

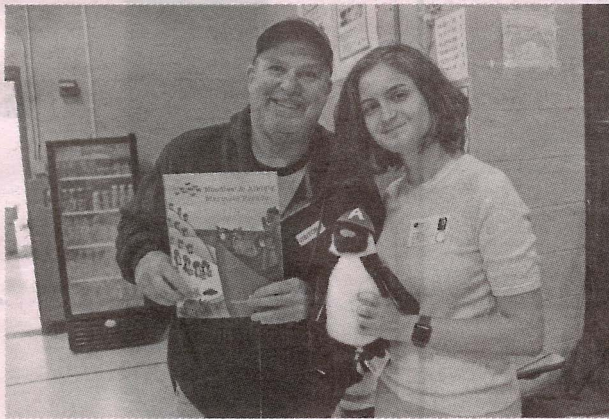


Dobbs Ferry School District

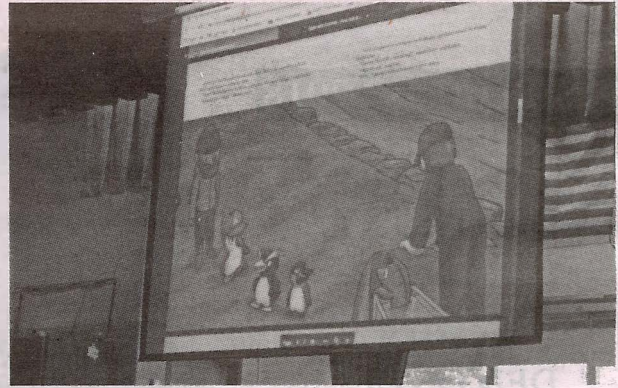
Independent Thinkers Change Worlds

"Inside Edition" on Education

Guest children's book author Eric Bennett gave Springhurst Elementary School students a special preview of his latest picture book *Noodles' & Albie's Mermaid Parade*, which will be published in early November. The book features the adventures of some loveable penguins and also happens to be illustrated by former Springhurst student and Dobbs Ferry High School 2014 graduate Paige Monte. The students were excited to learn that Paige had won the 5th grade art award when she was at Springhurst, and her painting still hangs in the school's lobby today.



The most famous piece of writing advice ever given, "write what you know," is evident in this third *Noodles & Albie* adventure (the first two were named Mom's Choice Award winners) *The Mermaid Parade* is a real parade that takes place in Cooney Island and Noodles, the penguin protagonist



of the series, was Eric's nickname in school. Noodles also wears a baseball cap just like the author, and his fish friend Albie was modeled after a girl on his youth baseball team. His passion for penguins began as a kid and he even owned an internet business that sold all things penguin.

Amazingly, the first time Eric and Paige met was the morning of the Springhurst presentation. They collaborated and communicated through email sending story/graphic treatments back and forth online. She and Eric had been introduced through Paige's mother, a friend of the author. Paige was thrilled to be back at Springhurst where it all began, and equally excited to be starting a new job the very next week in NYC doing graphic animation at an ad agency. For Noodles and Paige this has been a wonderful story about friendships and coming of age. *ef15*

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Summary of Article in The Rivertowns Enterprise on Friday, October 26, 2018

Dobbs Ferry High School graduate (Class of 2014) Paige Monte is the illustrator of a wonderful new children's picture book entitled *Noodles' & Albie's Mermaid Parade*. Set to be published in early November, Monte re-visited her old elementary school Springhurst with the book's author, Eric Bennett, to give students a preview of the story about two lovable penguins and their adventures.

Two photos in article, one of Author and Illustrator and one of a page in the book.