

# Pemberton Pride

The Newsletter of Pemberton Township Schools

July, 2024

## NINE PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS DESIGNATED AS PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS

All nine Pemberton Township Schools have received the Purple Star School designation from the New Jersey Department of Education. These schools were recognized for their commitment to serving military students and their families.

The rigorous criteria to achieve this designation includes providing programs and services to help accommodate military-connected students. This includes available training for faculty and staff members to help ease military-connected students into a new school environment.

The Purple Star School designation is valid for three years. Each school can

apply for renewal in spring of 2027.

"We are honored to be recognized by the state of New Jersey for our commitment to serving our military community," Jeff Havers, superintendent of Pemberton Township Schools, said. "Our district takes pride in supporting our military students and their families with various programs tailored to their needs. It is a distinct privilege that Pemberton Township Schools has maintained in serving military families for over 100 years."



*The Purple Star School designation is awarded by the New Jersey Department of Education and recognizes schools committed to serving military-connected students and their families.*

## Two Pemberton Township High School Students Named 2024 Career and Technical Education Student Scholars

2024 Pemberton Township High School graduates Oscar Chavez Guillen and Tori Penon were selected as 2024 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Scholars. This is a State of New Jersey recognition program that highlights exemplary CTE student achievements across the state.

Both students were ranked in the top 5% of the Class of 2024 at Pemberton Township High School. The duo demonstrated a high level of achievement and completed the state recognized, Medical/Clinical

Assistant Career and Technical Program offered by PTHS. Each student earned the Medical Assistance Certification through industry recognized technical assessments, and also received CTE teacher recommendations.

"We are extremely proud of Oscar and Tori for receiving this prestigious honor," Jeff Havers, superintendent of Pemberton Township Schools, said. "Both students took advantage of the career and technical education opportunities offered at PTHS."



*From left to right, PTHS Health Occupations Teacher Elisabeth McCartney, PTHS seniors Oscar Chavez Guillen and Tori Penon, and PTHS principal Jermaine Blount pose for a photo after Chavez Guillen and Penon received recognition as Career and Technical Education Student Scholars by the state of New Jersey.*



You can get there from here!

Pemberton Learning Community: Pursuing Excellence One Child at a Time

# CONGRATULATIONS PTHS TOP 12!



RYDER HUBBS

**Rank: 1**

**Activities:** Robotics and Engineering Club, Math Club

**Awards:** Maurice and Dorothy Gower Memorial Scholarship Recipient, Excellence in Engineering, Student Spotlight of Success

**Future Plans:** Rider University, Computer Science



CHRISTOPHER HAINES

**Rank: 2**

**Activities:** National Honor Society, STEM Academy, Class of 2024 Vice President, Mr. Pemberton, Student Council Sports Liaison, Travel Club, Baseball, Swimming

**Awards:** Perfect Attendance Award, Maurice and Dorothy Gower Memorial Scholarship Recipient

**Future Plans:** Rowan College at Burlington County, Criminal Justice



NIKOLAUS RYDER

**Rank: 3**

**Activities:** Robotics and Engineering Club, Math Team, 2024 Class Board, Swim Team, National Honor Society

**Awards:** National Hispanic Recognition Award, National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award, Student Spotlight of Success

**Future Plans:** Rowan University, Chemical Engineering



LILY ISRAEL

**Rank: 4**

**Activities:** Pemberton's Got Talent, Black History Club Fashion Show, Green and White Night Captain, Track, Field Hockey

**Awards:** National African American Recognition Award, National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award, English Award, Coaches Award

**Future Plans:** Howard University, Computer Science



MORENA DITARANTO

**Rank: 5**

**Activities:** Marching Band, Student Ambassador, Habitat for Humanity, Boys Tennis Manager

**Awards:** STEM Award

**Future Plans:** Rowan University, Environmental Science



MADISON MANGAS

**Rank: 6**

**Activities:** National Honor Society, L.O.C.K. Club, Student Tutor, Girls Soccer, Softball, Wrestling Manager

**Awards:** Science Award, Scholar Athlete

**Future Plans:** Rowan College at Burlington County, Biology

# LOOKING TOWARD A BRIGHT FUTURE!



OSCAR CHAVEZ GUILLEN

**Rank: 7**

**Activities:** Art Club, Homecoming, Math Club, Medical Arts Academy, Health Occupation Students of America, Boys Tennis

**Awards:** Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Scholars

**Future Plans:** Rowan College at Burlington County, Biology



ELIZABETH MADRIGAL-GUILLEN

**Rank: 8**

**Activities:** Medical Arts Academy

**Awards:** Medical Arts Academy Award

**Future Plans:** Rowan University, Psychology



TORI PENON

**Rank: 9**

**Activities:** National Honor Society, JROTC, 2024 Class Board, Field Hockey

**Awards:** Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Scholars

**Future Plans:** Rowan University, Medicine



KINU FREEMAN

**Rank: 10**

**Activities:** National Honor Society, Student Ambassador, Pemberton's Got Talent, Black History Club Fashion Show, Mr. Pemberton Host, Future Farmers of America, Holiday Variety Show, Cheer, Track

**Awards:** French Award, English Award

**Future Plans:** Johnson and Wales University, Hospitality



EVELYN MORAN

**Rank: 11**

**Activities:** Class President, Student Council V.P., FBLA, Robotics and Engineering, Morning Buzz, National Honor Society V.P., Pemberton Players, Math Team, Softball, Field Hockey, Swim Team, Homecoming Queen

**Awards:** Coaches Award, Scholar Athlete, STEM Academy Award

**Future Plans:** University of New Haven, Chemistry, Biomedical Engineering



KRISTAL THOMSON

**Rank: 12**

**Activities:** Travel Club, Habitat for Humanity, Student Ambassador, Boys Tennis Manager

**Awards:** Maurice and Dorothy Gower Memorial Scholarship Recipient, Browns Mills Improvement Association Civic Volunteerism Recognition Award

**Future Plans:** Rowan College at Burlington County, Dental Hygiene

# Congratulations Class of 2024!



## HELEN A. FORT EIGHTH GRADE AWARDS CEREMONIES!



# NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AT PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS



Members of the Pemberton Township Police Department visited schools throughout the district and participated in events for National Police Week.

The initiative is an annual occurrence that includes interactive events designed to honor and thank America's law enforcement community. President Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day in 1962. As a result, National Police Week was established by a joint resolution of Congress in the same year. The week occurs annually during the calendar week in which May 15th falls. National Police Week pays recognition to those that perished in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

The week kicked off with local officers visiting Pemberton Township High School to play volleyball with physical education classes. The students emerged victorious in numerous games.

The week continued with a celebratory event at Stackhouse Elementary School. Students lined up in the hallways with thank you signs and customized hats

and applauded the officers as they strolled through the hallways throughout the school. Officers also visited classrooms to read books to the students.

The week continued with similar activities at the Pemberton Early Childhood Education Center. Members of the P.T.P.D. interacted with students at the school's outdoor learning lab, and also read books and drew pictures with students.

We thank our local law enforcement members for their commitment to our community. Pemberton Pride!



*Pemberton Township Police Chief Jon Glass reads a book to kindergarten students in Mrs. Morrow's class at Joseph S. Stackhouse Elementary School during National Police Week.*

## 41 STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

41 students from Marcus W. Newcomb and Helen A. Fort Middle Schools were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society on May 28th. 35 sixth grade students from Newcomb, and a trio of seventh grade and eighth grade students from Helen Fort were inducted at the 15th annual induction ceremony. Congratulations on a distinguished honor!



▲ Middle school students from Newcomb and Helen Fort recite their pledge to be officially inducted into the National Junior Honor Society at the induction ceremony held in the auditorium at Helen Fort on May 28th.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Inductees

Alicia Arnce	Jack Guerin	Alfred Padilla Melendez
Sofia Bivins	Ameer Hosein	Olivia Petkus
Eric Cartagena	Kouame Kouman	Matthew Preciado Ruiz
Olivia Chen	Cynthia Madrigal Flores	Mackenzie Rahner
Charlieze Cruz	Elysia Malave	Jordin Rodriguez
Lucas Danley	Zuri Mammah	Sophia Salazar
Hector Diaz	Aubrey McIlhenny	Skye Sales
Jackson Fortier	Marlon McKinney	Hunter Sampson
Sonia Goncalves	Rocio Mendoza Farias	Shelby Shifflett
Dakota Grametbauer	Elizabeth Merrifield	Julian Spinks
Madalyn Greenough	Aja Oh	Gracia Thurman
Janeth Guillen		Allison Walkowicz

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Inductees

Leilani Dismukes	Mya Ford	Camila Reyes
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### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Inductees

Margaret Hayden	Naima Johnson	Adrianna Rengifo Thomas
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# PTHS People's Choice Awards



PTHS hosted its annual People's Choice Awards ceremony on May 7th. The tradition was revived by PTHS retiree Joseph Zangaro in the early 2000s. Staff members honored 36 students based on their personality and character in the classroom. Recipients exhibited one or more of the four pillars of character: Empathy, Perseverance, Integrity or Gratitude!

## CAREER DAY AT DENBO-CRICHTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Denbo-Crichton hosted its annual Career Day and Touch-a-Truck Event on May 17th. The occasion welcomed several organizations including Tattooine Body Art, Miller Subaru, A&A Construction and Septic, LLC, Pawsitive Therapy, Riccardo's Italian Restaurant, Burlington Chevrolet, Pinelands Jiu Jitsu, Double Vision Boxing and Jacobstown Volunteer Fire Company. Students participated in numerous hands-on activities and were able to explore different career opportunities!

# SPRING CONCERTS AT PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS



Students from Busansky, Denbo-Crichton, Fort Dix, Helen Fort, Newcomb, Stackhouse and PTHS participated in numerous choral and instrumental shows throughout the month of May as part of the district's annual spring concert series. Fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students collaborated for a massive band and choral concert at Helen Fort on May 23rd. PTHS also hosted two separate shows!

## PTHS Seniors Attend Military Seniors Recognition Night

PTHS seniors Cristian Tarin, Cole McGreevy, Janessa Luk, Lily Israel and Sanai Martindale attended Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst's first annual Military Seniors Recognition Night at Adventure Crossing USA in Jackson, New Jersey along with PTHS principal Jermaine Blount and superintendent Jeff Havers on Friday, May 10th.

The 87th Force Support Squadron School Liaison Program partnered with other members from JBMDL and local organizations to honor children of local military families representing the graduating class of 2024.

The event was sponsored by Gentell, Stillwell-Hansen, Forest Electric, Cardinal Enterprises and Adventure Crossing USA Golf and Entertainment.



*From left to right, PTHS principal Jermaine Blount, PTHS seniors Cristian Tarin, Cole McGreevy, Janessa Luk, Lily Israel, Sanai Martindale, and Pemberton Township Schools superintendent Jeff Havers pose for a photo at JBMDL's first annual Military Seniors Recognition Night.*

# MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS IN PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP

The Pemberton Township High School Choraliers performed at the Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony at Brigadier General William C. Doyle Memorial Cemetery on May 25th. Members of the school's JROTC and choral programs also participated in Pemberton Township's Memorial Day commemorative service at the Browns Mills Firehouse on May 27th. PTHS hosted its annual Memorial Day observance when students returned to school on May 28th.



*Pemberton Pride* is a publication of  
Pemberton Township Schools

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**Roberto Fernandez**

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Assistant Superintendent

**Jannett Pacheco**

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## Lily Israel Named Scholar Athlete

PTHS senior Lily Israel was recognized as a Scholar Athlete by the South Jersey Coaches Association at the organization's annual student-athlete banquet at Auletto's Caterers in Deptford, on May 8th.

The event recognizes athletes from the traditional seven-county South Jersey region for their academic achievement and sportsmanship. The track athlete was selected as the female representative of the Burlington County Scholastic League Patriot Division at the annual banquet for student-athletes.



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