



# STEEL VALLEY NEWSLETTER

District News • Stories • Events

## April 2023

---



The Steel Valley Drama Club invited guests to become part of their world for a few days this past weekend, as they brought Disney's "The Little Mermaid" to the Steel Valley High School stage.

One of Disney's most celebrated films, "The Little Mermaid" was adapted into a Broadway musical in 2007 and expands on the memorable music from the original film. Steel Valley's production starred Brenna Kern as Ariel, the mermaid daughter of King Triton (Ryan Packer). Ariel is fascinated by the world above and a chance encounter with Prince Eric (Randy Keller) tempts her to give away her voice in the pursuit of true love.

SV Drama's production featured Lawson Carter as Grimsby, Shatterra Meadows as Flounder, Theo Coyne as Scuttle, Madison Blasko as Sebastian, Breanne Francis as Ursula, Alaina Hanley as Flotsam, Layla Rager as Jetsam, and Packer in a dual role as Chef Louis.

The ensemble featured Faith Paulus, Rebekah Klieber, Ashley Bulger, Kylie Kern, Skylar Fitzgerald, Morgan Schempp, Xavier Abdullah, Paige Perhacs, Andy Diep, Effie Seidling, Josie Strom, Loki Brown, Peter Bos and Sunny Clark.

[Check out some of the photos below and the full gallery on the district website.](#)



## STEEL VALLEY SPOTLIGHT

# STEEL VALLEY COMMUNITY MEETING



**Wednesday, April 12**

7 p.m. – Barrett Gym

Ever wonder what it's like to be a Steel Valley student in 2023? Join us as **members from the Class of 2023** share their thoughts and experiences on the academic, athletic and creative opportunities in the district.

This is a unique window into what it takes to be a Steel Valley student and potentially brainstorm ideas to enhance and improve their experience.

Board members and administrators will be on hand to answer questions and share additional district news.







Let's Move Pittsburgh and the Phipps Conservatory is inviting Steel Valley School District families to the Champion Community Showcase on Tuesday, April 4 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Steel Valley Grows Garden and associated programs in the district have benefited from grants and programs like Let's Move Pittsburgh. This is an opportunity to learn more some of those programs as well as explore Phipps Conservatory after hours. Registration is free. You can register at <https://3989p.blackbaudhosting.com/3989p/Champion-Communities-Showcase-04Apr2023-12>

## Barrett Elementary News



In recognition of St. Patrick's Day, Mrs. Catterall's math class opened up some boxes of Lucky Charms to help them do a little problem solving and graphing. Who said math couldn't be fun - and tasty!

Kindergarten registration is ongoing at Barrett. Registration packets can be

picked up at the school office or by stopping by the registrar's office at the Franklin Administration Building at 220 East Oliver Road in Munhall. Registering your student early allows the district to plan for your child's kindergarten experience.

This month, Barrett students will have a chance to use their Bear Paws to win raffle baskets. The raffle will last from April 11 to April 28. To celebrate Earth Day on April 21, students can turn in 20 Bear Paws to buy an Earth Day planting kit. The 21st is also the Special Person and Me dance.

Third and fourth graders will undergo PSSA English and Language Arts testing on April 24, 25 and 26. The first week of May will include PSSA Math testing for third and fourth graders on May 1 and May 2 and PSSA Science testing for fourth graders on May 3 and May 4.

On May 5, kindergartners will have a magic show at 1 p.m.

The Strong Women, Strong Girls group visited the University of Pittsburgh recently. The group worked with SWSG mentors and participated in a lot of different activities, including making some slime with the chemistry club and some dance moves with the Pitt dance team.



The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be making a stop at Steel Valley High School from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Monday, April 24. The Care Mobile offers medical care to children throughout the Pittsburgh area and will be available for families in the Steel Valley community with this visit to the high school. The Care Mobile can provide immunizations, routine physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses in children, adolescent and youth adult health care, referrals for specialty care, and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) form assistance.

All of the services are provided at no out-of-pocket cost to families. Anyone interested in stopping by the Care Mobile should make sure they arrive by 1:30 p.m. on April 24 in order to register in time. The Care Mobile is a collaboration between UPMC Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Pittsburgh and Morgantown. Anyone in need of more information before the visit can call 412-352-1059



## Park Elementary News



Students in the Middle School Expect Respect Team stopped by Park during March as part of the 3Rs program through the University of Pittsburgh and The Pittsburgh Study. The middle school students read Natasha Anastasia Tarpley's "The Me I Choose To Be" with third and fourth graders. Park students also created a class poster with their hand prints and the message "We can change the world."

The second graders used all sorts of techniques and tools to learn new things during March. They used sky writing to help them memorize sight words and also used multisensory approaches to learn explicit systemic phonics. Both techniques help develop their reading, writing and language skills. Second graders also had a hands-on experience with science, as they experimented with magnets to learn how the poles repel and attract objects. They learned what types of objects are magnetic and how some metals are stronger than others.

Third and fourth graders will undergo PSSA English and Language Arts testing on April 24, 25 and 26. Kindergartners will take a field trip to the Trust Arts Educational Center on Thursday, April 27.

The first week of May will include PSSA Math testing for third and fourth graders on May 1 and May 2 and PSSA Science testing for fourth graders on May 3 and May 4.



## Middle School News



On March 21, the middle school students participated in Rock Your Socks Day-World Down Syndrome Day. The students learned more about Down syndrome, including a simulation of what it's like to experience the fine motor skill and speech delays that are common with Down syndrome. The school also took part in a "best socks" contest. Student winners were Landon Hurd and Hannah Lesser, while the staff winner was Mrs. Katie MacDonald.

On St. Patrick's Day, the Stand Together team took the time to remind their peers that 1 in 4 teens suffer from a mental illness. The group hosted activities during lunch and decorated every fourth locker. Along with other activities, students who played PLINKO or spun the prize wheel during lunch earned a prize with a special message attached.

Geologist Mr. Ben Furrick stopped by in March to share his collection of rocks and slides and to demonstrate the difference between sedimentary and igneous



rocks. Students had a chance to examine the slides through microscopes and feel the difference in weight and texture between various rocks.

Sixth graders visited the Carnegie Science Center on March 17 as part of Sci-Tech Day. Students explored the Science Center and met with panelists from Carnegie Mellon, IAM Robotics, the Federal Reserve Bank, Duquesne University and other fields to talk about what they do and their career paths.

Middle school students will take the English and Language Arts PSSA test on April 24, 25 and 26. They will take the Math PSSA on May 1 and May 2. Students will report to school at the normal time and be dismissed at 1:10 p.m. during those five days of PSSA testing. Eighth graders will take the Science PSSA test on May 3 and May 4. School will operate on a normal schedule on those days.



## High School News



Officers in SADD attended the Second Annual Tobacco Resistance Unit (TRU) Conference in Irwin on March 17. TRU works to stop youth tobacco use and promotes mental and physical health. The theme of the conference was mental health and included a presentation from Jordan Corcoran of Listen Lucy, who visited Steel Valley earlier this school year. Seniors Brenna Kern and Breanne Francis made a video about the negative effects of flavored e-cigarettes and had it shown at the conference as part of a public service announcement contest.

Alexis Palucis, Charles Wallace and Connor Brady were named Students of the Month for April at the Steel Center for Career and Technical Education. Alexis was recognized in the field of Advertising and Design, Charles earned recognition in Building Trades, and Connor was recognized in the Veterinary Assistant field.

The boys basketball team's season came to a close in the second round of the state playoffs. The boys finished with a 16-11 record, including a third place finish in the WPIAL and the section championship. Senior Makhai Valentine averaged over 36 points per game to finish as one of the top scorers in the WPIAL and become the all-time leading scorer in Steel Valley history. He was also named the Pittsburgh Union Progress Boys Basketball Player of the Year.

Prom tickets are on sale through April 5. Prom is Friday, May 5 at Stratigos Banquet Centre. For tickets and more information, please see Ms. Bowden.



Stay up to date with what's happening on our social media accounts! The district has a Twitter account and Instagram account, as well as individual Facebook pages for each of our four schools. Click the respective icons at the bottom of the newsletter to make sure you're following us!





---

*Copyright © 2023 Steel Valley School District.  
All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

Steel Valley School District  
220 E. Oliver Rd. Homestead, PA 15120

To submit information for the newsletter, please email: [communications@steelvalleysd.org](mailto:communications@steelvalleysd.org)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).