

Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, Teachers, and Community Members,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health. As the newly appointed Superintendent of the Saugerties Central School District, I am both honored and privileged to welcome you back to what promises to be an exciting school year.



I am a Saugerties resident and a 2002 graduate of Saugerties High School. My resume includes teaching mathematics in Hawaii, and LaGrange. In Kingston I served as the Assistant Director of Math, Science, and Technology (grades 5-12) and as a Vice Principal. At Saugerties, my positions have included Assistant Principal, Director of Human Resources, Deputy Superintendent, and most recently, Interim Superintendent.

I am deeply aware of the strength, resilience, and dedication that define our District. I am thrilled to step into this new role and to continue fostering the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and growth that makes our District truly exceptional.

With the collective efforts of our dedicated educators, passionate students, and supportive parents and guardians, I am confident that we will continue to create an environment where every individual can thrive and achieve their full potential.

As we embark on this new journey together, I want to assure you that my commitment to providing a safe, inclusive, and nurturing learning environment remains unwavering.

In the coming months, you can expect to see a renewed focus on personalized learning experiences, enhanced professional development opportunities for our educators, and an increased emphasis on community engagement. I am dedicated to fostering open lines of communication, listening to your feedback, and continuously striving for excellence in all that we do.

I encourage parents and guardians to stay actively involved in their child's educational journey, and I extend an invitation to our community members to collaborate with us in shaping the future of our District.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude for the warm welcome I have already received from many of you. Your support and enthusiasm are truly inspiring, and I am eager to contribute to the Saugerties Central School District's ongoing success.

I wish you all a fantastic start to the school year ahead. Let's work together to make it a year filled with growth, achievement, and memorable experiences.

Sincerely,
Dr. Daniel Erceg,
Superintendent of Schools



SUMMER 2023

Six Students Achieve Seal of Civic Readiness in Program's Inaugural Year

When the Saugerties Central School District's Class of 2023 received their diplomas on June 23, six students were among the first to be honored and presented with the prestigious New York State Seal of Civic Readiness (NYSSCR). This distinguished recognition, introduced at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, signifies the students' exemplary proficiency in civic knowledge, civic skills, civic mindset, and civic experiences.

The NYSSCR program, inspired by the Seal of Biliteracy program (which Saugerties CSD also participates in), has been embraced by the District as part of its commitment to fostering well-rounded and engaged citizens. To earn this seal, students must fulfill all the requirements for a New York State local or Regents diploma and accumulate a specified number of points in two key areas: Civic Knowledge and Civic Participation.

Throughout the year, students were encouraged to choose, research, and take meaningful and impactful action related to projects aligned with their personal interests. Denyse Ortlieb, coordinator for the Seal of Civic Readiness, expressed her admiration for how the participants rose to the challenges presented by the program, stating, "We are thrilled to witness the enthusiasm and dedication demonstrated by our students in their pursuit of civic excellence."

Students who successfully met the program's requirements had a seal affixed to their diplomas, symbolizing their exceptional commitment to civic engagement. They also wore a special medallion during the graduation ceremony, signifying their remarkable accomplishment.



Seniors Step Back in Time for Last Walk-Through

This year, the Class of 2023 became the first-ever graduating class to participate in the heartwarming tradition of the "Senior Walk." Our High School seniors took a stroll down memory lane as they walked through the hallways of their former Elementary Schools. The excitement and nostalgia were palpable as these soon-to-be graduates greeted their former teachers and relived the cherished memories made in their elementary classrooms.



Before bidding farewell to their old stomping grounds, some of our seniors took a few minutes to play together in the Elementary School gym, creating yet another precious Elementary School memory. And of course, what's a grand exit without one last announcement over the loudspeaker?

Board of Education

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Superintendent of Schools
Daniel Erceg ,Ed.D.



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TO POSTAL CUSTOMER

Grade School Students Use Music to Showcase their Knowledge about Months and Seasons

Grant D. Morse Grade 1 students recently learned about the months and seasons of the year, and showed off their knowledge during their school play. The students performed “Chicken Soup with Rice,” based on a rhyming book by Maurice Sendak, which was put to music by Carole King. Who says you can only slurp chicken soup with rice on a cold January day? Chicken soup with rice is nice all year-round!

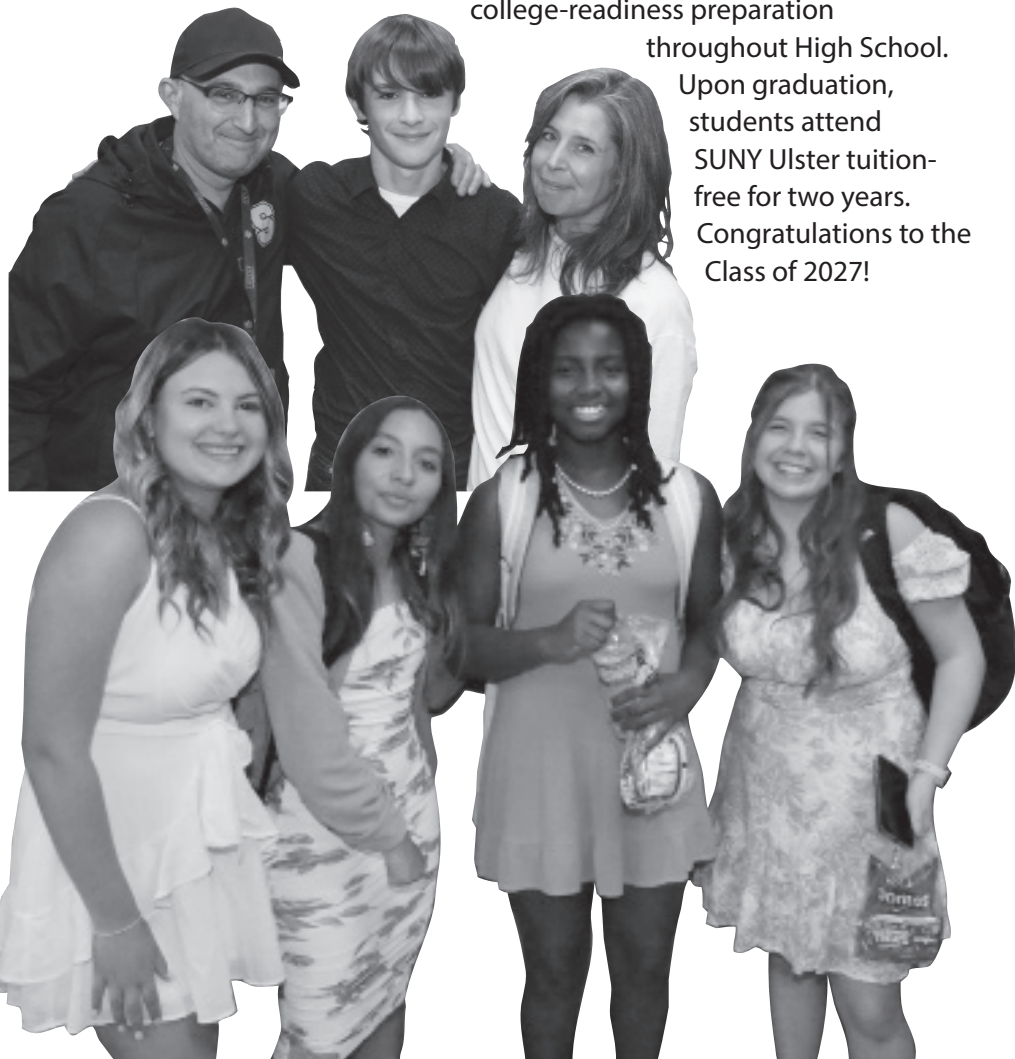


Grade 8 Students Take Steps Towards Success

On June 9, nearly 170 Grade 8 students at Saugerties Junior High School celebrated their promotion to Grade 9. The Moving-Up Ceremony featured inspiring remarks from Class of 2023 Valedictorian Amy Hoyt, Salutatorian Palak Patel, and Student Team speakers Kylie Agar, Gianna Mertens, David Wolff, Humayun Ayaz, and Ella Maxwell.



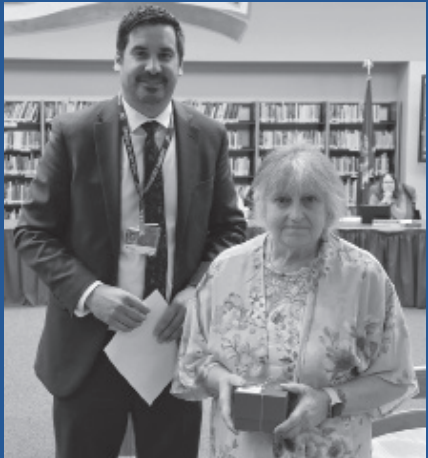
Junior High Academic Awards were also announced, along with the five recipients of SUNY Ulster President’s Challenge Scholarship awards. The President’s Challenge Scholarships are awarded each year to select first-generation college-bound students in Ulster County. Scholarship recipients, identified in Grade 8 by the sponsoring school district, receive mentoring and college-readiness preparation throughout High School. Upon graduation, students attend SUNY Ulster tuition-free for two years. Congratulations to the Class of 2027!



SCHOOL DISTRICT BIDS ADIEU TO RETIRING EMPLOYEES AT YEAR’S END

The school district celebrated the incredible careers and dedication of 12 remarkable individuals during the June 13 Board of Education meeting. Now that the school year has ended, these amazing employees have started their well-earned retirements, marking the beginning of a new chapter in their lives.

Those honored included teachers, aides, teaching assistants, a principal, food service staff, and an athletic director, all of whom have played an integral role in shaping the lives of countless students throughout the years.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these individuals for their unwavering commitment and service to our school district. Their passion, knowledge, and dedication have made a lasting impact on the lives of our students, and we are incredibly grateful for their contributions.





FROM SAUGERTIES TO STARS AND STRIPES: Two Students Proudly Become U.S. Citizens!

This past Flag Day, Saugerties Central School District proudly shared the story of two exceptional students who recently took the Oath of Allegiance and became full-fledged citizens of the United States,

On May 31, David and Caleb Hemsworth, siblings attending Saugerties Junior High and Saugerties High School respectively, along with their parents Adele and Norman, celebrated this significant milestone in their lives.

The Hemsworth family's journey to U.S. citizenship began in Africa, where Caleb was born in Botswana and David in South Africa. When Caleb was three and David was still an infant, the family moved to the United States in pursuit of better work opportunities and a higher quality of life. Over the years, they lived in various locations, including Woodstock, Shokan, and Saugerties, before briefly relocating to Houston, Texas. It was in Houston where they acquired their green cards, which enabled them to live and work permanently in the United States.

Returning to Ulster County, the Hemsworths found a place to put down roots. "America is my home," said David, reflecting on becoming a citizen. "I was only five months old when I first came here, so I don't know anything else. But I'm grateful because America is a great country." David also spoke about the stark contrast between the United States and Africa, where, he said, one may experience hours-long power outages, struggling economies, soaring unemployment rates, and a high cost of living.

While Caleb and David did not have to take the citizenship test themselves, their parents successfully navigated the challenging process. However, both brothers were required to take an oath of loyalty to the United States. Grateful for their newly gained sense of belonging, Caleb and David encourage other immigrants to pursue U.S. citizenship, emphasizing the benefits it brings, such as easier travel, increased job opportunities, and the convenience of having a single form of identification.

Saugerties Students Complete American Legion's Boys' State

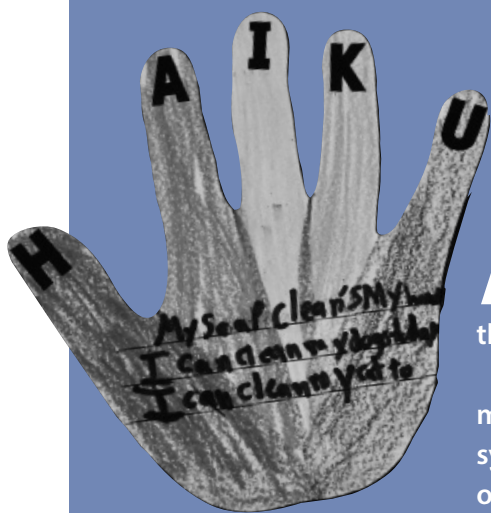
We are thrilled to share an incredible opportunity that our talented and motivated young men at Saugerties High School have had the privilege to be a part of! The American Legion Boys' State of New York is a prestigious week-long learning experience that provides high school junior boys with invaluable leadership skills, a deeper understanding of good citizenship, and firsthand knowledge of how government works.

Sponsored by the American Legion Department of New York, this program serves as a citizenship training and familiarity program for outstanding young men who have completed their junior year in high school and achieved excellence in their academic endeavors.

Since its inception in 1938, Boys' State has been making a significant impact on the lives of countless young men. This year, we are incredibly proud to announce that Saugerties Post 72 sent two exceptional delegates from Saugerties High School to participate in this transformative experience: Jeremy Sprague and Andrew Mulford!

Throughout the week-long session held at SUNY Morrisville, these bright young minds were immersed in an enriching learning environment, gaining insights into the workings of our government, and cultivating essential leadership qualities that will serve them well in their future endeavors.

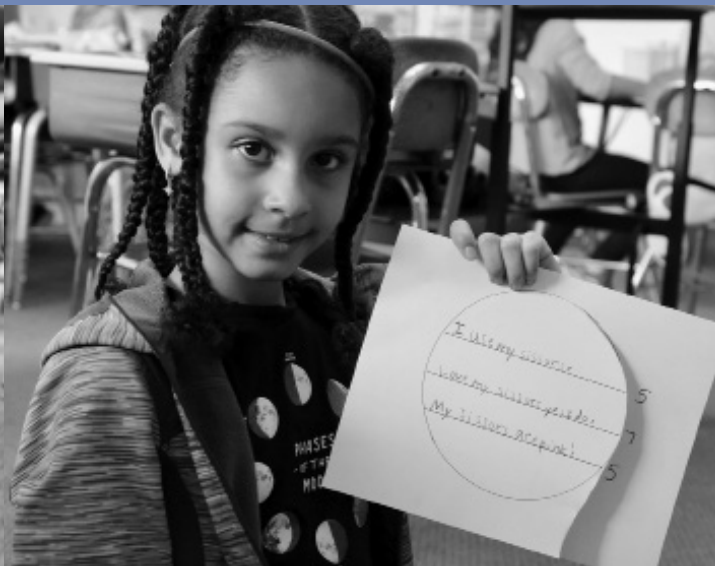
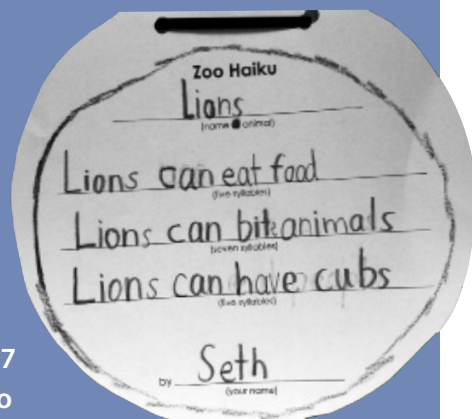
If you are currently a male high school junior and Boys' State sounds like something that might be of interest, talk to your Guidance Counselor. Interviews usually occur late February or early March.



Students Embark on a Haiku Adventure, Unleashing Epic Word Ninja Skills!

As the school year neared its summer break, the students in Jamie Temple's Grade 2 class at Cahill Elementary School embarked on an enchanting journey to discover the ancient Japanese art of haiku poetry.

The youngsters were intrigued by haiku, which features concise, unrhymed lines that magically conjure vivid imagery. Traditional Japanese haikus, three-line wonders, include 17 syllables in a mesmerizing 5/7/5 count. Beyond its poetic charm, this delightful exercise also offered a clever way to sharpen the students' spelling skills, leaving the students spellbound!



Contact Information for our Schools

Cahill Elementary School



Principal: Shannon Molyneaux
smolyneaux@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6800 ext. 4703

Assistant Principal: Kayla Lamb
Klamb1@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6800 ext. TBD

Main Office Secretary: Ashley Slovensky
aslovensky@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6800 ext. 4701

Attendance Clerk: Roseann Douglas
rdouglas@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6800 ext. 4702

School Nurse: Marcy Traudt
mtraudt@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6800 ext. 4799

PTA President: Molly Suttmeier
msuttmeier.cahillpta@gmail.com
First PTA Meeting: September 20, 2023 at 6:30pm

Riccardi Elementary School



Principal: Paul Tryon
ptryon@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6870

Main Office Secretary: Allie Meier
ameier@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6870

Attendance Clerk: Diann Sawchuk
dsawchuk@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6870

School Nurse: Lynda Angier
langier@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6870

PTA President: Justine Snihur
riccardipta@gmail.com
First PTA Meeting: September 12, 2023

Saugerties Junior High School



Principal: Ginger Vail
gvail@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6561 ext. 2701

Main Office Secretary: Karen Lambert
klambert@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6561 ext. 2701

Attendance Clerk: TBD
email TBD
845-247-6561 ext. 2702

School Nurse: Sue Carter
scarter@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6651 ext. 1799

PTSA President: Emily Casiere
ecasiere@gmail.com
First PTSA Meeting: September 11, 2023

Grant D. Morse Elementary School



Principal: Kristina Giangreco
kgiangreco@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6960 ext. 5703

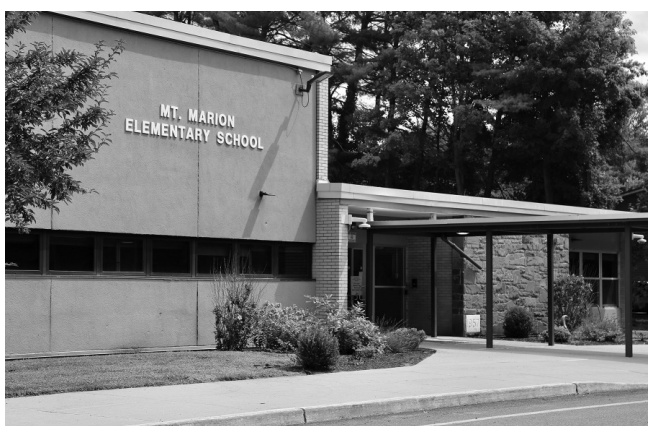
Main Office Secretary: Debbie Landell
dlandell@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6960 ext. 1

Attendance Clerk: Colleen Dunham
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845-247-6960 ext. 1

School Nurse: Chartrese Wolff
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845-247-6960 ext. 2

PTA Co-Presidents:
Matthew Schlosser
mattaschlosser1@gmail.com
Trina Lombardo
wawro@hotmail.com
First PTA Meeting: September 20, 2023

Mt. Marion Learning Center



Building Administrator: Dr. Lisajane Kappler
lkappler@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6920

Main Office Secretary: Karen Krzywonos
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845-247-6920

Director of Special Education: Jaime Churchill
jchurchill@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6804

Secretary for Special Education:
Andrea Chrisjohn
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845-247-6804

Preschool Supervisor: Jessica Markle
jmarkle@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6920

School Nurse: Connie Sciutto
csciutto@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6920

Saugerties Senior High School



Principal: Timothy Reid
treid@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6651 ext. 1703

Main Office Secretary: Kimberly Keefe
kkeefe@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6651 ext. 1701

Attendance Clerk: TBD
email TBD
845-247-6561 ext. 2702

School Nurse: Susan Pavloudakis
spavloudakis@saugerties.k12.ny.us
845-247-6561 ext. 2799

PTSA Co-Presidents:
Emily Casiere
ecasiere@gmail.com
Lauren French
littlelaurenbeth@yahoo.com
First PTSA Meeting: September 11, 2023 at 6:30 PM, Junior High Cafeteria

Elementary School Teams

The District would like to introduce you to our elementary school teams. Please make sure to extend a warm welcome to our teachers and staff. As always, our top priority is to provide equitable learning opportunities that achieve our vision of every student graduating ready to fulfill their unique purpose in a healthy, vibrant community. Here are the teams as of print time.

Grant D. Morse Elementary School

Kindergarten

Janet Sullivan
Jessica McCaig
Brandi Foley
Jennifer Arcadipane

First

Kathleen Detweiler
Hilarie Wiacek
Brandi Foley
Jennifer Arcadipane

Second

Catherine Averill
Lorraine Collins
Brandi Foley
Jennifer Arcadipane

Third

Brooke Ryan
Valerie Raleigh
Mary Butler
Kelly Petramale

Fourth

Stacey Hopf
Denise Dudzic
Mary Butler
Kelly Petramale

Fifth

Rina Liepshutz
Patrick Reynolds
Kylene Leiter
Sarah Yonnetti

Sixth

Jessica Brott
Stefanie Tucker
Sarah Yonnetti
Lara Soddano

MTSS Math

Hope Kraft

MTSS Literacy

Tracey Porter

Reading

Heather Urbanowski

Art

Rebecca Black
Amy Dunaief

Physical Education

Allyson Constable
Louis Denise

Library

Patricia Pipitone

Music

Jennifer McMann
Sarah Hansen
Anthony Carl

Social Worker

Keenan Jones

Psychologist

Melissa Rabuffo

Speech

Kelsa Shanley
Elizabeth Little

Occupational Therapist

Rachel Tosaro

Physical Therapist

Matt Ulrich

Riccardi Elementary School

Kindergarten

Jody Scott
Sharan Scanlon
Dana Murphy
Shanni Frahm

First

Jennifer Wade
Stefanie Colclough
Colleen Mada
Maggie Myers

Second

Gina Pellegri
Jennifer Nelson
Frances Murphy
Shanni Frahm

Third

Stephanie Pettit
Peggy Mullen
Rebecca Mulford
Maggie Myers

Fourth

Nancy Gunn
Jill Brandt
Bonnie Brown
Meg Lezette
Shanni Frahm

Fifth

Rob Rea
Marissa Maglio-Kohler
Sue Cullen
Shawna Bruno

Sixth

Brittany D’Orazio
Joseph Tiano
Rachel Fisher
Laura Bubel

MTSS Math

Michelle Hally
Melissa Colby

MTSS Literacy

Amy Di Dio
Victoria Lueck

Reading

Heather Urbanowski

Physical Education

Stephen Buonfiglio
Steve Below

Library

Cathy Hoffstatter

Music

Sarah Hansen
Anthony Carl

Social Worker

Arlene Parsi

Psychologist

Alexandra Cutrone

Speech

Courtney Gallagher

Occupational Therapist

Heather Kenneally

Physical Therapist

Matt Ulrich

Cahill Elementary School

Kindergarten

Elizabeth Ruzzo
Elizabeth Kilmer
Christine Farrell
Katie Wiederspiel
Athena Bauer

First

Kelly Hogan
Elizabeth Rule Nevil
Katie Wiederspiel
Athena Bauer

Second

Jamie Combs
Mary Garland
Sarah Prutzman
Theresa Tucker
Athena Bauer

Third

Larissa O’Neill
Robin Parete
Krystyna Lilland
Patricia VanValkenburg
Theresa Tucker
Athena Bauer

Fourth

Kerri Molini
Susan McManigal
Desiree Steyer
Rebecca Fricke
Patricia Van Valkenburg

Fifth

Jamie Temple
Heather Breen
Lori Puertas
Rebecca Fricke

Sixth

Deb Ciccone
William Hanson
Tracey Lodge
Rebecca Fricke

MTSS Math

Amy Hopf
Melissa Colby

MTSS Literacy

Alexandra Gambino
Victoria Lueck

Art

Rebecca Black

Physical Education

Melinda Glover
Louis Denise

Library

Renee O’Donnell

Music

Bernhard Spirig
Jennifer McMann

Social Worker

Tammy Carlile

Psychologist

Brooke Dennin

Speech

Elizabeth Little
Debora Nezich

ENL

Alexandria Jameison
John Carlson

Reading

Danielle Olsen

Occupational Therapist

Jeanette Morse

Physical Therapist

Matt Ulrich

Mt. Marion Learning Center

Pre-K

Marissa Siracusano
Francine Masula
Amanda Richmond
Kamryn Schindler
Elysa Mullen

Celebrating Moving Up Across Three Elementary Schools



The culmination of seven years of hard work and dedication was celebrated in June, as the sixth graders of Cahill, Grant D. Morse, and Riccardi Elementary Schools gathered for their respective moving-up ceremonies. Teachers, families, and friends were on hand to honor the achievements of Grade 6 students, who, like emerging butterflies, were preparing to spread their wings and transition to Junior High next school year. The air was vibrant with cheers and applause as the students were recognized for their outstanding efforts and achievements. Each location buzzed with excitement as heartfelt congratulations and best wishes resonated in the air, heralding the next phase of the students' academic journey.

The celebration at Riccardi was accompanied by a touch of melancholy, as Principal Carole Kelder bid farewell to her longtime role, embarking on a well-deserved retirement. Her legacy as a leader, mentor, and friend will forever be etched in the hearts of the students and staff she has served over the years.



Students Soar with Rocket Creations



Grade 7 Technology students had a BLAST prior to the end of the school year, as they tested the rockets they had built in Mark Cunnan's class. Students had to learn how to understand technical drawings and then follow directions closely—otherwise, their rockets would not work. The



students tested their rockets during an unofficial launching competition staged behind the school to see which one traveled the farthest and which one went the highest. This kind of project provides an opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience in developing space-flight experiments, which is vital in developing future scientists and engineers.

A Harmonious Reunion

The auditorium of Saugerties Junior and Senior High School was charged with an electric energy on the evening of May 5, as melodious notes and harmonious voices filled the air. The occasion was none other than the Saugerties Choir concert, a celebration of music and memories.



Amidst the many performances, one particular moment stood out like a shining star: the collaboration with Saugerties alumni on a piece by A.L. Weber titled "Memory," from the iconic musical *Cats*.

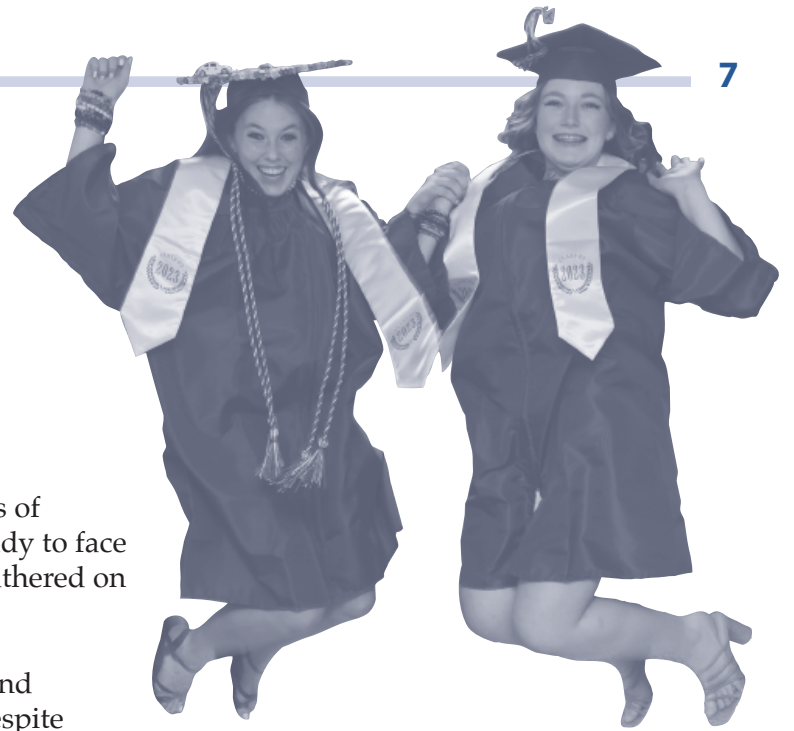
The stage was graced by a special reunion of former Saugerties students from across the years. Graduates from the classes of 1974, 1980, 1986, 1987, 1991, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 had journeyed back to their alma mater to relive the magic of their choir days. Their faces, a tapestry of ages and memories, radiated with excitement and nostalgia as they prepared to perform the beloved composition.

Under the baton of the choir's conductor, Rebecca MacDougall, the alumni melded their voices with those of current choir members. The resulting lyrical blend seemed to bridge the years that separated the various singers. The audience witnessed the seamless bond that music forms, regardless of the passage of years.

It was a tribute to the enduring legacy of the Saugerties choral program, as well as a testament to the way in which music weaves a common thread through the lives of those who have been fortunate enough to call this school their own.



CLASS OF 2023: RISING STRONG AND RESILIENT IN THE FACE OF CHALLENGES!



Amidst the gray clouds that loomed overhead, the graduates of Saugerties High School stood, resolute and unyielding, ready to face yet another challenge that life had thrown their way. As they gathered on the rain-soaked field, memories of their journey through High School flooded their minds.

Four years ago, they had entered as bright-eyed freshmen, only to be met with the reality of COVID-19. Lockdowns, restrictions, and a shift to virtual learning had tested their adaptability and determination right from the start. Undeterred, they pushed through, finding ways to connect despite their physical distance from each other, and mastering the art of resilience.

Sophomore year brought a mix of in-person and remote learning, a delicate balance that required them to be both self-disciplined and flexible. The challenges of spotty Internet connections and the absence of face-to-face interactions could have broken the students' spirits, but instead, the challenges forged stronger bonds among them. They learned the value of empathy and the importance of supporting one another.

As they approached their senior year, they expected a sense of normalcy to return. Little did they know, their High School would be a construction site. Undeterred, they navigated through the chaos with a sense of camaraderie, laughing off the inconveniences and cherishing the moments that made their unconventional senior year uniquely memorable.

And then, on June 23, the rain poured down on the day of their long-awaited commencement ceremony. But to these graduates, rain was nothing compared to the storms they had already weathered. They donned their caps and gowns with a renewed sense of purpose.

As the ceremony concluded and the graduates walked off the field, soaked but triumphant, they knew that this was just the beginning. Their journey through High School had been a testament to their strength, adaptability, and unity. With hearts full of hope and heads held high, they were ready to face whatever challenges lay ahead, knowing that together, they could conquer any storm.

Congratulations to the class of 2023 for a job well done!.



Two Graduates of the Class of 2023 Earn New York State Seal of Biliteracy, Embracing the Values of Multilingualism and Diversity

Two students in the Saugerties Central School District's Class of 2023 graduated with a prestigious honor this year: the New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB). The District would like to congratulate Palak Patel and Titipat Hoypakwaen for successfully completing the program's rigorous requirements.

The NYSSB recognizes graduating high school students who have attained a high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. The seal acknowledges the importance of being bilingual in today's society and affirms the value of embracing diversity in our multilingual society.

The recognition of attaining the NYSSB becomes part of the student's high school transcript and diploma and is a statement of accomplishment for college admissions and future employers.

This is the third year that Saugerties High School has awarded the NYSSB to a select number of our graduating students.



Grade 4 Musicians and Singers Enchant Audiences with Spring Concerts



In June, our talented Grade 4 students at each of our elementary schools celebrated the arrival of Spring with a spirited concert. Each student was able to showcase their musical talents in either the band or the chorus or, in some cases, both. The Chorus members mesmerized the audience with their beautiful rendition of "What If?," arranged by Teresa Jennings. Their harmonies and voices filled the room with pure magic.

The Grade 4 Band also wowed their audience, demonstrating their impressive rhythmic skills while playing "Ode to Joy" by the legendary Beethoven. Their performance truly struck a chord with everyone present!

UPDATE ON CAPITAL PROJECT WORK

The 2020 voter-approved \$22 million Capital Project work is well underway, and we expect most of the improvements to be completed before the start of the new school year. Some projects may continue into the academic year, but you may rest assured that they will be executed with minimal disruption to our students’ learning experience.

We are excited about the positive impact these enhancements will have on the educational journey of our students. As partners in their education, we encourage you to take note of the ongoing Capital Project work and to share this information with fellow parents, guardians, and community members.

Stay tuned for further updates and progress reports as we prepare to welcome our students back for an enriching and successful school year!



HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS SPECIAL SIGNING EVENT FOR FUTURE COLLEGIATE ATHLETES

The District takes great pleasure in offering congratulations to the students who have exhibited exceptional commitment, both academically and in their pursuit of sports, as they move onto the collegiate level. Many students, along with their families, friends, coaches, and supporters, came together to celebrate their upcoming participation in collegiate athletics this autumn. The occasion was marked with a special signing event held at the High School.



Congratulations to the following student-athletes, who committed this spring:

Anna Myers, who committed to SUNY Plattsburgh to play Division III Lacrosse (Defense);

Riley Lemay, who committed to Wilson College to play Division III Lacrosse (Defense);

Hailey Fehring-Cocks, who committed to SUNY Dutchess to play NJCAA Division III Volleyball (Outside Hitter);

Gillian Mills, who committed to Utica University to play Division III Wrestling (Weight Class 136-142);

Madeline Marricco, who committed to Fairleigh Dickinson University to play Division I Soccer (Mid-Field);

Carolina Watson, who committed to SUNY Delhi to play Division III Softball (2nd Base);

Nico Bocchimuzzo, who committed to SUNY Ulster to play NJCAA Division II Basketball (Guard); and

Dalton Reynolds, who committed to SUNY Rockland to play NJCAA Division II Baseball (Pitcher)

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: The Saugerties Central School District affirms its commitment to non-discrimination and recognizes its responsibility to provide an environment that is free of harassment and intimidation as required by Federal and state law. Harassment is a violation of law and stands in direct opposition to District policy. Therefore, the District prohibits and condemns all forms of discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, political affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, military status, veteran status, disability, use of a recognized guide dog, hearing dog or service dog, or domestic violence victim status by employees, school volunteers, students, and non-employees such as contractors and vendors as well as any third parties who are participating in, observing, or otherwise engaging in activities subject to the supervision and control of the District. All inquiries regarding the Non-Discrimination policy and / or all complaints regarding violation(s) of these policies should be directed to the Compliance Officers Dr. Daniel Erceg, Superintendent or Michael Goldbeck, Interim Business Official; (845-247-6550).



QUICK-THINKING TEACHING ASSISTANT PERFORMS LIFE-SAVING HEIMLICH MANEUVER

Camden Sauer, a Grade 1 student at Riccardi Elementary School, was eating an orange in his classroom when something went terribly wrong. A slice got lodged in his throat. That’s when a quick-thinking teaching assistant stepped in and performed the Heimlich maneuver, which successfully dislodged the fruit.

“I knew by the look on his face that he was scared and needed help,” said Teaching Assistant Jamie Hewett. “I received CPR [Cardiopulmonary resuscitation] and Heimlich maneuver training years ago. I know the importance of it, but never thought I’d have to use it.”

The young boy’s parents, Cliff and Jenn Sauer, are grateful that Ms. Hewitt was trained in CPR. “We are appreciative that each of our children are safe and supported in Saugerties,” Jenn Sauer said. “We are forever grateful to Ms. Hewitt for how she was there for Camden.”

When Camden was asked how he felt about Ms. Hewitt, he said, smiling, “She’s cool. She helped save my life.”

Board of Education Announces New Leadership and Trustees for 2023-2024 School Year

During its July 11 meeting, the Board of Education elected Robert Thomann as President for the 2023-2024 school year, and Jeff Riozzi as Vice-President.

The Board also warmly welcomed its newest trustees, Carole Kelder and Jeffrey Riozzi, who officially began their terms on July 1. Each took their oath of office, and both are ready to make a positive impact on our school community. If you see these folks out in the community, make sure to give them a big Sawyer welcome!

