



Tenafly High School's Science - Performing Arts - Library Media Broadcast

Fall 2020 - Winter 2021 Newsletter – by David DiGregorio

SCIENCE

THS Science Research has Three Regeneron Winners!

[Society for Science](#) announced the top 300 scholars in the [Regeneron Science Talent Search](#) 2021, the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. **Kosei Dohi**, **Noam Yakar**, and **Michael Wong**, of Ms. Helen Coyle's Science Research were recognized as 2021 Regeneron STS Scholars. This is the very first time we have had three winners, and we are the only public high school in the state to have accomplished this. Each student receives \$2000 plus \$2000 for each student is given to the school. Congratulations to Kosei, Noam, and Michael, and congratulations to **Ms. Helen Coyle!**

Student Attention in Pandemic

A portion of time was devoted to students' attention in a recent departmental meeting. Instructors were holding attention of their students during class in some very innovative ways. **Ms. Anat Firnberg's** exploding pumpkin kept her chemistry class in a delighted anticipation.



In an email, **Ms. Aparna Subramanian**, describes having introduced a new topic she assigned a mandatory homework 10 minutes before the end of the period. She told her students to log off zoom and step outside take several deep breaths and allow the sunshine to soak into them. She

received this email from her students with a photo:



*Hi Mrs. S,
Here is a picture of us doing the fun homework. Thanks for letting us leave our computers and appreciate the day outside; it helped us stay positive like protons!
- Kira, Shira, Jordan and Alex*

Our Classrooms are Now Broadcast Studios

Who would have ever thought that our instructional space would resemble a television studio? The pandemic has brought us into new territory where we have created Zoom carts so we can more clearly see students, integrated cameras with beam technology microphones, and more. In science, cameras are combined with lab stands for a better view of labs.



Pictured above, **Mr. Ken Berman** has a sophisticated makeshift setup enabling him to teach the intricacies of physics remotely. Every classroom looks slightly different. Teachers have used their creativity to make

each setup work for a blended learning situation. **Ms. Ann-Marie Bossong** keeps her extra-large monitor up close as she instructs her chemistry students.



The Science Hallways

Senior **Alex Cavilla** has shared quite a collection of photography we are presently printing, framing, and now exhibit in the science hallways. Each of his close-up nature photos livens up science hallways with both color and wonder. Our goal is to make these hallways beautiful, inspiring, and interesting as students move from class to class. We recently purchased a professional art installation system that allows us to change exhibits without drilling holes in the wall. To keep costs at a minimum, we are re-utilizing frames donated by NBC for his photography and brought a large format color printer online for print production – all designed to be a satisfying project for interested students.



PERFORMING ARTS

Mr. James Millar is happy to share news 2021: All Eastern Orchestra has selected **Hannah Park**, his Philharmonic

Orchestra concertmaster to be included in the National Association of Music Educators Eastern Division Conference. Sessions will be considered through the lens of diversity, equity, inclusion, and access in music education for all students. Culturally responsive teaching, social and emotional awareness, creative and innovative teaching concepts and engaging delivery of instruction are among the themes infused across all conference strands. Congratulations and good luck to **Hannah Park!**

Band Room Reorganization

Michael Jacobetz has re-organized the band room through the relocation of instrument storage lockers at the rear of the band room, freeing up a storage area for marching band equipment. Students can be better monitored as they retrieve instruments, and the band room is now clear of marching band equipment.



Students have a better sense of well-being in such an organized environment. Experts **Billy Breakfield** and **David Inwood** of buildings and grounds completed the work with their usual expertise and efficiency.

Choir Microphones

It is not easy to sing out with a muffling mask. Collaboration with **Mr. James Millar** helped solve the problem. A series of 8 microphones were lent from the library media center for students try to help them project their voices through the masks. Students ended up liking the microphones, as now they could be heard! Subsequently, Mr. Millar purchased an inexpensive wireless system which is very effective for students in this class during mask wearing pandemic times. It may also very will serve a similar purpose post pandemic.

LIBRARY MEDIA BROADCAST

A Different Library Media Center

The compacted schedule necessitated by the pandemic has been the cause of a well populated library media center with increased student concentration and purpose. Students are safely spaced apart and can enjoy the inspiring atmosphere of the library media center. They complete homework, consult with teachers electronically and use printing services. We do look forward to welcoming back more of the social element, so important for students, post pandemic!



Textbook Pilot & Weeding Project

Centralizing Textbook Inventory within the school library and cataloging / barcoding each textbook gives us accurate numbers to compare with enrolment. Adequate numbers known well in advance ensure each student has a textbook day one. Science will pilot this project and library media services is ready to expand to other departments. **Ms. Sharon Gaughan**, library secretary is spearheading the project.

The collection of library books in the library is undergoing a thorough weeding. Books that are in poor condition and outdated books are withdrawn, making more space for current books as the years progress. **Ms. Eileen Grieco** and **Ms. Nelia Sanzari** are tackling this project.

Incoming Ninth Grade Video

An [incoming ninth grade orientation video](#) has been produced for students and parents. As we prepare for

next year and to welcome a new class to the high school, this video was designed to better inform students and also foster excitement about attending high school.

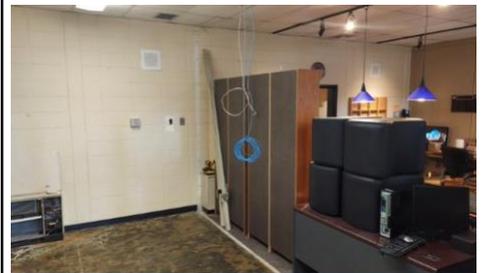
Ham Radio Club

Pictured below; Ms. Beatriz Paelez-Martinez, faculty advisor to the newly formed Ham Radio Club organized by Jonathan Glatzer and Jake Friedman as they hold the radio recently purchased by the Tenafly Education Association.



The radio base will be located on the library's second floor. Mr. Di Gregorio, pictured in back, is eager to assist in setting up the ham radio as we all look forward to seeing this club make connections throughout the world in a very unique way!

Enlarged Cyber Café



Collaborating with the lead man in our buildings and grounds department, **Billy Breakfield**, we accomplished a long-standing goal to enlarge the Interdepartmental Cyber Café. This space, equipped with an 85" display donated by NBC is an ideal space to accommodate professional development and the planning of interdepartmental projects towards the benefit of providing students with unique learning opportunities