



Tri-Community Elementary School
255 Cypress Street, Bressler, PA 17113
717.939.9591

February 22, 2022

First National Bank,

Thank you so much for granting our 4th graders this amazing opportunity with Stephen Kozan. After years without assemblies due to the global pandemic this was exactly what they needed to get back a sense of normalcy. Stephen Kozan was able to keep them engaged and on the edge of their seats every step of the way. Students were able to relate to Stephen as a past Tri-Community alum and were in awe at the fact that they too could be published authors someday.

Tony Maulfair began the assembly by helping students bring their own mythical creation to life by having several students select different animal body parts to combine. This level of interactivity allowed all students to feel fully invested and valued throughout the creative process. Once he was done, Stephen Kozan walked around to show the students' their creation brought to life; the students still talk about the creature weeks later!

Once all the creative juices were flowing, Kozan introduced the writing contest to the class by showing off past student work. Students were able to relate to past students and truly see themselves as authors, which was exactly the confidence boost they needed. As the students began their flash fiction writing they were all full of excitement despite their numerous different learning levels they all felt like they truly had a shot at winning the contest. This joy Kozan was able to foster within them was truly magical to witness.

After the assembly was all said and done students continued to talk about Kozan and begged to hear the finalist results. To hear students who have previously shown such hesitance towards writing be so excited for a chance to write their own book was amazing. Stephen Kozan was able to empower them through this assembly in a way that they may never had been able to experience before.

We cannot thank you enough for this immense opportunity you have allowed our 4th graders to experience. These are truly memories that will mold their futures and forever impact their confidence as writers.

Gratefully,

Mrs. Shaffner, Mr. Johnson, & Mrs. Baquero

4th Grade Tri Community Elementary - CDS