

Blueprint for Excellence

Board of Education Update

December 2023

Mission:

We develop the whole child to be a lifelong learner and a productive member of the global community.

Vision:

We are a district of choice offering exceptional opportunities to engage and excite our entire school community.

Core Values:

Academic Excellence

Strive for academic excellence in everything we do
Demonstrate professionalism, respect, and collective
responsibility

The Student Experience

Be kind, caring, and welcoming

Create a safe, clean, and affirming environment

Provide an exciting and engaging student experience

Community Connection

Connect our work to our community

Priority Areas and Focus For This Year

Academic Excellence

- We will offer a wide variety of course offerings that engage students and allow for exposure to academic opportunities and interests.
 - Focus: Instructional Practices

The Student Experience

- We will identify and address the individual needs of students.
 - Focus: Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI)

Community Connection

- We will communicate with the community effectively about what is happening in the district so that they can be involved.
 - Focus: Community Connection Committee



Academic Excellence

Stissing Mountain Jr. / Sr. High School

Chris Boyd, Principal Sara Von Burg, Assistant Principal

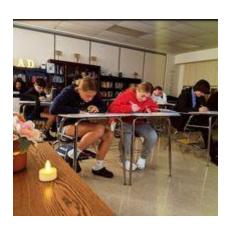


PRIORITY AREA 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Objective: Offer a wide variety of course offerings that engage students and allow for exposure to academic opportunities and interests.

New Courses:

- AP Physics
- AP Art Portfolio
- Intro to Psychology (Marist)
- World Building and Character Design
- Advisory
- Study Center
- Adaptive
 Outdoor Adventures
- Foods
 Around the World
- Baking and Pastry
- Music Theory







Focusing Faculty Meetings on Instructional Practices - Fall 2023

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (NEXT STEPS)

Surveying Teachers:

- Creating activities during the current day this year.
- Creating future courses
- Offering Professional Development opportunities

Examples of Teacher Survey for an Activity during the School Day.

- Interview Skills
- Irish step dancing basics
- Daily Organizing and Goal Setting
- Financial Accounting
- Shaving cream paper marbling.

- Photography basic photo editing
- Cooking/Meal Prep
- •Tie Dye
- Poetry
- •Salsa dancing, bachata dancing, and merengue dancing.









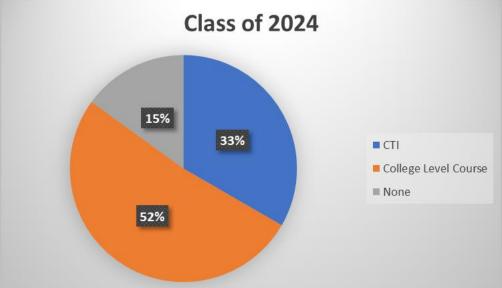


ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (SENIOR REVIEW)



For students that take AP Classes, they take an average of 2.7 classes with some students taking as many as 5







For students that take DCC Classes, they take an average of 2.9 classes with some students taking as many as 5

14 Students are taking 6 or more college classes here at the High School with the potential of earning over 18 college credits.



85% of students will have a postsecondary experience through a class /program that we offered.



Of the 11 Seniors taking Marist Intro to Psychology – 8 of them are having their first post-secondary experience.



Academic Excellence

Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center

Julie Roberts, Principal

Priority Area 1: Academic Excellence

Objective: Offer a wide variety of course offerings that engage students and allow for exposure to academic opportunities and interests.

Faculty Meeting PD:

September Goal Setting
October
Questioning & Discussion
November Assessment

Digital Benchmarks

RC Committee

BLT PBL
Science Investigation
½ Day Historical Math









Academic Excellence

Cold Spring Early Learning Center

Kristen Fischetti, Principal

Educator Focus

- September Objectives, setting intent of lesson
- October Question and discussion techniques
- November Project Based Learning
- December Assessment and learning, student leadership roles







Units of Study Writing Series

- Fully implemented this year K and 1st
- Summer curriculum grant Anchor charts and rubrics





Math Benchmarks

- Acadience Math Training
- IXL Digital Benchmarks



Student Experience

Stissing Mountain Jr. / Sr. High School

Chris Boyd, Principal Sara Von Burg, Assistant Principal



PRIORITY AREA 2: STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Objective: Identify and address the individual needs of students.

7th Grade Advisory Class:

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVE YEAR-LONG COURSE OUTLINE



TIME FRAME	MODULE	KEY INQUIRY	MAIN TOPICS	PBL	SERVICE LEARNING
2 WEEKS	Unit 1: Creating Your Community	Why is it important to build positive relationships?	Other People Mindset Importance of positive relationships Personal communities	Brainstorm and create a routine that can be implemented in the classroom that will have a "Cheers Effect" and help to form positive relationships and create a sense of community.	
16 WEEKS	Unit 2: Character Strengths and Virtues	How can character strengths and virtues inform our understanding of ourselves and others?	Character Strengths & Virtues Framework Character Exemplars Competition and cooperation	Develop an episode of "Some Good News" that teaches the audience about character strengths through the interviews, video clips, and interactions of the host with guests	Introduction to Service Learning and Teacher-Led Service Learning Projects School-Wide Food Drive
2 WEEKS	Unit 3: The Importance of Positive Relationships	How do we treat others in order to build, nurture, and maintain positive relationships?	Importance of positive relationships Other People Mindset Importance of listening Being present	Conduct an interview to demonstrate the value of dialogue when building and maintaining positive relationships despite differences	
4 WEEKS	Unit 4: Positive Experiences	How can we use our understanding of positive psychology, the Other People Mindset, and gratitude to enhance our personal health, happiness, and resilience?	Key tenets of Positive Psychology Other People Mindset Power of gratitude Flow states	Create a podcast or passion project based on gratitude and flow states	







STUDENT EXPERIENCE (NEXT STEPS)

Student Survey:

- School Connectedness
- Peer/Adult Social Support
- Social/Civic Learning
- Learning Preferences
- Course Offerings

Full Time Astor Counselor

(September - October 2023)

Stissing Mountain Jr/Sr High

Clinical Hours: 25.5 Consult Hours: 32.5

Case Numbers: 12

New Referrals: 0

Social Group













Student Experience

Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center

Julie Roberts, Principal

Priority Area 2: Student Experience

TCI Training
CS & SS
½ Day Classes
PTA
Clubs & Activities
SRO
SW Push-In





Objective: Identify and address the individual needs of students.





Student Experience

Cold Spring Early Learning Center

Kristen Fischetti, Principal

Social Emotional Learning

- TCI Training
- Whole class, small group, and individual work with SEL program
- Cold Spring Cub Character Trait Tree



Extracurricular

- Lego Club
- Board Games Club
- Nature Club
- PTA
 - School Store
 - Holiday Shop
- Cub Principal (coming January '24)





Project Based Learning

- Half day in December
- Student voice and choice
- Four learning adventures











Community Connection

Stissing Mountain Jr. / Sr. High School

Chris Boyd, Principal Sara Von Burg, Assistant Principal

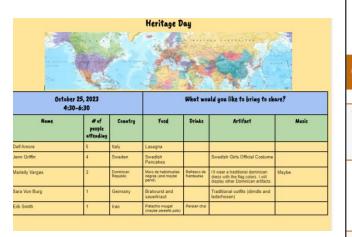


PRIORITY AREA 3: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Objective: Communicate with the community effectively about what is happening in the district so that they can be involved.



- New Website & Mobile App
- **Smores** Monthly Newsletter
- Weekly Class Activities
- Heritage Day Community
- Stissing Mountain's Facebook Page



8th Grade **Bomber Buzz:**

October, 2023

"Believe nothing you hear, and only half that you see." Edgar Allan Poe: "The System of Dr. Tarr and Prof. Fether



Hello everyone. We have had a great start to the year. We will continue to work on our geometry unit. Extra help is available per 1

Science 8 & Regents students will be working on a new topic this

month: Mapping the Earth. Students will be exploring latitude & longitude, topography, & time zones. Extra Help: Periods 7 & 9b. After school times vary - just see me.

History

We have our Reconstruction Unit Test on Thursday, October 5th,

Important

Dates

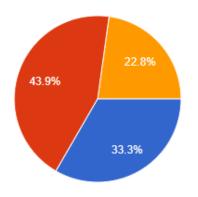
Reminders

charge your laptop

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS (Cont.'d)

Check the "Core Value" that this student most embodies.

34 responses



- Academic Excellence (The student strives for academic excellence in everything they do .)
- The Student Experience (The student is kind, caring, and welcoming. Their commitment to a safe, clean and affirming environment is apparent. Their excitement and engagement in the school community positively contribut...
- Community Connection (The students' work connects to the larger community.)

Student of the Month

- Open to the entire Community
 - Parents, Faculty, and Students
 - MS/HS 1 student for each
 Core Value (total 6 for Sept. '23)



has been a role model for my current 6th and 10th graders for years. She excels academically, on stage, and in many clubs.

This year she has gone above and beyond to help my 6th grader navigate middle school. She even hung out with her after school when her her freinds changed plans at the last minute leaving her by herself.

She also encourages my 10th grader to try different clubs and volunteer experiences and is always there when she needs advice.

has made significant progress in the first few weeks of school in reading musical notation. He started Music Theory this year barely able to read notes on the staff. Last week, he was able to identify all the notes on his Theory Assessment and band music with accuracy. He continues to make growth in this class (Academic Excellence).



Community Connection

Seymour Smith Intermediate Learning Center

Julie Roberts, Principal

Priority Area 3: Community connections

An important message rom Batman regarding this time of year:



New Website & App
Smores Newsletter
FB
Career Day
Holiday Meal
Garden & Willow Roots

Objective: Communicate with the community effectively about what is happening in the district so that they can be involved.







Community Connection

Cold Spring Early Learning Center

Kristen Fischetti, Principal

Communication

- New website and app
- Smores Newsletter
- Facebook
- Blackboard emails







The Gift of a Smile

During a time of cheer and joy, some might not realize how impactful a simple smile can be. A smile can lift the hearts of ones that may be heavy at times. Here at Cold Spring, the smiles are plentiful! The joy and cheer that the students bring through their smiles warms the hearts of so many. Thank you for being bright lights in our Cold Spring Family! Wishing you many smiles through this holiday season.

Cold Spring Cub Character Tree

December's Character Tree trait this month at Cold Spring is generosity and giving, and this

Learning in the Community

- Fire Safety Day
- Bee Bee the Clown
- Red Cross program Prepare with Pedro
- Pre-K Community Helpers field trip







CSELC in the Community

- CS/SS Holiday Gathering
 - Memory Unit at Ferncliff
 - Hospice Homebound Patients
 - Pediatric Unit at Mid Hudson Regional Hospital
- Willow Roots Holiday Helpers
- Little Mitten Tree





Excellence Connection Experience