



MIDLAKES.ORG

# MIDLAKES JOURNAL

PHELPS-CLIFTON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE IV  
MAY 2020

## DISTRICT VOTE: JUNE 9

### SIX PAGES INSIDE

► **BUDGET HEARING** is 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2. The remote budget hearing will be streamed to the District website and Facebook page.

► **ABSENTEE BALLOTS** will be mailed to registered voters and must be received by the District Clerk **no later than 5 p.m. on June 9**. Late ballots will not be counted.

### VOTER INFO IN THIS ISSUE

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### WATCH IT ON MIDLAKES.ORG



**VIDEO:** Students and staff join the community for the Midlakes Strong Chicken BBQ.



CHICKEN BBQ



LAWN SIGNS



SCHOOL MEALS

## NEVER TOO FAR APART

It has been some time since students and teachers have been able to step inside a classroom but social distancing hasn't stopped anyone at Midlakes from staying connected.

Teachers and staff have used social media videos, lawn signs, poster boards, and remote learning tools to support student learning and social-emotional needs. Staff also compiled a list on the District website of local food, childcare and other supports for families in need.

Every student was sent home with a device to support remote learning and the District's IT support team created an email (techhelp@midlakes.org) and information sheets to help families work through any

technical issues. Those without connectivity were given remote hot spots.

Midlakes Elementary School has posted weekly Acts of Kindness, celebrated student birthdays and hosted remote interviews with students and teachers in its weekday Morning Announcements videos posted on the District's website (Midlakes.org) and Facebook page.

The Midlakes Parent Teacher Organization purchased lawn signs celebrating Midlakes Class of 2020. Teachers at the high school



SEE WAY, Page 8

BY THE  
NUMBERS  
**44,000**  
Meals prepared and delivered by Midlakes to families in April.

**3,280**  
Free dinners distributed by students, staff and community volunteers during the Midlakes Strong Chicken BBQ.

**130**  
Lawn signs paid for by the Midlakes PTO and delivered to seniors by teachers.

► GO ONLINE FIND VIDEOS, PHOTOS AND MORE AT **MIDLAKES.ORG**.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



# BUDGET PROMOTES STUDENT SUCCESS

*A new elementary schedule will better support student achievement.*

BY MATTHEW SICKLES | MSICKLES@MIDLAKES.ORG

The COVID-19 health crisis has brought many challenges affecting the operation of the school district and the delivery of services to our students. We are tremendously grateful to our amazing staff for adapting so quickly to the changing circumstances and their dedication to supporting our students. We are also grateful to our students and their families for their patience and perseverance during these unusual times.

The development of the 2020-2021 school budget is one of the many areas influenced by the crisis as well as its impact on the New York State economy. The budget proposal reflects the challenges that face the District as we seek to advance student achievement while preparing for uncertain funding.

The District is addressing this challenge by preparing for decreased aid from the state while finding creative ways to advance key initiatives and improve our service to students. Whenever possible, we have taken advantage of opportunities to improve efficiency and shift resources to support our most critical areas of need.

Two primary goals guided the budget development process – promoting the success of our students and being responsible to our taxpayers.

We have strategically absorbed some positions through retirement and vacancy and shifted those funds to better support our students. Also, we have budgeted for an increased use of our reserve funds to limit the impact on our taxpayers. While

*“Two primary goals guided the budget development process – promoting the success of our students and being responsible to our taxpayers.”*

our calculated tax cap is 4.03%, this budget reflects a 2.75% tax levy increase.

The primary instructional goal in this budget is the redesign of the elementary schedule to a four-day cycle to better support the academic progress of all students.

The restructuring of the instructional schedule for grades K-6 will ensure that every student receives the appropriate reinforcement and support services, without drawing them away from regular classroom instruction. Some students will receive reinforcement of key concepts and the opportunity for more practice, some will receive more intensive re-teaching and support services and others will receive enrichment.

The new schedule will allow for a more fluid approach to student support with the goal of maximizing the impact of regular classroom instruction on student growth.

The strategic assignment of math AIS (academic intervention services) teachers and reading teachers will enable us to absorb a teacher retirement without eliminat-

ing classroom sections or raising class size. By deploying instructional support teachers differently, we will be able to respond to learning gaps more quickly and with fewer disruptions to the regular classroom environment.

To make this schedule possible, some additions are necessary. While we are absorbing positions in other areas and assigning staff more efficiently, we are converting part-time positions in art, music, and physical education to full-time status to provide additional “specials” and support a staggered schedule for academic and social-emotional support.

As a result, we will be able to better support student achievement while minimizing overall costs.

This budget also includes the addition of an English as a New Language teaching position to meet the growing needs of Midlakes students who are acclimating to a new language and culture.

Overall, the budget reflects our ongoing efforts to realign our instructional program, make efficient use of our staff across grade levels and meet the unique needs of students in grades K-12 so they can all experience growth and achieve success.

The District appreciates the support we receive from the Phelps-Clifton Springs community as we remain committed to meeting the evolving needs of our students, advancing the delivery of instruction and support services while preparing every Midlakes student for success without adding unnecessary costs.

## UPK, K PRE-REGISTRATIONS

Families may pre-register their children for Universal Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten for the 2020-2021 academic year online at **MIDLAKES.ORG**.

Find UPK and Kindergarten forms under the “Schools” dropdown tab.





## Q & A

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*Included are responses to some commonly asked questions on the Phelps-Clifton Springs Central School District's annual vote.*

#### Q Why has the annual vote been moved to June 9?

A Executive Order 202.26 postponed the District's annual vote to June 9 while temporarily replacing traditional in-person, on-campus voting with an absentee ballot system due to the prevalence and spread of COVID-19 and to minimize the potential for contraction among voters. The Midlakes campus remains closed until the end of the 2019-2020 academic school year.

#### Q If campus is closed, how can I cast a ballot?

A The District will mail absentee ballots with a prepaid return envelope to registered voters. Absentee ballots may be mailed to the attention of the District Clerk, 1490 Route 488, Clifton Springs, NY 14432. Absentee ballots may also be returned to a lockbox placed at Entrance C of Midlakes Elementary School. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9. Mail by Friday, June 5 to ensure that your ballot will be counted. Households requiring additional ballots may contact District Clerk Sarah Butler at (315) 548-6420 or email sbutler@midlakes.org.

#### Q How will the proposed budget affect property owners?

A The \$37,488,003 budget proposal calls for a 2.75% increase in the tax levy. A homeowner with a property assessed at \$150,000 without the Basic STAR exemption would pay an additional \$96 annually in taxes. The same property owner with the Basic STAR exemption would pay \$76.80, or \$52.03 with the Enhanced STAR exemption.

Estimated amounts are based on 2019-2020 assessed values.

#### Q How is the tax levy limit for the school district calculated?

A State law requires that the local tax base, the rate of inflation, and other items factor into the calculation of the District's tax levy limit. Also, an unused portion may be carried over from previous years with certain limits. For 2020-2021, the District is proposing an increase of 2.75% which is less than the legally allowed tax cap limit of 4.03%.

#### Q Why is the District buying buses and how are they paid for?

A The District works to ensure the safety of students and staff by regularly replacing older models. A proposition would allow the District to spend \$392,139 from its Bus Purchase Reserve Fund to purchase four buses with minimal impact to taxpayers. The state provides 90% aid reimbursement over five years for the purchase of buses.

#### Q The District wants to create a new Capital Reserve Fund?

A Yes. In addition to establishing the 2020 Capital Reserve Fund, the District will eliminate two older funds. The 2020 Capital Reserve Fund, to be used for renovations, additions and improvements to District facilities, will be funded in an amount not to exceed \$4 million from year-end surplus funds, state aid reimbursements and other appropriations.

The establishment of the new fund does not impact taxes. Approving the measure creates the reserve fund but does not fund it.

## BUDGET SUMMARY

► **BUDGET:** \$37,488,003 (3.29% spending increase over 2019-2020).

► **TAX LEVY INCREASE:** 2.75% over 2019-2020.

► **STATE AID:** +\$10,000 or a 0.05% increase over 2019-2020.

► **RESERVE SPENDING:** \$1,085,000 (\$675,000 more than 2019-2020).

► **BUDGET HEARING:** A remote budget hearing will be streamed on the District website (Midlakes.org) and the Midlakes Schools Facebook page at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2.

#### ► OTHER PROPOSITIONS:

- Create a Capital Reserve Fund
- Spend \$329,139 on bus purchases
- Elect three (3) board members
- Funding for community libraries

## VOTER INFO

► **ABSENTEE BALLOTS** must be returned to the District Clerk **no later than 5 p.m. on June 9**, through mail or a lockbox at Entrance C of Midlakes Elementary School. **Mail by Friday, June 5 to ensure that your ballot will be counted!**

► **ELIGIBILITY:** Residents qualify to participate in the Phelps-Clifton Springs Central School District vote, provided they are:

- A U.S. Citizen
- At least 18 years old
- A resident for at least 30 days

*\*\*No property requirements to vote.\*\**

#### ► FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Questions on voter eligibility and absentee ballots should be directed to District Clerk Sarah Butler at (315) 548-6420 or sbutler@midlakes.org.

## ON THE BALLOT: LIBRARY FUNDING

A separate proposition on the ballot calls for the approval of the annual appropriation for the Clifton Springs Library in the amount of \$84,000, and the annual appropriation for the Phelps Community Memorial Library in the amount of \$84,000.

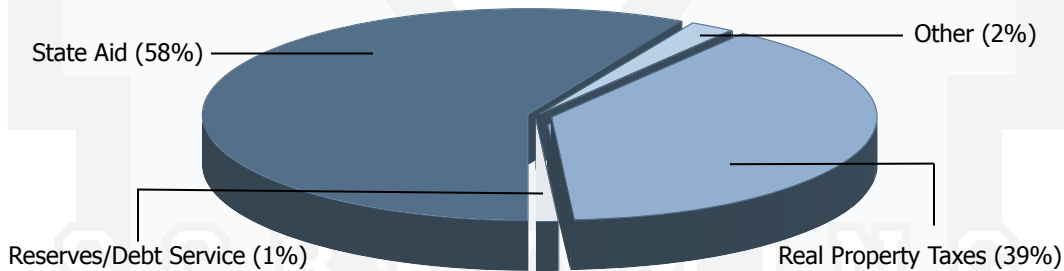
## BUDGET PROPOSAL

The following charts and figures detail the sources of revenue along with the expenditures within the 2020-2021 school district budget proposal. For more information, visit the District's website at [Midlakes.org/budget](http://Midlakes.org/budget).

### 2020-2021 PROJECTED REVENUES

Source	2019-2020	2020-2021	Increase/Decrease
State Aid	\$20,611,842	\$20,621,842	\$10,000
Real Property Taxes	\$14,469,670	\$14,867,586	\$397,916
Reserves/Debt Service	\$410,000	\$1,085,000	\$675,000
Other	\$803,575	\$913,575	\$110,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$36,295,087</b>	<b>\$37,488,003</b>	<b>\$1,192,916</b>

### REVENUES AS A PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET



### EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET



### PROPOSED STAFFING CHANGES

► **Full-time elementary teacher (retirement):** An academic intervention services (AIS) teacher will be reassigned to a regular classroom so class sections and class sizes will not be affected. AIS teachers will be assigned to provide more fluid and efficient supports.

► **Full-time LTS special education teacher:** A long-term substitute teaching position is being absorbed according to updated student needs and more efficient scheduling.

► **Full-time LTS reading teacher:** A

long-term substitute teaching position is being absorbed, reducing K-6 reading teachers from 7 to 6. The new elementary schedule will support a more fluid and efficient use of reading teachers to support academic progress for all students.

► **Full-time clerical:** A recently added clerical position is being absorbed through a vacancy created by an employee moving out of the area. The District is returning to previous levels of clerical support, but staff will be reassigned to meet areas of need.

► **Full-time cleaner:** A cleaner position

is being absorbed through retirement. Since two positions were added over the previous two years, the District will still have one more cleaning position than we had two years ago.

► **Full-time teacher aide:** A teacher aide position is being eliminated according to updated student needs.

► **Other changes:** See the Superintendent's Message on Page 2 for more on the addition of a full-time ENL teacher, .5 K-6 art teacher, .5 K-6 music teacher and .33 K-12 P.E. teacher.

## 2020-2021 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

### INSTRUCTION: 54% OF BUDGET

Category	2019-2020	2020-2021	Increase/Decrease
Salaries	\$12,577,217	\$12,914,496	\$337,278
Equipment	\$103,650	\$106,400	\$2,750
Supplies & Materials	\$836,490	\$1,176,390	\$339,900
Contractual Expenses	\$453,610	\$457,785	\$4,175
BOCES	\$5,139,301	\$5,019,351	(\$119,950)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$19,110,268</b>	<b>\$19,674,422</b>	<b>\$564,153</b>

### GENERAL SUPPORT: 9% OF BUDGET

Category	2019-2020	2020-2021	Increase/Decrease
Salaries	\$1,222,839	\$1,155,682	(\$67,157)
Equipment	\$108,500	\$133,500	\$25,000
Supplies & Materials	\$1,075,161	\$1,090,771	\$15,611
Contractual Expenses	\$163,900	\$163,900	---
BOCES	\$1,033,343	\$1,152,738	\$119,395
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3,603,743</b>	<b>\$3,696,591</b>	<b>\$92,849</b>

### TRANSPORTATION: 4% OF BUDGET

Category	2019-2020	2020-2021	Increase/Decrease
Salaries	\$1,145,384	\$1,207,927	\$62,543
Equipment	\$2,000	\$7,000	\$5,000
Supplies & Materials	\$323,100	\$323,100	---
Contractual Expenses	\$91,510	\$91,510	---
BOCES	\$20,065	\$29,137	\$9,072
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,582,059</b>	<b>1,658,674</b>	<b>\$76,615</b>

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: 27% OF BUDGET

Category	2019-2020	2020-2021	Increase/Decrease
Social Security	\$1,147,808	\$1,174,846	\$27,038
Health Insurance	\$6,478,253	\$6,864,185	\$385,932
Employee Retirement System	\$508,463	\$531,427	\$22,964
Teacher's Retirement System	\$1,109,997	\$1,195,088	\$85,091
Worker's Compensation/Unemployment	\$146,226	\$145,000	(\$1,226)
Local Retirement	\$150,000	\$100,000	(\$50,000)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$9,540,747</b>	<b>\$10,010,546</b>	<b>\$469,799</b>

### DEBT/OTHER: 6% OF BUDGET

Category	2019-2020	2020-2021	Increase/Decrease
Community Service	\$103,207	\$101,357	(\$1,850)
Transfer to School Food Service	\$205,000	\$195,000	(\$10,000)
Debt Service	\$2,150,063	\$2,151,413	\$1,350
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,458,270</b>	<b>\$2,447,770</b>	<b>(\$10,500)</b>

*\*Note all figures are rounded to the nearest whole dollar value.*

<b>GENERAL FUND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$36,295,087</b>	<b>\$37,488,003</b>	<b>\$1,192,916</b>
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## BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT

District residents will be asked to elect two (2) individuals to three-year terms beginning July 1, 2020 and one (1) member to a two-year term beginning June 10, 2020. Board members serve without pay and are listed in alphabetical order on the ballot.



**JACOB AMIDON**  
14 Hibbard Ave., Clifton Springs.

**Family:** Wendy, wife; Nathan, Natalie and Joisane, children.

**Occupation/Career:** High school mathematics teacher, a former professor/administrator at Finger Lakes Community College

**Community Involvement:** Phelps-Clifton Springs Board of Education member (4 years), Village of Clifton Springs Planning Board member and chairman (a total of 12 years).

**Why do you want to be a school board member?** I am proud to have served for four years as a member of the Phelps-Clifton Springs Board of Education. I am looking to continue working with all involved to meet the needs of our students and to situate the school as the center of our community.



**SHERI SCHERBYN**  
15 Mill St., Phelps.

**Family:** Mea, daughter.

**Occupation/Career:** Caseworker for Child Protective Services in Ontario County

County

**Community Involvement:** Phelps-Clifton Springs Board of Education member (15 years), Midlakes Cheer Boosters and 2019 Chem Free Graduation Party volunteer, member of the Wayne County Council for the Arts.

**Why do you want to be a school board member?** I feel that my experience would be an asset to the school district and community during this unprecedented time we are currently experiencing. It is important to me to have our school district and community continue to move together on this beautiful path we are carving out for our students.



**MATTHEW MURPHY**  
4 Sherman Ave., Clifton Springs.

**Family:** Jamie, wife; Grace and Lexi, children.

**Occupation/Career:**

Mortgage originator with the Bank of the Finger Lakes.

**Community Involvement:**

Girls Youth Basketball Coach for several years with the Clifton Springs YMCA and Midlakes Travel Basketball. Also, a member of the Capital Project Community Advisory Committee.

**Why do you want to be a school board member?** During these unprecedented times, I feel it is more important than ever to have a strong leadership team to help guide our children and families. As a proud Midlakes alum, I feel it is important to give back to our local community that I have been a part of my entire life.

## When you shape education, you shape our future.

Respond to the 2020 Census and inform funding for educational programs that benefit our children, like after-school activities, school meal programs, and Head Start. It's more than just a count, it's an opportunity to shape the next generation.

For more information, visit:

**2020CENSUS.GOV**

**Shape  
your future  
START HERE >**

**United States<sup>®</sup>  
Census  
2020**



## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

# REMAINING STRONG AND UNITED DURING 'UNCERTAIN TIMES'

If you have glanced at a newspaper or turned on the television or radio over the past couple of months a theme of uncertainty has been most pervasive. It seems as though every broadcast, article or news show begins with the phrase, "these uncertain times."

However, I can say with absolute certainty that the level of strength, compassion and capacity for caring in our community is unmatched.

The term "Midlakes Strong" was not born in March of 2020 but its meaning has definitely been realized in the days and weeks that followed.

The students and staff that call our campus home have been at the heart of this community for more than 50 years. The block "M" at Ollie Cook Stadium may not be the geographic center of Phelps/Clifton Springs but it's the emotional center of who we are and what we are all about.

Whether it is in our auditorium, during our athletic events, or just walking our hallways, it's easy to see how this community cares for its District, the campus and our students.

These past few weeks and months have also shown the District's capacity to care for our community. The day we moved to remote learning was the first example.

Parents and students were facing a new reality with many questions and a healthy fear of the unknown. That day, administrators, faculty and staff carried out a plan to deliver educational materials to approximately 1,500 Midlakes students.

They did it in an organized and timely way to promote the health, safety and sanity of all who arrived on campus.

A few days later came one of many updates given by Superintendent Matt Sickles. This update – possibly the most important of them all – highlighted the way the District would provide meals for students and families in need.

Currently, the District is providing breakfast and lunches for about 875 students six days a week. In April, approximately

44,000 meals were delivered through a coordinated effort by our food service, maintenance and transportation departments. Many teachers and community members continue to be part of this effort.

Everyone should be applauded for all their hard work and dedication to the students.

The first Saturday in May was marked with a community-wide chicken BBQ and grocery distribution. A partnership between the District, many community organizations and more than 170 individual volunteers helped deliver nearly 3,300 chicken dinners and 800 boxes of groceries to many residents of our community. The event was aptly named "Midlakes Strong."

These are just a couple of the many examples of how our District has stepped up and stepped in to help students and families adjust and make the best of "these uncertain ...." Well, I'm sure you can finish that sentence.

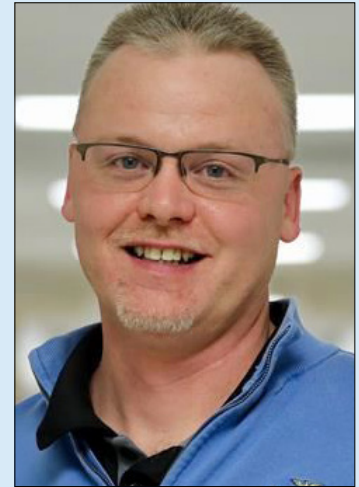
Making the best of the situation is what the Board of Education and the administrative team have set out to do with the 2020-2021 school budget. With little in the way of good news from the state or federal government, we have taken great care in constructing and adopting a budget that is fair to our neighbors as well as continuing to do what's best for kids.

These efforts will not end with a budget vote on June 9. The District remains committed to being thoughtful and transparent with the decisions we make regarding the education of our students. We also remain committed to serving our community as a strong partner and tireless advocate for all who live here.

On behalf of the entire Board of Education, I thank you in advance for your continued support. We all look forward to seeing our hallways and classrooms filled as soon as possible.

*Ryan Davis is president of the Phelps-Clifton Springs Central School District Board of Education.*

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



**RYAN DAVIS**  
PRESIDENT

For more information on the Phelps-Clifton Springs Central School District Board of Education, including contact emails, phone numbers, meeting dates, agendas and minutes, contact District Clerk Sarah Butler at (315) 548-6420, or visit the Board of Education at **Midlakes.org**.

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**RYAN DAVIS**  
PRESIDENT

**AMBER WILKES**  
VICE PRESIDENT

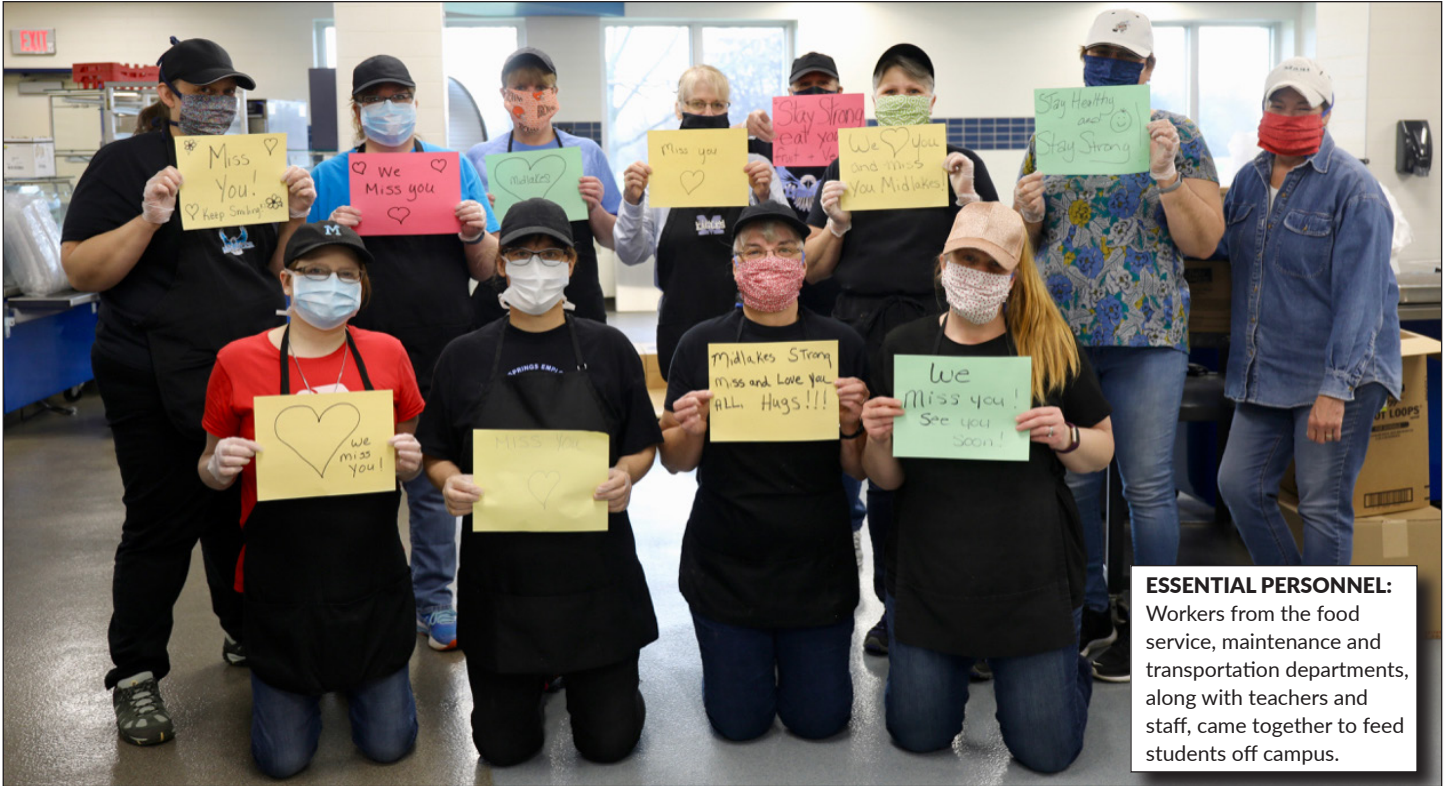
**TRACY ALTMAN**  
BOARD MEMBER

**JACOB AMIDON**  
BOARD MEMBER

**LAURA CIRONE**  
BOARD MEMBER

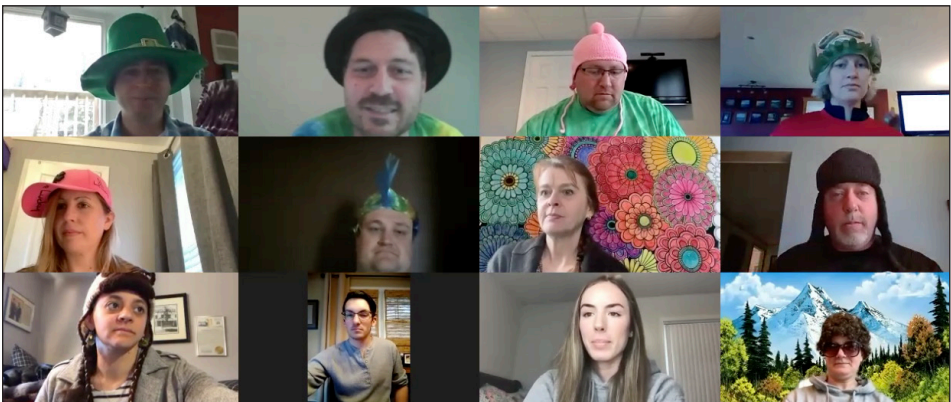
**TODD FREELOVE**  
BOARD MEMBER

**SHERI SCHERBYN**  
BOARD MEMBER



**ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL:** Workers from the food service, maintenance and transportation departments, along with teachers and staff, came together to feed students off campus.

# STRONGER, TOGETHER



**MIDLAKES SQUARES:** Students and staff play a fun TV-style show featuring students as the contestants and several teachers as the "squares." To see the game in action, visit the District's website or Facebook page.

## WAY

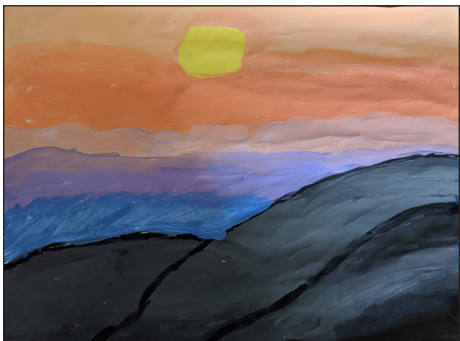
FROM PAGE 1

delivered the signs to students.

The high school also sponsored a "Virtual Spirit Week" with fun-themed days for students. Midlakes art teachers held a District-wide "Virtual Art Show" on Facebook that received approximately 150 submissions and countless comments, shares and likes from the community.

There was a special 25-minute airing of Midlakes Squares, a fun TV-style show featuring Aidan Court and Gina Ferber as the contestants and several teachers as the "squares."

Midlakes food services team has also kept busy preparing meals and working with the maintenance and transportation departments and Midlakes teachers and staff to deliver meals. In April, approximately 44,000 meals were delivered to 875 students in 410 homes.



**VIRTUAL ART SHOW:** Mason Clark, a first grader, submitted "Sunrise Painting," one of the most popular pieces among the 150 works of art submitted by Midlakes students in grades K-12 during the online show.

The District also supported the Midlakes Strong Chicken BBQ with several local organizations. The event distributed 3,280 free chicken dinners, 800 boxes of groceries and donated milk to families at the Clifton Springs Fire House and the American Legion Seeley B. Parish Post 457 in Phelps.

District administrators produced a special video to encourage students and families. Administrators and students came together to celebrate teachers and staff for





Teacher Appreciation Week with signs and videos of appreciation.

The Phelps-Clifton Springs Board of Education also moved its remote meetings entirely online with live streams posted to the District's website and Facebook page.

The District also created two Facebook frames, one to celebrate the Class of 2020 and another to celebrate the "Midlakes Strong" spirit.

The two designs go over a Facebook user's profile photo and are used to show

support. To download, search Midlakes at <https://bit.ly/2Z3JzZw>. The idea came from Midlakes senior Katrina Lee.

Lee and seniors Kenzie Mattoon and Shea Carr built an Instagram page to celebrate the Class of 2020.

Parents in the community sent care packages through an Adopt-A-Senior Facebook page. The response was so great that they are expanding the effort.

The Clifton Springs Fire Department held its final Horns for Heroes on May



**HORNS FOR HEROES:** Frontline workers and the Class of 2020 were celebrated on May 15 in a parade through Clifton Springs led by the Clifton Springs Fire Department. Senior Joshua Delgado is pictured with a sign donated by the Midlakes PTO.

**SUPPORTIVE MESSAGE:** At left, teachers and staff share an inspirational message with families.



**SCHOOL SPIRIT:** Justin Nealey shows off his Midlakes colors during Virtual Spirit Week.

15 to honor frontline workers. They also honored Midlakes seniors, inviting them to join the parade along with other area fire departments.

Two large banners celebrating the senior class and all students have been placed near the soccer fields by routes 96 and 488. Other initiatives with the help of students, parents and staff are being planned for June. Be sure to visit [Midlakes.org](https://www.midlakes.org) and follow [Facebook.com/MidlakesSchools](https://www.facebook.com/MidlakesSchools) for the latest updates.



# THANK YOU!

## DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

*Your generosity helped deliver 3,280 **FREE** chicken BBQ dinners, 4,200 gallons of **FREE** milk and 800 boxes of **FREE** groceries on May 2 to those from our community in need.*

## MIDLAKES STRONG CHICKEN BBQ



American Dairy Association  
American Legion Seeley B. Parish Post 457  
Sons of the American Legion (Post 457)  
American Legion Auxiliary (Unit 457)  
Agricultural Chemical Development  
Anderson VanHorne Insurance  
Bobbi Beniamino and the Cookie Crew  
Caring Hearts Food Cupboard  
Clifton Springs Area YMCA  
Clifton Springs Chamber of Commerce  
Clifton Springs Fire Department  
Clifton Springs Rotary Club  
Clifton Springs United Methodist  
Church Food Pantry  
Clifton Springs VFW Post 44  
Country Home Building & Renovation  
CR7 Catering  
Dairylea

Darling's Tree Farm  
Everson's Dairy  
Finger Lakes Federal Credit Union  
Hemdale Farms  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
Leonard's Express Inc.  
Lisk Morris Foundation  
Mary Hicks Preston Foundation  
Midlakes Class of 2020  
NY Express  
Old Mill Hot Dog Stand & Catering  
Ontario County Farm Bureau  
OTTC  
Phelps Chamber of Commerce  
Phelps-Clifton Springs CSD  
Phelps-Clifton Springs Community Theater  
Phelps Community Center  
Phelps Community Food Cupboard

Phelps Fire Department  
Phelps Lion's Club  
Phelps Masonic Temple  
Phelps Mercantile  
Pomona Packing  
Seedway  
Tops Friendly Market  
Trammel Farms  
Upstate Farms  
Upstate NY Sportsman  
Village of Clifton Springs  
Village of Phelps  
Wadhams Enterprises Inc.  
Waterloo Lowe's  
Wegmans Food Markets  
Wellspring Church  
Women of St. Francis  
Countless individual donors/volunteers

**"CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY BY NOURISHING OUR NEIGHBORS."**

## DISTRICT NOTES

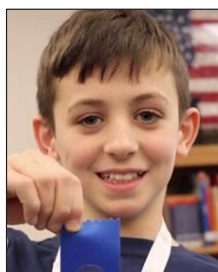
### STUDENT QUALIFIES FOR STATE GEOBEE

Connor Carter, a sixth-grader, is the first elementary student from Midlakes to ever qualify for the National Geographic GeoBee New York State Competition.

In January, Carter won the school-level competition, featuring students in grades 4 to 6, after answering "Stockholm" in the championship round to the following question:

*Teenager Greta Thunberg started a global movement bringing attention to climate change when she protested outside of her country's Parliament House, located in the Gamla Stan district of what Swedish city?*

Carter also took an online qualifying test that was submitted to the National Geographic Society and was named to compete in the state competition.



**CARTER**

Listed are Midlakes students who placed in the Top 3 of their respective category:

- Austin Wilkes, first place in carpentry
- Paul Lee, second in electrical trades
- Garrett Cooper, second place in "Diesels of today."
- Brianna Bump and Lilly Helker, second place in First Aid and CPR
- Madisyn Elliot and Alexis Kopetchny, third place in educational professions
- Patrick Green, third in backhoe skills.

### STAFF MEMBERS RECEIVE TENURE

Various teachers and other personnel received tenure appointments by the Board of Education on April 22.

Each was recommended by District administration and were approved by the Board of Education. Congratulations to the following:

- Alyssa Bodine, speech pathologist;
- Shawna Cody, elementary teacher;
- Christian Conrad, business education teacher;
- Natalie Dreis, elementary teacher;
- Courtney Freeman, special education teacher;
- Lisa Gordner, school social worker;
- Trent Jones, physical education teacher;
- Michael LaFave, math teacher;
- Kelly Mayer, elementary teacher;
- Christopher Moyer, elementary principal;
- Andrew J. Raulli, elementary teacher;
- JaLynne Smith, elementary teacher;
- Brienne Stratton, science teacher.

### ELKS LODGE HONORS RESOURCE OFFICER

School Resource Officer Robert Holland was presented with the Enrique Camarena Award from the Canandaigua Elks Lodge No. 1844 earlier this year.

The award goes to a member of law enforcement who carries out anti-drug work. It is named for an American undercover agent for the Drug Enforcement Administration who was abducted by members of a Mexican drug cartel in 1985.

Holland, who is a member of the Ontario County Sheriff's Office, has also worked as a D.A.R.E. officer, helping students in grades K-12 with strategies to resist peer pressure and avoid involvement in drugs, alcohol, gangs and violence.

Holland was presented with the award by Brian Greece, president of the state's Elks Association.

### SCHOLAR-ATHLETE TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Several fall and winter sports programs and nearly 100 student-athletes were recognized by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association for outstanding achievements in the classroom.

The girls cross country team with a grade point average of 94.21, girls soccer (92.12), girls swimming and diving team (94.21), girls tennis (90.81) and the girls volleyball team (92.52) were all named as Scholar-Athlete Teams for the fall of 2019.

The girls basketball team (94.22) and the girls indoor track and field (94.15) were named as Scholar-Athlete Teams during the 2019-2020 winter season.

To receive Scholar-Athlete team recognition with a certificate, the team's average GPA for at least 75 percent of its roster must be greater or equal to 90 percent. Student-athletes need to earn at least a 90 GPA.

### STUDENTS EARN FLTCC HONORS

Midlakes eighth graders competed in a variety of skill-based contests while visiting the Finger Lakes Technical and Career Center on March 8.

## DISTRICT CALENDAR

The Board of Education approved the following calendar for the **2020-2021 academic year**. Highlights only.

**Superintendent's Conference Days**  
Wednesday, Sept. 2 & Tuesday, Sept. 8

**First Day of Classes**  
Wednesday, Sept. 9

**Superintendent's Conference Day**  
Wednesday, Oct. 28

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**  
Wednesday, Dec. 9 - Friday, Dec. 11

**Holiday Recess**  
Wednesday, Dec. 23 - Friday, Jan. 1

**Regents Exams**  
Tuesday, Jan. 26 - Friday, Jan. 29

**Winter Recess**  
Monday, Feb. 15 - Friday, Feb. 19

**Superintendent's Conference Day**  
Friday, March 12

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**  
Wednesday, March 17 - Friday, March 19

**Spring Recess**  
Monday, March 29 - Friday, April 2

**NYS ELA Exams (Grades 3-8)**  
Monday, April 19 - Monday, April 26

**NYS Math Exams (Grades 3-8)**  
Monday, May 3 - Monday, May 10

**AP Exams**  
Monday, May 3 - Friday, May 14

**Regents Exams**  
Monday, June 16 - Friday, June 25

**Elementary School Half Days**  
Tuesday, June 22 - Friday, June 25

**Last Day of School for Students**  
Friday, June 25

**High School Graduation**  
Saturday, June 26

Find our calendars, other events, holidays and important dates under the "Community" tab at **Midlakes.org**.



## MIDLAKES HIGH SCHOOL

### VALEDICTORIAN **SARAH CRANE**

**Sarah Crane**, the daughter of Jennifer and Lewis Crane, has been named valedictorian of Midlakes High School. Sarah plans to major in biochemistry with an environmental emphasis at SUNY ESF.

**Activities and achievements include:** High Honor Roll, National Honor Society, Mastery in Math and Science, perfect attendance, Chemistry Achievement Award, Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Ambassador, Good Character Award, Hobart and William Smith Finger Lakes Scholar Award, Chatham University Healthy Planet Award, Interact Club, Environmental Club, Junior Class Secretary, Scholar Athlete, Midlakes Varsity Cross Country, indoor and outdoor track and field, Eagles in Training, Spirit of Cross



Country Award, Most Outstanding Track Athlete Award, placed sixth at leagues for 1,500-meter run, sectional qualifier for 1,500-meter run, 2,000-meter steeplechase, 1500-meter race-walk and cross country.

### SALUTATORIAN **EMMA CURRAN**

**Emma Curran**, the daughter of Jennifer and Patrick Curran, has been named salutatorian of Midlakes High School. Emma plans to study psychology at Clarkson University.

**Activities and achievements include:** High Honor Roll, National Honor Society, Mastery in Math and Science, Interact Club, Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Ambassador, University of Rochester George Eastman Young Leaders Award, Scholar Athlete, Midlakes Varsity Swimming and Diving, Swim Team Captain, CSAY Seahawk Swim Team, state qualifier for the 50-meter freestyle with the Clifton Springs YMCA, sectional qualifier for the 100-meter backstroke, 50-meter freestyle, 100-meter butterfly,



200 medley relay and was the winner of the Finger Lakes Swimming Official Sportsmanship Award.

#### PHELPS-CLIFTON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Send tips and suggestions to: Newsletter, 1490 State Route 488, Clifton Springs, NY 14432



#### **PHELPS-CLIFTON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

1490 STATE ROUTE 488  
CLIFTON SPRINGS, NY 14432

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**NEWARK, NY 14513  
PERMIT NO. 71**

#### **DISTRICT VOTE**

► **District Vote** is Tuesday, June 9 and will be by absentee ballot only.

► **Absentee Ballots** must be received by the District by 5 p.m. **Late ballots will not be counted!**

► **Mail** absentee ballots to the District Clerk, 1490 State Route 488, Clifton Springs, NY 14432, or place in the lockbox at Entrance C of Midlakes Elementary School. **Allow extra time for delivery.**

#### **POSTAL PATRON**