



## Girls' Basketball Looks to Future

by Tom Nolan, *Ellenville Middle School Teacher*

Hoping to build a successful program, the Varsity and JV Girls' Basketball coaches understand that they needed to find a way to build a love of the game into their future players. One way to get kids to love the game of basketball is to let them play basketball in competitive situations. And selected girls from Ellenville's 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades did play basketball on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Two teams of players garnered from a clinic sponsored by the Varsity girls' basketball program performed in front of their peers. Varsity players coached each team. The Blue Team (*photo above*) was coached by Katie Stoeckeler and Angelica Morales, and included the following players: Britany Young, Regina Steele, Ashley Chireno, Brittney Krom, Mercedes Wilson, Aqwasha Mandiville, Lindsay Green, Cheyenne Chalarca, Portia Bedgood, and Tammy Maheoa.

The Gold team (*photo, bottom right*) was coached by Antoinette Steele and Laneka Brown and included: Colleen Zimmerman, Maressa Santiago, Carolyn Tiger, Amanda Brown, Tori Ann Gaeta, Lauren Simmons, Bilqees Rahman, Stevie Smith, and Tatiana Chalarca. The Girls' Basketball program would like to thank Reggie Steele and Allison Comentino for volunteering to referee this game, as well as Nick Millas for his time at the scoreboard.

Both teams wore t-shirts provided by the *Ellenville Physical Education Department*. Being that the Blue team won, they earned a multi-colored, raised, gold medal. The Gold team received silver medals.

At half-time, spectators were pulled randomly from the crowd to participate in a free-throw shooting contest. If the students made a free throw, they were given a free ice cream from Aramark, the school cafeteria vendor. Everyone involved was pleased with the play of the girls as well as the sportsmanship of the crowd. The Girls' Basketball Program looks forward to holding this event next year. ☆



## Celebrating Young Poets at EMS

by Tom Nolan, *Ellenville Middle School Teacher*

Several poems written by Rebecca Mactas' 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at *Ellenville Middle School* have been selected to be published in the book, "A Celebration of Young Poets." This book is an anthology of poetry written by students from schools all across New York State. Student poems are chosen due to their talent, hard work and dedication.

Fewer than 50% of poems submitted are published. *Ellenville Middle School* received a Poetic Achievement Award given to the top 10% of schools who entered the contest. In other words, Ellenville poetry entries were in the top 10% of schools in the state!

Twenty-five *Ellenville Middle School* students were selected for inclusion in the anthology (*photo above*).

EMS winners from grade seven were: Lilly Gallon, Beth Graham, Rita Miranda, Marla Mitchell, Taylor Osborne, Danielle Housman, Megan Ryan, Jeanette Torres, Grace Porter, Carlos Gonzalez, John Russo Jr., Zachary Schuyler, Steven Wendel, Ana Flores, Alexa House, Alicia Potter, and Daniel Tucker.

Winners from grade eight were: Alysha Edelman, Sarah Gonzalez, Jennifer Palmatier, Brittany Rodriguez, Aureliz Torres, Samantha Housman, Donald Exner and Corey Lennon. ☆

