

Dingman-Delaware Middle School – MR. JAMES MITCHELL

- The Dingman-Delaware Middle School Science Olympiad team recently attended the annual competition at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus located in Lehman Township. This is a regional competition that plays host to about 23 schools where teams are given science tasks to complete in a timed format. This year's Dingman-Delaware Middle School team consisted of ten students which competed in a variety of events.
- On Saturday, March 11, 2017, three teams from DDMS competed in the North East PA Regional Odyssey of the Mind Competition held at Pocono Mountain West High School. The Vehicle Team, coached by Mrs. Cindi Stine, solved the problem called "**Catch Us If You Can.**" In this problem the team designed, built, and ran vehicles from a multi-level Parking Garage to a secret meeting place without being stopped. Vehicles traveled different routes to reach the same destination. During their Odyssey, the vehicles did something that prevented them from being followed. The team placed third. Their odyssey ended at Pocono Mountain. The Theatrical Team, coached by Mrs. Karen Wagenhoffer, solved a problem called "**To Be Continued: A Superhero Cliffhanger.**" **In this problem, the team** created and presented a humorous performance about an unexpected superhero that encountered three different situations where it must save creativity in some way. The superhero changed appearance when it displayed its superpowers and went back to blending in with society when not. This team also placed third, ending their odyssey at Pocono Mountain. The Technical Team, coached by Mr. Steven Tarquini, solved the problem called "**Odd-a-Bot.**" In this problem, the team created a humorous story about a family that brings home an "Odd-a-Bot." Instead of being programmed to perform tasks, this Odd-a-Bot robot learned from watching others. The team designed, built, and operated an original robot that demonstrated human characteristics when performing tasks. In the performance, the Odd-a-Bot moved and learned human actions from watching characters perform activities such as household chores, creating art, and dancing. This team also placed third in our region, but won a chance to compete at the Pennsylvania State Finals Competition being held at Moon Area Jr./Sr. High School on Saturday, April 1, 2017 along with 12 other team from DVSD.
- The Tri-State Spelling Bee was an exciting and rewarding event held recently at Dingman-Delaware Middle School's auditorium. There were twenty-three well-prepared contestants from five area schools who battled fiercely to become the area's best speller in 2017. Dingman-Delaware Middle School had five outstanding contestants, of which two remained in the contest into the later rounds. By the end of the event, DDMS placed two students in the top four. Lucas Tusinean, a seventh grader, finished fourth and fellow seventh grade student Paul Guadagni finished number two. Paul demonstrated a high level of skill and confidence and ought to be considered the favorite to win next year's bee. Julian Connaughton of Delaware Valley Middle School was the champion once again and will be heading to Washington, DC for the national finals. Much thanks goes to the parents, grandparents, teachers, support staff, spelling bee committee, and those at DDMS who made all of this possible.
- Eight of the DDMS Gifted students participated in the regional STEM K*Nex competition held at the NCC Monroe Campus on Friday March 3rd. Students had to build and design an amusement park ride that was also powered by a green technology and to track and keep a budget of the pieces that were used. DDMS students began work in late January, submitting designs to teachers, Rachel Goldstein and Anthony Comunale where two teams of four were chosen out of the fourteen Gifted students that submitted designs. One team, with eighth graders Alice Cauchi, Devin Brophy, and Connor LaMarca, and sixth-grader John Nagy, presented the Tilt-A-Hurl, a centrifuge ride powered by the wind. The second team, with seventh-graders Taino Rivera and Toby Shedd, and sixth-graders, James Zayatz and Aracelia Denhalter, created the Mean Green Sightseeing Machine, a large tower that allows visitors to see amazing vistas from the ride, powered by solar panels. The students worked very hard despite snow day setbacks and getting a late start to the designs but are now just awaiting results from the Intermediate Unit who sponsored the event.
- The DDMS Word Warriors participated in the Reading Olympics competition at Easton Area High School on Tuesday, March 28th. Students had to read books from a list of forty-five pre-selected books and answer trivia questions about those books in three competitive rounds. Team Kratz and Team Goldstein competed against 38 other teams, with Team Kratz placing 9th and Team Goldstein placing 17th. Great job teams!
- Fire Drill: March 1, 2017: 2 minutes 20 seconds.