



Ms. McQuillan wins Klopp Exemplary Teacher Award

by Riddhi Doshi

Every year Cedar Crest College, a local higher education institution, presents the Klopp Exemplary Teacher Award to an educator in the Lehigh Valley who best exemplifies a devotion to quality in education; the ability to focus on each student's strengths and help them reach their full potential. This year Cedar Crest College presented this prestigious award to Parkland's very own Ms. McQuillan.

Ms. McQuillan has been a teacher at Parkland for five years, teaching English to applied sophomores and juniors. She is also the assistant coach for the girls' varsity soccer team. Even with all that, she still finds time to help run the Trojan Pak. She is described as compassionate, benevolent and enthusiastic about teaching students whether they are freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors.

In order to be an eligible nominee for the Klopp Exemplary Teacher Award, the teacher must be nominated by a district administrator. Any elementary or secondary teacher is eligible to win the award. Parkland's administrators get a letter every year from Cedar Crest College that notifies them about the award. Once this happens all the district's administrators get together and discuss who should be nominated. A few of the characteristics that a nominee

must possess include: a devotion to quality education; the ability to focus on each student's strengths; a commitment to helping a student achieve their full potential; a concern for students that extend beyond the classroom; outstanding service to the school and community and dedication to helping colleagues. Mrs. Barthold is the administrator that



Ms. McQuillan poses with Assistant Principal Mrs. Barthold and the presenters.

recommended Ms. McQuillan for this award.

This year all the teachers and administrators wanted to surprise Ms. McQuillan by throwing her a surprise party in honor of her winning the award. Everyone stood outside in the hall waiting for each other, and once everyone was there, they all walked in with gifts, food and outstandingly large cake. She told *The Trumpet* that a few teachers congratulated her the day before and even though they

backtracked quickly, she suspected something was happening. In spite of this Ms. McQuillan said, "Winning the award was really unexpected. It was an honor to have simply been nominated by Parkland, but I was speechless when I found out that I had actually won."

Though she was not always set in stone about becoming a teacher she said, "Teaching has always been in my top three

or four choices since I was little."

Ms. McQuillan admitted that a big part of her wanted to get involved in sports medicine, but she knew that it would be extremely time consuming which would not allow her to become a coach. Being a coach is something that has always been important to her. In the end, Ms. McQuillan feels that she made the right choice by becoming

photo by Riddhi Doshi

a teacher. "I really like working with high schoolers," she said.

At her surprise party Ms. McQuillan was awarded a plaque and a marble apple with the award title and the year engraved on it. When asked Mrs. Barthold said, "There was one sentence in my letter that I believed summarized our nomination: 'She gives 100% every day, not for recognition or reward, but because she believes that teaching is honorable and necessary work.'"

Trooper's Corner: Cyber Bullying

by James Raykovits

"Cyber bullying" is when a child, preteen or teen is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed or otherwise targeted by another child, preteen or teen using the internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones.

Cyber bullying may arise to the level of a misdemeanor harassment charge, or if the child is young enough may result in the charge of juvenile delinquency.

EXAMPLES:

Flaming. Online fights using electronic messages with angry and vulgar language. Harassment. Repeatedly sending nasty, mean, and insulting messages. Denigration. "Dissing" someone online. Sending or posting gossip or rumors about a person to damage his or her reputation or friendships. Impersonation. Pretending to be someone else and sending or posting material to get that person in trouble or danger or to damage that person's reputation or friendships. Outing. Sharing someone's secrets or embarrassing information or images online. Trickery. Tricking someone into revealing secrets or embarrassing information, then sharing it online. Cyber stalking. Repeated, intense harassment and denigration that includes threats or creates significant fear.

What you should understand about cyber bullying is that whenever you use electronic communications you are leaving traces—"cyber-footprints" that lead right back to you. Eventually, people will be able to figure out who you are and hold you accountable for the harm you have caused. A good rule to follow is "if you wouldn't want certain information about yourself disseminated, don't send out that information regarding another individual." Cyber bullying statistics show that the affect this abuse has on victims can be devastating. Cyber victimization has been shown to cause poor grades, emotional spirals, poor self-esteem, repeated school absences, depression, and in some cases suicide. These outcomes are similar to real life bullying outcomes, except for that with cyber bullying there is often no escape. School ends at 3 p.m., while the internet is open for business year round. The long-term impact of cyber bullying is greater than with traditional bullying. Digital images, cell phones and other electronic means can greatly increase the speed in which the bully's messages can spread. Remember, once something is put out into the cyber world it cannot be brought back! It's like firing a gun; once the trigger is pulled, the bullet can't be stopped!

* Students if you have a question or concerns that you would like us to address, please bring it to the attention of a faculty member. Remember we want to give you information that you need to know.

International Student Assembly, continued

by Sahar Khan

These students included Li Ling Liu from China, Niral Modi from India, Narumol Charoencharatkun from Thailand, Parth Patel from India, Ji Soo Kang from South Korea, Kushal Patel from India, Hanna Tuerk from Germany and Ahmed from Bangladesh.

Among the students, Herr Edward Quinter was in the presentation as well. He had lived in Switzerland last year as an exchange teacher. Herr Quinter wore a tie representing Switzerland with cheese, the flag, chocolate and cow spots. Herr Quinter talked about the hand-shaking tradition in Swiss schools. Basically everyone must shake hands with each other while making an eye contact and addressing each other by name. This process made learning names easy.

He said in his presentation, "I taught in the middle school. Most classes had about 20 kids, and I knew all of the faculty well and most of the students by name in just one year."

Quinter ended the assembly with the advice that one should,

exchange program and goes to a foreign country, they learn a great deal about

the culture of that nation. However, by them sharing the language, culture, daily life and values of their nation, they are able to enrich the lives of others. The assembly allows for them to share all of this with a great number of people all at once," said senior Chris Peter, another one

photo by Katie Sheinberg

Madame Smith begins the assembly with an introduction about the exchange program.



"Travel, travel and travel some more."

The International Student Assembly helped everyone get acquainted with the new students and learn new cultures. Also, it encouraged everyone to get to know them better and spend time with them.

"When one student engages in an

of the assembly's presenters.

Parkland High School has a very diverse group of students on campus. One should take advantage of this and try to discover more about other countries and cultures by befriending each other.