

ELLICOTTVILLE



D I S T R I C T • N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 54, Issue 4

SECOND GRADERS VISIT CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER

In early December our 2nd grade classes visited the Challenger Learning Center of the Twin Tier Region in Allegany. While at the Center students participated in a variety of tasks and challenges. Students enjoyed time working collaboratively to solve problems while thinking like a scientist and an engineer. They used their knowledge of the phases of matter to complete tasks in the Learning Lab (pictured). Perhaps the most fun portion of the trip was visiting a newly discovered planet as an astronaut and taking off in a spaceship simulator. Students were tasked with searching for materials that would sustain

life on this newly discovered planet, and transmitting their information back to Earth. A fantastic day of learning was had by all!



IMPORTANT DATES 2024

Monday, February 19
SCHOOL CLOSED
PRESIDENT'S DAY

Tuesday, February 20 -
Sunday, February 25
FEBRUARY BREAK

Thursday, March 14
½ DAY FOR STUDENTS
(GRADES PREK-12)
PARENT/TEACHER
CONFERENCES

Friday, March 15
SUPERINTENDENT'S STAFF
DEVELOPMENT DAY
NO SCHOOL FOR
STUDENTS

PROJECT CHRISTMAS

The Project Christmas committee would like to thank the Ellicottville Central School community for their continued and very generous support. This past December, the program was able to help over 30 Ellicottville Central School District families. We are all so fortunate to live in a community where support is available when it is needed. Best wishes to everyone, for a very Healthy and Happy 2024!



A Message from our Superintendent

2024-25 School Budget Planning

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will already be more than a month into the new year. The new year signifies a time of new beginnings such as new year's resolutions, completing income taxes, and remembering to write "2024" when dating documents, checks, etc. For the District, it also means it is time to start digging deeper into the creation of the 2024-25 Budget.

We actually started working on parts of the budget earlier this year, but did not have some of the estimates we needed to really move forward. Unfortunately, we still do not have all the final numbers we need, and the fact is we may not have a few of them for some time. However, we are at a point where we need to start pulling everything together. We will do this by using the figures we have, while making educated estimates on others using trend data, formulas, etc. Between now and this Spring, we will be constantly adjusting our figures as estimates provided to us come into better focus.

Currently, some of the figures that are proving to be the most illusive include (but are not limited to): increases in health insurance, the impact of inflation on supplies and utilities such as diesel fuel, electricity, snow/ice removal supplies, expense driven aid (i.e. aid received for certain BOCES services), etc.

Overshadowing these figures are the estimated revenues we are seeing for New York State Foundation Aid. Please recall that Foundation Aid is the largest type of State Aid we receive that has the least number of restrictions on how we can use it. In other words... **it is a large amount of money that the District can use in ways that best suit the needs of the students and school.**

Over the past several years, ECS has enjoyed annual increases in Foundation Aid of about 3%. Last year this was about a \$90,000 increase. At the same time, ECS fell under a category called "Save Harmless," as the 3% increases the District was enjoying recently exceeded the amount that the State Aid Formulas indicated we should receive. Under Save Harmless, the State did not

reduce the amount of Foundation Aid we received.

This year, things have changed. Back in November, it was estimated that ECS would not see an increase in Foundation Aid this year; we would simply receive the same amount as last year. Unfortunately, when Governor Hochul released her proposed budget on January 16th the Save Harmless process was discontinued. Under the proposed budget, ECS will experience a \$226,000 loss of Foundation Aid in 2024-25 compared to what it received in 2023-24! In a single year, under the proposal, ECS would go from an annual approximately \$90,000 increase in state support to a decrease of approximately \$226,000; a total loss of approximately \$316,000 in state aid support!

You may be asking "how is this reduction possible." While there are many factors involved, the three biggest factors coming into play for ECS are: the formulas being used, the population of students at the school, and the overall value of property within the District. First, the formula that was previously being used was very old and used a set number from more than 15 years ago for our student population. The new formula is using our current population, and like so many districts across the State, our student population decreased over the years while our mission and the expectation that we have for students has continued to increase.

Compounding the situation is the fact that over the past several years, the overall property value in the District has seen a significant increase, and this, too, plays into the formula. Simplified, it means the State is saying "Since the population at Ellicottville has decreased while the property value has increased, the school should rely more on generated tax revenue and less on Foundation Aid." While this may be true, it is simply not fair that the formulas or "rules" have changed at the 11th hour without lots of warning.

Now, we are not panicking yet. The estimated reduction in Foundation Aid is the Governor's proposal. It still has to pass through the NYS Legislature, and there are

lots of rumors and expectations that it will change once again before being approved. The Legislature has the power to accept, or negotiate a change in aid.

While I cannot say for sure, what I have been hearing is that we should anticipate some portion of the aid restored. How much is still unknown. The State budget is supposed to be in place by April 1st. But, an on-time budget is not guaranteed, nor is a restored amount of Foundation Aid. The restoration of these funds would be welcome, but in the meantime, we will roll up our sleeves and put together a responsible budget based on what we know and what we feel we can accurately estimate.

It is too early to say if we will have to exceed the "2% Tax Cap" this year, and, if we do, by how much. There is much work to be done to maximize our revenues, while being fiscally responsible with expenditures. The District should see our numbers come into better focus before the next Newsletter, and I hope to be able to share more information with you at that point.

If you feel you cannot simply wait and leave changes in Foundation Aid to "chance," I encourage you to reach out to our elected officials at the State level to advocate for the restoration of these funds. Please consider contacting your elected officials via e-mail or phone as follows:

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
e-mail via the following link:
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>
Phone: 518-474-8390

New York State Senator George M. Borello
e-mail: borello@nysenate.gov
Phone: 716-372-5740

New York State Assemblyman
Joseph M. Giglio
e-mail: GiglioJ@nyassembly.gov
Phone: 716-373-7103



Sincerely,
Robert Miller, Superintendent

1ST QUARTER HIGH HONOR ROLL & HONOR ROLL

September 6 – November 9, 2023



12th Grade

High Honor Roll

Dalayla Alexander
Evan Bauer
William Benatovich
Brooke Butler
Christopher Calarco
Emmylu Carls
Mikaya Carney
Abby Chudy
Shelby Colburn
Jase Curtis
Adrynn Dederick
Edward Doherty
Samuel Edwards
Keelin Finn
Zoe Goode
Lennon Halloran
Aiden Harrington
Audrey Hurlburt
Emmett Jacobson-Coolidge
Cameron Kaleta
Layla Kerns
Morgan Krotz
Emma Lafferty
Aaron LoGiudice
Cora Norton
Allison Pfeffer
Madison Potter
Skylar Schroeder
Gabrielle Spross

Honor Roll

Owen Chudy
Gracie Conklin
Gwendolyn DeChane
Benjamin Hogenmiller
Mason Perks
Isabelle Woodmancy

11th Grade

High Honor Roll

Hayden Andera
Brianna Aronson
Elizabeth Ball
Kathryn Bless
Lauren Button
Owen Doherty
Jayden Doult
Benjamin Edwards
Alivia Fisher
Tea Fuller
Kade Hilliman
Addison John
Maddox Walsh
Michael Kerns
Alarice Krause
Courtney Marsh
Ryan Metzger
Ryan Norton

Kyle Robinson
Cheyenne Rust
Siying Sun
Sophia Sundeen
Gracie Vassar
Adelaide Weber
Ava Woodarek

Honor Roll

Tobias Coburn
Jack Flagg
Eve Niesyty
Jayce Pearl
Merek Peters
Grace Privitera
Carter Smith

10th Grade

High Honor Roll

Patrick Andera
Keira Baldwin
Faith Burlingame
Bianca Bush
Grady Byroads
Isabelle Coburn
Kalyn Crowley
Drew Ficek
Teaghan Finn
Jordan Folts
Parker John
Harper Klein
Jackson Kruszynski
Grace Kwagalakwe
Alexa Liskow
Cameron Mendell
Delaney Myers
Anna Nazareth
Mackenzie Noga
Ande Northrup
Jordan O'Connell
Makayla Potter
Olivia Tighe
Daliana Velazquez-Garcia
Oliver Wedvik
Lanie Wilson
Skye Wood

Honor Roll

Maitlin Brown
Kaden Button
Aiddan Gascon
Shyann Harber
Curtis Robison
Zachary Vassar
Talyn Wyatt

9th Grade

High Honor Roll

Adalynn Andrews
Eli Atwater
Kristen Bless
Timothy DeChane III

Trinity DeChane
Christopher Edwards
Ava Fuller
Kaiser Joesel
Tosh Klein
Jaxson LaCroix
Jonah Mann
Eliza Murray
Juliana O'Connell
Ava Pasinski
Yanieliz Velazquez-Garcia
Ava Weber
Benjamin Wedvik
Riley Whitmer
Isabella Wilder

Honor Roll

Breanna Byroads
Coleman Carls
Malie Curtis
Ainsley Edwards
McKenzie Green
Ella Grundy
Reed Nazareth
Jadyn Nevins
Ellen Quinn
Dominic Tirado

8th Grade

High Honor Roll

Alison Antholzner
Zachary Brennan
Rian Johnson
Daniel Kruszynski
Coleman Milks
Sawyer Miller
Cooper Sciarra
Collin Weber

Honor Roll

Isabella Czamara
Audrianna Finch
Katie Lafferty
Carson Mendell
Meegan Olson
Nigel Poulin
Abigail Rust

7th Grade

High Honor Roll

Marjorie Brown
Cooper Coolidge
Gabriel DeChane
Marshall DeChane
Grace Griffith
Carsten Kosinski
Audrey Krause
Cayda Kruszynski
Marlee Maynard
Andrew Myers
Whitney Powers
Camerie Riley

Patricia Ross
Briyona Tarr
Stella Tupchik
Ella Weber

Honor Roll

Ricky Howard II
Benjamin McCarthy
McKenna Mendell
Rae Ann Meyer
Calvin Pearl
Taylor Perks
Lindsay Watson
Nicholas Wedvik

6th Grade

High Honor Roll

Harley Andera
Allyana Andrews
Myla Brennan
Liam Dahlman
Oliver Daniels
Rowan Decker
Maggie Faulkner
Layla Gearhart
Thomas Green
Ty Howard
Axel Moore
Caelan Myers
Clinton Northrup
Charlie Norton
Reagan Pawlowski
Skyler Samborski
Aston Seeley
Teagan Siperek

Honor Roll

Kaiya Baker
Elijah Calkins
Caleb Czamara
Joseph Freaney II
Leona Hill
Mason LaCroix
Paisley Nelson
Audri Scott
Emma Wallace

5th Grade

Mrs. Moore's Class

Violet Bly
Noah Bunk
Evelyn Earley
James Helie
Vander Travis

Mr. Smith

Oliver Johnson
Carter Potter
Quinn Kell
Shiloh Miller
Jameson Burlingame
Braylon Van Buren

WELCOME



Karen Romance is joining ECS as a 12:1:1 elementary special education teacher. Karen has taught special education for 13 years, most recently at Genesee Valley CSD. She attended

SUNY Geneseo and completed her master's program through Walden University. Karen has lived in Arcade with her husband, David for 23 years. They have a daughter, who lives in Montana, and a son who recently bought his first home. Karen enjoys camping, mountain biking, running, and refurbishing old furniture! She is looking forward to a great year at ECS!

Also, Welcome to Our New Support Staff:

Ruthann Courtney – Bus Driver

Dennis Hintz – CDL Driver

Randi Metzger – Teacher Assistant

Melissa Riehle – Teacher Aide

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

Requests for transportation for the 2024-25 school year of non-public school children should be submitted to the Ellicottville Central School District Superintendent's Office by April 1, 2024.

Regulations require that the district transport students to non-public schools when a student resides within 15 miles of the non-public school. The 15 miles is measured from the home of the student to the non-public school.

Please send requests to:

Ellicottville Central School
ATTN: Mr. Robert Miller, Superintendent
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, New York 14731

The Ellicottville Central School Drama Club is pleased to announce their upcoming production, **Freaky Friday**. This version is presented through special arrangement with Music Theater International (MTI). This musical is based on the beloved 1972 novel by Mary Rogers and the hit Disney films. The story centers on an overworked mother, Katherine

(**Sophia Sundeen**), and her teenage daughter, Ellie (**Abby Chudy**), who magically swap bodies and have only one day to put things right again. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another's struggles, learn self-acceptance, and realize the immeasurable love and mutual respect that bond a mother and daughter. Don't miss this heartfelt, comedic, and unexpected emotional update on an American classic.

The cast members are:

Seniors: Abby Chudy – as Ellie, **Cameron Kaleta** – as Danielle and Ms. Meyers, **Morgan Krotz** – as Grandma Helene and Mrs. Luckenbill, **Shelby Coburn** – as Parker and Louis, **Emma Lafferty** – stage manager, and **Gabby Spross** – stage/tech crew.

Juniors: Sophia Sundeen – as Katherine, **Adelaide Weber** – as Torrey, **Mikey Kerns** as Adam, **Siying Sun** – as Hannah, **Liam McGuire** – as Grandpa Gordon and Señor O'Brien, **Grace Privitera** – as Dr. Ehrin and Pastor Bruno, and **Alarice Krause** – stage crew.

Sophomores: Skye Wood – as Mike, **Talyn Wyatt** – as Fletcher, **Keira Baldwin** – as Gretchen, **Henry Frank** – light board, and **Grace Kwagalakwe** – stage/tech crew.

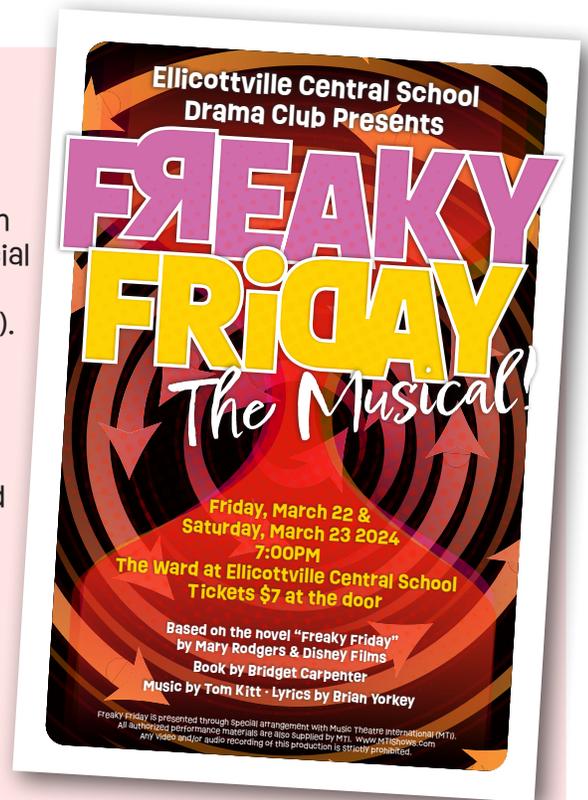
Freshmen: JadyN Nevins – as Savannah, **McKenzie Green** – ensemble, **Olive Abrams** – ensemble, and **Audrey Meacham-Williams** – ensemble.

The production runs **Friday and Saturday, March 22nd & 23rd at 7:00 pm** in The Ward at the High School. The show is directed by Elizabeth Weber, vocal director Wendy Burch, choreographer Michele Sundeen, and producer Meghan Emborsky. Rehearsal accompanist is Jamie Edwards.

Tickets are \$7 at the door.

FREAKY FRIDAY is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.MTIShows.com



ECS MUSICIANS



Congrats to our ECS Students for being accepted into the **Junior High Area All-State Music Festival**. The festival was held on November 3rd & 4th at Akron High School and included students from throughout the four WNY counties. This is a wonderful opportunity for these musicians as they were chosen based on their high scores at the NYSSMA solo festival last May.

Alison Antholzner - Trombone

Jayden Nevins – Soprano

Isabella Wilder – Soprano

Congrats to our ECS Students for being accepted into the **Senior High Area All-State Music Festival**. This festival was held on November 17th & 18th at SUNY Fredonia and included students from throughout the four WNY counties. This is a wonderful opportunity for these musicians as they were chosen based on their high scores at the NYSSMA solo festival last May.

Aaron LoGiudice – Trumpet

Abby Chudy – Trombone alt.



REMINDER: UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

March 1-2 All-County #1 – (EC, JH Band, SH chorus) @ Allegany-Limestone

March 6 7th – 12th Grade band/chorus concert

March 15-16 All-County #2 – (EB, JH chorus, SH band) @ Olean

March 22-23 High School Musical

May 10-11 NYSSMA Solo Festival @ Salamanca

May 15 7th -12th grade band/chorus concert

May 20 HS band/chorus – Darien Lake Competition

May 23 3rd-6th grade Spring Concert

May 27 9th-12th grade band Memorial Day Performance

June 5 Club Jazz (9th-12th)

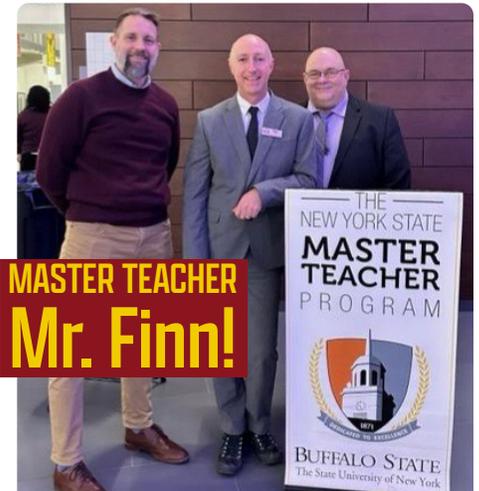
ELLCOTTVILLE HAS STRONG SHOWING AT 2023 SCHOLASTIC CHALLENGE

The ECS Senior Division Quiz Bowl Team won this year's Scholastic Challenge run by CA BOCES in December. The ECS Junior Division Quiz Bowl Team were finalists in the competition. Everyone had a great time at this event where teams have to show their knowledge in many "Jeopardy-like" categories. Thanks to the Ellicottville Teachers Association for providing the t-shirts!



Junior Team Pictured L to R: Sawyer Miller, Rian Johnson, Zach Brennan, Dan Kruszynski, Cooper Sciera, not pictured – Alison Antholzner

Senior Team Pictured L to R: Ryan Metzger, Ben Edwards, Skye Wood, Jackson Kruszynski, Emma Lafferty



MASTER TEACHER Mr. Finn!

ECS is proud to congratulate Mr. Matthew Finn on his induction into the Winter 2024 Cohort of the Western New York Master Teacher Program! Mr. Finn successfully navigated a rigorous application process, and is one of 25 educators across the region to join this prestigious group of teacher leaders. Mr. Finn will be working to develop and share expertise in the areas of content and pedagogy in mathematics, in addition to enhanced study in STEM fields with highly skilled educators across Western New York. Congratulations, Mr. Finn!

Dear ECS families,

The majority of my reading students come to the elementary reading classroom without having done their reading practice. They seem truly apologetic: "I didn't do my reading last night because we were too busy!" I've heard this daily from students over decades. Then they begin to list the countless things the family did the previous night, and the list goes on and on. I'm willing to bet that most of our families have similar concerns: trying to get everything done in the evenings—prioritizing tasks and doing their best to fit it all in. Often, reading practice comes last on the list, especially when children are tired.

I understand. I was a parent of an elementary-aged child once. I was overwhelmed with raising a child, keeping house, holding a job, and going to college. When I read to our daughter at bedtime, I often fell asleep on her bed! There were dishes in the sink and laundry to be done. I never did figure it out, and before I knew it, she was grown and gone.

Looking back, I wish I had prioritized reading with her. The strangest thing happens with your elementary-aged children. As time goes by, they get bigger and aren't as willing to curl up and read with you. Before you know it, you can't enjoy reading together in quite the same way. They stop asking you to read to them and find other things to do. I miss those days, when my own daughter begged me to read with her.

Learning to read takes practice, just like dribbling a basketball or skiing down a hill. I never learned either because I never practiced them. Reading is no different than anything else people learn to do.

We don't learn to read well without A LOT of practice. Reading well helps our children be prepared for the many challenges of learning in school and eventually earning a living. Whatever their interests, whatever fields they choose, they will need to be strong readers to keep pace in the workforce.

If you have an elementary-aged child, please prioritize daily reading practice. Finding time for reading is difficult and always will be. Keep in mind that your child cannot become a strong reader without your help. There is no question. It is not enough for children to learn to read at school. We want them to read competently and understand what they read; that level of achievement takes daily practice in addition to time spent in school. Until your child is reading independently for 20-30 minutes per day, parents are the only ones who can ensure that reading practice happens.

Please make it a priority to read to and with your children. Listen to them read to you. If the reading is hard for your child, read it to them the first time through, and ask them to follow along. Or, better yet, read it together, and read it more than once! Rereading known texts is one of the best ways to build reading fluency! There is no reason for your children to have to "go it alone." You can always help to make it a positive experience.

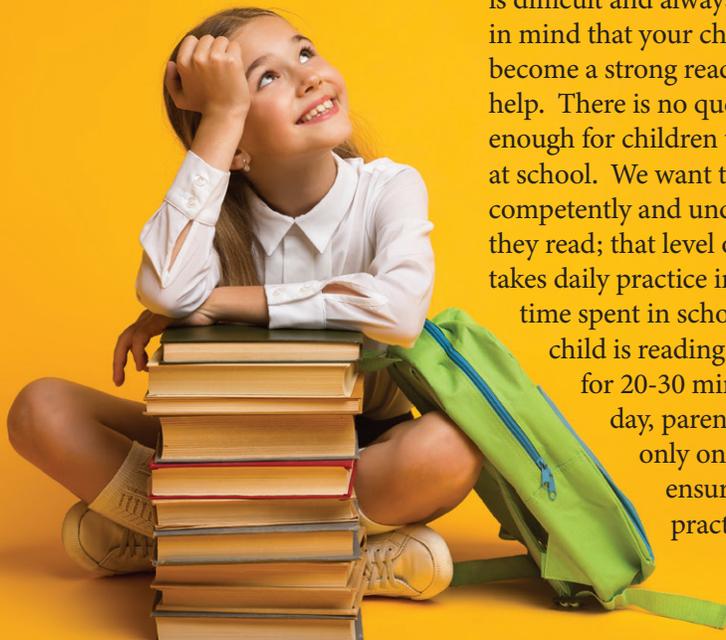
Most of all, there is an emotional connection formed when you bond with children over books. I am a reading teacher today because my mother loved books; because she took me to the library every week; because she enrolled me in Book-of-the-Month club, because she read to me at bedtime. My mother, who raised me by herself on a modest income, always made sure I had interesting books to read. I saw her reading and learned to love books too. For the rest of my life, loving books will be the same thing as loving my mother. Books will always be that for me. You can't separate books and reading from love if we learn from people who are patient and kind and who take time to read with us.

I wish you many happy hours of reading with your little ones. Contact me at school at 699-2318, ext. 1165, if you are having difficulty of any kind, I am always here to help. If you need books at home, please get a hold of me!

Thank you, parents and guardians, for all you do!

Sincerely,

*Marie K. Davis,
Reading Specialist*



ECONOMICS/ACCOUNTING CLASSES TOUR GREAT LAKES CHEESE IN CUBA

Who doesn't love cheese? Okay, maybe not if you are lactose intolerant...but quite a few of us do! Students in Mr. McCann's Economics and Mrs. Nason's Economics and

Accounting class got to see first hand how cheese is made in a factory nearby and soon to be in our backyard. We got a first hand look at the production of provolone and mozzarella cheeses as we toured the Great Lakes Cheese factory currently located in Cuba, but soon to be moving to Franklinville. We also were given the history of the company along with cheese economics. The students were able to enjoy some samples of the various cheeses and learn about some of the job opportunities that will be coming soon to the Franklinville site.



PRE-KINDERGARTEN

If you are a parent/guardian of a child turning 4 years old by December 1, 2024, and have interest in enrolling your child in our full-day Pre-K program, please contact Mrs. Kosinski in the Elementary Office at 699-2318, ext. 1600.

Each year, New York State reviews the funding structure for the grant supported Pre-K programs. If our Pre-K program is again funded by New York State, the district will notify you by mail.

The state considers a child pre-school age if their birth date is between December 1, 2019, and November 30, 2020.

In order for your child to be considered for our program, a Pre-K application will need to be filled out and returned to the Elementary Office.

If you have any questions or need assistance with this application process, please feel free to call the Elementary Office.

KINDERGARTEN

Do you have a child that will be Kindergarten age this fall, but is not currently enrolled in our Pre-K program? Please notify the Elementary Office at 699-2318, ext. 1600 so we may include your family in any upcoming activities this spring such as Kindergarten Screening. Our Kindergarten program is a full school day. The state considers a child Kindergarten age if they turn 5 years old before December 1, 2024.





FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE NEWS

Eighth grade students in Mrs. Nason's FACS8 class participated in NY Agriculture in the Classroom's Mac and Cheese challenge. The students were divided into groups and given the task to create a "new" Mac and Cheese recipe highlighting:

- The use of dairy products,
- Inventiveness, authenticity, and accuracy of student recipes,
- Creativity and effectiveness of the one marketing material.

The students did a great job at working together and combining recipes they found on the Internet or from family members. There were quite a few tasty dishes prepared, however we were not chosen as a winning school. It was a great learning experience and the students had a lot of fun working together in the Home Ec. Room!





STUDENT COUNCIL

Giving Back to the Community



Our ECS Student Council has been pretty busy this fall/winter with various projects. We sponsored Red Ribbon Week in October. Student Council brought in a speaker from Kids Escaping Drugs for a student assembly and created various activities throughout the week to encourage a drug-free life.

Student Council then worked with our ECS Cafeteria Staff, Maintenance Staff, and Music Department to plan and hold a luncheon for our

local Senior Citizens. We worked to quickly transform the cafeteria from a middle school lunch to a nice lunch environment including music from our K-12 students. Seniors enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, beverages, a full course meal, and dessert compliments of the ECS Student Council.

The ECS Student Council also helped with Project Christmas this year by supplying gifts for 15 District students in need. We spent a day

shopping at TJ Maxx and Walmart to find the “perfect” gift for these students. Our members really put a lot of time and effort into finding gifts while staying within a given budget.

Our annual hot dog sale is our main fundraiser for Student Council. It would be wonderful to have your support on Budget Vote day in May. Keep an eye out in a spring newsletter for more details!





Shop with a Cop

On Tuesday December 5th, the Ellicottville Police Department participated in the “Shop With a Cop” Program which included the students from Mrs. Rocco’s and Mrs. Schunk’s classes. Students, staff, and two officers from the EPD, Officer Amber Graham and Officer Kelly Bigos spent the

morning at Walmart in Springville helping students pick out gifts that they would exchange later in the month with their classmates! Students were so generous and had a blast picking out items they thought their friends would love! This experience was awesome for everyone involved and we are

so blessed to have the amazing officers from the EPD working within our community! Everyone was then treated to lunch at Julie’s Restaurant in Springville where students laughed, danced to Christmas music, and had a great time socializing in the Christmas spirit!



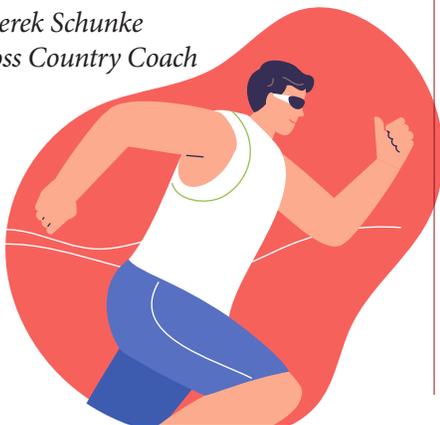
Cross Country

The Franklinville/Ellicottville Cross-Country team had a great season! These athletes worked very hard and “ran their guts out”. When the mileage was calculated from the first practice to the final week of practice, each individual averaged 316 miles of running. Meets and invitationals alone added up to another 43 miles. When it was totaled, each athlete ran over 360 miles this season. They are a pretty amazing and successful group of runners...

Ben Wedvik - as a 9th grader Ben did a great job reducing his times this season. At his first race at Bemus, Ben ran a 21:03. His goal was to break into the 19's. He worked hard all season but struggled to reach his objective. Finally, at the last and most important race of the season, Ben broke through at the section 6 state qualifying meet and ran 19:46. That is a difference of over 1:17 seconds. Ben often flew under the radar, he was very quiet, but was a great teammate, friend and helped this team tremendously, which is why he received the “Unsung Hero Award” this year.

Skye Wood - He always gave everything he had at practice, meets and invitationals. His running over the summer paid off as he was the second-best runner all year. Between his first race and last race his time improved by 1:24 seconds, running a best time of 19:24 at the section 6 meet. He could have easily received almost any of the Cross-Country awards but deserved the award closest to his coach's heart, the “Sportsmanship Award.”

~Derek Schunke
Cross Country Coach



Girls Swimming

This year we were 5-5 and finished 2nd at CCAA Division 2 Championships. The Gators continued on to the Section 6 Class C Championships where 9 individuals competed in numerous events. The Gators finished 7th out of 15 teams. We competed in the Section 6 Girls Last Chance Championship meet with 2 individuals and both the 200-medley relay and 200 free relay teams. These girls did awesome. But even more exciting was the whole team had 94 personal bests this year.

Senior Captain Mikaya Carney had 10 personal bests, competed in the Class C Championships, and was an alternate at the Section 6 last chance Championship meet. Mikaya finished the year with 2 - 1st place finishes, 3 - 2nd place finishes, 5 - 3rd place finishes and 6 - 4th place finishes. She finished in the top 10 at CCAA's and at Class. She was also a 5-year scholar athlete. Mikaya was awarded the athlete of the season award.

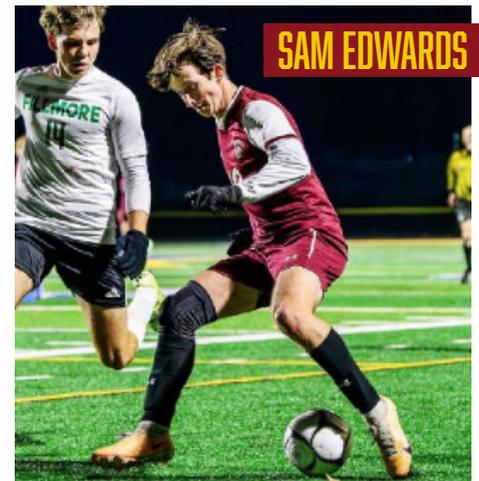
Junior Adelaide Weber had 1 personal best this year in the 500 free-style. She has been a 4 year scholar athlete. She completed the year with 2 - 2nd place finishes, 1 - 3rd place finish, 4 - 4th place finishes and 8 - 5th place finishes all scoring points for the team. Adelaide finished 9th in the 500 Freestyle and 10th in the 100 Backstroke at CCAA's and was an alternate at the Class C Championships.

~Maureen Ruether
Girls Varsity Swim/Dive Coach

Congratulations to our EGS Scholar Athletes



BROOKE BUTLER



SAM EDWARDS

Congratulations to Brooke Butler (Girls Soccer) and Sam Edwards (Boys Soccer) on being named to the ADPRO/Section 6 Scholar-Athlete All Western New York team. This is a great honor for these student athletes that have excelled both on the field and in the classroom.

Congratulations also go out to the following Seniors that were named Honorable Mention:

- Evan Bauer (Boys Soccer)
- William Benatovich (Boys Soccer)
- Abby Chudy (Volleyball)
- Keelin Finn (Girls Soccer)
- Layla Kerns (Girls Soccer)
- Cameron Kaleta (Girls Soccer)

ELLCOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, NY 14731
www.ellicottvillecentral.com

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FOURTH GRADE VISITS THE SENECA-IROQUOIS MUSEUM

On December 8th, ECS fourth-graders visited the Seneca-Iroquois Museum in Salamanca to learn more about the Haudenosaunee, the People of the Longhouse. They were able to tour the museum, and with the help of their tour guides, they deepened their schema on these first people of New York. The students watched a video on the Iroquois Creation Story and also learned more about the formation of the Iroquois League as the five nations (Seneca, Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Mohawk, and later Tuscarora) joined together in peace. The students were able to look at articles made of wampum up close and walk through a replica longhouse. It was fascinating to learn about the history of the Iroquois, and also to learn about how the Iroquois are still honoring their heritage today!



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