



## Press Release

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***For Immediate Release***  
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**December 22, 2023**

### **Pennsbury Students Recognized for Fairness & Sportsmanship**

(Fallsington, PA) – Congratulations to the Pennsbury-LYFT Character Award winners for December. Students Jackson LaGrosse\*, Victoria Kovack, Alyssa Thomas, and Anna Freyne were honored at the Pennsbury School Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, December 21, 2023.

The purpose of the Pennsbury-LYFT Character Award is to recognize and reward students who embody exemplary character traits and behaviors. The character trait for December was Fairness & Sportsmanship.

Jackson LaGrosse is a Kindergarten student from Makefield Elementary School and was nominated by Kerri-Ann Genzel. She shared that while dancing during their morning meetings, Jackson always widens the circle to include more friends. If someone receives a green ticket or other honor or award, Jackson is the first to congratulate them and give them a hardy hip, hip, hooray! While playing outside, Jackson always includes others in his games and imaginary play. He is kind to all of his classmates and truly embodies the spirit of good sportsmanship and friendship.

Victoria Kovack is a fifth grade student at Fallsington Elementary School and was nominated by Megan Mauck, Tim Behe, Carey Stolber, Meghan Mix, Kristina Rehill, Debbie Hellmuth, Terri Sherman, Sherri Cohoon, Kristen Cahill, and Vinny DePaola. They say that Victoria is a leader,

an advocate for her classmates, and an all-around one-of-a-kind, extraordinary student at Fallsington. She exhibits both fairness and sportsmanship within the classroom and her school community on a daily basis. Victoria makes sure everyone is included in whatever activities are occurring at school. She checks on the youngest students and invites them to be part of the group. She works with her peers to include them on teams. She always displays good sportsmanship when participating in competitive activities, and never boasts or brags if she wins or solves a problem first.

Alyssa Thomas is an eighth grade student at William Penn Middle School and was nominated by Dr. Elizabeth Aldridge. Dr. Aldridge shared that Alyssa is a highly skilled basketball player who represents her middle school and the broader Pennsbury community with excellent sportsmanship and fairness. At William Penn, Alyssa goes out of her way to include other students, making sure that her peers feel safe and welcomed. Despite being fiercely competitive, Alyssa is a teammate who is always there with words of encouragement for another player who missed a shot or to compliment the great play of someone on the opposite team.

Anna Freyne is a senior at Pennsbury High School and was nominated by Jamie Swanson. She shared that as the first Girls Golf Team Captain, Anna has been the epitome of leadership to all girls on the team. She is a positive role model for golf etiquette, sportsmanship, and altruistic hard work to master her game and show all young golfers how to be comfortable at the game. Anna has been a wonderful asset to teach and grow in all aspects of the game, from the moment the team steps into the parking lot to the second they have left. Doing the right thing, the fair thing, and the professional thing every time has created an amazing legacy of what girls golf in Pennsbury can and will be for years to come.

Each month, students are nominated by teachers, staff, or administration, and the winners are selected by LYFT and other community partners. LYFT is a group of volunteers, individuals, and organizations throughout the community that share the common goal of strengthening and supporting Pennsbury students.

\*Jackson was unable to attend and will be recognized at the January 18, 2023 meeting.

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