

## Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Sawyer Community,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and taking time to recharge.

A lot has happened since the last day of school in June. At our reorganization meeting in July, three new Board of Education trustees were sworn in. Please join me in welcoming William Ball, Christina Bellarosa, and Scott Polston. Also during that meeting Robert Thomann and James Mooney were unanimously re-elected Board President and Vice President, respectively.

Looking back at the past few years, I must say that I am very proud of what we have accomplished as a District. When I was first hired as superintendent back in 2019, the Board of Education tasked me with helping to improve the District's financial stability and student achievement. Through various initiatives the District has implemented, I'm pleased to share that we have been able to do just that. Today, Saugerties is in a much better place financially, and our graduation rate has jumped from 87.9 percent in 2019 to 90.5 percent in 2022. We are also continuing to expand our academic opportunities for students through the addition of 15 new courses this year.

This is a wonderful sign of our District's progress. I want to commend the hard work of every graduate of the Class of 2022, as well as their teachers, parents, grandparents, school board members, principals, school counselors, and community leaders for their efforts in supporting our young people in completing high school and going on to the next stage of their life. This effort was monumental and it deserves to be celebrated. When the pandemic hit in March 2020, Saugerties didn't just set a goal to survive, instead we set out to thrive.

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# Saugerties

## Central School District

SUMMER 2022

## SHS COMMENCEMENT 2022: Embracing Change While Moving Forward

For the Saugerties seniors who crossed the stage to receive their diplomas, graduation marked the end of a time unlike any other in history. What they accomplished in the classroom, both virtually and in-person, was completed during a global pandemic and amid a time of many societal changes and pressures. Their achievements were recognized during Saugerties' 126th commencement on June 24.

The unique circumstances these graduates experienced in their lifetime will hopefully prepare them for what lies ahead post high school in college and/or work.

Under beautiful blue skies, Superintendent of Schools Kirk Reinhardt gave his welcoming remarks during the graduation ceremony, which took place on the football field with proud parents and family members watching from the stands.

Salutatorian Marlo Rothe was one of the first to address the crowd. She spoke about her feelings of great happiness to have reached the finish line—graduation. She spoke of her classmates' resilience in dealing with the difficulties of the pandemic. "I know that our class has been through a lot, but I don't think any of you can deny the fact that we have come out stronger than when we first entered," Rothe said. She encouraged everyone to continue on their next journey with happiness as their compass. She ended by saying that she looked forward to seeing where everyone will end up and how far they will go.

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TO POSTAL CUSTOMER



### Board of Education

Robert Thomann, *President*  
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William Ball • Krista Barringer  
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Scott Polston • Timothy Wells

### Superintendent of Schools

Kirk Reinhardt

Newsletter produced/designed by Ulster BOCES

Saugerties Central School District

FIND US:   

## TWO SAUGERTIES STUDENTS EARN BILITERACY AWARDS IN 2022

Saugerties seniors Alison Polanco and Caroline Johansen both earned a New York State Seal of Biliteracy at graduation. Polanco is the District's first English language learner to earn the Seal of Biliteracy, with English being her World Language and Spanish being her native language. Johansen earned the Seal of Biliteracy with English being her native language and Spanish being her world language. The seal recognizes advanced achievement in two languages, with students having to earn points in both languages through coursework and AP and Regent exams, as well as a final presentation. They were each awarded a medallion to wear during commencement.





# Grade 6 Students Move Ahead

## Cahill Elementary School

Cahill's Grade 6 Moving Up Ceremony was a celebratory affair. Originally scheduled for outdoors, the June 22 event was moved indoors due to inclement weather—and the transition seemed seamless. Principal Shannon Molyneaux welcomed the overflow crowd of family, friends, and well-wishers. "We are so proud of this class," she said. "Your children are amazing!"

Judging by the children's giant smiles and infectious laughter, the event was a roaring success. These newly minted sixth graders are ready to spread their wings in the Junior High this fall!



## Riccardi Elementary School

Celebrating their hard-earned promotion to the Junior High, Grade 6 students at Riccardi Elementary School participated in their moving-up event on June 16. Presenters announced awards, and a number of students were acknowledged for their Student Government service. The class also sang a special rendition of "We Didn't Start the Fire." At the end of the ceremony, Riccardi Elementary School Interim Principal Michael Miller handed students their moving-up medals.



## Grant D. Morse Elementary School

Grade 6 students at Grant D. Morse Elementary School were honored on June 21 during the building's annual Moving-Up Ceremony. Art, music, athletic, and academic awards were given during the ceremony, and members of the school's band performed for the families in attendance. A reception was held immediately following the ceremony.



## Mt. Marion Elementary School

Mt. Marion sixth graders celebrated the end of their journey through elementary school during their moving-up ceremony on June 15. Students received awards for their hard work, effort, and character. It also marked the last class to move up from Mt. Marion, as the District will begin carrying out its repurposing plans. This fall, Mt. Marion will be revamped to house several District offices and a universal Pre-K program, as well as other educational services offered through different agencies. Beginning in the



fall, children who previously would have attended Mt. Marion will be attending one of the District's three remaining elementary schools. The District congratulates all of the students and wishes them the best of luck in the Junior High!

## SCHOOL MEAL CHANGES FOR THE 2022/23 SCHOOL YEAR

This is an important reminder to all Saugerties families. The United States Department of Agriculture program that provided free school meals to all students during the COVID-19 pandemic ended on June 30, 2022. This means that unless qualifying families turn in a free/reduced price meal application, they will need to pay full price for meals when school starts in September.

The Saugerties Central School District will return to policies that were in place for free/reduced price lunch and breakfast prior to the pandemic. Income guidelines and application packets will be made available prior to the start of school. Eligibility for free/reduced price meals will be determined by income verification or by direct certification lists provided to the school district.

Here are some essential facts about the program:

- Only one application per household is needed.
- A new application must be completed each school year.
- If your child receives SNAP or Medicaid, you do not need to complete an application.
- All applications must be received and processed by October 20, 2022.

For more information about the school lunch program, please contact Cafeteria Manager Sheila Melville at [smelville@saugerties.k12.ny.us](mailto:smelville@saugerties.k12.ny.us).





## Letter from the Superintendent

*Continued from page 1*

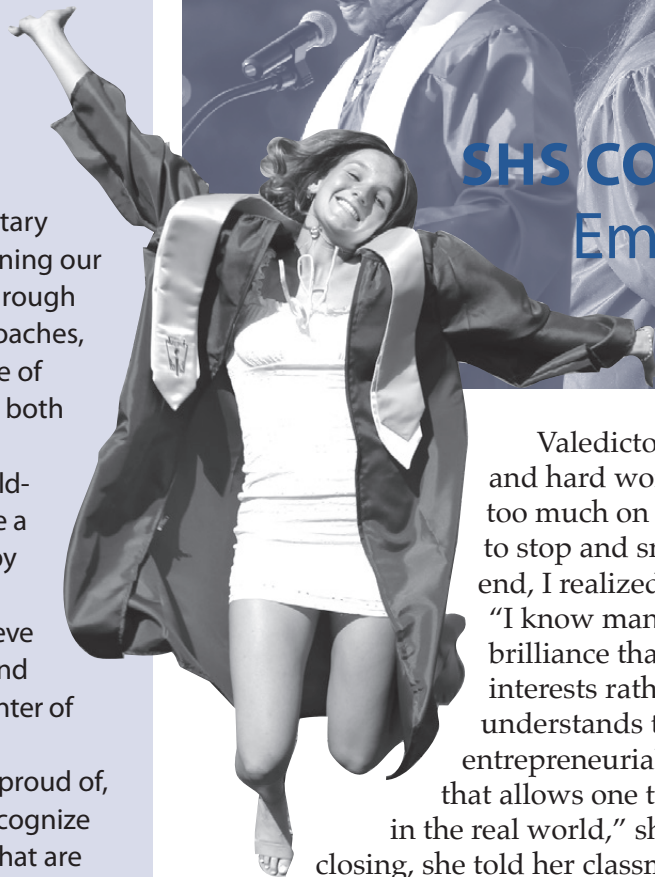
I am excited about this school year, students will now benefit from having access to full-time librarians and social workers in each of our elementary schools. We are also strengthening our literacy and math programs through the addition of instructional coaches, reading specialists, and the use of research-based approaches to both of those curriculums.

My hope is to continue building upon our successes and see a graduation rate of 95 percent by next year. Ambitious? Yes. But I am confident that we can achieve this goal by staying steadfast and keeping our students at the center of all that we do.

While there is much to be proud of, we also need to realistically recognize some of the fiscal challenges that are before us created by the current global economic conditions. Inflation, the cost of fuel, supply chain issues and delays, and lack of product availability (such as paper and equipment parts) will surely impact our expenses, but thankfully we are fiscally in a better place to absorb these unexpected increases than we were just a year ago.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in September and continuing the great work we've started!

Sincerely,  
**Kirk Reinhardt,**  
*Superintendent of Schools*



## SHS COMMENCEMENT 2022: Embracing Change While Moving Forward

*Continued from page 1*

Valedictorian Kristiane Rell congratulated her classmates on their perseverance and hard work over the last four years. She also shared her feelings about focusing too much on being number one in her class. She regretted not having taken the time to stop and smell the roses. Rell discussed this life lesson during her speech. "In the end, I realized rank and grade has no effect on one's worth or intelligence," she said. "I know many students sitting in the seats in front of me with incredible talents and brilliance that chose to spend their time seeking experiences and pursuing their interests rather than only focusing on grades." She went on to say that she now understands that intelligence comes in many forms including: creativity, athleticism, entrepreneurial, and social intelligence. "Whether or not one has the academic ability that allows one to excel in high school does not determine whether or not one will excel in the real world," she proclaimed. "Remember, grades don't define who people are." In closing, she told her classmates to use their talents to keep moving forward and to do so without regrets.

After the ceremony, some members of the class chose to participate in a new tradition of riding or driving in a graduation car parade through town. The parade was punctuated with a few fireworks as one last celebration for the graduates.

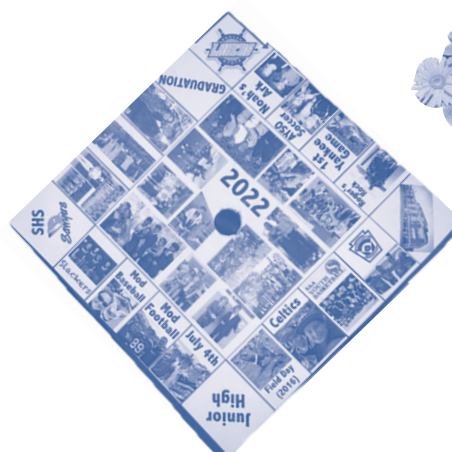


## GRADUATES NAILED DECORATING THEIR CAPS

Members of the Class 2022 worked incredibly hard to reach commencement. They earned their degree and deserved to celebrate. As part of a relatively new tradition, the High School once again offered a graduation cap decorating contest. This creative rite of passage is a commencement activity that began during COVID to help students commemorate their time at Saugerties High School.

Thirty-eight entries were considered, and staff volunteers enjoyed seeing all the creativity, imagination, and heart put into each design. The District congratulates this year's Graduation Cap Decorating winners!

**BEST OVERALL**  
Casey DeCelle



**BEST QUOTE**  
Mya Barth

**MOST CREATIVE**  
Thane Simera



**FUNNIEST**  
Isabelle Chauncey



# Contact Information for our Schools

## Cahill Elementary School



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

**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: Kristin Koegel**  
kristin.cahillpta@gmail.com  
First PTA Meeting: September 21, 2022

## Riccardi Elementary School



**Principal: Carole Kelder**  
ckelder@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6870 ext. 7703

**Main Office Secretary: Alexandria Meier**  
ameier@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6870 ext. 7701

**Attendance Clerk: Diann Sawchuk**  
dsawchuk@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6870 ext. 7702

**School Nurse: Lynda Angier**  
langier@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6870 ext. 7799

**PTA President: Justine Snihur**  
riccardipta@gmail.com  
First PTA Meeting: September 8, 2022

## 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: Stella Jurofcik**  
sjurofcik@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6561 ext. 2702

**School Nurse: Nara Scanlon**  
nscanlon@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6561 ext. 2799

**PTSA President: Rebecca Mulford**  
rmulford@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
First PTSA Meeting: September 12, 2022

## Grant D. Morse Elementary School



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

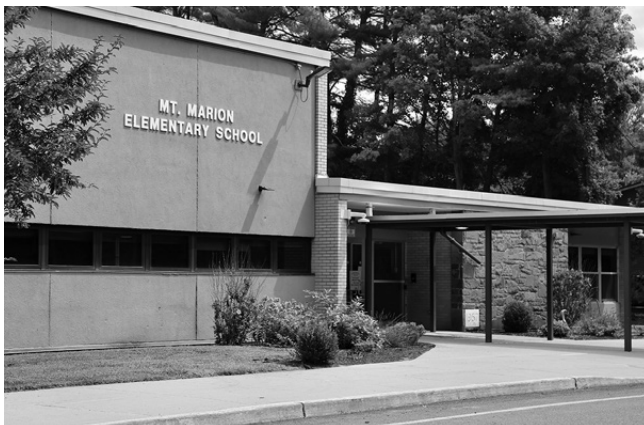
**Main Office Secretary: Deb Landell**  
dlandell@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6960 ext. 5701

**Attendance Clerk: Colleen Dunham**  
cdunham@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6960 ext. 5702

**School Nurse: Susan Pavloudakis**  
spavloudakis@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6960 ext. 5799

**PTA President: Mandy Norcross**  
First PTA Meeting: September 21, 2022

## Mt. Marion Elementary School



**Building Administrator: Dr. Lisajane Kappler**  
lkappler@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6550 ext. 9022

**Director of Special Education:**  
**Marlene Anderson Butler**  
mbutler1@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6550 ext. 9206

**Main Office Secretary: Karen Krzywonos**  
kkrzywonos@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6920 ext. 6701

**Preschool Supervisor: Jessalyn DiFazio**  
jdifazio@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6800 ext. 6712

**School Nurse: Connie Sciutto**  
csciutto@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6799

## 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: Stella Jurofcik**  
sjurofcik@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6561 ext. 2702

**School Nurse: Sue Carter**  
scarter2@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
845-247-6651 ext. 1799

**PTSA President: Rebecca Mulford**  
rmulford@saugerties.k12.ny.us  
First PTSA Meeting: September 12, 2022

# New School Teams

The District would like to introduce you to our newly consolidated 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.

<div>Grant D. Morse Elementary School</div> <div>Kindergarten Janet Sullivan Jessica McCaig Brandi Foley Jennifer Arcadipane</div> <div>First Kathleen Detweiler Hilarie Wiacek Brandi Foley Jennifer Arcadipane</div> <div>Second Catherine Averill Lorraine Collins Brandi Foley Jennifer Arcadipane</div> <div>Third Brooke Ryan Valerie Raleigh Lara Soddano Kelly Petramale</div> <div>Fourth Stacey Hopf Denise Dudzic Lara Soddano Kelly Petramale</div> <div>Fifth Rina Liepshutz Patrick Reynolds Kylene Leiter Sarah Yonnetti</div> <div>Sixth Jessica Brott Stefanie Tucker Kylene Leiter Sarah Yonnetti</div> <div>RTI Math Hope Kraft</div> <div>RTI Literacy Tracey Smith</div> <div>Art Rebecca Black Amy Dunaief</div> <div>Physical Education Allyson Constable Sean Collins</div> <div>Library Patricia Pipitone</div>	<div>Music Jennifer McMann Sarah Hansen Anthony Carl</div> <div>Social Worker Brittany Farrell Keenan Jones</div> <div>Psychologist Melissa Rabuffo</div> <div>Speech Kelsa Shanley</div> <div>SPECIAL EDUCATION K-2nd - Brandi Foley 3rd-4th - Lara Soddano 5th-6th - Kylene Leiter LC k-2nd - Jennifer Arcadipane LC 3th-4th - Kelly Petramale LC 5th-6th - Sarah Yonnetti</div> <div>Riccardi Elementary School</div> <div>Kindergarten Jody Scott Sharan Scanlon Dana Murphy Shanni Frahm</div> <div>First Jennifer Wade Stefanie Colclough Colleen Mada Maggie Myers</div> <div>Second Gina Pellegri Jennifer Nelson Frances Murphy Shanni Frahm</div> <div>Third Stephanie Pettit Peggy Mullen Rebecca Mulford Maggie Myers</div> <div>Fourth Nancy Gunn Jill Brandt Bonnie Brown Laura Bubel</div> <div>Fifth Rob Rea Marissa Maglio-Kohler Sue Cullen Shawna Bruno</div>	<div>Sixth Brittany D’Orazio Joseph Tiano Rachel Fisher Laura Bubel</div> <div>RTI Math Michelle Hally</div> <div>RTI Literacy Amy Di dio</div> <div>Physical Education Stephen Buonfiglio Steve Below</div> <div>Library Cathy Hoffstatter</div> <div>Music Sarah Hansen Anthony Carl</div> <div>Social Worker Arlene Parsi</div> <div>Psychologist Alexandra Cutrone</div> <div>Speech Courtney Gallagher</div> <div>SPECIAL EDUCATION 5th - Shawna Bruno 1st, 3rd - Maggie Myers K, 2nd - Shanni Frahm, 4th, 6th - Laura Bubel</div> <div>Cahill Elementary School</div> <div>Kindergarten Elizabeth Ruzzo Elizabeth Kilmer Christine Farrell Mary Butler Katie Wiederspiel Athena Bauer</div> <div>First Kelly Hogan Elizabeth Rule Nevil Sarah Prutzman Mary Butler Katie Wiederspiel Athena Bauer</div>	<div>Second Jamie Combs Mary Garland Mary Butler Theresa Tucker Athena Bauer</div> <div>Third Larissa O’Neill Robin Parete Krystyna Lilland Patricia VanValkenburg Theresa Tucker Athena Bauer</div> <div>Fourth Kerri Molini Susan McManigal Patricia VanValkenburg Rebecca Fricke Joe Defino</div> <div>Fifth Melissa Colby Heather Breen Lori Puertas Tracey Lodge Rebecca Fricke Joe Defino</div> <div>Sixth Deb Ciccone William Hanson Desiree Hartrum Lori Puertas Tracey Lodge Rebecca Fricke Joe Defino</div> <div>RTI-Math Amy Hopf</div> <div>RTI Literacy Alexandra Gambino</div> <div>Art Rebecca Black Amy Dunaief</div> <div>Physical Education Melinda Glover Sean Collins</div> <div>Library Renee O’Donnell</div> <div>Music Bernhard Spirig Jennifer McMann</div> <div>Social Worker Tammy Carlile</div>	<div>Psychologist Brooke Dennin</div> <div>Speech Elizabeth Little Debora Nezich</div> <div>ENL Alexandria Jameison John Carlson</div> <div>SPECIAL EDUCATION K-2nd - Mary Butler 3rd-4th - Patricia VanValkenburg 5th-6th - Lori Puertas 5th and 6th - Tracey Lodge AAP 2-3 - Theresa Tucker PAAP K-1 - Katie Wiederspiel AAP4-6 - Rebecca Fricke PALP K-3 - Athena Bauer PALP 4-6 - Joe Defino</div> <div>District Wide</div> <div>RTI Math Mary Lezette</div> <div>RTI Literacy Victoria Lueck</div> <div>Reading Danielle Olsen</div> <div>Mt. Marion Elementary School</div> <div>Pre-K Annie Armstrong Francine Masula Amanda Richmond Kamryn Schindler Jessica Markle</div> <div>Woostock Day School</div> <div>Cyn Kendall</div> <div>SHS Learning Center</div> <div>Allyson DeCicco</div>
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# EXCITING NEW LOOK!

## Saugerties Launches Brand New Website

The Saugerties Central School District is excited to announce that it will launch a new website at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year. The site is being created with support from a cooperative service offered by Ulster BOCES.

The new and improved website will present important District information in a more user-friendly and efficient layout. It features a responsive design that will adapt layout to mobile devices so content will be easier to navigate. A mobile app will also be launched later in the year.

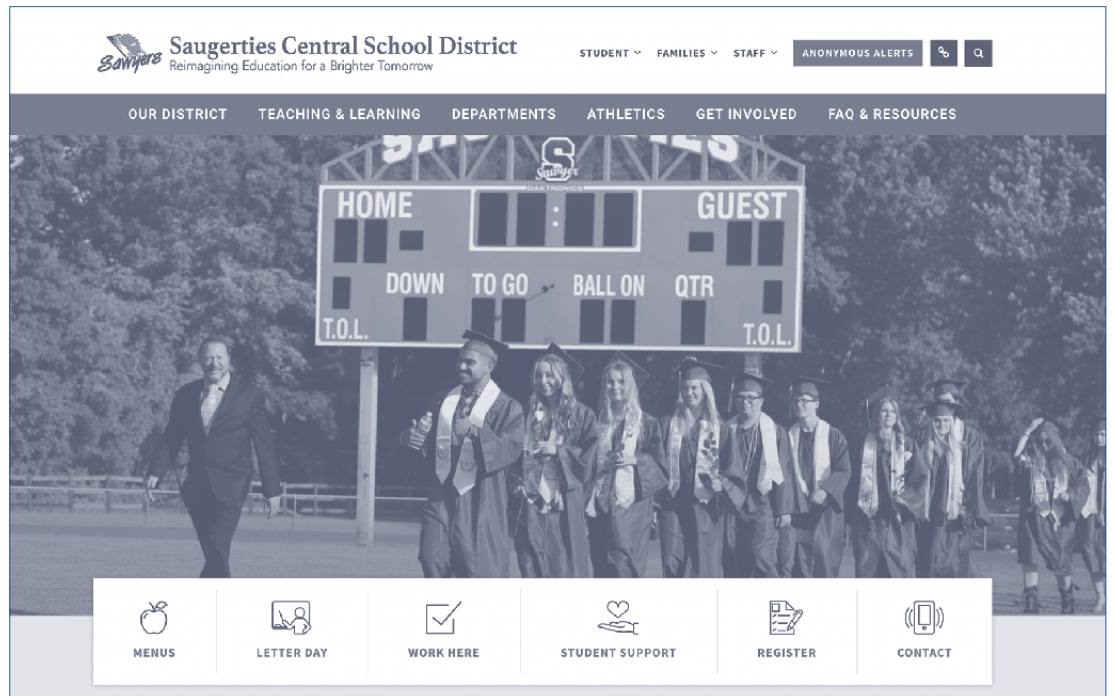
The new site will be accessible for individuals with disabilities, have a translation feature, and will provide quick and easy access to tools specific to students, families, and staff. The homepage will also feature social media feeds, news and announcements, as well as a redesigned events calendar that will feed into individual school and program calendars. Information will be at your fingertips.

"Our communications team interviewed PTA members and various staff throughout the District to help understand what was most wanted in our new website," said Superintendent Kirk Reinhardt. "The design and information included was organized based on this valuable feedback."

The website also includes an advanced search tool that will help ensure users can easily find what they're looking for. The site will feature photos of our students and staff and easily identified icons to take visitors to popular content, such as our school lunch menu and letter day details.

"Not only is the site going to be user-friendly for the viewer, but the platform is intuitive and has many features that will ultimately help us to better meet the information needs of our audience," said Daniel Erceg, Director of Human Resources, who also led the District team in working with Ulster BOCES on the creation of the website.

We are excited for everyone to see the new site, which will be found at our same URL: [www.saugerties.k12.ny.us](http://www.saugerties.k12.ny.us). Please also check back throughout the fall as we continue to build out additional information and new features that our stakeholders have expressed interest in seeing. We hope that you will provide feedback and reach out with any questions. Drop us a line at [KConte@saugerties.k12.ny.us](mailto:KConte@saugerties.k12.ny.us).




## Opt-Out of Photos Form

This year, the District will be sending home an opt-out of photos permission slip. Parents only need to return this form if they do not grant permission for the District to use photographs of their child(ren).

Throughout the school year, our community relations specialist takes photos, videos, and/or sound recordings of students to be sent to the local media, published on the District's Website or social media platforms, or used in newsletters, brochures, or other promotional materials. These images and videos depict activities such as classroom work, athletics, assemblies, fundraising events, and field trips. Photos of students engaged in school activities are a powerful way of communicating the successes, philosophy, and nature of our school community. In short, photo/video documentation is an essential vehicle for rich communication with District stakeholders.

If the form is not completed and returned to the school by September 16, the District will assume that parents/guardians have given permission for their child's photo, video, and/or name to be used.



**SAUGERTIES CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
KIRK REINHARDT, SUPERINTENDENT  
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310 Washington Avenue Ext.  
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[www.saugerties.k12.ny.us](http://www.saugerties.k12.ny.us)

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**OPT-OUT PHOTOGRAPHS/VIDEO FORM**

**NO ACTION IS NEEDED if you allow the District to take your child's photo for the purposes outlined below. Complete and return this form only if you DO NOT give permission for your student's image to appear as described below.**

From time to time, photographs or videos of students are taken during the school day for use in the District and for educational news releases, publications, video productions, social media, educational projects, and the District's website. Such photography or videography shall not be used for commercial purposes.

## Board of Education News

At its July 12 meeting, the Board of Education elected Robert Thomann as President for the 2022-2023 school year, and James Mooney as Vice-President. New trustees Christine Bellarosa, Scott Polston, and William Ball, whose terms started on July 1, took their oaths of office. If you see these folks out in the community make sure to give them a big Sawyer congratulations!





## Saugerties Students Benefit from Summer Enrichment Program

The Saugerties Central School District launched its Summer Enrichment Program with great success. The purpose of the program was to provide hands-on opportunities for students that were fun, creative, and sparked a sense of wonder.

A total of 14 courses were offered for students in Grades K-9 to choose from. The courses were designed and facilitated by Saugerties teachers, who were encouraged to focus their workshops on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) or humanities topics.

Some of the courses offered included Music, Creative Movement, Chinese Writing, Intro to Spanish and French, Gardening, and Drama.

In total, 189 Saugerties students enrolled in the program. “With this being the pilot year, we hope to expand the program next summer with more courses and more opportunities for students to engage in summer learning,” said Dr. Gwendolyn Roraback, the District’s Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. “Some of the best learning happens through sports, the arts, or in camp and that is what we are seeking to create—interest-based, inquiry-based learning that sparks the imagination with joy and wonder.”



## SAUGERTIES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DOMINATES LOOKBOOK PROJECT

Saugerties High School 2022 graduate Starla Bollé, who attended the Ulster BOCES Fashion Design & Merchandising (FDM) program, received the honor of having a photo of her fantasy- and nature-inspired outfit featured on the back cover of the program’s culminating publication, known as a “lookbook.” Explaining her work, the young fashion designer wrote, “I used iridescent and metallic fabrics to give the collection a sense of otherworldliness.”

Starla, an accomplished director, producer, writer, and actor who has had her movies featured at the Woodstock Film Festival, says that her participation in the FDM program as well as in the Woodstock Film Festival Youth Film Lab opened her eyes to a possible career path in the film costume design industry. “I kind of knew how to sew, but [in FDM] I learned technical sewing skills, pattern-making, and blocking,” she explained. “And I learned a lot about trend cycles, and the process a garment goes through from creation to actual manufacturing to the showroom and [distribution].”



Having the opportunity to model her creations on the back cover is a tribute to her talent, since the front and back covers of books are prime real estate. She even contributed a short story titled “Into the Deep” to accompany the photos of her work found inside the lookbook. Starla, who graduated from high school early, will be attending Bard College this fall, where she plans to major in filmmaking. She also hopes to share her passion for fashion design by starting a sewing club on campus.

The Saugerties Central School District is extremely proud of Starla, and we can’t wait to see what she accomplishes next!

## Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, September 6**

SCHOOL STARTS

Grades K-6 Half Day AM

Grades 7-12 Full Day

**Tuesday, September 20**

Open House Secondary

**Thursday, September 22**

Open House Elementary

**Monday, September 26**

SCHOOL CLOSED

Rosh Hashanah

**Wednesday, October 5**

SCHOOL CLOSED

Yom Kippur





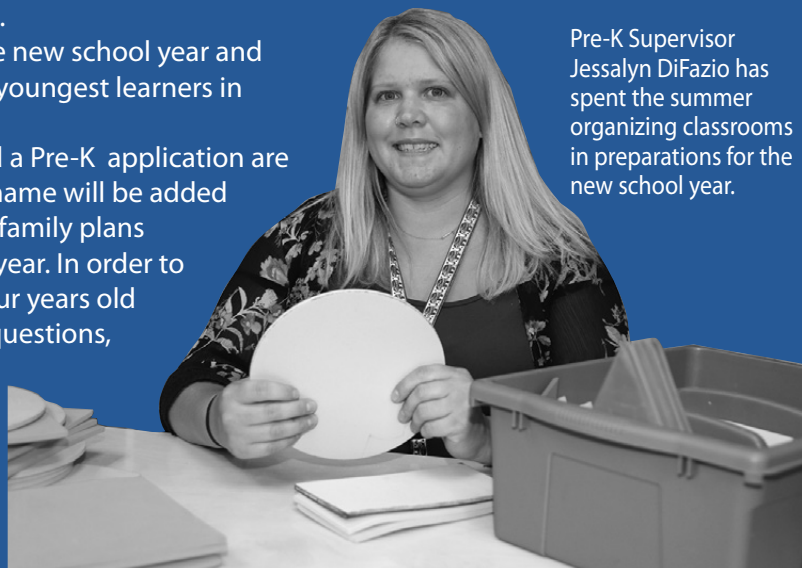
## Big Learning for Growing Minds

The Saugerties Central School District is proud to announce that the Pre-K program at the Mt. Marion Learning Center has reached capacity (80 seats). This is exciting news because we know research shows that early childhood learning provides a strong foundation for long-term success.

Maintenance crews and program supervisors spent many hours this summer preparing all of the Pre-K classrooms. Each room is designed to help promote language development, critical thinking, creativity, and early academic skills to ensure that each student is prepared for Kindergarten and beyond.

We are excited about the start of the new school year and are looking forward to welcoming our youngest learners in September.

Parents who have not yet submitted a Pre-K application are still encouraged to do so. Their child's name will be added to a waiting list to be accessed if some family plans change prior to the start of the school year. In order to be eligible for Pre-K, a child must be four years old by December 1, 2022. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pre-K Supervisor Jessalyn DiFazio with The Children's Workshop of the Catskills at [jdifazio@saugerties.k12.ny.us](mailto:jdifazio@saugerties.k12.ny.us) or by calling 845-247-6800, ext. 6712.



Pre-K Supervisor Jessalyn DiFazio has spent the summer organizing classrooms in preparations for the new school year.

## Updating Contact Information and Messaging Preferences

The Saugerties Central School District communicates directly with staff and parents through its student information system, Infinite Campus. To opt-in for voice and/or text message notifications or to update your information, you will need to use your existing Infinite Campus Parent Portal login. Here, you will be able to make changes to phone numbers, email addresses, your preferred language, and your specific messaging preferences.



First, log into your Parent Portal Account. Click on the profile icon in the top right of your screen, select Settings, and then choose Contact Preferences.

Here, you can either opt-in or opt-out of voice or SMS/text notifications.

Make sure you select Save if you make any changes. In addition to updating messaging preferences, you can also update your email and phone number.

Please note that although the District does not charge you for this service, it does not pay for any charges that may be incurred by you for receiving text messages. Please check with your wireless carrier for possible charges.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your school secretary for assistance.

## CAPITAL PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS ARE UNDERWAY

Work is progressing on the December 2020 voter-approved \$22 million Capital Project. The District has awarded the roofing contract for Phase 1 and plans have been submitted to the New York State Education Department for approval of Phase 2. Roof replacement has started at Cahill Elementary School; the Hildebrandt building will follow. In September, resurfacing the High School track will begin.

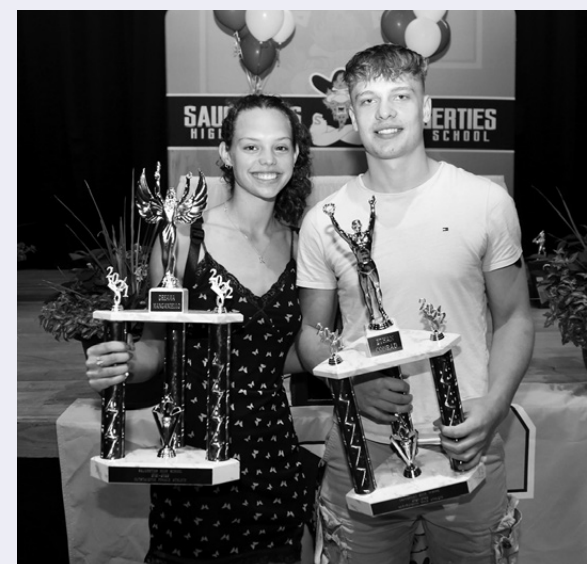
Supply chain issues, labor shortages, and inflation resulted in higher than anticipated bids this past spring for Phase 1 work. As a result the District, in consultation with the construction management company, is reevaluating its top priorities to determine the best course of action to accomplish the much-needed infrastructure improvements. Superintendent Kirk Reinhardt says, "The project cost cannot exceed the amount the voters approved, so we are diligently evaluating our options to ensure we address the highest priorities in the most fiscally responsible way possible."

## MHAL SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARDS



Renee Baldwin and Dreama Manganiello were named this year's Mid-Hudson Athletic League (MHAL) Senior Scholar Athlete Award recipients. Baldwin had a GPA of 101.22 and ranked number 3 in her class. She played Varsity Soccer, Basketball, and Track. She plans to attend the University of Buffalo and major in Biomedical Engineering. Manganiello had a GPA of a 99.6 and ranked number 10 in her class. She participated in Varsity Volleyball, Basketball, and Lacrosse. She plans to attend Marist College and major in Secondary Education.

## ATHLETICS AWARD HIGHLIGHTS TWO FOR SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Each year one male and one female athlete are voted on by the District's coaches for the Outstanding Athlete award. Congratulations to this year's winners Dreama Manganiello and Ethan Conrad.