

COVENTRY SCHOOLS SAY SEE YOU LATER TO STUDENTS Summer Steps Get Started

Students and faculty throughout Coventry, including at Feinstein Middle School, wrap up the school year



Kendra Leigh Miller/Daily Times

It was a day of mixed emotions at Coventry's Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School, where students said their goodbyes to the school and in some cases each other for the summer, some with smiles and laughter and others with an embrace.

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COVENTRY — Students emptied their lockers and called the school year done as they walked out of the middle school doors ready for the summer.

Of course, among the smiles were a few tears from those who were parting with friends.

"It was a wonderful year and we hope the kids have a safe summer and we'll be ready for another great year in the fall," said Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School Principal Dr. Arthur Lisi.

Once teachers and students said their goodbyes, administrators were treated to lunch, served with a few surprises.

School case manager, Dawn Pullano was awarded the 2016 Crystal Apple award by Horace Mann, a company that recognizes educators.

Alex Smith, of Horace Mann, explained that award is given to exemplary teachers.

"Thank you for being educators," he said.

The Crystal Apple award has been given out for almost 30 years and Rhode Island's Department of Education's Golden Apple award was derived from it.

Lisi said Pullano received the award for the dedication she shows to her



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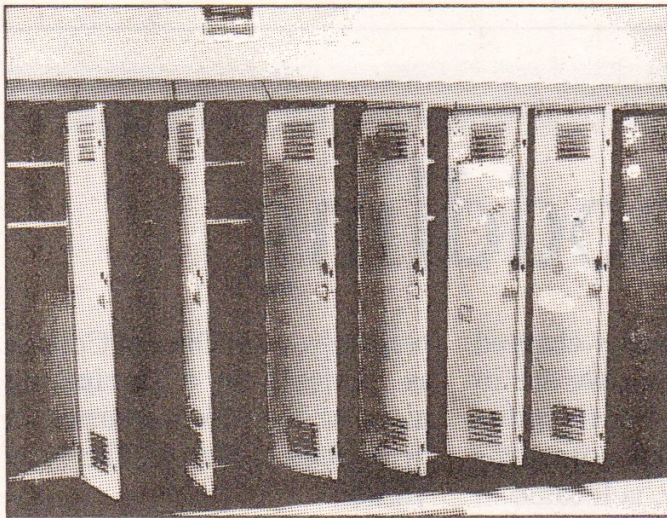
(L-R) Alex Smith, of Horace Mann, with Apple award recipient Dawn Pullano and Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School Principal Dr. Arthur Lisi.

School year ends in Coventry

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students as well as keeping close contact with parents.

“Her work goes beyond her team and she works beautifully with necessary support staff to



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Where a bustling crowd of students meets for nine months out of the year, Feinstein's hallways will now be largely empty for the season.

ensure that students' needs are being met,” Lisi said. “As a case manager, she carefully plans her work and is thoughtful in her approach and always looks for ways to differentiate instruction.”

Lisi credited her with the way she deals with the various demands of her job but keeps a positive attitude, with her focus on individual achievement.

According to Lisi, over the last two years, Pulano has worked closely with Niki Scheib, Jenna Ponder, Nicole Bucka and Sandy Clunana to pilot a tier three intervention with several of her students. She implemented the program and monitored the data closely.

“What’s important to note here was how her work with students impacted their performance in their classes,” he said. “Dawn was able to take this work and experience and present it at the National Council for Exceptional Children in St. Louis in April.

History teacher Tao Albrecht, who was named the school’s Teacher of the Year recently, was also recognized for his unique teaching style in his history class.