on the role of Music Librarian, and is an excellent example for all students.



Jessier is a Conference & County champion. During the Passaic County meet on January 17th Jessier competed and won the 800 meter race; running 1:58.24 breaking the Passaic Valley Winter Track record. He was voted North Jersey Track Athlete of the Week the week of January 17th. Currently Jessier sits number 3 in the State for 800 meters.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Box Office Hit FOR THEATER ARTS ALUMNI JESS LEPROTTO

Jess LeProtto, graduated from Passaic Valley Regional High School in 2011. His interest in singing and dancing began at the age of five, and only grew from there. He has lived up to his Valley Green Ambition that read: "To become a Broadway performer and Choreographer". Jess' success and extensive list of credits/roles is profound. His Broadway credits include "The Boy From Oz", "How the Grinch Stole Christmas", "Bye Bye Birdie", "Newsies", "On The Town", "Cats", "Hello Dolly", and "Carousel". He also made the Top 8 of the hit TV show "So You Think You Can Dance", Season 8. Other notable credits include, performing with the notorious comedian, Jimmy Fallon for MTV's Music Awards, appearances on Law and Order SVU, and performing in "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular".

His most recent success was his leading role as A-Rab in the new West Side Story movie!

His passion and tenacity is contagious. We are so grateful for the depth of support the Passaic Valley Drama Club receives from Jess. Every year he returns to his Alma Mater to choreograph and coach the Drama Club in preparation for the play auditions. His generous gifts of time, talent and expertise help our students follow their dreams and reach their goals.



Billy Pinckney
Billy The Batboy's Corner

Billy The Batboy

Billy Pickney graduated from Passaic Valley in 2020, he studies Sports Communication at MSU and has risen admirably to the recent challenges of the pandemic. Billy has been conducting sports interviews since he was 13 years old. He is presently, a Digital Creator and the Founder/Owner of Batboy Productions LLC, a sports/business video production company. He produces, Sports and Entertainment Interviews as well as intro videos for businesses and facilities. Some of his latest work includes sports interviews with New York Mets Pitcher, Jake Reed and New York Giants Legend, OJ Anderson. Stay connected and see where this promising alumni goes next by following him on all media platforms: Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, TikTok | @billythebatboy YouTube: Billy Pinckney | Billy the Batboy

PV CLASS OF 2000 MIKE DELUCCIA AND ERIN WILKS NAMED EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

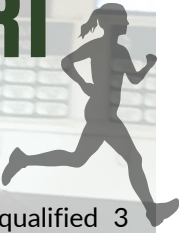


Congratulations to our outstanding professionals! Nominated by their respected colleagues, both Mike and Erin are honored to receive such a nostalgic award. PV Pride runs deep in both awardees, "I am so touched to have the privilege of sharing this exciting time with my dear friend, and fellow PV class of 2000 alum, Mike DeLuccia" shared Wilks on Facebook.

Passaic Valley Regional High School is proud to announce Mr. Michael DeLuccia and Mrs. Erin Wilks as the 2021-2022 awardees for Governor's Educator of the Year and Governor's Educational Specialist of the Year!



SPORTS REPORT



IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A HORNET



Wrestling won their second straight Big North Independence Division Title. The team was able to accomplish a back to back undefeated division record in capturing their 2nd straight title.

Connor Kerwin and PJ Casale are Passaic County Champions, both student athletes collected first period pins in their championship match. PJ Casale also earned his 100th Career Victory in the last Home match of the season. PJ and Connor represented the Hornets and wrestled hard at the NJSIAA State Tournament in Atlantic City, PJ Casale took home 2nd Place!!

Ice Hockey had a shutout victory over rival Clifton and the team battled all season long. Clifton, Cedar Grove and Passaic Valley will be part of a co-op next year which will help strengthen our program!

Track and Field had strong showings in both the Big North and Passaic County Championships. Jessier Soriano became the Big North and Passaic County Champion in the 800 Meter race.

He set a new school record and became the North Jersey Track Athlete of the Week. Tavi Victoria won the 55 Meter Hurdles race at the Big North Meet. Anthony Scielzo was the 400 Meter Champion at the Big North meet. Finally, the PV 4x800 team consisting of Gawad Alhau, Leith Matari, Basell Dahan and Jessier Soriano won the Gold at the Big North meet.

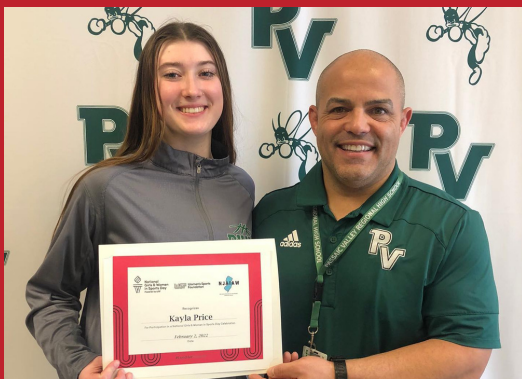
Fencing our PVHS Fencing team qualified 3 student athletes for the medal rounds of the Passaic County Meet. Erin Riley and Michael Hearney placed 2nd and Eduardo Rivera placed 6th.

Boys' & Girls' Basketball programs had fantastic seasons. Boys basketball finished with 16 wins for the season. Girls Basketball finished with 12 wins - both teams qualified for the NJSIAA State Tournament Playoffs as #9 seeds.



On January 18, 2022, Senior, Brian Whitney, scored his 1,000th point in an 85-63 win over West Milford! Brian is only the 7th player in PV history to reach this milestone and is a First Team all County and All League player.

NATIONAL GIRLS & WOMEN IN SPORTS AWARDEE KAYLA PRICE



February 2, 2022, was the 36th annual National Girls & Women in Sports Day (NGWSD). It is with great excitement and pride that we announce Kayla Price, for being selected as the NGWSD recipient for PV. The NGWSD movement, highlights the confidence, strength and character that women gain through sports participation and inspire them to become strong leaders in sports and life. Congratulations, Kayla! You are very deserving of this prestigious honor.



PJ Casale dominated at the NJSIAA Region 2 Wrestling Tournament, taking home first place at the toughest region in New Jersey. He wrestled hard at the NJSIAA State Tournament in Atlantic City and is currently ranked second in the state and third nationally. PJ will be attending Rutgers University on a full athletic scholarship.

PV TAKES HOME BEST PLAY AT STANJ 2022



On February 11, 2022, PV Theater Arts Students earned the title, Best Play for the Fall Play production of *La Gringa* at the 2022 STANJ Governor's Awards for Theatre Arts Competition! Congratulations to Pia Vanderstreet as the director, as well as the entire cast and crew. These students truly love what they do, they are super dedicated and work so hard to put on a great performance! Outstanding job by all. Passaic Valley is very proud to promote excellence in the study and teaching of Communication and Theatre Arts.

Coming
Soon



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Charles Cathcart / Commissioner
Giovanni D'Ambrosio / Commissioner
Raymond Luke Damiano / Commissioner
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Krista Voorhis / Vice Principal
David Settembre / Assistant Principal
Adam Christopher / Assistant Principal
Joseph Benvenuti / Supervisor of Athletics, PE & Health
Mario Gaita / Supervisor of Building & Grounds
Chet Parlavecchio / Dean of Students
Christopher Clementi / Network & Computer Coordinator

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