Members of the Cornell graduating class of 2017 had a memorable graduation ceremony capping off a great school year for the Cornell School District. The Cornell Auditorium was filled with family members, friends, and Cornell faculty to send off another outstanding graduating class.

The Cornell graduates heard from this year’s Keynote Speaker, USAF Major Dr. Dannielle (Hutsler) Schwartz, Cornell Class of 2002, about her journey after graduating from Cornell High School. Dr. Schwartz is a board certified anesthesiologist. Dr. Schwartz received her Bachelor of Science in Biology degree from Geneva College in 2006 while being a member of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. After being commissioned as an officer in the Air Force, she received a four-year scholarship for medical school, attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, eventually earning her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Degree in 2010.

Dr. Schwartz has been all over the world and shared with the graduates how, despite coming from a small school setting, she never felt unprepared and was always willing to make the sacrifices necessary to reach her goals. Dr. Schwartz urged the graduates to do the same, and challenged them to always challenge themselves, and always reach and strive to meet their goals and aspirations.

Dr. Schwartz’s husband, Major John Schwartz, a pilot in the United States Air Force, was also in attendance, as were members of Dr. Schwartz’s family. Many of them are also Cornell alumni.

The graduation ceremony also included speeches from this year’s class Valedictorian, Brittany Postma, and Salutatorian Meryn Czepiel. Senior class president Treniya Bronaugh gave a farewell address recalling many of the fond memories that the class shared dating back to their early elementary days before leading the class in the traditional tassel right to left signaling them all official graduates!

The evening was a great event that allowed for the Cornell School District to highlight each graduate, displaying each one’s baby and graduation picture, as well as read a short bio of each graduate, including their future plans and scholarships and recognitions they have won.

It was a great evening to cap off a great school year!
Congratulations, Graduates! cont.

TOP LEFT TO RIGHT: Graduates ready for the big day; honors graduates with high school principal Doug Szokoly, left, and Superintendent Dr. Aaron Thomas, right.

BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT: Dr. Dannielle Schwartz, a member of Cornell’s Class of 2002, was the guest speaker; Valedictorian Brittany Postma spoke to the graduates.

New Immunization Requirements for 2017-18 School Year

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is changing school immunization regulations beginning in August 2017. The regulations are intended to insure that children attending school in the Commonwealth are adequately protected against potential outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases. In addition, the regulations have revised the length of time that parents/guardians have to comply with the new regulations before the student is withheld from school. According to the new regulations students have five (5) days to receive their proper doses before they are to be excluded from school. Another new addition to the immunization requirements is that all seniors and 7th graders must have one dose of MCV on the first day of the school year. If a student does not have the MCV dose, he/she will have five (5) days to receive the MCV vaccination before being excluded from school. If parents or guardians have any questions, please visit the school website for immunization information or call the elementary (ext. 141) or high school office (ext. 121). Information will also be sent home with the return to school packets in late summer. Parents and guardians, please schedule an appointment with your primary care physician to take care of these new requirements before the summer flies by!

SUMMER CALENDAR

Week of July 3
District Offices Closed

August 3
Kindergarten Orientation

August 7-18
Kindergarten Boot Camp

August 17
Secondary New Student & 7th Grade Orientation

August 24
First Day for Staff

August 29
First Student Day
Superintendent’s Message

Cornell Families and Community Members:

What a great end to a phenomenal school year! I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the early summer months with friends and family, and your children are able to recharge their batteries as we prepare for the start of another school year.

I would like to congratulate the Cornell graduates of the Class of 2017! We had a memorable graduation ceremony for our departing seniors, highlighted by the return home of our Keynote Speaker, USAF Major Dr. Dannielle Schwartz. I continue to be amazed and excited about the future plans of our outstanding graduates. The graduates will be missed in the hallways of Cornell, but we all are eager to see what the next phase of life brings them, and what they are able to achieve. I believe our students are capable of anything, and are only limited by the amount of work they are willing to put into it.

This newsletter edition highlights many of the wonderful events that occurred throughout this previous school year. I hope you are as proud of the hard work of our students and staff as I am! Our students are doing wonderful work in the classrooms, and our faculty and staff continue to strive to provide meaningful, relevant and challenging learning opportunities for their students in an ever-changing educational environment.

It is going to be a busy summer for the Cornell School District! Throughout the summer months, our excellent custodial and maintenance staff work tirelessly to clean and prepare the building for the next school year, as well as coordinate special projects that revamp the look of our classrooms, hallways and spaces. We have a number of programs occurring throughout the summer that ensure students are here year round. Our summer programming includes our Title I reading program, our PRIDE program for students in grades 3 – 8, and our extended school year program. We also have our high school student-athletes here all summer preparing for their upcoming seasons, as well as our outstanding Raider Marching Band gearing up for the upcoming football season.

The summer months go by very quickly, so please take the time to keep your children engaged in their education. Read to them at home, challenge them to read multiple books on their own throughout the summer, and, if you go on a day or overnight trip, have your child look up some interesting facts of the place you are visiting. Ask them to reflect on what they liked, disliked and learned. Learning never stops and even the smallest experience can have a lasting impact on your child.

Please continue to check the new Cornell website for the latest information pertaining to this summer and the upcoming school year. We make every effort to post information as soon as we can to help communicate with parents and guardians. I wish you a great summer and look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Yours in Education, 
Dr. Aaron Thomas

GUIDANCE UPDATE

Cornell School District has aligned the counseling programs with the comprehensive Pennsylvania Chapter 339 plan, which mandates a comprehensive and integrated K–12 program. This program links Chapter 339 and the ASCA (American School Counselor Association) model and the Career Education and Work standards. Our school counselors, Mrs. Gina Walter and Mr. Greg Paul, completed this plan and it was board approved this spring.

The 339 Plan is designed to provide career and educational information, planning, and opportunities for Cornell students. This plan was created through the collaborative efforts of several stakeholder groups with a goal to help Cornell students create individualized and realistic career goals and plans. Cornell’s guidance counselors worked in partnership with local school districts and CTC’s, while attending conferences with state consultants to develop the plan.

In conjunction with the Chapter 339 Plan, Cornell School District will introduce students to Career Cruising, a technologically based career exploration and planning tool. Cornell recently upgraded its services with Career Cruising and will start the program at the elementary level. This program exposes students to fun and engaging career-based activities. Career Cruising’s elementary program and assessments cover learning styles, individual skills and interests to help students better understand themselves and the importance of building a career plan.

Cornell students, district-wide, can also begin to build individualized digital portfolios that allow them to document each stage of their career exploration process. Elementary students will increase career awareness. Middle school students will participate in career exploration. High School students will create and finalize a career plan.

This program offers simple and engaging ways for students to explore their future all in one place. Cornell’s goal is for each student to graduate with his or her own personal academic and career plan/portfolio.

Google Certified Teachers

Congratulations to Mrs. Kristen Bardelli and Mrs. Miriam Klein on becoming Google Certified Teachers! After attending a three-day workshop organized by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, they successfully earned their Google Certified Educator Level I Badge. In order to earn the credential, they had to pass a rigorous three-hour test on the material that was covered at the three-day training. Mrs. Bardelli and Mrs. Klein have already started to enrich their classroom instruction with their new skill set and more Cornell teachers will seek this certification in the future! Congratulations Mrs. Bardelli and Mrs. Klein on a job well done!
HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Hilltop and Journalism Update

Cornell High School students enrolled in the newly revived Journalism course had a busy school year highlighted by some key projects. High school students completed a number of projects that allowed them to “go out into the field” by doing pieces in Coraopolis, as well as site projects at the Remake Learning Showcase in the Southside and the annual Three Rivers Educational Technology Conference (TRETC) hosted by Montour High School.

At the beginning of the school year, Journalism students were asked to participate in the F.B.I.’s Heroine Outreach Prevention and Education (HOPE) initiative. They created a public service announcement educating viewers on the signs of opioid use and the dangers involved with opioids. A total of 38 entries were submitted for this initiative and the students were recognized for their efforts at a luncheon held on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh in April.

The Journalism students also reaped the benefits of a partnership with Steeltown Entertainment. With the assistance of teacher artists Nick Jonovich, Pierina Morelli and Dave Onomastico, the Journalism course implemented broadcasting and video production into the curriculum. Students learned from the experiences of the teaching artists in the field of broadcast journalism and immediately began creating video products based on the skills and content that was taught in class.

Next school year, Cornell High School is looking forward to a new partnership with Point Park University which will allow the Journalism course to be a dual enrollment course, meaning students enrolled will also earn college credit.

Student projects can be seen on the Cornell Fusfoo channel, which can be accessed from the Cornell School District webpage, under the Media tab on the main page. Journalism written articles have also been posted on the Fusfoo channel, as well as on the Cornell Hilltop page, www.squarespace.cornellhilltop.com.

Cornell High School is looking forward to the continued partnerships with Steeltown Entertainment and Point Park University, and everyone is excited to see the finished products Cornell students create next school year.

A special thank you to English teacher, Mrs. Patricia Dahman, for her guidance with these special students throughout the year!

High School Math Students Participate in DATA JAM

On February 23, students in Mrs. Mihalyi’s College in High School Statistics class through the University of Pittsburgh competed against other regional schools in this year’s Pittsburgh Data Jam, sponsored by Pittsburgh Dataworks. The students’ project was titled “Do the State’s Keystone Exams Affect Dropout Rates?” The students collected and analyzed six years worth of Keystone Exam and dropout rates data from schools across the state.

At Pittsburgh Data Jam, the Cornell team presented and defended their project to local data scientists and statisticians. The students also participated in showcasing their project at the University Club at the University of Pittsburgh. The students were able to show that the dropout rates in schools across the state increased in the year following the implementation of Keystone Exams, when the threat of the exams as a possible graduation requirement was first introduced. Participating in the competition was a valuable experience for the class as it strengthened the students' statistical and presentation skills.

Key Club Leads March of Dimes Project

The Cornell Key Club conducted a service project that resulted in a substantial donation to the March of Dimes. Key Club members worked with Rachel Main, Cornell alum, and the March of Dimes organization on different fundraisers throughout the year. The high school students held a number of bake sales throughout the year. They also organized the annual Penny Wars competition where first period classrooms compete to see which classroom can bring in the most money.

Cornell staff members also assisted in the project by paying to wear jeans during certain school days throughout the school year as well as making other personal contributions. The collective efforts resulted in the Key Club donating $1,000 to the March of Dimes in April.

To celebrate all of the hard work, any student who was able to participate came and celebrated at the March of Dimes Celebration Walk, which was held in downtown Pittsburgh. The walkers started at Heinz Field and everyone completed a 3.1-mile walk to celebrate the work of everyone involved with the March of Dimes.

Great job everyone!
The Pittsburgh Games for Change Student Challenge invited middle and high school students from the greater Pittsburgh region to design and develop their own original video games exploring ideas and themes shaping our world.

Students from more than 20 area schools participated, creating games about climate change, local stories and immigrant histories, and future communities. Cornell students Morgan Engel, Victoria Cohen, Lorayne Bando and Allison Ricketts made up the team for Cornell School District and really exceeded all expectations with their hard work throughout the project. These young ladies dedicated five months of their time after school learning computer programming, researching immigration, and designing and creating their game, “Beyond the Borders.”

A tremendous amount of hard work and dedication was needed to complete their game about emigrating from Cuba to the United States. The game was entered into the contest under the category of local stories and immigrant histories. It was announced in late May that their game, “Beyond the Borders” was selected as a finalist for the student challenge. The Student Challenge Champion was announced on June 10 at the Student Challenge Awards Ceremony at the Heinz History Center where all finalists were showcased in a public arcade!

Mrs. Miriam Klein and Ms. Susan Dunning were faculty sponsors and completed two days of game design training before embarking on this journey. Special thanks to them for their dedication to this project. Great job Games for Change Team; Cornell is very proud of your hard work.
On March 3, Cornell School District hosted our third Naturalization Ceremony in the school auditorium. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, under the leadership of Neville Island resident, Michael Leon, coordinated the event with Cornell staff. A total of 58 individuals representing 29 countries became U.S. Citizens at the ceremony.

Cornell students and staff actively participated in the planning and execution of the event. Mrs. M. Fuga’s eighth grade Civics students helped assist everyone to their seats. Junior High Student Council president and eighth grade Civics student Kiara Clarit spoke to the new citizens about what citizenship means to her.

Mrs. Robin Heigley, Mrs. Kelly Foster, and Mrs. Rachel Lubitz’s first grade students made cards for the new citizens and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Thomas’ third grade students congratulated the new citizens on stage and helped hand out American flags to the newly sworn in United States citizens.

Throughout the process Cornell students and staff members learned about the cultures of the new citizens’ homes along with the extensive process one must go through to become a naturalized US citizen. It was a great experience for the Cornell students, one that should stay with them in the years to come. Being fortunate to be a United States citizen is something that many people may take for granted, and this experience showed our students how truly fortunate we all are.
Taking Steps to Raise Awareness

One of the most worrisome trends is the growing epidemic of prescription opiate and heroin abuse, especially among young people. Cornell School District is committed to educating students about the dangers of opioid addiction and the tragic consequences that come with abusing these drugs. Throughout this school year, in an effort to increase awareness, Cornell offered numerous programs to its students including partnering with the following organizations: Joey DelSardo (an individual in recovery), the Ohio Valley School of Nursing, the Saltworks Theater Company, the local DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration), and the Coraopolis Police Department. All partnerships were established to provide students with valuable and informational presentations.

The first presentation was on November 15 by Joey DelSardo to grades 7 through 12. Joey discussed his battles with drug addiction. He shared his story of inspiration, stressing the importance of the decisions we make and the effect those decisions have not only on us, but also on our families. He stressed his motto of “Stand Up and Change It.” Joey is now celebrating his tenth year in sobriety. He strives to inspire and motivate students and to give hope to those struggling with addiction.

The second presentation, titled “Operation Prevention,” was held on March 28 by the Ohio Valley School of Nursing. A group of nursing students showed a PowerPoint slideshow, helped students complete worksheets, and had a discussion with the 7th and 8th graders.

Topics they discussed included defining what opiates are and what misuse looks like. They also gave an in-depth look at the physiological impacts the drugs have on our bodies.

On April 10, the DEA sponsored the Saltworks Theater Company’s presentation of “Off ‘Script: Misuse of Prescription Drugs.” The play was presented to students in grades 9 through 12.

In “Off ‘Script,” three students shared their stories of addiction to prescription drugs, the consequences of their actions, and the journey to hope and healing.

The play was followed up by a question & answer session. The presentation wrapped up with a few words from DEA Special Agent in Charge David Battiste who shared some information about current trends they’re seeing and what students can do if they know of anyone struggling with addiction.

The fourth and final presentation was held on April 24 and was titled “Chasing the Dragon.” Students in grades 10 through 12 viewed a documentary produced by the FBI and the DEA. The film featured first-person accounts told by individuals who have abused opioids and whose children have also abused opioids, with tragic consequences.

Following the documentary, the Coraopolis Police Department talked with the students about the impacts they’ve seen with drugs and addiction locally as well as what to do if they struggle with addiction or know someone who is.

Cornell hopes that the programming brought to the school this year helps students develop a greater understanding of this crisis that’s sweeping our country and created a deeper appreciation about the dangers of opioid addiction.

PICTURED, TOP TO BOTTOM: Angel Matuke, Shaun Godfrey, speaker Joey DelSardo, Malakhi Fisher, and John Paul Riley. Special Agent in Charge David Battiste, three student actors from Saltworks Theater Company share their stories of addiction.
A project that was a year in the making finally took place at Cornell School District earlier this spring. The organization, Student-PSEA, a pre-professional organization for aspiring educators, adopts a school each year in the area where they are having their annual state conference. Student-PSEA has called this project, Outreach to Teach. This year the state conference was in the Pittsburgh area. Thanks to the recommendation of Cornell alum, and former Cornell Biology teacher, Mr. Doug Haskins, Cornell School District was selected for this annual community service project.

A potential project list was developed and later finalized which included a number of large scale painting projects that Cornell School District planned on completing in a staggered manner over a few summers.

However, with the assistance of Student-PSEA and over 350 volunteers, these projects were completed over a five-hour time span, not three summers. On a Friday evening, these volunteers attacked the project list with an enthusiasm second to none. The Cornell Auditorium was painted, as well as middle school and elementary hallways. The nurse’s office received a nice update, as well as the Cornell Marching Band room and the elementary faculty lounge. Lastly, the Cornell library received some fresh painting upgrades that involved a number of murals that Cornell Elementary students really seem to enjoy.

Student-PSEA not only volunteered their time and manpower, but they funded all of the painting supplies and paint for the entire project. Cornell School District Director of Maintenance, Mr. Dennis Ferguson, was also monumental in making the project a success. Mr. Ferguson devoted countless hours ordering and picking up supplies as well as spending weekends at Cornell with members of Student-PSEA prepping for the big evening. Members of the executive team from Student-PSEA presented Mr. Ferguson with a special recognition award for all of his hard work and dedication, in addition to Mr. Haskins for his contributions in making the project happen.

It was an outstanding evening and truly amazing to see all the efforts of these volunteers in action. Our future classrooms are going to be in good hands!
HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Teachers Participate in Smithsonian Learning Lab

Last school year, middle school social studies teacher Mrs. Megan Fuga, and Mr. Kris Hupp, Director of Technology and Instructional Innovation, participated in the pilot program of a new learning tool developed by the Smithsonian Institute to better engage students in the classroom. The experience was extremely beneficial and carried on to the 2016-2017 school year.

The team of social studies teachers - Mrs. Amy Palo, Mr. Andy Erwin and Mr. Kevin Quigley - participated in the Smithsonian Learning Lab training this school year. The Smithsonian Learning Lab was created to “inspire the discovery and creative use of its rich digital materials – more than a million images, recordings, and texts.” Through their training, the teachers engaged with educators from the Smithsonian Institute, Heinz History Center, and from around the region on how to obtain access to these materials, and also how to effectively use these resources in the classroom.

The Smithsonian Learning Lab has turned out to be a great resource for our teachers and ultimately experienced by Cornell students.

When asked about the training, Mrs. Palo said, “I am excited about the new sorting tools they added and their potential for higher order learning.”

The Smithsonian Learning Lab will continue to be a part of the lessons of these teachers and hopefully another team of teachers can go through the training next school year.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

Elementary School Awarded a State “Keystone Award for Academic Excellence”

Great things are happening at Cornell Elementary! Earlier this school year, the Pennsylvania Department of Education notified Cornell Administration that Cornell Elementary was being awarded a “Keystone Award for Academic Excellence.”

The Keystone Awards are given out to schools that are in the top 5% based on composite math and English Language Arts (ELA) scores. In addition, Keystone Awards schools have met their annual measurable objectives for the previous tested school year.

The Cornell Elementary Title I representatives consisting of Mrs. Carla Antoniades, Director of Special Education; Mrs. Cristy Meinert, Cornell Elementary Reading Specialist; and Mrs. Lori Dzielski, Cornell Elementary Reading specialist, were in attendance at the annual Pennsylvania Title I Improving School Performance Conference to receive the awards.

The Title I reading team was also selected as presenters at the Title I ISP Conference where they presented, “Setting a Schedule for Success.” The presentation discussed how schedules were merged in the elementary to incorporate special education processes with Title I intervention times. The result from this is that more students were serviced and more student needs were met.

Congratulations to the Cornell Elementary Reading Team, as well as the entire Cornell Elementary staff, for such a wonderful accomplishment.
Community Tree Revitalization Project Benefits Cornell

The Cornell campus continues to receive cosmetic upgrades thanks to Coraopolis community members! The Coraopolis Shade Tree Commission conducted their second planting project this past fall, resulting in 22 trees being planted on the campus of Cornell and throughout Coraopolis. The Coraopolis Shade Tree Commission secured a grant to help fund the purchase of the trees. Installation is all voluntary.

The trees at Cornell can be seen starting up the school entrance. There are a few trees between the tennis court and main drive, along Maple Street and also at Frank Letteri Stadium.

Coraopolis Shade Tree Commission member, Mr. Jeffrey Simonetti, has been monumental in this beautification project and also helped fund and maintain flower pots that can be seen throughout Coraopolis.

Cornell students, who are members of the Cornell Key Club, National Honor Society and Student Council, helped assist in the planting of the trees and really enjoyed the experience of beautifying the school and the community.

Cornell hopes this partnership can continue and thanks Mr. Simonetti and the rest of the Coraopolis Shade Tree Commission for their generosity and dedication to the community and to Cornell School District!

Famous Author Visits Elementary

Cornell third graders welcomed a best-selling children’s book author, Ms. Megan McDonald, to their classroom this spring. Ms. McDonald, best known for her popular Judy Moody franchise, has over 35 million books in print.

Ms. McDonald, who is originally from the Pittsburgh area, was returning to visit family and friends and offered to visit a school in the region. Ms. McDonald spoke to the students for over an hour about her writing and creative experiences, as well as the stories behind her characters and books.

The event was also open to other schools via videoconferencing equipment that Cornell purchased in the past. An estimated 42,000 students from across the United States and Canada watched the event live and were also able to participate by asking Ms. McDonald questions. What a way to put Cornell Elementary on the map!

A special thank you to the Pittsburgh Arts and Lectures for helping make this event happen. The third grade students of Mrs. Schweers, Mrs. Freiss, and Mrs. Thomas really had an enjoyable time. After the discussion, Ms. McDonald signed a book for each third grade student and did an interview for a local news station.

Elementary Counseling Program Partners with SNAP

The Cornell Elementary School Counseling Program completed the first year in its partnership with the SNAP (Stop Now And Plan) program. SNAP is an award-winning, evidence-based program that teaches students coping skills and how to utilize these skills and strategies to make good choices in a positive and safe manner when confronted with a conflict. SNAP can also help our students and families effectively deal with emotions by teaching them how to respond in a way that makes their problems seem smaller, not bigger. The goal of the program is to teach students that, with practice, they can learn to stop, calm down, and generate positive solutions to any given conflict.

SNAP School Based Coordinators/Facilitators have implemented their curriculum in several classrooms throughout the 2016-2017 school year and will continue in the 2017-2018 school year. Cornell is hopeful to carry on this partnership with the SNAP program for its students and families at Cornell Elementary School in the years to come.

Thank you!
ATHLETIC

Raiders Baseball Team Plays at PNC Park

The Cornell Raider baseball team had the opportunity to play an exhibition game at PNC Park this year thanks to fundraising efforts by players and head baseball coach, Mr. Kevin Quigley. The Raider baseball team sold future game tickets for two Pittsburgh Pirate games. The baseball team hit their fundraising goal of 500 tickets sold which allowed them to play their game at PNC Park on April 27.

The Raiders took on West Shamokin that evening. The Raiders pitched well and played solid defense but eventually lost 4-0. It was a beautiful night for baseball and the great Cornell fans showed up to cheer on the Raiders. The baseball players enjoyed their experience and were able to be major leaguers for a night playing under the lights and running out of the dugout. It was a great high school experience for everyone involved!

Historic Girls Basketball Season This Year!

The Cornell Lady Raider basketball team had a season for the record books this year! The Lady Raiders started the year off strong winning the Moon Holiday Tournament Championship and continued their momentum into section play.

The Lady Raiders captured the first girls’ basketball section championship in school history with a 9-1 section record! The section championship was highlighted by a home victory against rival Quigley Catholic where the Lady Raiders ended Quigley’s 66-game section win streak. The game also marked the largest basketball crowd in school history for a girls’ basketball game as a packed gymnasium, dressed in black shirts, cheered the Lady Raiders to victory.

The girls rode the momentum of their regular season into the WPIAL playoffs where they made it to the Single-A Championship game playing a talented Winchester-Thurston team at the Petersen Events Center at the University of Pittsburgh. The Lady Raiders battled the entire game, eventually falling to Winchester-Thurston. They impressed the Petersen Events Center crowd by their toughness and determination.

The Lady Raiders continued into the PIAA tournament, winning the first round game against Farrell. The historical Lady Raider season came to an end in the second round when they lost in a tough battled game against North Clarion at Slippery Rock University.

The Lady Raiders finished with a school best 21-6 overall record and will have countless lasting memories from this historic season.

Great job Lady Raiders and coaching staff on an outstanding season! The Cornell community and family is very proud of all your accomplishments this season.

Swim Team Makes Waves!

The Cornell Swim team had an outstanding season capped by an impressive showing at the WPIAL AA Championship meet at the University of Pittsburgh in early March. Cornell’s Medley Relay team consisting of Austin Winchell, Liam White-McShane, Greg Kleppinger and Joey Rozman (Our Lady of Sacred Heart) swam a 1:51.31, dropping two seconds from their entry time.

In the 200 Individual Medley, Cornell junior Liam White-McShane dropped seven seconds and in the 100 breaststroke Liam dropped over two seconds breaking the school record and putting him in 11th place overall!

Cornell senior Austin Winchell had an amazing meet, ending his Cornell swimming career in grand fashion. Austin set personal best times, as well as new school records in the 500 free and the 100 backstroke during his last high school meet.

All Cornell swimmers had a great experience and represented Cornell High School extremely well! Job well done!
During the school year, member school districts from the Allegheny County Health Insurance Consortium were given a particular challenge. Each member school district was given a target percentage of staff members to complete a wellness profile online through the Consortium’s health insurance provider. Cornell staff members answered the bell and exceeded the challenge percentage earning, the Cornell School District a $2,000 grant, which will be used for Health and Wellness activities for the 2017-2018 school year.

The Cornell School District hopes that, by completing the Wellness Profile, staff members were able to create a health and wellness plan as well as be informed about areas they can focus on for better physical and mental health.

The Cornell School District Wellness Committee will meet early in the next school year to plan different initiatives to continue to challenge staff members to be mindful of their overall health and wellness practices.

**Cornell School District is a Wellness Champion!**