

InPrint

WAPPINGERS

Central School District

budget newsletter

The Wappingers Central School District Newsletter

May 2014 Volume 14.2



inside

- 2-5 Budget Information
Capital Improvements
The Three Levy Numbers
Tea Anyone?
Nothing But Excellence
Fulbright Scholar
- 6-7 Valedictorians & Salutatorians
Ochard View Honored
Ketcham Green Works
Future Business Leaders
Science Olympiad
Reflections Photo Winner
- 8-9 Around the Schools Good News
- 10-11 National Honor at Van Wyck
Athletic Accolades
District Jumps Rope for Heart
Chloe's Crayons at WJHS
- 12 Announcements

VOTE

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fishkill Elementary
Fishkill Plains Elementary
Myers Corners Elementary
Vassar Road Elementary
Gayhead Elementary
Wappingers JHS

WCSD

"The mission of the Wappingers

Central School District is to
empower all of our students
with the competencies and
confidence to challenge
themselves, to pursue their
passions, and to realize their
potential while growing as
responsible members of
their community."

2014-2015 WCSD Budget

Message From The Superintendent



Dear Wappingers Community,

On Tuesday, April 22, 2014 the Board of Education adopted the 2014-15 school budget for presentation to the community, and ultimately, the community's consideration by vote on May 20, 2014. The budget is the financial expression of the good work that we hope to continue in the education of all of our students and the progress we want to see for the District as a whole. The budget has been developed with the District's mission and core values very much in mind. We continue to work hard to seek out ways to achieve long term efficiency in our operations and cost savings measures where possible, understanding the importance of fiscal responsibility. The Board adopted budget effectively maintains and advances the instructional program and sustains the good progress we have made as a District in key areas such as our

high school graduation rate and improvements to our infrastructure through technology as we work to provide better learning environments for all of our students.

The Board adopted budget has been developed over many months and we have made significant changes along the way as key pieces of information have become available, such as the level of state aid to be received by the District, as well as information regarding operational costs the District faces that are based on external factors. We were fortunate to receive additional state aid this year which served to close what could have been a considerable budget gap. As we look to the future it will be important to continue to engage in informed advocacy with local and state officials, while still exercising careful management of resources.

We have planned a series of presentations for the community to be held in the evening at schools across the District. These presentations are designed to be informative and to allow time for questions and answers. We have also continued the practice of accepting questions and comments on the budget via email (budget@wcsdny.org). This has been a convenient way for the community to obtain information and for the District to receive feedback.

While remaining below the state property tax cap, the Board adopted budget keeps our instructional program moving forward, and it sustains our initiatives to plan and prepare strategically and programmatically for the challenges of the future. Our full range of student programs, extra-curricular activities, and interscholastic athletics continue without reductions in this budget.

I look forward to discussing the budget with the community and staff at our scheduled presentations.

Sincerely,
Marco F. Pochintesta

Message From BOE President

Dear Community Members,

After months of hard work, on Tuesday April 22nd, the Board of Education adopted its budget for 2014-15. The Superintendent's recommendations were revised at least four times after listening to Board members' concerns and priorities. The budget, as of last year, is under the tax cap and we now seek your approval for our budget on May 20th. The \$211,876,671 budget represents a 3.35% spending increase from last year which will result in a 2.26 % tax levy increase. You will also be asked to approve a bus proposition for \$1,785,314 to replace our old buses.

The budget maintains our high-quality instructional programs, technological improvements, professional development of teachers and administrators, and much needed additional staff positions. The bus proposition replaces 13 large school buses, as well as 10 vans, for ensuring the safety of all our children.

We need to help our children and teachers cope with the high academic standards implemented by 45 states. Children coming home and not being able to do their home work is unacceptable. I will ask the Board to direct administration that we write our own curriculum material. We also need to make our schools parent friendly and special efforts should be provided for parental involvement. It has been shown that schools with a high rate of parental involvement have high success rates.

Unlike the state and county budgets, we only have two sources of revenue, in the form of state aid and property tax. When state aid goes down, property tax increases. Since 2002-2003, our state aid has gone down from 34% to 24% in 2014-15. Therefore, the burden on property owners has gone up from 66% to 76%. The other factors that increase your property tax are PILOT programs approved by the state, our county, and towns and tax certioraris approved for large businesses.

There are many challenges facing the district in the coming year. We have to completely vacate all rental spaces at the end of this year. Our bus garages will be ready by the end of this school year and our buses will move out of the expensive rental space. Our lease for our central office will expire at the end of this year and we must vacate administrative offices we are renting at 167 Myers Corners Road. This will give us a net savings of \$1.1 million every year, which will help lower the tax levy next year.

Under New York State law, the Board also had to adopt the contingency budget which takes away many programs that belong to our children. My personal view was not to touch these programs and I can assure you that none of the seven current board members wanted to vote on this contingency budget, and I am hoping that you will approve this budget and we will not need to adopt a contingency budget.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for approving last year's budget by almost 70% of votes and approving all other propositions including capital improvements by a similar margin. We are in the middle of many important projects. We need your support to complete these projects, and prove ourselves worthy of the trust you have given to me and my colleagues all these years.

We are in the middle of completing many capital projects including the \$3.5 million dollars of safety projects for all our schools, including replacement of roofs in many schools, construction and improvement of bus garages and many other repairs for the maintenance and safety of our schools.

In this unprecedented year, you will also be asked to elect five board members out of eleven candidates who have offered to serve. Your vote on May 20th is extremely important so that we can continue the work you have assigned to the Board of Education. Your voice must be heard on May 20th. Managing a \$212 million budget, the education of 12,000 children and 2,000 employees in our district is a very serious matter for all of us. Please vote on May 20th.

Sincerely,
Ved Shrivah



Wappingers Central School District Budget Notice

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted 2013-2014 School Year	Budget Proposed 2014-2015 School Year	Contingency Budget 2014-2015 School Year*
Total Budget Amount	\$205,013,864	\$211,876,671	\$208,599,141
Increase/decrease for the 2014-2015 school year		\$6,862,807	\$3,585,277
Percentage increase (decrease)		3.35%	1.75%
Change in the consumer price index		1.45%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy	\$145,068,860	\$148,346,390	\$145,068,860
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$5,679,575	\$4,197,714	
A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Not Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$139,389,285	\$144,148,676	
B. School Tax Levy, Not Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$139,389,285	\$144,149,129	
Difference: A - B (Positive Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$0	(\$453)	
Administrative component	\$19,975,431	\$20,255,561	\$19,831,243
Program component	\$161,449,857	\$167,023,094	\$164,259,882
Capital component	\$23,588,576	\$24,598,016	\$24,508,016

*Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2014-15 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, the **additional cuts would be made:** School Law Books, Equipment, Shredding Services, School Furniture, Teacher Supplies, Overtime F&O, Magazine Subscriptions, Extra-Curricular, Library Books, Technology Integration Teacher (1.0 FTE), Guidance Counselors (6.0 FTE), Art Teachers (4.6 FTE), Clerical Reduction - elementary, Monitors (1.0 FTE), Late Runs, Varsity Sports, JV Sports, Modified Sports, Asst. Coordinator - Athletic Director/FACS, and Clerical - Athletic Director/FACS.

Separate List of Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with proposition not eligible for exclusion may affect property tax levy limit and voter approval requirements.)

Description	Amount
Capital Bus Proposition	\$1,785,314

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2014-15 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings

\$727.54

The Annual Budget Vote for the fiscal year 2014-2015 by the qualified voters of the Wappingers Central School District, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York, will be held at the following schools: Fishkill Elementary, Fishkill Plains Elementary, Vassar Road Elementary, Wappingers Junior High, Gayhead Elementary and Myers Corners Elementary on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 between the hours of 7:30am and 9:00pm at which time the polls will be open to vote by voting ballot or machine.

Contingency Budget

A contingency budget is prepared and adopted by the Board when the voters have rejected the proposed budget. The Board of Education may present a proposed budget to the community only twice.

The total spending authorization imposed under a contingency budget is limited by the Property Tax Cap Legislation. The tax cap of a contingent budget cannot exceed the prior year's levy, thus representing a zero percent increase.

The contingency budget calculated for the 2014-2015 school year would be \$208,599,141. If the proposed budget is defeated, the budget items listed below would be eliminated. The difference to the average homeowner, based on current assessment information, would be approximately \$0 per year.

If the proposed budget is defeated, the budget will be reduced by the following:

- Equipment
- School Law Books
- Elimination of Asst. Coord. Athletics/FACS
- Shredding Services
- Overtime F&O
- Art Teacher Reduction
- Technology Integration Teacher Reduction
- Guidance Counselor Reduction
- Elimination of Clerical Athletics/FACS
- Magazine Subscriptions
- Monitors HS
- Library Books
- Clerical Reduction - Main Offices
- Extra-Curricular
- Teacher Supplies
- After School Runs
- School Furniture

WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BALLOT FOR THE MAY 20, 2014
BUDGET AND ELECTION VOTE

YES NO
BUDGET
Shall a budget for Wappingers Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2014, in the amount of \$211,876,671 be adopted, and the necessary taxes to meet such expenditures be levied and collected?

YES NO
BUS PROPOSITION
Shall the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York ("District"), be authorized to purchase student transportation vehicles at a maximum estimated sum of \$1,785,314; or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by law, and for which obligations of the District may be issued?

BOARD CANDIDATES
(VOTE FOR 5 ONLY - PLACE AN X OR ✓ IN THE BOX OVER THE CANDIDATE'S NAME)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<input type="checkbox"/>							
Stephan Perillo	Tracy V. Pelton	John Lumin	Eddy A. Sleshaber	Serna Rivas	Anne M. LaVale	Yed Stuzsah	Matthew Manning

BOARD CANDIDATES

9	10	11	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Peggy Kolland	Ursanule Martins	Charles J. Ricotta					

After you have marked your ballot, fold it and enclose it in the envelope. SIGN THE BACK OF THE OATH ENVELOPE. This ballot is void if you enclose any notice or article in the folded ballot or deface or tear the ballot or make any marks thereon.

If you are unable to vote in person, you can vote by absentee ballot. Applications are available online or in the office of the District Clerk. Please call 298-5000, ext. 40145.

If this newsletter was mailed to you, please check the address label for your polling location or call 298-5000, ext. 40145.

From Our Board Candidates: On May 20, 2014, the voters will be asked to cast their vote to elect FIVE trustees to the WCSD Board of Education. Five Board candidates are running for these FIVE available seats. Each candidate was asked to write a brief statement. The candidates' statements appear in the order that they will appear on the May 20th ballot.

11 BOARD CANDIDATES

(as they appear on the ballot) Vote for only **FIVE** by placing a or in the box under candidate's name.

1	2	3	4	5
Stephen PERILLO	Tracy V. PELTON	John LUMIA	Eddy A. SLOSHOWER	Seema RIZVI

1 Stephen Perillo

My wife and I are lifelong residents of the Wappingers Central School District. We are both 1994 graduates of John Jay and were fortunate to have participated in athletics, fine arts and honors academics. I graduated from Mount St. Mary College and taught sixth grade at Myers Corners Elementary. We have two young children in the school district.

My goal as a board member would be to serve the students, teachers and community in an objective manner. My goals would include:

- increasing transparency between the schools, administrators and community to regain the trust that I believe has been compromised.
- returning curriculum policy and development to the educators.
- creating opportunities for students to develop their own unique potential, through access to a quality education that fits their needs, such as vocational training, honors, enrichment programs and athletics.

I believe this can be accomplished through appropriate funding, combined with fiscal responsibility, excellent teachers and administration, up to date infrastructure, and strong community support.

Our family has many years invested in this community and many more to come. I believe our schools are the best resource to ensure a bright future.

2 Tracy V. Pelton

Tracy V. Pelton is the PTA President at Fishkill Elementary. She is a Professional Figure Skater and was on the U.S. National Team. As lead consultant and Program Director for a joint public/private development of a \$3MM sports complex in Omaha, NE she has demonstrated experience successfully bridging community needs with public financial interests.

Tracy worked in Southern California as the Skating School Director in Palos Verdes then relocated to New York with her husband. She has dedicated her time to the success of students in the community, implemented extended education classes (Art, Spanish, Fitness), coordinated fundraisers, and chairs numerous committees.

Schools must run at optimum performance. We must build community relations, increase communication and transparency and keep funding in the classroom. We must align to the WCSD mission "... to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions, and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community." Promoting parent involvement and encouraging increased communication between teachers, parents and administration will lead to collaboration, cooperation and success. We must keep the budget under the tax cap, and we must keep administrative costs to a minimum.

3 John Lumia

I was elected to the school board in 2006. While on the board I have served as Chairman of both the Policy committee, the Capital Improvement Committee and was a member of the Personnel Committee.

I received a BA from Marist and MA from St. John's University in Mathematics. Having taught at Marist, DCC and RCK for 32 years, I know the value of a good education. I am not a supporter of the CCLS. It's my professional opinion that students at this age are Concrete learners and not Abstract learners. I am also not a supporter of keeping the Alternative High School at OV and with CSE approval student should be returned to their home school. The taxpayers can no longer afford this program.

To have a consistent grade configuration, alleviate the overcrowding in the South of the District and reduce riding time, we must redistrict. To have a successful school district, students, parents, must be willing to change provided it is done correctly and for the right reasons.

4 Eddy A. Sloslower

My family has lived in East Fishkill for 11 years and my daughter is in the third grade. Currently I am an Independent Insurance Broker, but have spent over twenty years in the real estate, finance and mortgage industries working as an Area Sales Manager for companies like AIG and Bank of America. I was also elected for six successive years to serve as Treasurer for a 110 unit Coop complex in Westchester County where I was instrumental in revitalizing an almost bankrupt complex to one that was financially thriving.

I want to ensure that our district maintains the highest educational standards while providing our teachers and staff with the best resources. As a self-employed taxpayer, I am acutely aware of the need for fiscal responsibility and want to spearhead an effort to restore this and accountability while addressing current and future tax burdens and guaranteeing improved communication between the Board and the community.

We can no longer accept the status quo; tough decisions need to be made that can only be done under new leadership. I hope you will support me on May 20th; only working together can we ensure the best education for our children.

5 Seema Rizvi

Dr. Seema Rizvi is running for the Wappinger's board of education. She is a Primary care physician who specializes in geriatric/elderly care. She is married, and mother of a 13-year-old daughter who attends school in the WCSD. She believes in family values, honesty, integrity, and commitment.

She is a person who wants to serve others, the community, and the world at large. She participates in a project that protects women and children from domestic violence. She supports charities such as St. Jude children's cancer hospital and the Indus Charity Hospital. She has sponsored children in third world countries to provide them with education. She and her family helped victims of Hurricane Sandy. She also raised funds for victims of the earthquakes and floods in Asia along with attending interfaith circles.

She believes that quality education is the key to a successful society. Bullying, drug abuse, obesity, and domestic violence are issues that need to be addressed. She wants open communication among parents, teachers, children, and administrators in order to resolve the issues at hand.

She asks for your support so she can have the privilege to serve the WCSD and the rest of the community.

Tea Anyone?

8th Annual Senior Citizen's Tea at Van Wyck JHS

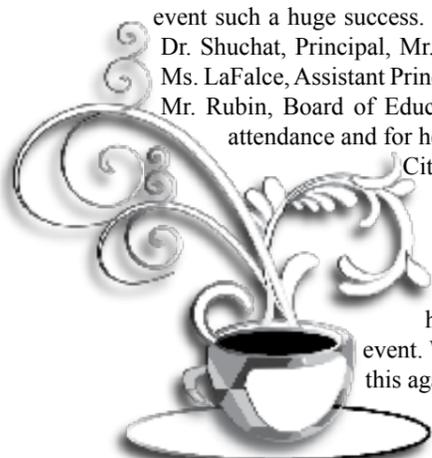
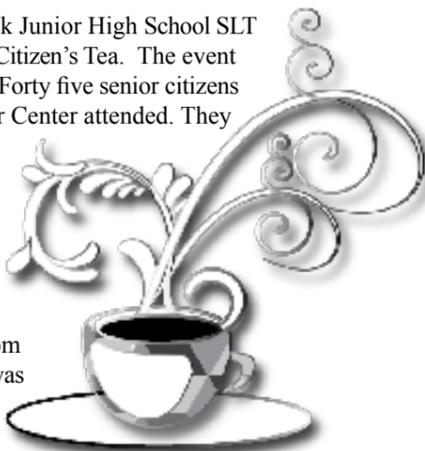
On April 24th, the Van Wyck Junior High School SLT hosted its 8th Annual Senior Citizen's Tea. The event was a wonderful success! Forty five senior citizens from the Wappingers Senior Center attended. They enjoyed finger sandwiches, pastries, beverages, and other tasty treats.

Additionally, the seniors were treated to wonderful performances by various instrumental ensembles from the school. The afternoon was enjoyed by all who attended.

Many 8th grade students volunteered their time to make this

event such a huge success. Special thanks also go to Dr. Shuchat, Principal, Mr. Haskins, Mr. Siena, and Ms. LaFalce, Assistant Principals, and Mr. Lumia and Mr. Rubin, Board of Education members, for their attendance and for helping to make the Senior Citizen's Tea so special.

Thanks also should be given to the Van Wyck SLT, as well as the many faculty members who helped throughout the event. We look forward to doing this again next year!



NOTHING BUT EXCELLENCE!



Two John Jay seniors with their sights set on serving their country have been accepted to two of the nation's most selective institutions. Michael Morales was accepted to the United States Naval Academy and will join the ranks of the midshipmen at the "Yard" in Annapolis, Maryland. Aaron Finch was accepted to the United States Military Academy at West Point and will join the iconic Long Gray Line.

To earn admission to such prestigious institutions, candidates must demonstrate exceptional academic achievement, superior physical fitness and outstanding character. Congratulations to both young men for being selected for the Academies which have some of the lowest acceptance rates among all undergraduate institutions. According to U.S. News & World Report only 6.8 percent of applicants to Annapolis are accepted and only 9 percent of applicants to West Point are accepted.

John Busche, another John Jay senior, will be joining the South Carolina Corps of Cadets at The Citadel. Also known as the Military College of South Carolina, The Citadel is known for its rigorous academic program and military environment. It was founded in 1842 and is ranked as one of the best educational institutions in the south by U.S. News & World Report.



BOARD CANDIDATES

(as they appear on the ballot) Vote for only **FIVE** by placing a or in the box under candidate's name.

6	7	8	9	10
Anne M. LAVALLE	Ved SHRAVAH	Matthew HENNING	Peggy KELLAND	Emanuele MARINARO

6 Anne M. LaValle

I am a mother of seven children and an accountant with 29 years of experience in both corporate and private practice. I am most concerned about the radical overhaul which has turned our local schools into little more than a corporate and governmental training ground via the Common Core State Standards Initiative. This is our community. We have the ability and key elements to educate our children - strong families and qualified, compassionate teachers who share our genuine concern for our children. I believe there is no better motivation for students to succeed educationally than their own natural desire fostered by their families and local communities who know and love them best. As a member of the WCSD BOE, I will fight to protect our most precious resource, our children against the perils of uncaring, bureaucratic governmental overreach by working to restore local control, while fostering genuine student concern. Teacher driven education and fiscal transparency and accountability to our community will be regained in the process. Thank you for your consideration and I hope to have the opportunity to serve.

7 Ved Shrivah

Ved Shrivah has 44 years experience as an educator and administrator and is 30 year resident of the Wappingers school district. Mr. Shrivah has provided distinguished service to the Wappingers District community for over 18 years.

- Elected 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, and in 2011.
- Board President and Vice-President several times.
- BOCES Board 1997-2003.
- As champion of student safety, sports and quality education Mr Shrivah, with the help of taxpayers and Board Members:
- Achieved 100% transportation for all district's children in 1993.
- Renewed 16 year old transportation fleet of school district by maximizing state aid.
- Built 20 state of the art science laboratories in two high schools.
- Introduced Advanced Calculus and Statistics college credit courses in both high schools.
- Achieved accreditation of all 15 schools by Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges.
- Membership in Tristate Consortium.
- Alternative High School for students who did not succeed in regular school environment.
- Strongly supported all employees.
- Strongly supported special population of students.
- Successful in making sports as contingency item in the school budget.
- New gym at RCK

8 Matthew Henning

My name is Matthew Henning, I am the father of three current Wappinger's School District students. My wife Deborah and I, reside in Stormville, our children are enrolled in Brinkerhoff, Gayhead, Van Wyck Jr. High, and our eldest graduated John Jay in 2011. I attended the Wappingers Junior High and graduated from Ketcham in 1994.

Being an electrician by trade, I have held a Masters Electricians license and run a small electrical contracting business. Currently I am an I.B.E.W. Union member and for several years served as an 1199 SEIU union delegate. Having great teachers is an immeasurable asset to our communities and we must show them that we value them.

The district's financial predicament needs immediate addressing, and the tax payers entrust us to make fiscally responsible decisions. The adoption of Common Core without any teacher, or parent, or community input, is proving to be a recipe for disaster, and the issue must be properly dealt with. I pledge to keep the lines of communication open and to make teamwork within the board a priority. You have my commitment to keeping the board professional and also transparent to the community.

9 Peggy Kelland

Our daughter and son attended Oak Grove, Myers, Kinry, WJH, and RCK. I was a PTA room mother for 9 years and on the Site Leadership Team at RCK. I also served as a Girl Scout and Cub Scout Leader, and am Director of a nondenominational Vacation Bible School in Wappingers Falls.

This experience as a parent and volunteer complements my professional background as an educator. I earned my bachelor's degree from Smith College and my master's from Teachers College, Columbia University. After training teachers as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras, I taught high school social studies, elementary school, reading improvement, and math remediation.

I have been a full time teacher, long term and per diem substitute in all Wappingers school buildings. I am aware of the needs of students of all abilities and grade levels, including the importance of art, music, and athletics.

I have 35 years experience on non-profit and public boards, including AAUW Poughkeepsie (President), Dutchess Interfaith Council (President), League of Women Voters (President), Junior League of Poughkeepsie (Vice-President), Dutchess Child Care Council (Vice-Chair), Mid-Hudson Institute (Vice-President), Zion Episcopal Church, Town of Poughkeepsie Zoning Board, and Dutchess County Planning Federation. I know how boards can work effectively.

10 Emanuele Marinaro

My name is Emanuele Marinaro. My family and I have lived in East Fishkill for 15 years. My children attended Gayhead elementary, Van Wyck middle school, and graduated from John Jay High School. My son Peter is attending DCC, while my daughter Rosamaria is attending Sacred Heart University. I graduated from Mt. Vernon High School in the 1980's. I received a BA from Hunter College and a Master's Degree in Public Administration and Health care from CW Post University.

I have been in private business for 35 years as a restaurant owner. Presently, I own and operate Pizza Time Restaurant on Route 376. Anyone who knows me will affirm that I work hard and fight for what I believe in. The education component of our school system will have my full support, our teachers will receive the necessary resources to make sure that the children's education is best to no other. With your vote on May 20th, I will restore fiscal responsibility, transparency, and accountability, while at the same time addressing ways to reduce future tax burdens on our community and the seniors.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS CONTINUE

TO MAKE BUILDINGS BETTER FOR OUR CHILDREN AND OUR COMMUNITY

Improvements to our buildings and campuses approved by voters last May, began almost immediately after the vote. More work has continued during the school year, and major work, approved by NY State Education Department (NYSED) this April after a 3 month review, will take place over the summer.

Last May, the Wappingers Central School District community approved a proposition to undertake urgent capital improvements that will repair aging infrastructure, improve security and energy efficiency, and save the District millions of dollars in fuel costs and other contract fees.

With significant facilities support from Central Hudson and AMERESCO, Fishkill Elementary, Myers Corners Elementary, and Gayhead Elementary were converted to gas heating systems. This provided a warm, comfortable learning environment for our students during this harsh winter, and saved the district tens of thousands of dollars in heating fuel costs. Gayhead was also connected to the East Fishkill sanitary sewer system. The money saved goes back into the budget to repay the bond. All of these valuable upgrades qualify for 55% state aid reimbursement.

During Summer 2013, asbestos abatement was completed at James S. Evans Elementary. Aging library windows were replaced in October 2013.

Major improvements will take place during Summer 2014 while students are not in the buildings:

- The roof will be replaced at Roy C. Ketcham High School. The running track will be recoated, and the exterior bleachers will be replaced.
- At John Jay High School, storm drains will be repaired, the running track and exterior bleachers will be replaced, and the gym wall pads will be replaced.
- Van Wyck Junior High School will get a new roof, and the broken gym bleachers and gym wall pads will be replaced.
- The bus garage at Wappingers Junior High School will get a new roof.
- The existing bus garage next to Fishkill Plains Elementary will be removed.
- Fishkill, Fishkill Plains, Gayhead, Oak Grove, and Vassar Road Elementary schools will have storm drainage repairs done.
- Fishkill Plains will also have improvements to the parking lots, and masonry repairs at the gym.
- Myers Corners will get new floor tiles in the cafeteria and three classrooms.

More work to improve the safety and security of our buildings, along with important campus upgrades, will continue during the 2014-15 school year. Any work that would disrupt students will take place after school hours. These include:

- Cabling each building for the new security system. The system will include video and audio intercoms, and entrance control systems. Security systems will be phased in, beginning with the high schools.
- Upgrading the emergency lighting in all buildings to meet NYSED requirements.
- Converting Roy C. Ketcham High School, as well as Brinkerhoff, James S. Evans, Kinry Road and Oak Grove Elementary Schools to gas heat. This will result in additional fuel cost savings for the District.
- Creating additional school bus parking at Van Wyck and Wappingers Junior High Schools.
- Beginning work on the new bus garage next to Fishkill Plains Elementary.

"We are grateful to the Wappingers community for supporting these improvements, and we have been working tirelessly to make these repairs and upgrades for our students," said Ron Broas, Assistant Director of Facilities and Operations for the District. "Noticeable improvements and cost saving measures have already made our buildings better, and more improvements are on the way."

The process of identifying needed improvements throughout the District began with a state-mandated Building Condition Survey in 2010. In March of 2011, a Capital Needs Assessment plan was presented to the District identifying nearly \$95 million worth of priority repairs and replacements. A Capital Improvements Committee was formed including Rhinebeck Architecture and Planning to evaluate the report and recommend the highest priority repairs, narrowing the immediate needs to \$24.47 million. District needs beyond the repairs, including fuel conversions, the bus garage, and new security improvements were also included.

Residents can see the needed repairs, and the improvements that have been completed to date, by visiting the District's website at www.wappingersschools.org.

11
Charles RICOTTA

11 Charles Ricotta

My name is Charles Ricotta, and I have lived in East Fishkill for 35 years. My six children graduated from John Jay High School, all receiving a great education, which I attribute to the high quality of teachers, staff, and facilities. I commend the staff, teachers, and school district for my children's education.

I am a retired plumber and retired Town of Wappingers Building and Plumbing Inspector. I held plumbing, electrical, and HVAC licenses, and am currently a licensed Heating and Combustion Engineer. I have a degree from the Culinary Institute in Manhattan, and am a volunteer in the East Fishkill fire district.

I believe that my strong background makes me an ideal candidate for a seat on the school board. I would like to help the school district by working with teachers, parents, and students to create a higher level of communication that everyone might have a better understanding of each other.

VOTE

Tuesday, May 20, 2014
7:30 a.m. – 9:00p.m.

THE THREE TAX LEVY NUMBERS UNDER NEW YORK STATE'S TAX LEVY "CAP"

1 TAX LEVY LIMIT

Essentially, the tax levy limit tells a school district how much voter support it will need to pass a budget with its proposed tax levy. For school districts, the tax levy limit is the highest allowable tax levy (before exclusions) that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget and need the approval of only a simple majority of voters (50 percent plus 1) to pass the budget. If a district proposes a budget with a tax levy amount (before exclusions) above this limit, it will need the approval of a supermajority of voters (60 percent) to pass the budget. School districts are required to report their calculated tax levy limit to the state comptroller by March 1st.

2 MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TAX LEVY

The maximum allowable tax levy is the tax levy limit PLUS certain exclusions. Taxes levied to fund the following expenses are excluded from the tax levy limit:

- Voter-approved local capital expenditures.
- Increases in the state-mandated employer contribution rates for teacher and employee pension systems that exceed two percentage points.
- Court orders/judgments resulting from tort actions of any amount that exceeds five percent of a district's current levy.

With all the talk of New York's "2 percent tax cap," it may come as a surprise to learn that each school district presents three separate tax levy numbers every year in order to comply with the law.

And chances are good that none of these numbers will be exactly 2 percent. In fact, in 2012 – the first year under the law – only 5 of 671 school districts had a 2 percent "cap." That's because the 2 percent you hear about is just one part of a complex formula that school districts must use to calculate two of their tax levy numbers, the tax levy limit and the maximum allowable tax levy. These two numbers—that establish more of a threshold than a cap—help districts determine their proposed tax levy.

A school district adds these exclusions to its tax levy limit without triggering the need for 60 percent voter approval.

3 PROPOSED TAX LEVY

The third tax levy number is arguably the most important. It's the tax levy called for by a school district's proposed budget. By definition, the tax levy is the total amount of money to be raised locally by a municipality (i.e., school district) after factoring in all other available revenues. If a school district's proposed tax levy minus exclusions is less than or equal to the district's calculated tax levy limit, the district will need the approval of a simple majority of voters to pass its budget. If the proposed tax levy minus exclusions is greater than the district's calculated tax levy limit, 60 percent voter approval is needed.

RCK Grad Wins Fulbright Scholarship Grant to Nepal

The Fulbright Program, is a highly competitive, merit-based grants program for international educational exchange for students, scholars, teachers, professionals, scientists and artists, founded by United States Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946. Under the Fulbright Program, U.S. citizens may become eligible for scholarships to study, to conduct research, or to exercise their talents abroad; and citizens of other countries may qualify to do the same in the United States.



It is considered to be one of the most prestigious awards programs, worldwide, in 155 countries. Fifty-three Fulbright alumni have won Nobel Prizes; seventy-eight have won Pulitzer Prizes. More Nobel laureates are former Fulbright recipients than any other award program.



Alanna Smith, the 2010 Roy C. Ketcham Salutatorian, will graduate from Providence College Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English/creative writing with minors in Spanish and music. While at Providence, she was inducted into the English and Spanish National Honor Societies and was a member of the college's Honors Department. She was a member of the premier choral ensemble for four years, the school harpist, and the editor of the music department newsletter. She is president of the Science-Fiction club and staff writer for the Arts & Entertainment section of the college newspaper.

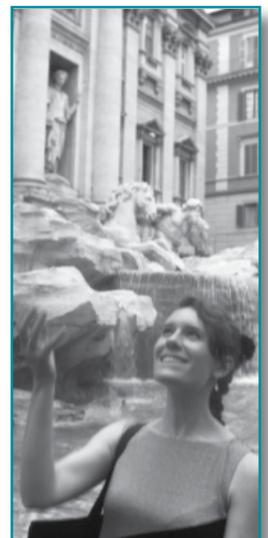
Last September, Alanna informed her parents that she was applying for a Fulbright US Student grant to teach English. She was undecided between several choosing one of South American countries because of her Spanish minor, and pursuing her dream of going to Thailand or Nepal. After meeting with the campus Fulbright advisor, she decided that not only did the Nepalese storytelling culture appeal to her, but she would also be able to fulfill a lifelong dream of seeing the Himalayas.

Most people start their Fulbright application four months before the October due date; Alanna completed hers in four weeks. She returned home to New York over Columbus Day weekend to attend and report on New York Comic Con for the Providence College student newspaper; the same weekend she had to turn in her application. It was one of the most exciting and important weekends of her college career.

At the end of January, news was sent that her proposal had made it past the first elimination round and was going to be sent to the Fulbright Committee in Nepal. She was now a 'Halbright'. In the midst of all the excitement, she also applied and was accepted into the Disney College Program. Her parents were thrilled that she would end up somewhere she loved after graduation.

At the end of February, due to the almost 12 hour time difference, Alanna had an evening Skype interview with the Fulbright Commission in Nepal. The internet connection was poor at best, but they managed to ask her questions about her teaching methods and how she felt about living without amenities. They told her that she would hear back by the beginning of May.

On March 21st, Alanna's father visited her mother's place of employment and asked if she had spoken with their daughter. Immediately she knew she was now the mother of a Fulbright recipient. Her mother recalls being stunned, but not surprised. She remarks, "Alanna's passion for doing what she loves is exactly what it takes to be awarded a Fulbright!"



WAPPINGERS SCHOOLS

Elementary Schools
 Brinkerhoff897-6800
 Evans298-5240
 Fishkill897-6780
 Fishkill Plains227-1770
 Gayhead227-1756
 Kinry Road463-7322
 Myers Corners298-5260
 Oak Grove298-5280
 Sheafe Road298-5290
 Vassar Road463-7860

Secondary Schools
 Van Wyck JHS227-1700
 Wappingers JHS298-5200
 John Jay HS897-6700
 Roy C. Ketcham HS298-5100
 Orchard View
 Alternative HS298-5000

WCSD OFFICES 298-5000

167 Myers Corners Road, Suite 200
 Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent
 Marco Pochintesta
Assistant Superintendent for Administration
 José Carrión
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
 Janet Warden
Director of Special Education and Student Services
 Joseph Simoni
Director of Human Resources
 Joanne Sereda
School Business Manager
 Kristen Crandall
Director of Technology
 Daren Lolkema
Assistant Director of Facilities and Operations
 Ronald Broas

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President
 Ved Shrivah
Vice-President
 Norma Drummond
 Douglass Bitteker
 Colleen Hardiman
 John Lumia
 Robert Rubin
 Somiah Soma

InPrint: WCSD Newsletter

Editor: Susan Penney
Designer: Desiree Ferrara

Produced by Dutchess BOCES Office of Communication and Grants Research
 Genevieve Kellam, Administrator;
 Desiree Ferrara
 Public Information Officer

Finalists
2014 National Merit Scholarship Competition:
John Jay HS Seniors:
Rajat S. Chandra
Qiao Gao

The selection of some 8,000 Merit Scholarship winners from the group of more than 15,000 finalists is now in progress. The National Merit Scholarship Competition began mailing scholarship offers to winners.

John Jay's Principal, Dr. Dwight Bonk, presented each student with a Certificate of Merit to commemorate this prestigious accomplishment.

John Jay and Roy C. Ketcham Top Seniors, Class of 2014

JOHN JAY HIGH SCHOOL

RAJAT CHANDRA - VALEDICTORIAN



Rajat Chandra is the Valedictorian for the class of 2014. He has been noted as one of the most intelligent and humble students to grace John Jay. He is extremely modest about his academic accomplishments and accolades. Both faculty members and his peers hold him in high regards. Rajat consistently demonstrates compassion and appreciation to all he encounters.

From day one, Rajat was focused and eager to take the most challenging classes. He excelled in each course and has maintained a near perfect overall average (99.18% unweighted). In his junior year, his hard work and determination earned him acceptance into the Columbia University Science Honors Program and AP Scholar with Distinction.

In addition, Rajat has been an active community leader. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society (Co-President), Math Team (Asst. Captain), Science Olympiad, Tennis Team (Captain), and a volunteer at Vassar Brothers Hospital, the Digestive Disease Center, and the Children's Museum. Furthermore, Rajat finished first place in the Dutchess/Ulster/Sullivan/Orange County Math League and qualified to take both the American Invitational Mathematics Examination and American Chemical Society national exam.

Rajat's outstanding personality, high level of intelligence, and self-motivation, will guide him towards success in his chosen career field of Chemical Engineering at Columbia University, School of Engineering and Applied Science.

KANTHI BOMMAREDDY - SALUTATORIAN



Kanthi Bommareddy is the Salutatorian for the class of 2014. He is a hard-working, well-spoken, and highly intelligent young man. He is passionate about his academics and being successful in every endeavor.

Kanthi has gone above and beyond both academically and within our school and community. He is the President of the Science Olympiad team, Treasurer in FBLA, the Assistant Editor for Sports in the Newspaper Club, Creator and Captain of the History Bowl Team, and a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Math Team, and Student Council. In addition, Kanthi is a volunteer at St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital, Youth Mission Outreach, and an intern at a research lab studying infant neurology.

Kanthi's outstanding academic accomplishments qualified him to take the American Chemical Society Exam and acceptance into the Columbia University Science Honors Program. Kanthi is also an AP Scholar with Distinction.

Kanthi Bommareddy's academic ability and dedication to his studies will make him successful at RPI's Accelerated Physician-Scientist Program where he plans to major in medicine.

Orchard View Alternative HS Honored

Orchard View Alternative High School was honored at the annual Abilities First "April in Paris Gala" on April 11th for its outstanding community service. A unique volunteer program that provides Orchard View students the opportunity to help pre-school children earned the school the 2014 Abilities First Community Service Award.

The new program matches high school students with preschool teachers to assist children with developmental disabilities at the Abilities First Preschool, located downstairs from the high school.

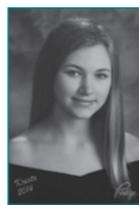
Eleven students regularly volunteer and the program has been a huge success. The staff of Abilities First want more students and more hours for this valuable partnership. An instructor comments, "The Orchard View students have nothing but accolades about the program. It is definitely a positive, motivating experience for our volunteer students."

Pre-school children are also welcomed to the high school for special events. Advisory groups decorated hallways for Halloween and Christmas competitions to entertain the children from Abilities First. The turnout was fantastic and the children loved the decorations and fun atmosphere the contest created for them.

Orchard View serves students who have not been successful in a traditional high school setting. Community service is required of Orchard View students. It promotes giving back to the community, improved self-esteem, development of interpersonal skills, and responsibility. Each student is required to complete 25 hours of community service per academic year.

ROY C. KETCHAM HIGH SCHOOL

KRISTA BIGGS - VALEDICTORIAN



Krista Biggs, the valedictorian of Roy C. Ketcham High School's class of 2014, works hard to excel in her academic and her extracurricular activities. She is both a National Merit Commended Student and an AP Scholar with Distinction. Krista has been a member of Ketcham's math team for three years, qualifying for state competition for the past two. She is also Editor-in-Chief, President of Ketcham's award-winning Odyssey Literary Magazine, and a member of the National Honor Society.

Outside of school, she participates in Girl Scouts, soccer (playing and refereeing youth recreational matches), and dance lessons. During the summer, she has worked as a day camp counselor. To give back to her community Krista is, a tutor at Ketcham's Learning Center and a volunteer at a local cat shelter. Krista will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in the fall, where she plans to begin her studies in the field of materials science and engineering. She would like to thank all of the people who educated, encouraged, and otherwise shaped her into the young woman she has become.

JANSON HO - SALUTATORIAN



Janson Ho is a humble and motivated young man who sincerely cares for those around him. He is always seeking to assist others, whether they need tutoring or advice. A friendly and talented individual, Janson takes pride in keeping a rigorous academic schedule while staying involved in numerous extracurricular activities. With all his accomplishments, it is shocking to believe that he cares less about the recognition and more about his personal improvement. His dedication to work harder and improve will help him succeed not only in college, but also in life. He lives by a quote from the famous writer Ernest Hemingway, "It is good to have an end to journey toward; but it is the journey that matters, in the end."

Although he has demonstrated strength across all academic disciplines, Janson is particularly distinguished in mathematics and science. He has won first place in the WCSD science fair, and seven regional Science Olympiad medals. Beyond academics, Janson has distinguished himself as an integral member of many school and community organizations. He is a member of Science Olympiad and Forensics Debate Society and also a tutor at the Learning Center. He has demonstrated leadership qualities as an officer in the National Honor Society, treasurer of the Literary Magazine, president of the Jazz Ensemble, and president of the Math Team.

Janson is grateful for the many memories and experiences he has had while attending Ketcham, and is thankful for all his teachers and friends who have provided support and guidance. Janson will be attending the University of Rochester in the fall where he intends to major in chemical engineering.





Roy C Ketcham Greenworks

Greenworks is a club at RCK that promotes environmental standards through projects and awareness. The club motto: "Awareness is everything", reflects the thought of when people are aware that they can do something; odds are, they will. Therefore, they have started where they can by promoting good environmental standards and projects at the school. Currently, the Greenworks Club projects and programs include building wide office paper recycling, campus beautification, competing in the Hudson Valley Regional Envirothon, small electronic recycling, the raising of organic crops, and an annual Earth Day celebration.



Winners of the regional Envirothon can go on to the state Envirothon, and potentially onto the National Envirothon if they win the State.

The building wide small electronics recycling program was a great success at the High School this year. The club has collected many

broken or obsolete cell phones, cameras, and various electronics. The club will ensure that these devices are responsibly recycled and that the dangerous materials will stay out of our landfills and waterways.

Greenworks is also currently raising organic vegetable and herb seedlings that we will be selling to the RCK community. The club members hope that selling these seedlings will lead to community members growing their own vegetables this summer. Growing our own crops will decrease the amount of pesticides used to grow conventional crops and decrease the amount of fossil fuels used to transport the crops.

The club recently organized an Earth Day Celebration at the High School. The students weeded and mulched gardens and donated a tree that they planted in front of the school. This was done to raise environmental awareness here at the school. The club is dedicated to sending RCK's future alumni into the world to make a difference for planet earth.

Greenworks Officers:

- President – Julie Settembrino
- Vice President – Gabriella Nasi
- Treasurer – Sarah Lamonica
- Secretary – Megan Saraceno

Greenworks Advisors:

- Chris Luhmann and Mitch Manzo



The club recycles the office paper in the building through Royal Carting by regularly collecting the recycling from individual classes and offices. The club estimates that they recycle over two tons of paper each year.

Campus beautification activities include the planting and maintenance of flowers, trees, and shrubbery mainly in the campus courtyard. The Club also periodically participates in campus litter cleanup, tree management and the creation of campus gardens also collaborating with the school's National Honor Society in support of a team campus beautification effort The Hudson Valley Regional Envirothon is a nationwide competition that is both educational and exciting for the participants.

Topics tested include Forestry, Aquatics, Wildlife, Soils, and Current Issues. These topics are covered during club meetings and after school as well as in the science classes at the high school. Preparation for this competition requires a tremendous investment of time by the students.



I am symbolic of people who may not have the self confidence to be who they are destined to be, and therefore are hidden behind a mask. Soon enough, they realize that the only person that can truly bring them to believe in themselves, is themselves.

- Kaila Williams, Senior Roy C. Ketcham HS

WCSD Future Business Leaders of America



Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is a business oriented organization with a goal of preparing members for careers in business related fields. FBLA participates in school and community events, fund raising activities, and FBLA sponsored events. Past events have included (Adopt-a-family, leaf raking, Annual Winter Coat Drive, donation of food baskets, fundraising for UNICEF, fundraising for Sandy Hook Elementary). FBLA members participate in regional and state competitions.

Congratulations to 13 members of the John Jay Chapter who earned awards at the regional level; and 3 members earned awards at the state level, qualifying them for national competition in Nashville this summer. Congratulations to the Roy C. Ketcham Chapter for bringing home 6 awards from the district competition; and 10 members who earned awards at the state level as well.

The following students from Roy C. Ketcham HS competed in April at the State FBLA Competitions in Rochester New York in their respective categories:

James Koob, Camille Secor, Eric Schwartz, Armando Avila, Raylene Williams, Carly Tebolt, Yohan Zuniga, Gaythari Jaikumar, Kayla Rhea, Haley Meade

These students competed in 30 categories of Business. They received ribbons in the following categories:

Snap Shot Award (for Social Media) Submitted 5 pictures or videos of different events on Facebook or Twitter for FBLA Chapter.

Perfect Press Award (Press Releases) Reporter for the chapter submitted at least 5 articles to the NYS FBLA Express and local newspapers.

Baby Bucks Award Raised money for the FBLA'S state charity, March of Dimes.

March of Dimes Madness Award Community Service Award

Early Bird Award Had all members (44 students) registered with the state by October 15th 2013.

Camille Secor won for Roy C. Ketcham High School in the category of **Business Math** as a **State Champion** and she will be representing the school in Nashville, TN at the **National Competitions** June 29th - July 2nd, 2014.

We are very proud of our students and they will be taking on their next project teaching **Ecology** to elementary students at Myers Corners School on May 29th in Deborah Davidson's Science class as part of their **Program of Work** for FBLA this year in a **Teaching Green** power point presentation.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD



Regional Tournament



"For the past 30 years, SCIENCE OLYMPIAD has led a revolution in science education. What began as a grassroots assembly of science teachers is now one of the premiere science competitions in the nation, providing rigorous, standards-based challenges to 6,800 teams in 50 states."

- excerpt from <http://www.soinc.org>

This year Roy C. Ketcham fielded two teams (30 students) for the 2014 NYS Science Olympiad

held at SUNY Ulster and John Jay fielded three teams (45 students). Competition took place in knowledge events such as Chemistry of Food and Entomology which required individual study; in Experimental Design which challenged student creativity, in Write it/Do it, a test of communication skills, in Magnetic Levitation and Bungee drop, which concentrates on the field of construction. Each team could participate in up to 23 events with a minimum of 18 events for full consideration in scoring. The teams from RCK placed first in Elastic Launch Vehicle and Write It/Do It, while John Jay placed first in Boomilever and Rocks and Minerals. John Jay placed second out of a field of 20 competing schools and RCK placed fifth overall.

John Jay's district funding allows them to begin organization and recruitment at the start of the school year, allowing them to field an exceptional team as seen by their results. Participation in the Science Olympiad runs from September to February. In March, selected teams go on to the NYS competition. John Jay achieved this distinction, placing 17th out of a field of 51 schools.

The Science Olympiad teams at both RCK and John Jay are student organized and led, with advice as needed from Robert Davis and Charles Ropes for RCK and Steve Birnbaum, Maureen Boyle, Tad Herman, John Lane, Mary Reid and Joe Sonntag for John Jay.

The RCK Science Olympiad team has recently "adopted" a robotics group, mostly under classmen, who are working on developing programming skills and hardware expertise that will hopefully contribute to the RCK team's ability to participate in more events next year. The willingness of the mostly upperclassmen group of traditional Olympians to spend the time and club funds to help the robotics group get off the ground is exciting and rewarding to observe.

NOTE

**Tuesday, May 20, 2014
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**Fishkill Elementary
Fishkill Plains Elementary
Myers Corners Elementary
Vassar Road Elementary
Gayhead Elementary
Wappingers JHS**

Mentors make a Difference! at Fishkill ES



Fishkill Elementary School has a mentoring program for its students with the primary focus of helping students feel connected to the school, staff and peers. Each student who participates in the program is assigned a staff member as a support person/mentor.

The mentors meet with the students at least once a month at a special breakfast held especially for them. A healthy breakfast and a craft or game are part of the agenda for developing great relationships between mentors and their students.

Theresa Curtin remarks, "Ellen Vitolo and I have always wanted to be the coordinators of the Mentor Program. Since neither of us have small children at home it is easy for us to be in school early to set up for the breakfasts. When our principal Andy McNally called me over the summer and asked if I wanted to do it I jumped at the chance and called Ellen to see if she wanted to be my co-chairman. She was also very excited about it. This program is so inspiring to us."



In addition to serving as a support person to the student, mentors may plan other activities with the student to develop a positive relationship. A mentor may put a little sticky note on their desk in the morning to say "have a great day", they may also just stop in to the classroom to say hello.

The program has been active in the school for many years and has proven to be rewarding for the staff members and their students. The children love having an adult who works in the school become their personal "friend". Theresa Curtin and Ellen Vitolo love coordinating it and look forward to doing it again next year!

Positive Paws Program Promotes Reading at Fishkill Plains ES



If you see a wagging tail the next time you visit the library, don't worry. It belongs to one of the "canine coaches" who come to encourage young readers.

Volunteers bring dogs to the school once a month and the second grade students improve their reading skills by reading a book out loud to a dog. The dogs and their owners are part of "Positive Paws," a program that brings

dogs to places like schools, hospitals, and nursing homes to spread good will and to provide companionship.

The reading initiative, under the direction of Mrs. Heron, is designed to enhance literacy skills by encouraging children to read out loud to an attentive furry friend. Children also gain confidence when the visitors settle in nearby and seem to truly appreciate the story.

Finalist at Gayhead ES Makes Us Smile

Students in Mrs. Pidanick's art class entered a national art contest for the clothing company P.S. Aeropostale. The challenge was to design a t-shirt based on the theme "What Makes You Smile". The contest inspires students in grades 1-5, to let their creativity shine!



A big CONGRATULATIONS to second grader Matthew McKeon for his awesome design! After reviewing thousands of submissions from across the country, P.S. Aeropostale chose a Gayhead student as a finalist!

Since 2009, P.S. has donated more than \$68,000 to schools and students nationwide. This year, they received more than 46,000 entries from 1,000 schools.

Vassar Rd ES Springs into the Magic of PARP

Vassar Road Elementary celebrated Parents as Reading Partners this spring with flare. This year's theme was "The Magic of Reading" with a focus on reading traditional literature. The children were excited to learn about the Book Fairy – a magical creature whose stories came to life. The Book Fairy was stolen away to a castle in the clouds by a giant ogre. The only way to rescue her would be for a hero to climb a bookstalk that reached the clouds. Fi Fie Fo Fum! The students were called on to save the Book Fairy by reading stories at home which fed the bookstalk. Our bookstalk grew up the wall and around the lobby!



In school, the PARP excitement was fostered through different independent activities such as creating magical bookmarks and guessing the identity of teachers' secret fairy tale personas using literary clues.



Our Vassar families got involved by attending a Bedtime Stories night at school. Students from Kinry Road's sixth grade read a variety of traditional literature and fractured fairy tales. The families met in the cafeteria afterwards for milk and cookies donated by our local Hannaford, a book swap and a make-and-take bookmark craft.

On April 4th, Vassar hosted a literacy fair for the students. Parents and community members volunteered their time to speak about their careers and the critical role that reading and writing plays in their professions. "Our goal was for the students to make real world connections between careers that they are passionate about and literacy", said Principal Richard Dominick. Students went back to their class rooms to reflect on a career that they would be interested in pursuing in the future and how they personally will use reading and writing in that career. On April 11th, students and staff came to school dressed to reflect their career interests and presented that to their classmates.

Mr. Dominick would like to thank our PARP parents, Mrs. Gambichler and Mrs. Castorina along with Library Media Specialist, Therese Coyne, and Second Grade Teacher, Kathleen Licari, for creating and organizing this year's PARP program. Thank you to the volunteers who participated in the Literacy Fair: Alan Tousignant, Trevor Zoo; Captain Steenbergh, Red Oaks Mill Fire Department (Arlington); Megan Filiaggi, Nickelodeon; Officer Mikelic, Town of Poughkeepsie K-9 Unit; Skywalker, K104; Rick Zolzer, Hudson Valley Renegades; Sandy Cornell, Top Notch Dog Training; Staff Sergeant Melissa Guckian, U.S. Army; Kim Busch, Vassar Road School; Principal Jim Daley, Sheafe Road Elementary School; Todd Mensch, WCSD. You inspired our children and helped make the literacy program a success!



Battle of the Books! CREATING LITERACY AND THE ENJOYMENT OF READING

Fishkill Plains' team

The Battle of the Books is the name of a short satire written by Jonathan Swift in 1704. It depicts an epic battle fought in a library where books come alive and attempt to settle the arguments over the supremacy of ideas and authors. America's Battle of the Books is also a reading incentive program. Nationwide, students in grades 3-12 read books and come together "Family Feud style" to demonstrate their abilities and test their knowledge of the books they have read.

The aim of the program is to support students in their discovery and love for reading by introducing them to quality literature, offer books that build upon historical values and the dignity of life, and to develop friendships between students based upon socialization, competition, and mutual respect.



A student participates by reading from the book list provided to them. The school battles are usually in March or April giving the students plenty of time to read the books during the school year. A typical "Battle" is a full day tournament or game, in which students' teams earn points by answering questions about the books on the book list. They are assigned to a team, given a mascot, and sent to their first round of the "Battle." They play several rounds, each against a different team. At the end of the morning, points are totaled and the two teams with the most points are invited to a "Grand Battle" after lunch, with the other teams as their audience.

James Evans ES team



Penny Power Helps to Fight Cancer at Kinry Rd ES



Since 1994, millions of dollars have been raised in pennies and other spare change by more than 10 million elementary, middle and high school students throughout the country. The funds, collected during a three-week period, benefit The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

In March 2014, the Gold Team Student Council at Kinry Road Elementary School joined thousands of schools nationwide to raise funds to help cure leukemia and other blood-related cancers. As part of "Pennies for Patients," special event days were held to help increase participation. Team jerseys helped to kick-off the campaign and hat days allowed students to wear hats to school for a \$1 donation to the cause. Students also showed support by purchasing paper pennies for \$1 and the symbols of support were hung in the school lobby. In total, the school student's raised \$345.25 for the worthy cause.

Investment Opportunities at Sheafe Rd ES

The reasons that parent involvement increases student success are many in itself, simply letting a child know you care and are invested enough to be involved in his day-to-day school life sends a clear message about the value of school and education.



Researchers have been studying the effects that parent attitudes and actions have on their children's academic success for many years, and they have reported consistently that children with parents involved in their education and schools earn better grades, score higher on tests, and much more.



According to Anne Henderson and Nancy Berla, editors of *A New Generation of Evidence: The Family Is Critical to Student Achievement*, "When parents are involved in their children's education at home, they do better in school. And when parents are involved in school, children go farther in school and the schools they go to are better."

Sheafe Rd ES hosted a week-long event known as 'Muffins with Mom' where they had over 125 moms enjoy breakfast each day with their child(ren). PTA sponsored, the event was very successful and partners with their 'Donuts with Dad' and 'Grandparents Breakfast' programs. These events provide an occasion for young students to share special time with a parent or another adult important in their lives.

Fit Body and Mind at Myers Corners ES

The Fit Body and Mind at Myers, an innovative health fair, was held on March 7th hosted by the Myers Corners PTA. In response to the rise in childhood obesity, stress and other childhood illness, this program was designed to offer new and fresh ideas to enhance family wellness.

The fair hosted local medical professionals sharing educational insight and informational materials on how to keep the body healthy from head to toe, including tools to manage childhood stress. Local vendors came together to offer nutritious food samples and tips on making healthy food choices and simple recipes to try. In addition, exercise trainers and instructors provided the opportunity to experience yoga, Zumba, Bowka and other fun exercises to keep fit.



The Myers Corners Elementary School is dedicated to promoting wellness among our school families!

We appreciate all the community members who donated their time for this important event! A healthy student is a direct link to improved learning!

Brinckerhoff ES + John Jay HS 5th Annual "Tri"-Math-Alon

On April 9th, Brinckerhoff ES held its 5th Annual "Tri"-Math-Alon, an event where Mrs. DiGregorio's 4th Grade class and twenty of Ms. Coltellino's math students met up for a day of math activities, comradery and community service. Decked out in matching T-shirts, the classes worked hard all morning, enjoyed a picnic lunch which was followed by an exciting kick-ball game to wrap up the day.



First, the high school students assisted the fourth graders as they rotated through five stations, each focusing on a different math concept or skill. Adding, subtracting, multiplying, measuring, and identifying geometric shapes, are just some of the tasks completed by the students while playing games, making snacks, and flying paper airplanes.

However, the fun does not begin and end with math alone. The day is also about building relationships, strengthening leadership skills, and helping organizations in our community. John Jay students must practice and prepare for the "Tri"-Math-Alon activities ahead of time, and become "teachers for a day" as they instruct and guide the younger students through each activity, building leadership skills. Brinckerhoff fourth graders love learning from the "big kids", and after spending only one morning together, are already calling them "friends".

Although being a good math student is certainly important, Ms. Coltellino and Ms. DiGregorio want their students to know it is also important to be a good person. This is why every year their classes raise money via the "Tri"-Math-Alon to donate to a local family or organization. At the Multiplication Madness station, students race to answer as many multiplication facts as they can in under 5 minutes (in under 2 1/2 minutes if you are a John Jay student!). Prior to the event date, students asked friends and family to sponsor them a specific amount of money for each fact answered correctly. The money raised this year will be donated to the American Cancer Society.



Year after year, students love taking part in the "Tri"-Math-Alon. On the last day of school, reflecting on the year, many students say the day of the "Tri"-Math-Alon was the best day of the year. Math, food, friends - who says learning isn't fun anymore? It is at Brinckerhoff!

Athletic Accolades

Roy C. Ketcham

Highlights – (2013-14)

League Champions Teams:

Football, Cheerleading
Contest of Champions 1st Place National Champions

Individual All-State Athletes:

Casey Herzog (Field Hockey)
Kevin Duke, Cody Levy (Football)

Individual State Qualifiers:

Olivia Frederick (Wappingers Gymnastics),
Leah Wachsmuth (Indoor Track Pole Vault)

Individual All-Section Athletes:

Sam Ross, Julianna Boldrin, Tabby Suter, Megan McCarron, Taylor Anne Torre (Cheerleading), Olivia Frederick, Sabrina Sura, Megan Kohl (Wappingers Gymnastics), Joey Flanagan (Basketball), Jordan Bishop (Boys Soccer), Kim Quiles (Girls Soccer), Casey Herzog (Field Hockey), Rachel Cacace (Girls Cross Country), Taylor Travis, Casey Herzog (Softball), Jordan Bishop, Mark Joao (Baseball), Leah Wachsmuth (Indoor Track) Brad Marvin, Danny Murphy, Grant McGearry (Wrestling) Kevin Duke, Roddy Tierney, Cody Levy, Victor Hernandez (Football)

Individual All-Section Honorable Mention Athletes:

Lauren Miller (Wappingers Gymnastics), Jake Keller (Boys Soccer), Emily Joerg (Girls Soccer), Karissa DeLuca, Kara McConologue (Field Hockey), Charlie Ward, (Bowling), Andrea Bombace, Rachel Tierney, Emma Savas, (Softball) Dave Emory, Dom Emory, Murphy Wilson (Wrestling)

Individual All-County Athletes:

Joey Flanagan (Basketball),
Jordan Bishop, Mark Joao, Jesse Hayes,
Tim Zehenbauer (Baseball),
Leah Wachsmuth (Indoor Track)

Individual All-League Athletes: Olivia Frederick, Sabrina Sura, Megan Kohl, Lauren Miller (Wappingers Gymnastics), Joey Flanagan (Basketball), Jordan Bishop, Jake Keller, Kyle Ios, Dan Ios, (Boys Soccer), Emily Joerg, Kim Quiles (Girls Soccer), Tina Jing, Ruchi Patel, Laura Koob, Eileen Liang (Girls Tennis) Tara Grogan, Kara McConologue, Karissa DeLuca, Casey Herzog, (Field Hockey), Ameera Bhanji, Heidi Simpfinderfer, Katie Ruf, Sabine Smith, (Girls Swimming) Ashok Vallamattam (Wappingers Boys Swimming), Rachel Cacace (Girls Cross Country), Casey Herzog, Taylor Travis, Andrea Bombace, Emma Savas, Rachel Tierney (Softball), Jordan Bishop, Gabe Felix, Mark Joao, Jesse Hayes, Tim Zehnbauer, Jacob Morgenstern (Baseball), Leslie Frazor, (Golf), Kevin Duke, Roddy Tierney, Cody Levy, Victor Hernandez, JJ Mulvey, Matt Krumholtz, Chris Mulvey, Jacob Morgenstern (Football) Allison Savidage, Gina Feehey (Volleyball) Danny Murphy, Brad Marvin, Dom Emory, Dave Emory, Austin Hassett, Murphy Wilson, Grant McGearry (Wrestling)

Poughkeepsie Journal All-Stars: Megan Kohl, Sabrina Sura, Lauren Miller (Wappingers Gymnastics), Jordan Bishop, Mark Joao (Baseball) Danny Murphy, Brad Marvin, Murphy Wilson, Grant McGearry, Dave Emory, Dom Emory, Austin Hassett (Wrestling)

Coach of the Year:

Nicole Oliva (Softball)
Patrick Mealy (Baseball)

Individual Highlights:

Scholarship Winner Section 1 Cheerleading

Megan McCarron

Best Cheerleader Adriana DeSantola

Poughkeepsie Journal Player of the Year
(Wappingers Gymnastics) Olivia Frederick

Poughkeepsie Journal Player of the Year

(Baseball) Jordan Bishop

Section 1AA Back of the Year Kevin Duke

Section 1AA Lineman of the Year Cody Levy

RCK Career Wins Leader with 148 Danny Murphy

Leah Wachsmuth: Section 1 Class A Champion Pole Vault, School Record 11 feet 3 inches, Dutchess County record 11 feet 3 inches, Finished 9th overall in state for Pole Vault.



John Jay Cheer Champions

John Jay Cheerleading has had a very successful year. Junior Varsity Cheer won all 5 competitions they competed in during the winter season. Varsity Cheer has continued to be one of the strongest teams in the area. They defended their title as **Champions of the Large Team Division at the 2nd Annual NYSPHSAA East Cheerleading Invitational** held February 22nd at Sullivan Community College.



On March 1st, the WPDRCCA Winter Conference Championships (Sectionals) were held at Fox Lane HS. The John Jay Varsity girls were **Champions of the Conference 2 Large Division**. They also were the **Grand Champions** of the entire competition having the highest score of the day, beating 19 other teams that competed at the championships.



The team had 13 team members recognized on the Liberty/All Section team and one of our captains received one of the top scholarship awards presented by the Section 1 Cheerleading Coaches Association.



During the season the teams also participate in several community service projects as well as taking part in John Jay activities, improvement projects and supporting the boy's basketball team.

National Honor at Van Wyck JHS



CHARACTER
SCHOLARSHIP
LEADERSHIP
SERVICE
CITIZENSHIP

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is one of the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding middle level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, character and citizenship. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginnings in 1929.

On April 25, 2014, 166 8th grade students were inducted into Van Wyck Junior High School's chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. Hundreds of family members and friends gathered to celebrate the impressive accomplishments of these students.

Four main purposes have guided chapters of NJHS from the beginning: To create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. These purposes translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter.

In order to attain membership into the National Junior Honor Society, each student went through a rigorous qualification process. First, all students earned a 90% cumulative average over the last six marking periods. Then, each student was required to complete a comprehensive application and to write an essay explaining how he/she displays leadership, character, service, and citizenship. Finally, a faculty council reviewed all of the applications and essays to determine which students demonstrated all of the necessary qualities. On behalf of the faculty and staff, we commend the inductees on their prestigious achievement!

Peer Mentors at James Evans ES

One of the highlights of the Evans Peer Mediation Club is a very special program called "Peer Mentoring". Select 6th grade peer mediators are chosen to mentor younger students within their building. These mentor students are responsible for spending some quality time with their mentee on a daily basis. This time can include joining the younger student for lunch, reading a book together, spending snack time together or joining their class at the end of the day.

Peer mediators chosen for this special program show excellent leadership skills because they often need to independently manage their mentoring time. They also show good decision making skills and properly model this behavior for their younger students who might be struggling with following the expectations of the school day. Most importantly, the peer mediator mentors display outstanding responsibility because

their mentee depends on them to be consistent with their visits.

Kaz Harris is a 6th grade peer mediator who has been mentoring Alex Mosher since November. He visits with Alex at the end of the day. They chat about their day and Kaz walks Alex to his bus. Kaz notices that Alex really looks forward to seeing him each day. He states, "I feel good about being able to help another student complete their day successfully!"

The main goals of this program is to help students through these unique relationships and give an opportunity to our Peer Mediator mentors to learn valuable character education skills. The Evans Peer Mediation Club has been proudly offering this program to our school for the past three years.



\$63,486 Raised • Amazing Things are Happening at WCSD!

Fishkill ES, Gayhead ES, Oak Grove ES, and Sheafe Road ES



Elementary students in the WCSD have a strong tradition of supporting the annual Jump Rope for Heart and this year, students really stepped up to surpass their already impressive donation levels.

The American Heart Association (AHA) and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance sponsor this national educational fund-raising program to fight cardiovascular diseases.

Students ask friends and family for donations and jump individually, with partners or as teams, to raise money.



This year, students at Fishkill Elementary, Gayhead Elementary, Oak Grove Elementary, and Sheafe Road Elementary raised their heart rates while raising thousands of dollars to support the cause.

Thanks to hard work, it was a record-breaking year for Fishkill Elementary. In the past three years the school had raised a respectable \$5,000 to \$6,000 each year. This year, with support and guidance from Amy Irwin, AHA Youth Market Director, the school raised more than \$13,000.

"In addition to raising life-saving funds, jumping rope also promotes physical activity, helping kids to live stronger, more active lives," said Ms. Irwin, "Childhood obesity is one of our nation's leading health threats." Coordinators Chrissy Axtmann and Kathleen Landry could not be more impressed with their students' jump rope skills, or the amount of donations they collected to help save lives.

"It's exciting to see the students' jump rope skills getting better each year," said Ms. Axtmann "This year, especially, the students worked hard not only on their jumping, but on learning the value of community service by raising funds for such a worthy cause."

Each of the other elementary schools also demonstrated great success in their support of the AHA, Gayhead ES raised \$34,508, a new school record! Oak Grove ES raised \$7,555 and Sheafe Rd ES raised \$8,423.

Jump Rope for Heart was the brainchild of Milwaukee teacher Jean Barkow. The first event was held 35 years ago and raised about \$2,000. Since then, children across the nation, including WCSD, have raised more than \$700 million to fight heart disease and stroke while learning about maintaining heart health through good nutrition and physical activity.

Chloe's Crayons

at Wappingers Junior High School



Wappingers Junior High School Civility Counts Club decides each year to participate in benevolent service projects to give back to their community. This year they chose Chloe's Crayons, which takes in used, broken, and new crayons and melts them down into new crayons that are then given to children that are in the hospital or undergoing treatment for numerous childhood diseases.

Chloe's crayons was begun by Chloe's mother after her 3 year old daughter, Chloe, was diagnosed with leukemia mid-June of last year. (www.facebook.com/chloevsleukemia) There were certain points during treatment where Chloe had seen the doctors and nurses more than her family. They always try to make her smile and keep her entertained but her favorite thing to do is color. Chloe's mom wanted to give something to the hospital that they could give to the children like Chloe that spend so much time there.



She started with the crayons that were in her home and then began buying them. Soon she started getting donations and so far, she's been able to donate over 100 sets of coloring books and crayons to a few

different hospitals and one school; the school was at the request of someone who won a promotional contest.

She is going to start selling the crayons as a fundraiser to help pay for the supplies that she currently purchases out of her own pocket, and hopefully from there, start to "sponsor" children who are sick and help them in the way a few foundations have helped her family. Mostly on her own, Chloe's mom does all of the work in her home right now; and sometimes with the help of her cousin.

The Wappingers JHS students collected more than just a few crayons to donate. Chloe's mother comments, "I spent about 5 hours sorting through the crayons collected by Wappingers Jr. High School and I am only about halfway through what they have collected! At least 15 one-gallon bags done. Thank you so much WJHS!"



(www.facebook.com/chloescrayons6613)
(www.facebook.com/chloevsleukemia)

Athletic Accolades

John Jay

Highlights 2013-2014

League Champions Teams:

Football, Volleyball, Girls Tennis, Boys Bowling, Girls Bowling

Section Champions:

Volleyball (Regional Champs, NYS Final 4), Matt Goldsmith-Long Jump 21ft. 2.75 in (Boys Indoor Track)

Individual All-Section Athletes:

Gabby Bracchi, Vicky Lattanzio, Megan Theiller (Softball); Matt Lisella, Mike Luzzi (Baseball); Andrew Moesch, Jared Sanchez, Robert Schumacher, Dimitrios Tsesmetzis (Football); Kayla Gumina, Halie Comisac (Cheerleading); Nate Mansfield, Brian Vigorita (Boys Soccer); Corrine Burns, Haley Thoma (Girls Soccer); Megan Theiller, Courtney Barbara, Chelsea Barberan (Volleyball); Matt Goldsmith (Boys Indoor Track); Michael Gately (Boys Bowling); Victoria Pacacha (Girls Bowling); Jay Albis, Grant Frederick, Brett Perry (Wrestling)

Individual All-County Athletes:

JD Lemay (Wappingers Boys Lacrosse); Matt Lisella, Mike Luzzi, Mike Laffin, Tyler Kardas (Baseball); Dante Harris, Aaron Hamilton, Charles Tankeh, Courtney Hunte, Bobby Bidwell (Boys Track); Amanda Giusto, Josley De Los Santos, Megan Kohl, Olivia Malone, Lauren Miller (Girls Track); Troy Dean, Aaron Finch, Frankie Birmingham, Pete Groen (Boys Cross Country); Sam Mosca, Erin Dillmann, Caroline O'Brien (Girl Cross Country); Megan Theiller, Courtney Barbara, Chelsea Barberan, Madylen Barberan, Halley Dewey (Volleyball); Nate Diedrick, Aaron Hamilton, Matt Goldsmith, Sean Powell (Boys Indoor Track); Alex Siedlecki, Allie Gusmano, DeAnna Newman, Megan Sadowitz, Epiphany Reddick (Girls Indoor Track)

Poughkeepsie Journal All-Stars:

1st team-JD Lemay, Honorable Mention- Joe Fusco, Sean Jennings (Wappinger Boys Lacrosse); 1st team-Mike Luzzi, 2nd team-Matt Lisella (Baseball) Rajat Chandra (Boys Tennis); 1st team-Gabby Bracchi, 1st team-Nadia Kemp, 1st team-Megan Theiller, 1st team-Tateum Valentine, 1st team-Vicky Lattanzio, 2nd team-Andrea Varvara, (Softball); Pia Krishnamurti (Girls Tennis); Andrew Moesch-Kicker, Jared Sanchez-Defense, Joe Lisowski-Specialist (Football); Nate Mansfield, Brian Vigorita (Boys Soccer); Corrine Burns, Haley Thoma (Girls Soccer); 1st team-Megan Theiller, 1st team-Courtney Barbara, 2nd team-Chelsea Barberan (Volleyball); 1st team- Michael Gately, 1st team- Nicholas Pagan, 1st team- George Pacacha, 1st team- Joe Ginese (Boys Bowling); 1st team-Victoria Pacacha, 1st team- Patricia Van Anden (Girls Bowling); Jay Albis, Grant Frederick, Brett Perry, Randy Earl, Tom Docherty, Andrew Anthony (Wrestling)

Individual All-State Athletes:

Alyssa Zeoli, 5th team (Girls Soccer); Tateum Valentine, 1st team, Vicky Lattanzio, 2nd team, Andrea Varvara & Amanda Gisonni, 5th team (Softball); Rob Haughton (Football); Brett Perry, Dale White (Wrestling)

Individual State Qualifiers:

Jay Albis, Brett Perry (Wrestling)

Coach of the Year:

Kalah Lipinski (Volleyball); Thomas O'Hare (Football), Robert Seipp (Boys Bowling) Robert Seipp (Girls Bowling); Jamie Weaver (Wrestling)

Individual Highlights:

Megan Theiller (Volleyball)
All-League Volleyball Player of the Year,
Poughkeepsie Journal Volleyball Player of the Year
Section 1 Volleyball Player of the Year
and 1st Team All-State

Poughkeepsie Bowler of the Year

Michael Gately (Boys Bowling)

Poughkeepsie Journal Wrestler of the Year

Brett Perry (Wrestling)

Poughkeepsie Journal Softball Player of the Year

Vicky Lattanzio (Softball)

Driver Education



Two Summer Sessions

First Session Starts – June 30, 2014

Second Session Starts – July 28, 2014

This 48 hours of instruction leads to a NYS driver education certificate (MV285). This certificate, in most cases, assures students a reduction in their auto insurance for three years which practically covers the cost of the program. Students are also then eligible to receive their senior license at 17. **Applications are now available on the Wappingers website.** The cost is \$400 and is open to WCSD students. Students must be 16 years of age by the start of the first class and have a valid learner's permit. Applications are processed on a first registered, first served basis. **You must pre-register for these sessions.** Deadlines for acceptance of applications are listed on the website.

Look for Driver Education Summer Class Schedule on the Wappingers website!

Go to www.wappingersschools.org and click on the Continuing Ed link or for more information call Jeffrey Behnke, Coordinator at 298-5000, ext. 40130 or ext. 40137.



Presented by The Wappingers Central School District
Fine & Performing Arts Department

Summer Camps

Offered through
Wappingers Continuing Education

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES K - 12

For complete details of each camp view our online Continuing Ed brochure.
Any questions call 298-5000, ext. 40130 or 40137

Camps offered this summer include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Band | Kindergarten Academy |
| Jazz | Spanish Story-Telling & Illustration Workshop |
| Dive Into Reading | Spanish Civilization & Astronomy |
| Lego Robotics | Fun with Fairy Tales |
| Glee Club | Passport to Fun |
| Lights, Camera, Action! | Under the Sea |
| Digging Up Dinosaurs | Disney Adventures |
| Computer Graphics | Printing & Painting on Fabric |
| Computer | Math Magicians |
| Fairy Tale Fun | Crickets and Spiders and Bugs: Oh My! |
| JPAC Musical Theatre | Hands On Fun with Science |
| Ceramics | Mandarin Adventures: Chinese for Kids |
| Ping Pong | Cheerleading |
| Sports & Games | Basketball |
| Softball Soccer | Football |

www.wcsdny.org click on Continuing Ed link- summer brochure

For additional camps, specific times, locations, costs and grade levels, go to www.wappingersschools.org and click on Continuing Education

RELAY FOR LIFE

Food and Refreshments Available
Entertainment for all
Family Event

Join the Dutchess County American Cancer Society's 13th Annual

Relay for Life - Friday, June 6th at 6 pm - Midnight

DUTCHESS STADIUM (on Rte. 9D)

Saving Lives is just a Few Steps Away! Walk-ins welcome

For information contact Gail Buckle at 896-5087

www.relayforlife.org/fishkillny

Important District Announcement Regarding Megan's Law

"... From time to time local law enforcement officials will notify the District when an individual with a history of sex offenses against a child is being paroled or released into the community. Upon written request to the principal, notification will be provided by the principal to the community members who have made the request of the fact that such an in-

dividual has been paroled or released into the community. Requests for particulars about the individual being released will be referred, at the request of local law enforcement, to the hotline number or the website provided..." **1-800-262-3257**
(www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us/index.htm)

GRADUATION DATES

John Jay High School

Friday, June 27 — Mid-Hudson Civic Center, 6:30 p.m.

Roy C. Ketcham High School

Saturday, June 28 — Mid-Hudson Civic Center, 11:00 a.m.

VOTE

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

7:30 am – 9:00 pm

Fishkill Elementary • Fishkill Plains Elementary

Gayhead Elementary • Myers Corners Elementary • Vassar Road Elementary

Wappingers JHS

If this newsletter was mailed to you, please check the address label for your polling location or call 298-5000 ext. 40145

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEWBURGH, NY
PERMIT NO. 934

WAPPINGERS
Central School District
167 Myers Corners Road, Suite 200
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590