

# NYMILLS

May  
2021

## UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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Students of the Month

Senator Griffo Joins  
Creative Content  
Production Class Via Zoom

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Join our mailing list for paper updates! To sign up, contact District Clerk Stefany Scharf at [sscharf@newyorkmills.org](mailto:sscharf@newyorkmills.org) or by calling 315-768-8127 (option #2, option #1)

**MISSION:** "Through combined efforts of students, staff, parents, and community members, our mission is to foster the confidence, knowledge, cognition, and character necessary to instill a strong work ethic, to create an environment of tolerance and respect, and to ignite an attitude of inquiry and enthusiasm for learning that will enable students to become productive, responsible citizens."

## Message from the Superintendent

### Dear Residents,

Often before I write a newsletter article, I review what I wrote the previous year. What I wrote last year bears repeating: "To say that this has been a unique year would be a huge understatement." I don't think any of us could have imagined what life would be like this year. But here we are, with new language: PPE, remote instruction, hybrid instruction, hand sanitizer, social distance, the list goes on. At the end of all of this, two things remain clear – this district continues to put the education of our students first and this budget proposal supports the priority of a quality education.

We may not know what September will bring us as we try to find the "new normal," but this budget proposal seeks to allow a strong, consistent educational program for the years to come. We know that many of our students will need academic and social/emotional support as we transition back to a fully in-person instructional model. This budget proposal encompasses those needs. We also know that this year has been a trying year for our taxpayers and it is incumbent upon us to provide a budget that is financially responsible. This budget proposal supports our mission of being good stewards of the taxpayers' money.

Our proposed budget for the 2021-2022 academic year is \$15,495,435 and reflects a 1.22% increase to the tax levy, which increases our revenue by \$97,886. As in the past, we have not exceeded our tax cap limit.

This budget includes a capital outlay to upgrade and reconfigure our school nurse's office, thereby making it a space where all students, regardless of age level or issue, have a facility that meets their needs. The revenue proposed in this budget, along with difficult decisions that were made that minimized any impact to students, allows us to propose a responsible budget for 2021-2022.

A public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m. It is our desire to have this hearing in person and more information will be released pending updated procedures in alignment with the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Education Department. This year's school budget vote includes the election of one member to the New York Mills Union Free School District Board of Education.

After everything that has transpired this past year, I remain so proud of this community and our staff as we continue to work together to provide opportunities for students. Thank you for your continued support of our district and our students.

Respectfully,



**Joanne Shelmidine, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**BUDGET AND BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTE**

**TUESDAY, MAY 18**

**NOON - 9:00 P.M. BEEKMAN GYMNASIUM**

**VOTE**

## Capital Project Update

With the arrival of spring comes the beginning of our capital project. As we move into summer, you will see our new aluminum handicap accessible bleachers, a new playground, and a new sign for the front of the school building all being installed. This is just part of the \$1.5 million project that the voters previously approved. Other changes as a result of the capital project will allow us to close off specific hallways to reduce traffic during evening events, and allow us to section off hallways in the event of an emergency.

We have shared the plans for the new playground with our students. The students were thrilled to see most of their ideas in the final plans: a zip line, more climbing equipment, and more opportunities for swinging and bouncing. Their excitement is certainly contagious, and I cannot wait until recess next school year!

As work moves ahead on our building and grounds, we also will be making the district more energy efficient with an energy performance contract. Features of this project include installing LED lighting, updating condenser units, and providing controls that will allow us to better monitor heating and building systems during off hours.

It is important to note that these projects are not included in this year's budget proposal. These plans were already approved by voters and we have been waiting for state education approval. Our capital project has received final approval and our energy performance project is in the final approval process and should be ready for work this summer.

We will be posting pictures of the capital project on our webpage. So keep an eye out for updates on our progress. Our goal is to have most of the work complete before students return in September.



## ELEMENTARY DRAMA CLUB TO PRESENT 'SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE! JR.'

The New York Mills Elementary 4-6 Grade Drama Club will present "SchoolHouse Rock Live! Jr." on June 4-6, which will be streamed online. The musical is an exciting mix of the all-time favorite '70s television show that many of us may have watched on Saturday mornings.

Tom, a young teacher played by Caleb Miner, is at home, nervously preparing for his very first day at school. To relax, he watches television and is surprised to see Schoolhouse Rock. Five people suddenly appear in his home as manifestations of the different sides of Tom's personality. George, played by Andrew Tallman, is the calm side of Tom. You will also see Tom's goofy side played by Sophia Rauscher-Canty, his sweet side played by Aaliyah Hollenbeck, his mature side played by Evi Stemmer, and his cool and fun-loving side played by Carter Tallman. Throughout the show they give him the confidence he needs to win over his students with imagination and music.

The musical will feature some of the popular songs you may remember, such as "Interplanet Janet," "I'm Just a Bill," "Three is a Magic Number," and many more.

The musical is directed by Teresa Zielinski-Lovecchio and edited by Nick Ford, with assistant editing by Patrick Peckham. Both Nick and Patrick are graduating seniors of the class of 2021 here at New York Mills Jr./Sr. High School.

Tickets will be available through the ticketing service Showtix4U.com for a cost of \$25 for the entire weekend or \$15 for a one-time purchase. The virtual show will open up on June 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you for your support of the arts here at New York Mills. We hope you enjoy the show!



# 2021-2022 BUDGET INFORMATION

## ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT

The administrative component consists of overall management activities including board of education, superintendent's office, business office operations such as central data processing, payroll, purchasing, BOCES administrative expenses, insurance, printing, mailing, personnel, legal and auditing services, and building administrative costs.

Function or Account	Budget 2020-21	Proposed 2021-22	Increase or (Decrease)
Board of Education	\$30,250	\$28,350	\$(1,900)
Central Administration	\$200,422	\$206,500	\$6,078
Finance	\$180,698	\$186,917	\$6,219
Legal Services	\$40,000	\$45,000	\$5,000
Personnel	\$58,435	\$50,000	\$(8,435)
Records Management	\$9,580	\$7,520	\$(2,060)
Public Information	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$ -
Other Central Services	\$167,240	\$126,500	\$(40,740)
Other Special Items	\$203,575	\$199,500	\$(4,075)
Curr. Dev. & Sup.	\$158,915	\$163,965	\$5,050
Supervision - Regular Sch.	\$300,879	\$314,265	\$13,386
Employee Benefits	\$264,526	\$345,302	\$(80,776)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,639,520</b>	<b>\$1,698,819</b>	<b>\$59,299</b>

Administrative  
Component  
is 10.96%  
of Budget

## PROGRAM COMPONENT

The program component consists of funding the instruction of and educational support services for the district's 570 students. Transportation of students, athletics, and co-curricular activities are also included in this budget component.

Function or Account	2020-21	2021-22	Increase or (Decrease)
Legal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Instruction	\$7,715,444	\$8,241,049	\$525,605
Other Dist. Transportation	\$421,005	\$445,597	\$24,592
Garage Building	\$52,569	\$58,395	\$5,826
Employee Benefits	\$2,843,661	\$2,828,909	\$(14,752)
Other Transfers	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,771,102</b>	<b>\$11,583,450</b>	<b>\$541,271</b>

Program  
Component  
is 74.75% of  
Budget

## CAPITAL COMPONENT

The capital component consists of maintenance of buildings, upkeep of grounds, electricity, heat, water & sewer, and telephone services. Funds are also included for the lease of school buses, payments on the capital project, and for refund of taxes for claims against property assessments.

Function or Account	2020-21	2021-22	Increase or (Decrease)
Operation of Plant	\$422,963	\$422,963	\$ -
Maintenance of Plant	\$359,262	\$294,855	\$(64,407)
Refund of Taxes	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$ -
Lease of Buses/Purchase	\$254,772	\$ -	\$(254,772)
Employee Benefits	\$198,396	\$167,064	\$(31,332)
Debt Service	\$1,027,913	\$1,218,284	\$190,371
Transfer to Capital	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,373,306</b>	<b>\$2,213,166</b>	<b>\$(160,140)</b>

Capital  
Component  
is 14.28%  
of Budget

<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$15,055,005</b>	<b>\$15,495,435</b>	<b>\$440,430</b>
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Total Budget  
Increase  
2.93%



# 2021-2022 BUDGET INFORMATION

## THIS NOTICE IS MANDATED BY NEW YORK STATE New York Mills Union Free School District Budget Notice

### Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year*
Total budgeted amount, not including separate propositions	\$15,055,005	\$15,495,435	\$15,116,136
Increase/decrease for 2021-2022 school year		\$440,430	\$61,131
Percentage increase/decrease in proposed budget		2.78%	0.41%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$8,019,400	\$8,117,286	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	0	0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	0	0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$8,019,400	\$8,117,286	\$8,117,286
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$247,122	\$243,082	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$7,796,558	\$7,874,204	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$7,772,278	\$7,874,204	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$24,280	\$0	
Administrative component	\$1,639,520	\$1,698,819	\$1,639,520
Program component	\$11,042,179	\$11,583,450	\$11,363,450
Capital component	\$2,373,306	\$2,213,166	\$2,113,166

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-22 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

	Description	Amount
** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)		

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year
<b>Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$656</b>

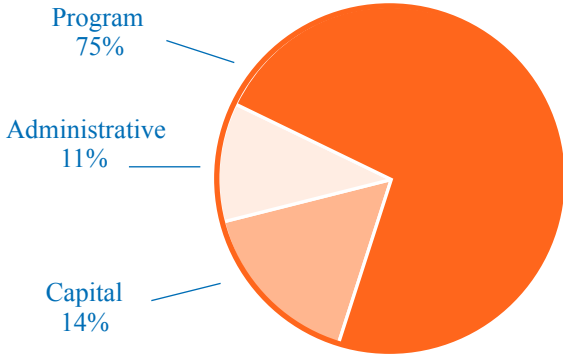
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-22 by the qualified voters of the New York Mills School District, Oneida County, New York, will be held at Beekman Gymnasium in said district on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

<sup>1</sup>The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

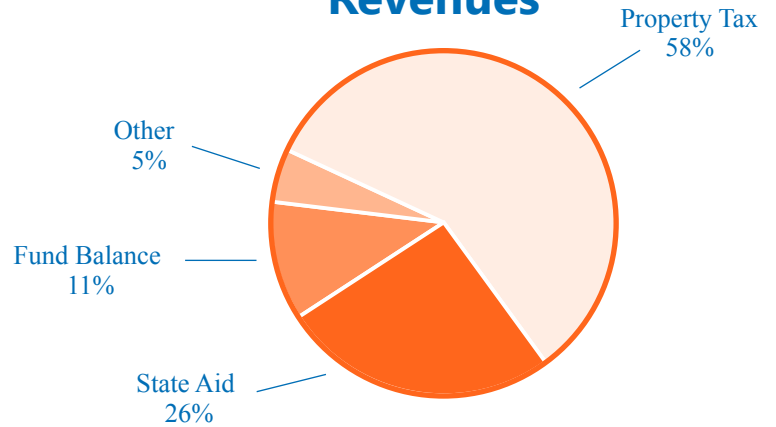


# 2021-2022 BUDGET INFORMATION

## Expenditures



## Revenues



## BUDGET PROPOSITIONS

**PROPOSITION 1** - RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New York Mills Union Free School District is hereby authorized to expend the sum of \$15,495,435 as a general fund appropriation for the 2021-2022 school year and to levy the necessary tax therefor.

### Tax on True

The tax on true value for the district in 2021-22 will be approximately \$20.45.

### Tax Levy Increase

The tax levy increase for 2021-22 is projected to be 1.22%.

Note: Rates are estimated based on current information available. Final equalization rates will not be set by the State of New York until August. In the two previous years, the final tax on true was actually lower than projected at the time of budget development.

### Absentee Ballots

Ballot Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the School District Clerk on or before May 4, 2021, if the ballot is to be delivered by mail, or on or before May 11, 2021, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voters. Absentee ballots must be received by the School District Clerk not later than 5 p.m. on the date of the election, May 18, 2021.

### Voter Eligibility Requirements

A voter must meet the following eligibility requirements to vote in school elections:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Have been a resident of the school district for a minimum of 30 days prior to the vote, including those who rent. Section 2018-C of the Education Law may require all persons who vote to provide one form of identification or proof of residency.
- Be at least 18 years of age.

### Board of Education Candidates

There is **one** (1) 5-year vacancy for the school board (2021-2026):

1. **Jacqueline Edwards**



## Jacqueline M. Edwards

Ms. Jacqueline M. Edwards, incumbent, is running unopposed for the open five-year seat on the Board of Education. She is a lifelong resident of the New York Mills Union Free School District who was elected to the Board of Education in 2006, 2011 and 2016. Ms. Edwards served for two years as the Board's vice president and currently serves as president. She also served on multiple subcommittees of the Board of Education.

Ms. Edwards has been acknowledged as a Mastery Level NYSSBA (New York State School Boards Association) member and has served on various committees for NYSSBA at the state level. The honor of mastery level achievement is limited to a very small percentage of board members in New York State. In addition, she has been acknowledged as a member of Tri-County School Board Institute, having served as second vice president, first vice president and president during her tenure as a board member.

Jackie is a certified teacher and an employee at Herkimer BOCES, where she works at the Herkimer Literacy Zone helping students and families overcome obstacles that effect their learning potential. She is also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, a national educational sorority.



## THE SHOW GOES ON (ONLINE!) WITH 'HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR.'

Even during a pandemic, the show must go on – even if that means online!

On March 26-27, the Jr./Sr. High School Drama Club presented Disney's "High School Musical Jr." The show, which students spent countless hours rehearsing and preparing for, was pre-recorded and then streamed online.

It was a unique challenge for students who were used to performing for live audiences instead of a video camera, but the cast and crew members rose to the challenge, got some first-hand experience with being "all in this together," and put on an excellent show.

On the Thursday evening before the show's Friday premier, Mrs. Zielinski-Lovecchio, the director of the show, hosted a red carpet event for the cast and crew members. It was a fun opportunity for students to get dressed up and admire their own hard work, as they had the chance to watch a special early viewing of the musical in the school auditorium.

The graduating seniors from the cast and crew were also recognized and presented with gifts from Mrs. Zielinski-Lovecchio, and refreshments were served after the show.

Congratulations to the cast and crew on a fantastic show, and thank you to everyone who supported them!

We'd like to wish a special congratulations to the senior cast and crew members of "High School Musical Jr.":

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Patrick Peckham</b> | <b>Maria Maloney</b>   |
| <b>Nick Ford</b>       | <b>Heather Roberts</b> |
| <b>Gianna LaBella</b>  | <b>Kristin Despina</b> |
| <b>Hannah Mahardy</b>  |                        |





## Third Grade Students Create Google Slides on Reducing the Human Footprint

As part of their social studies curriculum, third grade students in Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Steffen's class are learning about how humans have changed the earth and ways in which we can reduce the human footprint.

Since students have Chromebooks this year, for their final project, Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Steffen taught the students how to use Google Slides. The students then created their own slideshow presentations on ways to reduce the human footprint, such as using less electricity, using less plastic, recycling, using less paper, and more.

Students then presented their projects to the class, and the slides were printed out and hung on the bulletin board outside the classroom. It was a fun learning experience for all!



Both virtually and in-person, art students have been staying busy working on different projects and experimenting with various mediums, styles and themes.



## November Optimist Youth of the Month

Lesya Voloshchuk has been named Optimist Club Youth of the Month for November 2020. Lesya is the daughter of Nina Voloshchuk and a member of the New York Mills Class of 2021.

Lesya is a high honor roll student and a member of National Honor Society. Her activities, past and present, include Model United Nations, participation in class fundraisers, peer tutoring and numerous activities in her church community. Lesya has held jobs babysitting and as a cashier.

Lesya plans to attend Mohawk Valley Community College in the fall and pursue a career as a nurse anesthetist.

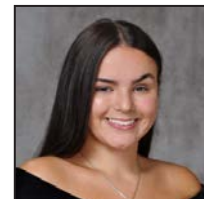


## December Optimist Youth of the Month

Aryana Thomas has been named Optimist Club Youth of the Month for December 2020. Aryana is the daughter of Christopher and Maris Thomas of New York Mills, and a member of the New York Mills Class of 2021.

Aryana is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council (where she served as executive historian and executive secretary), and a founding member of our chapter of the Model United Nations (where she served as secretary, and president twice). Through these organizations, she has attended various conferences and events. She has also been a member of the cheerleading squad since ninth grade, for which she has been designated as captain. Aryana has also played field hockey, volleyball and softball. She has attended classes through Colgate Seminar and volunteered for a number of local events while also holding a part-time job.

Aryana will attend Mohawk Valley Community College in the fall and will pursue a career as a psychiatric nurse or a correctional facility psychologist.



## January Optimist Youth of the Month

Judy Chen has been named Optimist Club Youth of the Month for January 2021. Judy is the daughter of Dong Min Chen and Ai Xian Lin of New York Mills, and a member of the New York Mills Class of 2021.

Judy is a high honor roll student and a member of our chapter of the National Honor Society, serving as the secretary of the organization. She has been a member of the Student Council since middle school as class vice president, until this year when she was elected class president. She is co-president of the Model UN and Multicultural Club and has also been a member of the varsity field hockey team, for which she was named a Scholar Athlete during all years of her participation. Judy works at her family restaurant as a hostess and cashier after school and on weekends, and she has volunteered for a number of community service activities.

Judy plans to major in business with a double major or minor in Chinese studies.



## February Optimist Youth of the Month

Tyler Kantor has been named Optimist Club Youth of the Month for February 2021. Tyler is the son of Christopher and Alicia Kantor of Yorkville, and a member of the New York Mills Class of 2021.

Tyler has been his class secretary since ninth grade and has participated in community service activities as a member of Student Council. His activities have included two years on the varsity football team, one year on the varsity basketball team, and two years on the varsity baseball team. He has received a number of accolades for his participation in all three sports. Unfortunately, baseball season last spring and football season last fall were canceled due to the pandemic. This year, Tyler volunteers in one of our kindergarten classrooms once a week.

Tyler would like to pursue a career as an elementary teacher. He is considering a number of colleges and universities and hopes to play football on his chosen college campus.





### March Optimist Youth of the Month

Kristen Despina has been named Optimist Club Youth of the Month for March 2021. Kristen is the daughter of Brian and Kate Despina of New York Mills, and a member of the New York Mills Class of 2021.



Kristen is a high honor roll student and is a member of the National Honor Society. She has served as a member of the student council since middle school, and this year she serves as vice president of the senior class and executive historian of Student Council. Kristen has been involved in a number of leadership conferences, including HOBY and NYSCLSA, for which she was on the student board to plan and run the state conference through sophomore year and into her junior year. Kristen runs a field hockey league, is a member of the Drama Club, has a part-time job, and has participated in a number of volunteer activities, including volunteering at animal shelters and running an annual golf tournament with her family to benefit an organization supporting people with Alzheimer's Disease, in memory of her great-grandmother. Kristen also played for four years on the varsity field hockey team, two years on the varsity track and field team, and two years on the varsity volleyball team.

Kristen plans to pursue a career in the medical field, either in orthopedic surgery or in the military. Kristen has been accepted into a number of colleges and universities and at this time she plans to attend Keuka College to major in biology with a focus on biomedical science.

### STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

On March 26, ten members of the class of 2024 were inducted into the Phi Delta Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. Selection was based upon the effective demonstration of the qualities held in high esteem by the society: leadership, character, citizenship, service and scholarship.

Congratulations to the following students:

- |                  |               |                 |                |                   |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Frank Calhoun    | Abigail Evans | Samantha Jordan | Hailey Mahardy | Victoria Odarchuk |
| Siddalee Daniels | Jayla Jordan  | Lauren Kulpa    | Lamanh Nguyen  | Emily Pavlus      |

### Mr. Marauder Variety Show to Return on June 11

Mark your calendars, Mr. Marauder is making a comeback!

After a two-year hiatus, the Mr. Marauder variety show will be held once again at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 11 in the school auditorium. Due to social distancing restrictions, limited seating will be available, and limited ticket sales will be available for \$7 each. The show will also be livestreamed for those who are unable to attend in-person.

This year, seven students will be competing for the titles of Mr. Marauder and Mr. Congeniality. The students will participate in various rounds of the competition, where they'll answer fun questions, show off different outfits, and wow the audience with their talents.

It's a show you won't want to miss, and thanks to modern technology, you won't have to! You can catch the livestream on the District's Facebook page, which can be found at [facebook.com/NYMillsUFSD](https://facebook.com/NYMillsUFSD).

This event is sponsored by the Jr./Sr. High School Student Council.



## State Senator Joseph Griffo Joins Zoom Meeting for Creative Content Production Class

On April 12, New York State Senator Joseph Griffo spoke to students in Mr. Klopfanstein's Creative Content Production class about his lifelong interest in music and his work in bringing Woodstock '99 to Central New York when he was mayor of Rome. He also spoke about his current role representing New York Mills and the 47th District in the New York State Senate.

"I have a lot of respect for [your] school system," Sen. Griffo told the students. "Between academics, athletics, the arts and music, you have an extraordinary institution. You're getting a great quality education."

Prior to the Zoom visit, the students were given links to some of Sen. Griffo's favorite musical artists when he was in high school and during the "Woodstock '99 era." They also researched the music festival.

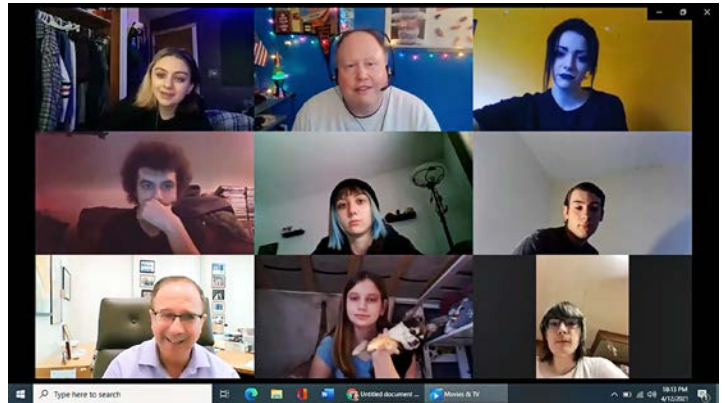
Senior AJ Kistner was particularly impressed with the lineup the festival attracted. "It's crazy to think so many big names were coming up here in 1999," he said.

"It was originally presented as a bridge from the millennium," Sen. Griffo explained. "It was the end of the twentieth century and a bridge from the twenty-first."

Junior Max Sinker acted as co-host of the event by introducing his classmates: Olivia Liccardo, Siddalee Daniels, Olivia Liccardo, Ethan Hurst and Madelyn McCoy. They each asked questions about the planning and logistics of a global event, as well as the senator's current day-to-day activities as an elected official.

"You've been brought up in a very good community," Sen. Griffo concluded his visit. "I hope you take the good things about your upbringing and education here and continue to remain good people and remember your roots. Always be true to yourself and respect others."

He added that as artists they have a responsibility to develop and control their craft and be mindful of the effect their work has on others, and to learn how to use their gifts to communicate the messages they intend.



Students taking the Creative Content Production class gain knowledge and practical experience by developing original and substantive informational and entertainment content for a class website using various new and traditional media formats. Students work within their individual artistic interest areas (music, acting, photography, videography and writing) and assist each other through collaboration, constructive criticism and support. Students also meet and interact with various local and national professionals associated with various fields of media and content creation.

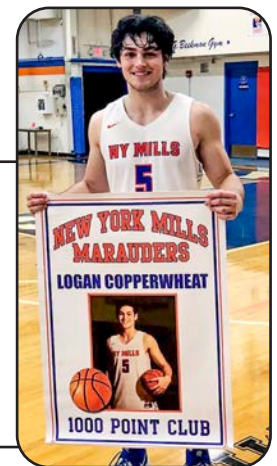
While students are currently taking the class with Mr. Klopfanstein for class credit, the group is also open to interested New York Mills students who would like to participate more informally as a club. They can attend the talks with artists, create work for a public website project the class is working on, and participate in activities they are available for without the commitment of taking it as a formal class. This will still give them the opportunity to learn and hone twenty-first century marketable skills on content creation and communications, and have the chance to network with professionals from various fields.

Any students interested in joining can contact Mr. Klopfanstein at [rklopfanstein@newyorkmills.org](mailto:rklopfanstein@newyorkmills.org).

### JUNIOR LOGAN COPPERWHEAT SCORES 1,000<sup>TH</sup> POINT

During the boys varsity basketball home game against Faith Heritage on March 26, junior Logan Copperwheat surpassed a career milestone by scoring his 1,000<sup>th</sup> point in basketball.

Congratulations, Logan!





## Students Participate in Local Battle of the Books Competition

It was a battle of brains instead of brawn at the local Battle of the Books competition on April 13.

The fierce competition was held among the Battle of the Books Club to earn the right to represent New York Mills in the final regional battle, which will be held in May. The four students who will be moving onto the regional competition are Emma Davidson, Andrew Tallman, Nathaneal Dzwonkowski and Kaylee Frank.

This school year, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students in the Battle of the Books Club were tasked with reading their choice of five out of 15 books. The club has been meeting monthly – first virtually, then in person – to discuss the books, play review games and participate in fun competitions.

Their knowledge was put to the test during the local Battle, where club members who chose to participate were given quotes from the 15 books and they had to answer with the book title and author’s name. Each student had a buzzer to use, and they had to be both quick and accurate with their answers.

On May 11, the top four students from the Local Battle will compete against teams from Clinton, Holland Patent and Richfield Springs. While the regional competition will not be held in person as it normally would, teams will work amongst themselves to answer the same set of timed questions at their own schools, and then results will be compared to name the winning team.

Congratulations to Emma, Andrew, Nathaneal and Kaylee, and best of luck in the regional competition!



## Elementary Students Celebrate Read Across America Day

During the week of March 2, elementary students celebrated Read Across America Day, a national celebration that falls on Dr. Seuss’ birthday each year.

Instead of only celebrating on one day, though, it turned into a week-long event! Students had a fun-filled week of reading books, wearing their red and white hats, and even eating green eggs and ham. It was a great way to foster students’ enjoyment of reading, and a reminder of “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!” when you pick up a book!





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### **Board of Education**

Jacqueline Edwards, *President*  
Kristin Hubley, *Vice President*  
Alicia Albright  
Scott Carman  
Kimberly Gyore  
Michelle Jordan  
Steve King

### **Administration**

**Dr. Joanne Shelmidine**, *Superintendent of Schools*  
**Mary Facci**, *K-12 Executive Principal*  
**Brent Dodge**, *K-12 Principal*

### **Visit us on the Web**

<http://www.newyorkmills.org>

## *Class of 1970 & 1971 Reunion*

"Reunited and it feels so good." We can all say that after what the last year has been like!

For the classes of 1970 and 1971, it's a golden celebration! Approximately 446,000 hours ago and 438,000 hours ago, we Marauders paraded through the auditorium and turned the tassels on our graduation caps. Let's relive our favorite school memories and strike up conversations about them!

On Saturday, August 7, 2021, we'll celebrate our 50 year and 51 year reunions in style at the Roselawn Pavilion, from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

More information will follow in our mailings. We can't wait to see you all!