# **TESTIMONIALS FROM TEACHERS (2018-19)**

#### **Elementary School**

The students are learning many different things from the newspapers. We use the newspapers to find different parts of speech that we are working on that week. We also use the papers to create our own news articles. The students have to pick a type of article and create their own using the format in the article. Another activity that we will do later is to take an article and rewrite it using a different opinion. The students will have to change view points in the article to make the reader have a different opinion of the article. The students look forward to working with the newspapers. I am also looking at doing more with the online version this year. This is a great learning opportunity for the students.

Ms. Stacy Overcash 4th Grade Teacher Shirley Township Elementary

I teach Social Studies to all 5th-grade students at Shirley Township Elementary. I incorporate currents events into my lessons about once a week. This is actually a photo of my homeroom students. They had to find an article they found interesting and tell the other students about it.

Erin Cornelius 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Shirley Township Elementary

Through your sponsorship, we have been able to learn more about our community. The Daily News has encouraged us to collaborate and interact with our teachers, peers, family and our community. We enjoy reading and learning about our community and becoming familiar with its history. We also really enjoy having discussions with our teachers and friends about what we have read and discovered! Once again, thank you from the bottoms of our hearts; we sincerely appreciate your generosity. A true gift is one that encourages us to grow and be better people and essentially lifelong learners!

Erica Dell 5th Grade Teacher Mount Union-Kistler Elementary

Hello from Miss Joivell's Kindergarten Class at Juniata Valley Elementary School! We are 20 excited and enthusiastic 5 and 6-year olds who are interested in learning more about the world around us! We have been able to read about Hartslog Day and the Pumpkin Pole in the Daily News through your sponsorship of our class. And we can't wait to see what article our teacher chooses for us to check out next! Thank you so much for helping us to hear about all the news that's happening in our community through the Newspapers in Education Program!

With Much Appreciation, Miss Joivell's Kindergarten Class I use the newspaper for both math and language arts instruction. For example, I just used the newspaper so the students could find examples of author's purpose: to persuade, to inform, and to entertain.

After we have read the newspaper, we try to find ways to reuse the paper. This Friday we will repurpose newspapers that have already been read to protect the grass from a project we are doing. We will also use it to wrap gifts at Christmas. Thank you very much for helping my students understand more about the world around them.

Christy Black Instructor, 4th Grade Spring Farms Elementary

In my 5th grade English and Language Arts classroom we use The Daily News on a weekly basis. My students look for their spelling words and words that follow the same spelling pattern that they are working on. We also use the paper to find examples of the different genres of writing: informational, personal narrative, opinion, and argumentative. We enjoy reading articles pertaining to HASD athletics and other school news.

Kari Tietjens 5th Grade Teacher Standing Stone Elementary

My students read the newspaper to find letters of the week.

Melissa Schimpf Kindergarten Teacher Shirley Township Elementary

I use it for current event articles, topics of interest, and local news.

Erin Cornelius Science/SS Shirley Township Elementary

We are using the papers in my fifth grade classroom to identify subjects/predicates, main idea and supporting details and a host of other skills they are required to know by the end of this year. More recently we looked at the coverage of politics and discussed the election.

Randy Watkins 5<sup>™</sup> Grade Southern Huntingdon County

I choose articles that relate to the kindergarten students' lives in our community. I read the articles out loud to the students. We discuss the events in the article. Then we display the articles in the classroom.

Kristin Joivell Kindergarten

## Juniata Valley Elementary School

We are using the stories to find different parts of speech. We are also creating our own stories by rewriting stories. Students will rewrite the stories to show a different point of view. We will eventually use the stories to create our own stories.

Stacy Overcash 4th Grade Teacher Shirley Township Elementary

Newspapers are used in my classroom for spelling, genre writing and current events discussions.

Kari Tietjens *ELA*Standing Stone Elementary

We integrate the newspaper with Social Studies and Current Events.

Michael Angelo 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math and Science Tussey Mountain Elementary

Students look through the newspapers to find letters of the week.

Melissa Schimpf Kindergarten Shirley Township Elementary

I teach first grade at Shirley Township Elementary in Mount Union Area School District. My students are not able to sit down and read the articles per se, however each day we use pencils/crayons to find and circle words that follow our phonics lesson for the week. For example, if we are working on s-family blends, I will have the students find three to five words on the front page that have an s-family blend. I have also had the students find sight words or other words they know. At other times, I will give a subject such as sports, weather or parades and ask the students to find one or two pictures to go along with that subject. We have also looked for the comics, restaurant advertisements, weather, classified ads, etc. We enjoy the time "searching the newspaper".

Tammy Freeman First Grade Shirley Township Elementary

We do daily weather & news reports each morning. We also use it as a reference tool during Language Arts activities throughout the year.

Michele Sheeder 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Rockhill Elementary I share local events from the newspaper with my second graders. Once we get into features of nonfiction We will go over the headlines, captions, bold faced words, italics, and so forth.

Jennifer Cunningham 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Southside Elementary

## Middle School/Junior High School

Literacy is such an important factor in the classroom and daily copies of the newspaper help to enhance the students' reading skills. My students are enjoying reading them during sustained silent reading (SSR) and often read them the entire designated time! We are also using them to cover current events.

Kylee Mattern 7th Gr. Social Studies Teacher Team Leader SHCMS

The 93 middle students who will be utilizing the newspapers throughout the school year will benefit from the implementation of the classroom activities planned to enhance classroom instruction. As the school year progresses, we utilize The Daily News on a regular basis to reinforce social studies skills, as well as reading, math, English, writing, science, and logical thinking skills. In addition, as the Southern Huntingdon County High School Press Club adviser for the fourth year, Friday editions of The Daily News will be used in a hallway showcase to display the School Page, a writing tradition started in 1960 among local school districts. This year ten school districts will be competing through a 24-week writing period displaying student reporters'/photographer's skills. Each of the participating school is permitted to submit three articles with three accompanying photographs. At the end of the school year, the newspaper hosts an end of the year awards ceremony where a "Sweepstakes Award," "Photographer of the Year," "Reporter of the Year," and "Outstanding Press Club Team of the Year" are announced. For the 2017-2018 school year, Southern Huntingdon's Press Club won all four of these awards! It also marked the second consecutive year to win the coveted "Outstanding Press Club Team of the Year." Because of our partners' financial support, the entire middle school and high school will be able to view each of the 24 weeks of the School Page in the hallways at Southern Huntingdon. Not only are 93 students benefitting from the newspaper's content in social studies class, but the entire SHCHS/MS has the opportunity to view its high school press club members' work along with nine other school districts. The impact is monumental and positive across an entire school building.

Jeffrey Mills 6th Grade SHCMS Social Studies Teacher SHCHS Press Club Adviser SHCHS National Honor Adviser

As a social studies teacher, I constantly reinforce the importance of current events. Now students have an opportunity to have a hands-on model/version of our local newspaper. They can now connect to local, state and national news. We conduct a variety of lessons and activities that are not only rewarding to student understanding from an achievement standpoint but allows students to express their personal interests by viewing all aspects of the newspaper. It is inspiring as a teacher to watch students select the newspaper as a method of research and understanding instead of the internet or

social media search. Although we are preparing our students for the future it is important to showcase the value of newspapers to our community. Without your support, we as educators would not have the chance to expose our students to the newspaper on a daily basis. My students are using the Daily News in a variety of ways from personal reading during SSR up to as complex as news story analysis strategies in literacy class. They spend time critically thinking about each article and providing feedback to the information learned in the article.

Brock Anders 7/8 Social Studies Huntingdon Area Middle School

My learners use the newspaper in a variety of ways, but it is particularly useful for learning and reinforcing vocabulary words. We also use it to understand more about the local community and to practice reading. Reading the newspaper is an important life skill, and having the newspaper available offers learners the opportunity to develop that skill early in their lives.

Sandra L. Carowick ESL Teacher HAMS/HAHS

Kids read them for current events, SSR, and use them during study hall.

J Parks Reading Southern Huntingdon HS/MS

We read the newspapers for current events presentation in my history class.

Ainhoa Masvidal US history Calvary Christian academy

At the start of the school year, I have the sixth grade social studies students at Southern Huntingdon County Middle School using the newspaper in cooperative group situations locating answers in the various sections to a set of teacher-created questions. This activity incorporates and reinforces reading comprehension, time management, and cooperative learning. Working in pairs allows the students to work on communication skills and allows students to assist each other with classroom learning. Students are exposed to all sections of the newspaper through this classroom activity. There are more activities to be added to the classroom learning as the year progresses.

Jeffrey Mills 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Southern Huntingdon County High School/Middle School

My students are using the Daily News in a variety of ways from personal reading during SSR up to as complex as news story analysis strategies in literacy class. They spend time critically thinking about each article and providing feedback to the information learned in the article.

Brock Anders Social studies/Literacy Huntingdon Area Middle School

My students read the newspaper to learn the use of language, parts of speech, correct punctuation examples, nonfiction text structures, and inspiration for creative writing.

Kathryn Baney 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Southern Huntingdon County Middle School

## **High School**

My learners enjoy looking at the newspaper and completing activities with the papers. It is great to know that our local businesses care about literacy and the youth of the community.

Onda McCaulley Life Skills Teacher Huntingdon Area High School

Without support from local organizations, my students wouldn't have the opportunity to use the Daily News and its online resources in my classes. I teach computer, finance, and career development courses and we use the newspaper to look for articles related to technology and local job postings.

Lindsey J. Myers Business Teacher Tussey Mountain High School

We use the paper to look at the different things going on in our area and in the world. Today students do not follow the news very closely and these newspapers allow them to do so. Your generosity in this matter is great appreciated by MUAHS.

Matthew Young Social Studies Teacher Mount Union Area High School

I teach Senior English and am responsible for a Business English unit teaching resume, cover letter, and thank you letter writing. Being able to use the local paper for real-world application is a tremendous benefit. Students can see the avenues to travel while negotiating the job market. Therefore, your support of this program directly impacts our community's students. You are helping them to become productive members of society.

Sincerely, Heidi Werner HAHS English Teacher I have been participating in the program each year and enjoy giving the students an opportunity to read the local news and explore all the information that The Daily News has to offer. I am the librarian for the Mount Union School District and make the newspaper available for the students to take and read each day. I also use the newspaper to teach text features and show them the variety of information that is available from our local paper. Thank you for allowing the students this opportunity.

Brooke Park Librarian Mount Union Area School District

Your generosity provides me with an opportunity to bring local news and events into my curriculum, which helps students to see the real world relevance of what we study in the classroom. You helped put The Daily News into the hands of over one hundred English students at JV. Again, thank you for supporting the NIE program and your local school districts.

Heather Heeter 9<sup>th</sup>/11th Grade English Juniata Valley High School

I use the newspaper to encourage reading for reluctant readers. They are able to find something that interests them. Thank you for this service!

Rebecca Solarczyk Special Education Huntingdon Area High School

ESL learners read items of interest to strengthen vocabulary and reading skills.

Sandra Carowick English as a Second Language (ESL) Huntingdon Area Middle/High School

My students read agriculture articles and student news pages in the newspaper.

R Russell Agriculture Juniata Valley High School

My students read the newspaper for current events, news story writing, vocabulary usage and job ads.

Chris Patrick English Huntingdon High School

My class uses the newspaper to read current events, reading during down time, social studies, bell ringer activities, and health topics.

Robert Revercomb

# Huntingdon

We read current events that are related to what we are doing in class.

Jeff Anderson Computers, Business Juniata Valley High School

My students read current events in the newspaper.

Laurie Aurand Library Mt. Union High School

We read the newspapers to find stories that are health related.

Scott Maslanik Health, PE, Drivers ed Juniata Valley School district

I use the newspaper to encourage reading for reluctant readers. They are able to find something that interests them. Thank you for this service!

Rebecca Solarczyk Special Education Huntingdon Area High School

My students read current events and News of Yesteryear.

Aaron Hicks Social Studies SHCSD

We use the newspaper for supplemental reading material and vocabulary.

Jessie Oldham English Huntingdon HS

ESL learners read items of interest to strengthen vocabulary and reading skills.

Sandra Carowick English as a Second Language (ESL) Huntingdon Area Middle/High School

Students read the newspapers for current events.

Kimberly Rodgers TMHS

# **Adult Students**

My students read current events for essay topics and class discussion.

Glenda Waite Reading, Writing, Math, Science, Social Studies Employment & Training, Inc. Adult Education Program