

For Immediate Release: December 2022

Contact: Meghan Coates, meghan.coates@pennington.org, 609-559-5285

PENNINGTON, N.J., DECEMBER 2022 --- This year, students at The Pennington School once again partnered with HomeFront, a Mercer County not-for-profit organization working to end the cycle of poverty, to provide support to local families and individuals in need during the holidays. This is the twenty-eighth year that The Pennington School has hosted this program.

The HomeFront Holiday event is a School-wide endeavor organized by senior Peer Leaders and faculty organizers Erin O'Connell and Nate Van Yperen. Students, faculty, and staff worked together to put together large bags bursting with holiday warmth. Student advisory groups, administrative office departments, and families signed up to sponsor family and individual HomeFront clients. The bags included toiletries, toys, masks, blankets, hats and gloves, activities, books, and more, and were sent together with personal holiday wishes. Packages were created for 80 families and 180 individuals in total. In addition to the holiday bags, the School ran a coat drive in December, collecting new and lightly used outerwear for men, women, and children. Money earned from a Barnes & Noble book fair in December, organized by the student Junior Proctors, was used to purchase more books to put under the tree at HomeFront's Ewing campus.

On Thursday, December 15, students and faculty finished collecting and packing the bags, and brought two buses full of gifts to HomeFront the following day. The Peer Leaders also helped decorate the HomeFront campus with ornaments donated by Pennington's ninth-graders and decorations created by Middle School students. This HomeFront Holiday event is a cherished tradition at Pennington and helps provide a wonderful start to the holiday season for all participating families.

The Pennington School is an independent coeducational school for students in grades 6 through 12, in both day and boarding programs. The curriculum is college preparatory, with an emphasis on individual excellence, fostering the development of the whole student through academics, athletics, community service, and the creative and performing arts.

Caption for photo: Students at The Pennington School deliver holiday bags to HomeFront.