

Wallingford-Swarthmore School District

Social Media Feature: The Power of a Teacher Who Never Stops Caring

OVERVIEW:

Teachers like Mr. Kevin Haney make our jobs easy. Always supportive of the school communicator role and eager to share what is going on his classroom or with his sport teams, he really helps contribute to a positive school climate. Mr. Haney has been teaching English at Strath Haven High School for nearly 20 years. His public speaking elective is extremely sought-after as participating in it really transforms students, and he is a beloved volleyball and basketball coach. He stays in touch with his former students and has officiated at five of their weddings. When WMMR's (93.3) Preston and Steve Show featured Strath Haven one day in May to have the community vote for its "coolest teacher", Mr. Haney was the clear choice. "Cool", connected, and caring – that was just the tip of the iceberg of what was to transpire just a few short months later. Mr. Haney's impact was about to reverberate in ways he couldn't even imagine.

In October of 2021, when the USA was evacuating Afghanistan, Mr. Haney reached out to his former student Amir Sidiqi who was living there. Mr. Haney shared his concerns for Amir on Twitter which set off an incredible chain reaction which led to Amir and his family's escape. This powerful story led Amir to show up unexpectedly in Mr. Haney's driveway and then the two of them to fly out to Los Angeles to appear as guests on the Kelly Clarkson Show!

I captured Mr. Haney's adventures and accolades through photos and social media posts that helped share the story with the community. This feel-good – and potentially life-saving – story was inspiring and garnered a lot of engagement, especially during a back-to-school time that was affected by the ups and downs and uncertainty of COVID-19. One thing was certain: teachers like Mr. Haney can make a profound difference in the lives of his students and community, in big and small ways. This story reinforced how lucky we are to have so many amazing teachers in our schools.

Mr. Haney just found out that he is a recipient of the Four Chaplains Award in Philadelphia this year. Past recipients have included Bob Hope, John Glenn, Mickey Rooney, James Michener, Marian Anderson, C. Everett Koop, Tommy Lasorda and Shirley Chisholm as well as military personnel, veterans, and civilians from all walks of life. His impact and legacy - and legend - continues to grow, and the WSSD and greater community is extremely proud of him.

#1: Facebook – Vote for the Coolest Teacher at Strath Haven on the Preston and Steve Show, May 13, 2021



Wallingford-Swarthmore School District

May 13, 2021 · 4 comments

...

Check this out - [The Preston & Steve Show](#) on 93.3 WMMR Philadelphia is asking who the "coolest teacher" at Strath Haven High School is.

All of our teachers are pretty cool - and more! 😊 But if you wanted to vote for just one, you can do so here: <https://wmmr.com/2021/05/10/coolest-teacher-2021/#/>

<https://twitter.com/Preston.../status/1392802434255314951...>



TWITTER.COM

Preston & Steve Show on Twitter



"@Strath_Haven_HS, you are on the clock! @SHHSPanthers, you have 24 hours to vote for the #CoolestTeacher at your school. 🌟
<https://t.co/jjaM5znnv7>"

Anamarie Jones, Maria Acosta Garcia and 64 others

15 Comments 8 Shares

#2: Facebook – And the Coolest Teacher at Strath Haven HS is...Mr. Kevin Haney! May 14, 2021



Wallingford-Swarthmore School District

May 14, 2021 · 4 comments

...

Congratulations, Mr. Haney for being voted "coolest teacher" by students at Strath Haven High School for the [The Preston & Steve Show](#)

Mr. Haney teaches English and public speaking and coaches Strath Haven Men's Basketball

He is a graduate of [West Catholic Preparatory High School](#) and [Widener University](#)



Jes Stillman Lloyd, Kelly Wachtman and 593 others

104 Comments 47 Shares



Like



Comment



Share



Most relevant



Write a comment...



Top fan
Tracy Liebert DiBonaventura
Congratulations!!!!

Like Reply 38w



Marj Pike Hatzell
Of course he did! 🎉 1

Like Reply 38w



Pea Dorka
Congrats!!!! He's a cool neighbor, too!!

Like Reply 38w



Theresa Tiriro Belville
So well deserved!! Congrats

Like Reply 38w



Aimee Jamison Disney
The BEST! Congratulations!!!

Like Reply 38w



Kris Rudd Laubscher
Yes!!!! So well deserved.

Like Reply 38w



Sujata Gaur
Mr. Haney is the COOLEST!!!! ❤️

Like Reply 38w



Linda Martin
Definitely the coolest 😊

Like Reply 38w



Top fan
Kim Wilson
Woohoo! Congrats, Kevin! 🎉

Like Reply 38w



Brian Laubscher
Congrats!

Like Reply 38w



Michele Olimpo Mohr
This is a no brainer!! An amazing teacher who truly cares about his students!! Congratulations!! There's a "PSU heart attack breakfast sandwich" with your name on it waiting for you in the fall at our tailgate! Lol.

Like Reply 38w Edited

#3: Mr. Haney on the Radio...Tune in to hear him on the Preston & Steve Show - May 14, 2021

 Wallingford-Swarthmore School District
Published by Deirdre Abrahamsson · May 14, 2021 · [...](#)

Tune in to Mr. Haney's interview on [The Preston & Steve Show](#) from earlier today! Skip ahead to 12:14 to hear them announce the Strath Haven High School winner and rave about the [SHHS Marching Band](#) and our "legendary drumline" and cadence! Soon after, Mr. Haney calls in to chat!

For this honor, Mr. Haney will receive a \$25 gift card from [ACME Markets](#) and tickets to the MMR*B*Q 2021 Music Festival in September - where he will be seated in the [#coolestteacher](#) section with other recipients from around the area.

Great interview, Mr. Haney!



WMMR.COM
Daily Feed (5.14.21)
News (0:00:00) Entertainment News (00:15:42) Junk Drawer (00:48:00)

2,158 People reached 371 Engagements - Distribution score [Boost post](#)

76 6 Comments 1 Share

Like Comment Share

Most relevant ▾

- Comment as Wallingford-Swarthmore Scho...
 Dibbie Wallick DeColli Congratulations!! We love Mr. Haney!! 🎉🎊
Like Reply Hide 38w
- Jay Visniskie This is awesome!! Kevin is the man and greatly deserves this!! Thank you to all the teachers and all you do for our kids!! ❤️
Like Reply Hide 38w
- Kerry Pratt Yancey Congratulations!
Like Reply Hide 38w
- Kevin Barry The man. The myth. The legend. Well deserved!
Like Reply Hide 38w
- Kevin Jackson Yo the man!!
Like Reply Hide 38w

#4: A few months later..Mr. Haney and Amir Sidiqi Facebook Posts Original Story and Philadelphia area news coverage – August 30, 2021

 Wallingford-Swarthmore School District
August 30, 2021 · [...](#)

Tune in to 6abc Action News and FOX 29 this evening to watch a story that shows some amazing Strath Haven connections! Kevin Haney, SHHS English teacher and coach, was the catalyst behind it.

When Mr. Haney saw what was happening in Afghanistan recently, he reached out to his former student, Amir Sidiqi, to see if there was anything he could do to help him. Amir responded, "If you are still a man of God, please pray for me and my family." Mr. Haney shared that message on his... See more



Candace Lawson, Kelly Wachtman and 2.6K others 279 Comments 634 Shares

Like Comment Share

Most relevant ▾

- Write a comment...
- Christine Ambrose Jackson What a beautiful story and not surprised Kevin Haney had a part in all this!
Like Reply 22w
- Marj Pike Hatzell Amazing!
Like Reply 22w
- Laurie Bell McLean Amazing!!!
Like Reply 22w
- Sarah Rodowicz 🙏❤️
Like Reply 22w
- Helen Nadel Beautiful all around. Welcome Amir! One other SHHS connection: Jeff Cole is dad to 17 grad Aidan!
Like Reply 22w
- Kim Wilson The world needs more stories like this one! I'm not surprised Kevin Haney was behind it. ❤️ Thank you, Kevin & Andrew for making us proud! I'm so glad Amir & his family are safe now. God bless all of you.
Like Reply 22w

 Wallingford-Swarthmore School District
August 30, 2021 · [...](#)

Thanks to Jeff Cole FOX 29 for featuring Mr. Haney and Amir Sidiqi and their powerful connection.



FOX29.COM
'I needed to get out': Delaware County teacher helps former student and family out of Afghanistan

Antoinette Fabrizio Barrett, Jessica Lane Mudrick and 243 others 4 Comments 11 Shares

#5: National Coverage: Mr. Haney and Amir Sidiqi on the Kelly Clarkson Show

 Wallingford-Swarthmore School District
October 19, 2021 · 

Tune in to [The Kelly Clarkson Show](#) on Tuesday, October 19 at 2 p.m. to watch an interview with Kevin Haney, Strath Haven HS teacher, and his former student, Amir Sidiqi! Mr. Haney was instrumental in helping to evacuate Amir and his family from Afghanistan. Can't wait to see it! #HavenProud

NBC NBC10 Philadelphia



Haney
@haney_mr

Last week, Amir and I were flown out to Los Angeles to appear on The Kelly Clarkson Show to tell our story. It airs tomorrow, Tuesday, at 2 o'clock on NBC. I hope you can tune in!  If you are from Haven, there is an  incredible surprise at the end. 



9:29 AM · 18 Oct 21 from Wallingford, PA ·

 Kris Rudd Laubscher, Antoinette Fabrizio Barrett and 271 others · 18 Comments 40 Shares

 Wallingford-Swarthmore School District
October 19, 2021 · 

Mr. Kevin Haney was joined by students and colleagues in his classroom at Strath Haven High School to watch his interview on [The Kelly Clarkson Show](#) today! He and his former student, Amir, shared their story of reconnection as a Tweet by Mr. Haney helped put the wheels into motion to help Amir and his family escape Afghanistan.

They were joined, to their great surprise, by [United States Air Force lieutenant Andrew DeSilva](#) who was the one who flew Amir out. Andrew also had M... See more



Wallingford-Swarthmore School District shared a video from the playlist Thankful. · 

Check out the interview with Mr. Haney, Amir Sidiqi, and Andrew DeSilva!   #HavenProud



The Kelly Clarkson Show posted a video to playlist Thankful.

October 19, 2021 · 

Two months ago, Amir and his family found themselves stranded in Afghanistan. What happened next between Amir, his high school teacher Kevin, and another former... See more

 Antoinette Fabrizio Barrett, Jenny Yim Montague and 232 others · 8 Comments 30 Shares

 Like

 Comment

 Share



Most relevant



Write a comment...



Barbara Gilpert

What a beautiful story so happy it had a wonderful ending  

Like Reply 15w



Cheryl Lyn
Deanna Nanni

Like Reply 15w

↳ 2 Replies



Ashley Gilpert
An amazing story!

Like Reply 15w



Jacki Cashion O'Connell
So awesome!

Like Reply 15w

 Jes Stillman Lloyd, Billy Hodges and 842 others · 59 Comments 58 Shares

 Like

 Comment

 Share



Most relevant

 Write a comment...

 Michelle Cusano
Such an incredible story, Mr Haney. You are an inspiration!

Like Reply 15w

 Maria Glatsky Potter
Awesome!

Like Reply 15w

 Anamarie Jones


Like Reply 15w

 Grace Loyd
Simply amazing.

Like Reply 15w

 Pat Edmondson
Kevin Haney Rocks!

Like Reply 15w

 Brandon Davis
Not all super heroes wear capes , hats off to you. You rock Mr. Haney  

Like Reply 15w

 Colleen M Guiney
Kevin Murray, Brendan Murray

Like Reply 15w

 Ellen Milgrim
Kevin Haney, you exemplify why we go into this work! Amazing teacher, amazing students, amazing story.



#6: Twitter Posts

You Retweeted

The Preston & Steve Show @PrestonSteve933 · May 13, 2021
@Strath_Haven_HS, you are on the clock!

...



@SHHSPanthers, you have 24hours to vote for the #CoolestTeacher at your school. wmmr.com/2021/05/10/coo...



WS School District
@WSSchools

...

Congratulations, Mr. Haney! Thanks, @PrestonSteve933 for this fun opportunity. We think @haney_mr is a pretty great English teacher, coach, mentor, colleague, community member, and friend! A graduate of @wcprep and @WidenerUniv too! #havenproud @havenbasketball @Strath_Haven_HS



The Preston & Steve Show @PrestonSteve933 · May 14, 2021

Congratulations, @haney_mr!
& thanks to the students at @Strath_Haven_HS for showing us why Mr. Haney is the #CoolestTeacher. twitter.com/PrestonSteve933...

Haney
@haney_mr

This is the 5th wedding that I have officiated for former Strath Haven students... Honor of a lifetime. Speaking of which, I wish the Artingstall's a lifetime of love and happiness! ❤️



7:20 AM · May 14, 2021 from Wallingford, PA · Twitter for Android

[View Tweet activity](#)

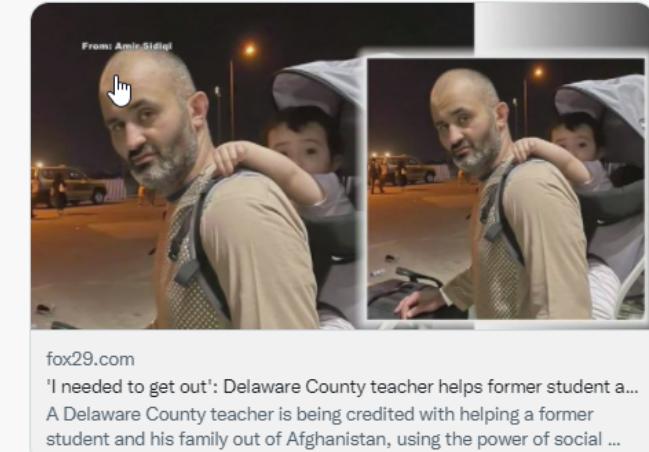
10 Retweets 3 Quote Tweets 75 Likes

You Retweeted

Jeff Cole @JeffColeFox29 · Aug 30, 2021

...

'I needed to get out'; Delaware County teacher helps former student and family out of Afghanistan



1 4 29

...

1 14 11



WS School District @WSSchools · Sep 1, 2021



The Preston & Steve Show @PrestonSteve933 · Aug 31, 2021
Earlier this year, the students of Strath Haven official named Kevin Haney the #CoolestTeacher at their school.

Last week he lived up to that title, helping a former ...

2 32 111



WS School District @WSSchools · Oct 18, 2021

Can't wait to tune in to the @KellyClarksonTV show tomorrow to watch @Strath_Haven_HS teacher Kevin Haney and his former student Amir Sidiqi share their story! Mr. Haney said that @kellyclarkson was wonderful and the whole thing was an amazing experience. @nbc @NBCPhiladelphia

Haney @haney_mr · Oct 18, 2021

Last week, Amir and I were flown out to Los Angeles to appear on The Kelly Clarkson Show to tell our story. It airs tomorrow, Tuesday, at 2 o'clock on NBC. I hope you can tune in! If you are from Haven, there is an incredible surprise at the end.



5 27 111



WS School District @WSSchools · Oct 21, 2021

If you haven't seen @haney_mr and Amir Sidiqi interviewed by @kellyclarkson yet, check it out here! It was awesome to see Lt. Andrew DeSilva surprise them on stage. Thank you to @KellyClarksonTV for sharing their story. #havenproud

The Kelly Clarkson Show @KellyClarksonTV · Oct 19, 2021

Unbelievable Story Of Teacher Who Helped Former Student Escape Afghanistan

WATCH: youtu.be/XX9vwL_PTGO

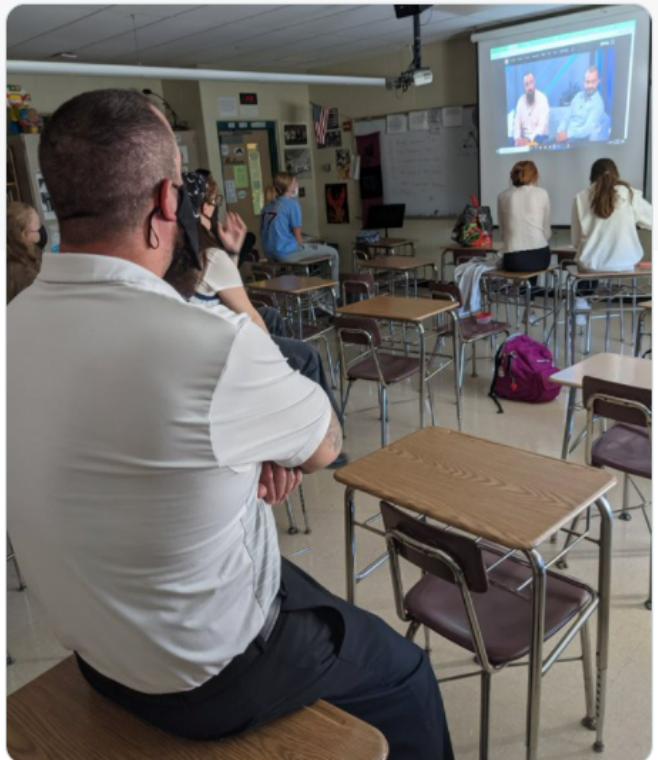


2 20 111



WS School District @WSSchools · Oct 19, 2021

@haney_mr watching his interview on the @KellyClarksonTV show in his classroom @Strath_Haven_HS! Thank you @kellyclarkson for sharing the story of his amazing connection with his former students, Amir and Andrew. @NBCPhiladelphia @nbc #teachersmakeadifference #havenproud



1 4 52 111

You Retweeted



Haney @haney_mr · Oct 25, 2021

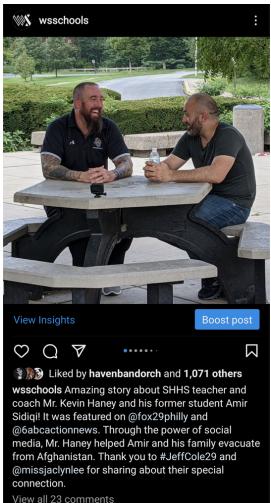
There has been love for these two guys coming in from all over the world. 15 different countries by my count. Today I got a message from a woman in Melbourne, Australia. Thank you @kellyclarkson for celebrating 2 amazing Strath Haven grads! #THANKFUL #BELIEVE @KellyClarksonTV



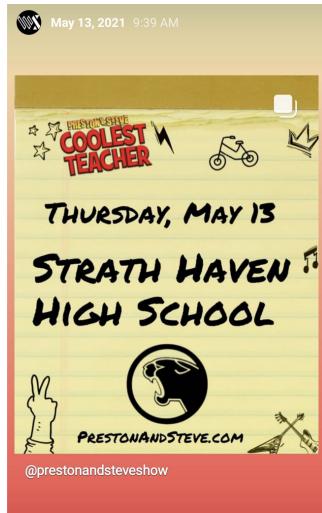
2 9 114 111

#7: Instagram Posts

POST



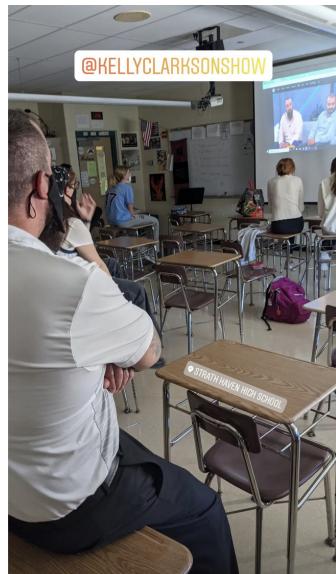
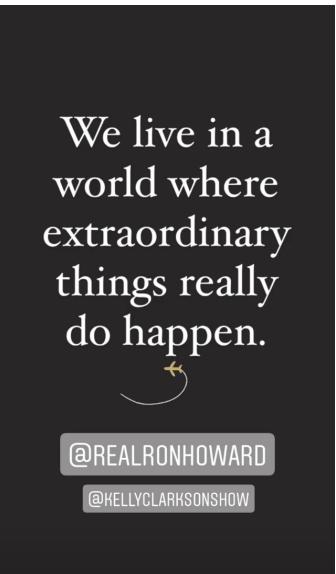
STORIES



Video



Video



Video