

Cheektowaga-Sloan



Union Free School District

Budget Issue 2024

Superintendent's Message

It is with sincere appreciation that you reserve just a few moments to read this detailed District Newsletter which highlights the proposed 2024-2025 Budget. There is valuable information included for your review as you prepare to cast your vote on May 21, 2024 when our annual Budget Vote takes place at John F. Kennedy High School.

This year, we have continued to enhance and implement what we refer to as our *Positivity Push Plans* in all schools. We found them to be so successful in the 2022-2023 school year that we worked hard to further develop individualized building plans for this school year. Our goal continues to be focused on increasing student engagement through the incorporation of school-wide activities that concentrate on celebrating school spirit and pride, building positive relationships, and maintaining a safe, caring and respectful school environment. We hope that you were able to attend one or more of your child's school events this year, such as our Theodore Roosevelt (TR) and Woodrow Wilson (WW) *Family Fall Fest*, our *Evening of the Arts* recently held at John F. Kennedy Middle School (JFK MS), and our incredible musical production of *The Sound of Music* at John F. Kennedy High School (JFK HS). These are just a few examples of events that join everyone together to share positive moments, to develop relationships, and to celebrate the talents of our students.

We are all looking forward to the musical gifts that our students will be sharing with all of us at our upcoming band and choral concerts, our drama productions at TR and WW, our JFK Drama One Act Play, and our Spring Fest at JFK MS. It was a true privilege and honor to have played the flute with our talented music teachers, Mrs. Fitzner and Mr. Prutsman, during the spring concert on April 30th at Theodore Roosevelt. Music education is such an important component of a child's educational experience and it strongly contributes to our philosophy of the importance of *Educating the Whole Child*. Our excitement is growing for all of our end of the year celebrations such as our field days, field trips, Flag Day ceremonies, our Junior & Senior prom, our Senior Class Day, our most special Class of 2024 Cap & Gown parade through all school buildings, and finally our Class of 2024 Commencement Ceremony. We look forward to sharing these significant and memorable events with our students and families and sincerely hope you are able to join us for these notable occasions.



Something that we are most proud of in our District is *Restorative Practices* and it seemed like the perfect time to share an update

on our progress with our community. The Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD is currently in its fifth year of implementing *Restorative Practices*. Over the years, our partnership with the Erie County Restorative Justice Coalition (ECRJC) has provided our District with professional learning, training, consultation work, and support. During the first three years of our partnership, the ECRJC helped our faculty and staff understand the components of *Restorative Practice*. Their direct support through modeling and training helped build the confidence of the faculty and staff with this work. Throughout the last two years, our collaboration has focused on our Building-Level Restorative Practice teams taking full ownership of this initiative. Each school now has *Restorative Practice Liaisons* who work directly with our Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Janelle Finn, and the ECRJC to implement individualized professional learning plans. The Restorative Practice Liaisons and Mrs. Finn meet with the ECRJC eight times a year for guidance and support. The ECRJC helps us monitor the implementation of our strategic plan, and they are there to provide us with support and guidance with whatever is needed.

2023-2024 has been a tremendous year for the Restorative Practice Liaisons, who are really taking ownership of their individualized plans in each of our schools. Currently, they are planning community events for their school buildings that include Restorative Circles. This year, the ECRJC collaborated with the Restorative Practice Liaisons to train students in grades 3-12 to be leaders with Restorative Circles. There is nothing more important to us than observing our own Cheektowaga-Sloan Students take on leadership roles and flourish into dynamic student leaders in our school environments. This year's final goal is to formally

Inside This Issue

- JFK HS News* pgs 4-5
- JFK MS News* pgs 6-7
- Woodrow Wilson News* pgs 8-9
- Budget Information* pgs 10-11, 14
- Capital Project* pgs 12-13
- Theodore Roosevelt News* pgs 15-18
- Technology* pg 19
- Special Education* pgs 20-21
- Food Service* pg 22
- Athletics* pg 23



continued on next page.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Mrs. Andrea L. Galenski, Superintendent of Schools

District Office 716-891-6402 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

build Restorative Practice into our discipline procedures at each building. We believe that repairing harm and helping students recognize and understand how a situation could have been handled differently is critically important so that learning takes place and better decisions are made moving forward.

We are extremely honored to share that the ECRJC has encouraged us here in the Cheektowaga-Sloan School District to share our success with other school districts not only here in Erie County but throughout the State. On December 11, 2023, Mrs. Finn and the Executive Director of the ECRJC were featured on the *What's Next, Buffalo?* Podcast. A link to the podcast can be found under the Headlines section of our District website. We encourage you to take a few moments to view this Podcast if you haven't already done so. We are so proud of this accomplishment and look forward to mentoring other school districts in the future. We have received numerous calls and requests for us to help other districts and even businesses learn our process for effective implementation. The airing of the Podcast also led to an in-depth interview with the *Buffalo News* which also included classroom visits to see Restorative Practices in action.

I have included some photographs that represent the leadership work that is taking place as well as the important element of parental involvement that contributes to the success of

Restorative Practices. The first two pictures below show our Freshman at JFK High School being trained to take on leadership roles with Restorative Practice.



The two pictures above were taken at the Theodore Roosevelt Family First Dinner where our families participated in engaging Restorative Practice Circles.



Please take a few moments and visit our website to learn more about Restorative Practices. You can find the information if you click on the District tab and scroll down to Restorative Practices. We hope you found this update helpful and that it conveyed how important this work is to us as we continue to teach and model to all children how important it is to build strong and positive relationships which includes learning and practicing effective communication skills.

It is always a priority in the Budget newsletter to not only highlight some of our most important initiatives but also to provide a distinct picture of what the 2024-2025 Budget includes. In addition to the information below, please be sure to view the two-page insert in this newsletter which includes updated images of our *Beautification Capital Project* that will be groundbreaking in the coming months, hopefully this Fall 2024. We are just waiting for final review and approval from New York State to begin this exciting work.

continued on next page.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Mrs. Andrea L. Galenski, Superintendent of Schools



District Office 716-891-6402 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

We want to share how proud we are of our proven record of commitment to our taxpayers and we pledge to you that we will continue to add to this established record. We have fought and have continued to fight for what we believe in and what we feel the Cheektowaga-Sloan Community fairly deserves. For the past twelve years, we have continued to make thoughtful and precise reductions when we can and where we are able to without losing quality programming and staffing for our PreK-12 students. It is our sincere hope that our community continues to recognize that it is through our systematic saving actions that we have been able to **remain below the tax cap since 2013** with an average of **only a 0.40%** increase in the tax levy over the last twelve years. We are exceptionally proud of this record and are inspired and determined to sustain this reputation for many years to come. We are once again asking for the support of our taxpayers on May 21, 2024.

What will be asking for from our taxpayers?

We will be asking for a 0.97% increase in school taxes which is below the District's Tax Cap of 1.86%.

How much will my taxes increase as a result of a 0.97% increase?

As we have done each year, we have taken a sample of homes from within our District to determine the estimated increase in annual taxes on the average home. The average increase for an average home will be approximately **\$23.87**. Please remember that this is the **total increase for the entire year**.

Each year as we plan, prepare and bring forward the proposed budget to our community, it is important for us to express to our taxpayers that we are extremely reflective and vigilant of the impact that any increase, even if very small, has on our community especially in today's society where we are living through a very steep inflation rate. We continue to take pride in our record of a 0.40% increase in taxes over the last twelve years which we believe cannot be found in any other school districts in Western New York. As you have seen in recent weeks, many surrounding school districts are in the unfortunate position

where they have to make significant cuts resulting in numerous staff layoffs. This **will not** be happening in the Cheektowaga-Sloan School District which we believe is a direct result of the meticulous and thoughtful planning that we do each day to ensure that we are in solid financial standing from year to year and into the future. We have and will continue to always prioritize the wide-ranging accountability of fighting to keep our tax levy as low as possible.

We encourage you to attend our Public Hearing on May 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Theodore Roosevelt Cafetorium. We also hope you exercise your right to vote on May 21, 2024 at our District Budget Vote which will take place in the gymnasium at JFK HS from 12:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Throughout the evening on May 21st, we are excited to offer our students, families and community an evening of enjoyment. We hope that you will take advantage of our hot dog dinner that you can buy for just **one dollar** (hot dog, chips, drink) and enjoy with your friends and family in our JFK Cafeteria. We will once again have a delicious sundae bar free of charge for all to enjoy! This same evening, our students will be engaged in musical performances in the JFK Auditorium and their exquisite artwork will be on display in the gymnasium. We hope that you are able to join us on this special evening and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

Thank you for your time in reading this detailed article and the entire newsletter which we hope has provided you with images of what we are most proud of in our District especially the accomplishments of our students PreK-12. We are unbelievably proud of our students, we are beyond grateful for our relationships with the parents and community, and we thank you so very much for extending your trust in us as we work with your children each day. Our students are the reason that we are all here and they provide us with the inspiration each day *to welcome, adore, educate and support each and every one of them.*

With sincere gratitude,

Andrea L. Galenski
Superintendent of Schools

Budget Vote Hearing

The School Budget Public Hearing will take place on
Tuesday, May 14, 2024
7:00 p.m.

Theodore Roosevelt Elementary Cafetorium
2495 William Street,
Cheektowaga, NY 14206



School Budget Vote

will take place on
Tuesday, May 21, 2024
noon until 9:00 p.m.

John F. Kennedy High School Gymnasium
305 Cayuga Creek Road
Cheektowaga, New York



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

305 Cayuga Creek Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 • Robert N. Julian, Jr., Principal

Main Office 716-891-6407

Letter from the Principal

Dear Cheektowaga-Sloan Families:

At JFK High School we are in the midst of another excellent school year filled with activities and events for students, academic and professional growth, and continued planning and excitement for our upcoming capital improvement project!

To begin the year, we welcomed several new professionals to our staff. I'm pleased to report that our newest Bears have found

their true home at JFK. Our new team members quickly developed positive relationships with students and co-workers, and continue to make a difference in the lives of our students each and every day. It has been a true pleasure to see our newest teachers, counselors, and administrators wear their Black & Gold with pride!

Academically, we are so proud of the wide

variety of courses and experiences that we offer students. At JFK High School we offer Regents-level coursework, several electives, academic remediation, and opportunities for students who excel to obtain college credits through Advanced Placement (AP) courses, Niagara University's NUSTEP, and Erie Community College's Advanced Studies. Our academic programming is a true testament to the daily hard work of our teachers, support staff members, paraprofessionals, and, most importantly, our students. Well done JFK Bears!

On behalf of our administration and our faculty and staff, I would like to say that we are so proud of our students. It continues to be an honor to support your children each and every day. Please enjoy this year's Budget Newsletter, and we hope to see you on campus very soon!

Respectfully,

Mr. Robert N. Julian, Jr.
Principal



Curtain Up with JFK Drama!

Members of our JFK Drama Club & Stage Crew are incredibly grateful and have been overwhelmed by the positivity and support that the program has fostered in the fine arts at JFK.

This fall, nearly 60 students were involved in every aspect of *The Best of Alice's Adventures*. All together our students produced a brilliantly polished, whimsical adaptation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. In addition to producing the show, JFK Drama hosted two Shakespeare in Delaware Park workshops, decorated a Homecoming Parade float, built new sustainable set pieces, and provided free merchandise to all cast & crew members.

This spring, JFK Drama looks forward to performing Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic *The Sound of Music* which

promises to be another amazing production. At the time of this writing, our spring musical is in its final stages of rehearsal and preparation. The *Sound of Music* features the talents of students, alumni, professional musicians, and

faculty members alike. We cannot wait to see yet another fine performance on our Greenauer Auditorium stage, and we look forward to hosting the second annual Alumni Reception prior to the Sunday matinee!



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

305 Cayuga Creek Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 • Robert N. Julian, Jr., Principal



Main Office 716-891-6407

Social-Emotional and Academic Support at JFK

JFK High School's Instructional Support Team (IST) is a critical component of our social-emotional and academic planning work. Our High School's Instructional Support Team includes a variety of educators including counselors, social workers, administrators, and teachers. Members of our Instructional Support Team meet regularly to study student performance data, discuss school climate, address issues and refine schedules, and develop student success plans. Over the last five years our IST has been able to support many students on their path towards high school graduation.

New Traditions Making an Impact!

As you may know, here at JFK High School we believe that a positive school culture leads to academic and social-emotional success. Over the past few school years, we have focused upon implementing new traditions and activities that help promote student participation, enjoyment, and positive peer interactions. This year, we once again opened with our outdoor Welcome Back to School Field Day which featured games, activities, a bounce house, and special treats for all students. Students returned in September to find positive messages and affirmations on every single locker—many of these Positive Post-Its remain up as inspiration throughout the entire school year. Additionally, during the holiday season we have found great success with our annual costume contest, door decorating contest, and cafeteria karaoke!



Wellness Grant Brings Joy to JFK

The 2023-2024 school year marks our third consecutive year partnering with BOCES and participating in the Creating Healthy Schools and Communities program. Our District's Wellness Committee, led by high school principal Mr. Julian, works together to utilize CHSC grant funds to purchase items for each of our four schools in the District. The items purchased are used to promote healthy physical activity for children in school. We have received a wide variety of items including indoor and outdoor sports games and equipment, items for our physical education classes, board games, sound equipment, and even storage units so that we can maintain these items for years to come. It has been amazing to see our students utilizing the equipment with smiles all around. Thank you to our partners at BOCES for assisting us over the last three years!



Respect the Past, Embrace the Future...

If you have been inside of our school building this year or attended one of our events, you may have noticed an updated look to our school's color scheme, logos, and overall brand recognition. We are thrilled to continue our partnership with local-favorite VSP Graphic Group who partnered with us to create a consistent color and font palette, modernized JFK letter marks, and an amazing new school crest which is proudly displayed outside of the Greenauer Auditorium. Last but certainly not least, VSP designed an updated JFK Bear mascot which can be found on uniforms, school apparel, and even displayed within our building. The next time you are inside of JFK High School, we encourage you to take a moment to appreciate the amazing graphic designs created by VSP.



JFK's Speaker Series

Each year we look to open school with an exciting, thought-provoking speaker in order to engage students and inspire them to have an amazing school year. In September of 2023 we once again hosted nationally renowned author, speaker, and experienced school teacher Chase Mielke at JFK High School. Our students enjoyed his energy, positivity, humor, and evidence-based theories about the learning process. In October of 2023, we invited JFK alumnus, Wall of Fame inductee, and award-winning speaker Bob Kittell to engage our students. Mr. Kittell shared meaningful stories and images from his life and taught our students a few tips and tricks to improve their memory and focus in school. We look forward to continuing our JFK Speaker Series in the future!





JOHN F. KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL

305 Cayuga Creek Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 • Christopher Farrell, Principal

Main Office 716-897-7300

A Message from the Principal

As we move into the Spring, I want to share with you the highlights of our 2023-2024 school year. It has been a year filled with hard work, growth, and success from our students. I am confident this will continue into the final months of the school year.

This year we continued our focus on academic excellence and social and emotional learning. We are maintaining a positive school culture that supports student learning, engaging students in rigorous instruction, and using data to drive our instruction. Our dedicated staff has worked collaboratively and strategically to meet and exceed these goals.

As always, our success here at John F. Kennedy Middle School is directly tied to the strong and positive partnership with our families. Your encouragement and support are invaluable, and I ask you to continue to stay involved and focused in your child's learning. While students are becoming more independent in the middle school years, having daily check ins and conversations with you about school will keep them motivated and on the path to success. Thank you!

Principal Farrell and Assistant Principal Rodgers

Celebrating the Academic Excellence of our Students!

Our 7th and 8th graders have stepped up to the plate with athletics! The fall and winter sports season saw record number of students participating in cross county, football, cheerleading, volleyball, and basketball. Sports build our students physical health and also their social, emotional, and mental health. Being part of an athletic team develops our students' leadership skills and builds positive sportsmanship. We recognize our student athletes with our Athletes Wall of Fame. We hope to see the same energy and enthusiasm as we move into Spring sports season.

Athletic Excellence!

Our 7th and 8th graders have stepped up to the plate with athletics! The fall and winter sports season saw record number of students participating in cross county, football, cheerleading, volleyball, and basketball. Sports build our students physical health and also their social, emotional, and mental health. Being part of an athletic team develops our students' leadership skills and builds positive sportsmanship. We recognize our student athletes with our Athletes Wall of Fame. We hope to see the same energy and enthusiasm as we move into Spring sports season.



JOHN F. KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL

305 Cayuga Creek Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 • Christopher Farrell, Principal

Main Office 716-897-7300



We Bring the School Spirit!

School spirit weeks are some of our weeks here at JFK. They build camaraderie as a school community and allow students to express their individuality and curiosity. We started off with October's Student Council sponsored Red Ribbon week and finished 2023 with December's holiday spirit week. Through different themed days and our door decorating contest, JFK gets into the holiday spirit. Our week concluded with our holiday pep rally. This took place in our gymnasium and students and teachers participated in holiday themed minute to win it games, karaoke, and a dance party. It was a wonderful way to celebrate and send off 2023!



Fall Fun

This year saw the return of one of the middle school's most beloved events, Fall Fest. Over 200 students and families participated in pumpkin painting and Halloween canvas painting. During these activities, there were food, snacks, and desserts to enjoy. We also hosted a zombie run through the JFK campus trails with student volunteers dressing up as zombies. Participants had to make it through the trails without being "caught" by a zombie. It was an evening full of smiles and laughter.



Spreading Kindness

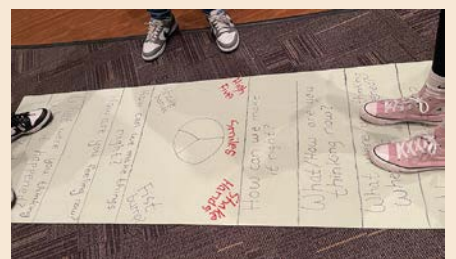
In February, our National Junior Honor Society sponsored Peace and Kindness week. Each day highlighted a different theme based on character traits and students dressed up accordingly. One of the favorites was You be You Day, celebrating self-acceptance and dressing like Ken and Barbie who "try to be the best version of themselves." Students also spread kindness by nominating their peers for acts of kindness. The acts were recognized and celebrated through our morning announcements. This continued into our student led positive affirmation initiative. Students randomly receive positive affirmation letters to help all students feel more confident, motivated, and supported.



Restorative Practice Leaders



John F. Kennedy Middle School has been implementing restorative practices throughout each classroom, the hallways, and many other spaces within the school. In partnership with the Erie County Restorative Justice Coalition JFK students are getting trained in restorative practices. Fifteen students from the 6th grade cohort stepped up to become restorative student leaders. This training began in February and will continue until April, where students are gaining skills in engagement, community building, conflict resolution, mediation, and restorative circles. Throughout the remainder of the school year, student leaders will be utilizing their skills and practical tools during their Kennedy Crews.





WOODROW WILSON ELEMENTARY

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Elizabeth Zaccarine, Principal

Main Office 716-891-6419

Woodrow Wilson Elementary - Growing Together

Each year at Woodrow Wilson, we establish a theme and plan our announcements, our goals, and our celebrations around that theme. This year we are "Growing Together." The year began by welcoming our faculty and staff and planning growth around our three District goals - we even planted succulents as a symbol of our continued growth throughout the year. We are focusing all of our energy on growing a strong school community, growing student learning, and targeting our instruction to meet student needs. We recently met our school-wide WIG or Wildly Important Goal. Students participated in a school-wide scavenger hunt and Woodrow Wilson trivia math to celebrate. We continue to focus on kindness and students collect marbles when they demonstrate acts of kindness toward others. We are thrilled that through our Scholastic dollars, we have continued to fill our book vending machine with high-interest books for students who receive Positive Office Referrals. We have recognized many students this year for their leadership, character, and academic

achievements. We will soon have our Leadership Day and student Growth Parade where all students will get to celebrate whichever area of growth they are most proud of.



Our Leader in Me Program has moved forward and is now running student-led events. We've had two WIG celebrations where students were recognized for their great work and leadership. We have a WIG committee that collects and posts our progress toward our individual and school-wide goals. Students can apply to participate in planning committees for our evening events and they work with teachers to plan our school events,

including our Health & Wellness Night and Hero Night. Our Leader in Me program leaders help beautify our campus and spread positivity wherever they go. We are tremendously proud of the growth in student leadership and look forward to highlighting this area at future celebrations.



Woodrow Wilson students had an opportunity to become Restorative Practice leaders in their classrooms. We are proud to say that we have 13 student restorative leaders who have completed their training and are putting the practice to work in their classrooms. We have already had students leading restorative conversations on the conflict yoga mats, and using affective language to help create calm conversations. You can even hear students creating their own community circles at their lunch tables. Way to go Woodrow students.

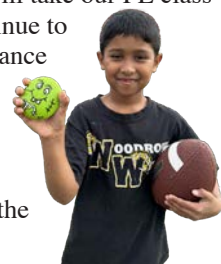
Big Goals, Big Work, and Big Results - Putting our Energy into Reading, Writing and Math

Our separate reading blocks have enhanced our ability to meet students where they are and due to this schedule, we are noticing more growth than in previous years. We have math skills built into our schedule and this allows us to spend additional time reinforcing previously learned skills, which we refer to as spiral review. This is tied directly to our work with student data and tiered instruction. We also built in student math lunches and these math fact lunches are both supportive and fun for our students.



Physical Education

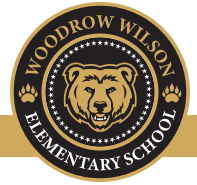
Woodrow Wilson students are staying busy and active in the gym. If you come into the gym today you would see lots of nets set up. Our students are beginning volleyball. Students will play modified and active games once they have fully learned the rules of the games. Resources are provided for students who are still working on their hand-eye coordination. Our goal is to get all students ready so that we can play more active games before moving on to other netted games inside. Soon the weather will warm, the grounds will dry up, and we will take our PE class outside. We will continue to emphasize the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship as we move throughout the coming weeks inside and outside of the gymnasium.



WOODROW WILSON ELEMENTARY

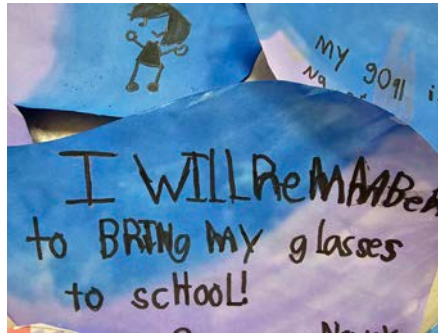
166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Elizabeth Zaccarine, Principal

Main Office 716-891-6419



Colorful Creativity and Our Growing Woodrow Artists

Woodrow artists started out the year working on our growth theme and chose a goal to keep track of for the school year. They painted a leaf and we created a growth tree which is on display to help us keep our goals fresh. We created an inclusive art project after learning about a Griffiti artist, named Thank You X. This beautiful piece can be found outside of our District Office. Students have worked with printing techniques to create reprintable blocks and worked with color techniques to create treehouses. A favorite at Woodrow is always our weaving and lacing units where students create pieces reflective of other cultures. We are happy to say that our after-school art club is always full and this year they even learned to stitch and made emoji pillows. Students explored what facial expressions can mean and got to take their pillows home.



Our Library - A Hub for Literacy, Computer Technology, STEM and Research

In addition to teaching library and research skills, our library has become a building zone for future engineers. We're thrilled to share the excitement brewing in our library as we dive into the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) exploration! We began with coding activities that encourage critical thinking and problem-solving, and moved on to building and programming robots. We just completed our Rocket Challenge, where our 5th grade engineers could only use modeling clay, index cards, and straws to construct a rocket capable of flying the furthest distance. Our STEM activities have been a true test of student ingenuity and teamwork. Stay tuned for more exciting challenges coming your way at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School!



Woodrow Wilson Band Prepares for Spring Concert Season

All musicians, first-year and advanced, have been working hard to reach new goals set for them in the band room. Students earn belts as they move through their lessons and are making great progress. First-year musicians have been working on being able to play quarter, half, and whole notes/rests with their first 5 pitches/notes; many of them even added additional pitches! We know many will soon be joining after school band. Advanced musicians have been working on improving their skills with playing, reading, and counting eighth notes/rests, and tied and dotted rhythms. In "After-School Band," these musicians have been working on preparing 3 pieces for performance. We cannot wait for you to hear them!

The Music Room and the Stage

Our musicians have been working hard this year beginning with a drum unit and then moving on to the ukelele and the recorder. We had a beautiful winter concert with standing room only and our choir is busy practicing for another great event at the end of May. On the stage our students are memorizing lines and songs for this year's performance, "The Adventures of Lewis & Clark". Make sure to save the date and join us on June 5th to see their hard work in action.





BUDGET INFORMATION

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

District Office 716-891-6402

PROPOSITION #1

Shall the Board of Education of the Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the proposed 2024-2025 Budget in the amount of \$41,151,279 and to levy the necessary tax? The budget includes the awarding of the first year of a three-year contract extension for transportation service, the total estimated cost of which is \$10,401,998 (total estimated cost of the three-year contract extension).

YES NO

Proposition #1 **Estimated** Tax Rates
Tentative Increase Proposition #1

Tax Rate	Cheektowaga	West Seneca
2023 - 2024 Actual	\$18.96	\$66.35
2024 - 2025 Estimated	\$19.14	\$66.99
Increase	\$0.18	\$0.64

Instruction: 50.2%

Instruction of students is the purpose for the Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District's existence. This category includes: salaries, material, equipment and services relating to the instructional program of all students within the District attending our public schools and adults who participate in the Adult Education Program.

Teaching - Regular Schools, Inter-fund Transfers Relating to Instruction and Charter School Tuition	\$10,972,426
Students with Disabilities	7,351,716
Curriculum Development and Supervision	508,594
BOCES Services / Occupational Education Instruction	370,000
Summer School / Continuing Education	95,800
In-Service Training	144,000
Supervision, Planning and Evaluation	1,205,562
TOTAL	\$20,648,098

Pupil Support Services: 6.1%

Pupil Support Services are non-classroom positions which aid and support students in everyday activities and after school interests.

Attendance	\$15,425
Guidance Services	268,083
School Library, Audio Visual Services and Computer Assisted Instruction	948,438
Health Services	244,900
Psychological Services	138,829
Social Work Services	335,081
Co-curricular Activities	140,875
Interscholastic Athletics	387,105
Community Census	17,050
TOTAL	\$2,495,786

General Support: 5.6%

Includes all non-instructional salaries for people who keep the District functioning smoothly and direct and communicate the educational philosophy of the Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District.

Board of Education:

Policy, Strategic Improvement Projects Dues, Operational Expenses and Legal Notices	\$25,675
District Clerk	7,900
Annual District Meeting	7,050

Central Administration:

Superintendent's Office	296,680
Business Administration	401,851
Legal, Auditing and Purchasing	364,326
Public Information, Newsletters and Brochures	19,280
Central Printing and Mailing	46,000
Central Data Processing	756,175

Special Items:

Insurance	154,800
Association Dues and Assessments	69,935
BOCES Administration Charges	151,781

TOTAL \$2,301,453

Building Maintenance & Operations: 6.3%

Provides for custodial activities necessary to keep the facilities open, clean and safe. Maintaining the District's buildings and grounds in their optimum condition, which protects the value of your property. Also, includes a transfer to capital to provide for a \$100,000 project for improvements to District facilities.

Buildings and Grounds	\$ 1,643,083
Utilities	611,000
Equipment, Materials and Supplies	255,000
Inter-fund Transfer to Capital Project Fund – Facility Improvement	100,000
TOTAL	\$2,609,083

Student Transportation Services: 7.9%

Include all expenditures for District students bussed to our public school, non-public schools, charter schools and schools for the handicapped students. Transportation includes bussing for field trips, outdoor education, extracurricular activities, inter-scholastic sports and special bussing for handicapped students.

Transportation – Public, Non-Public and Charter Schools	\$3,095,904
BOCES Services	125,165
Fuel, Equipment, Material and Supplies	50,000
TOTAL	\$3,271,069

BUDGET INFORMATION

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

District Office 716-891-6402



Debts & Obligations: **23.9%**

These items consist of fixed fiscal responsibilities of the Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District. Employee benefits, principal and interest on borrowings by the District are all part of this category.

Employee Benefits:

Employee Retirement	\$568,693
Teacher's Retirement	1,456,072
Social Security	1,279,296
Workers Compensation	260,000
Life Insurance	35,000
Unemployment Insurance	50,000
Hospital and Medical Insurance	3,912,154

Debt Service:

Serial Bond Principal	1,875,000
Serial Bond and Other Interest	389,575

TOTAL **\$9,825,790**

GRAND TOTAL **\$41,151,279**

Board of Education Elections

To elect two (2) members to the Board, one for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2029, currently held by Jeffery Stewart, and one for a term beginning upon election and expiring on June 30, 2025, currently held by Claire Ferrucci. All seats are at large.

The candidate receiving the most votes will receive the longest term available.

Candidates:

Candidate: Ava-Marie Shonitsky

Candidate: Jennifer L. Kregg

Write in Candidate: _____

Write in Candidate: _____

See candidate bio on page 14.

Absentee and Early Mail Ballots

In order to receive an absentee or early mail ballot, an application must be completed and returned via mail or in person. If the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be received by the district clerk at least seven days before the election. If the ballot is to be issued to the voter in person, the application may be received by the district clerk the day before the election. Please note that the applications may be acquired by anyone but the ballot can only be given to the actual voter.

To obtain an absentee or early mail ballot application, please contact:

Denise Knaebe, District Clerk
Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District
166 Halstead Ave. • Sloan, NY 14212
(716) 891-6402



Budget Vote Hearing

The School Budget Public Hearing will take place on

Tuesday, May 14, 2024 • 7:00 p.m.

Theodore Roosevelt Elementary Cafetorium

2495 William Street, Cheektowaga, NY 14206

School Budget Vote

will take place on

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 • noon until 9:00 p.m.

John F. Kennedy High School Gymnasium

305 Cayuga Creek Road, Cheektowaga, New York

Who is Eligible to Vote?

To be eligible to vote on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, a person must be:

- A citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years old
- A legal resident of the Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District for at least thirty (30) days prior to Tuesday, May 21, 2024
- A qualified voter who is not otherwise prohibited from voting under provisions of Election Law

Acceptable proof of residency includes a driver's license, non-driver identification card, utility bill or voter registration card. Any questions can be answered by calling the district office at 716-891-6402.

Groundbreaking for our Beautification



**New Concession Stand
& Restrooms**



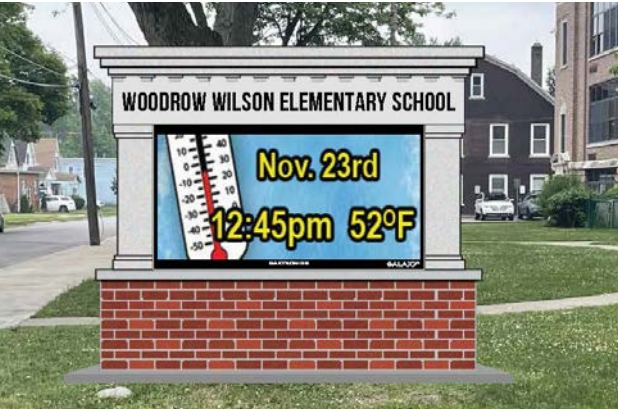
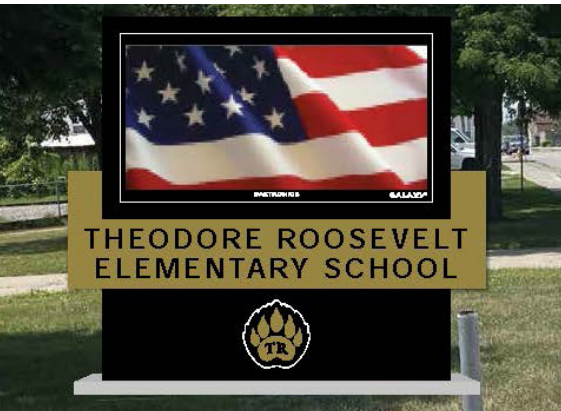
**New Turf Field,
Scoreboard
& Lighting**



Capital Project is Quickly Approaching



New Playground
& Digital Sign



New Playrgound
& Digital Sign





CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

District Office 716-891-6402

Meet School Board Candidate:

Jennifer Kregg

My name is Jennifer (Rybak) Kregg. I was born and raised in the Village of Sloan, and am a 1987 graduate of JFK Jr/Sr High School. I am the third generation to own my home on Francis Ave, where my husband John and I are now raising our daughter, Grace. My son is a 2009 graduate of JFK, and Grace will graduate from JFK in 2027. I have attended both ECC and Medaille Colleges with a concentration in Business Administration/ Accounting. I currently hold a position in the Town of Cheektowaga's Supervisor's Office.



In 2019, I was honored to be elected to the Sloan Village Board of Trustees, serving a four-year term that ended in March of 2023. Since then, I've continued serving the community as the steward of Sloan's Little Free Pantry.

I am seeking your vote on Tuesday May 21, 2024, because I believe that both my personal and professional experiences make me a strong candidate for the Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD School Board. Every vote for me will be a vote for our kids, to provide them with the best foundation - a top-notch, well-rounded education.

Thank you for your support!



Woodrow Wilson Student Restorative Leaders with Mrs. Ernst and ECRJC



JFK HS Basketball Tournament Champs '24!



JFKHS Fine Arts Assembly



JFKHS Superintendent's Council



2024 National Honor Society Inductees

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

District Office 716-891-6402



Universal Pre-K Registration

The Cheektowaga-Sloan School District is now accepting applications for Universal Pre-K for the 2024-2025 School Year.

If you are interested in sending your child to our Pre-K program in September, please either email a completed application available on the district website (Central Registration Quick Links Tab) along with all the required documentation to sloanregistration@cheektowagasloan.org, or contact the Central Registrar at 891-6427 for assistance or additional information regarding the registration process.

Eligibility requirements are:

- Your child must be 4 years old on or before December 1st 2024.
- You must reside in the Cheektowaga-Sloan School District.
- You must provide your child's transportation to and from school.

To register any student you will need the following items:

- Student Identification: Birth certificate, passport or other documentary evidence of birth date
- Parent Identification: Legal parent/guardian photo identification, such as a Driver's License
- Proof of Immunizations and Health Appraisal: Records provided by Doctor's office
- Three (3) Proofs of Residence: Housing documents, utilities, payroll stub, government records
- Guardianship Documents: if applicable, court documentation identifying residential custody

There is no cost for families to participate.

Our program runs 2 1/2 hours per day, 5 days per week, and follows the school district's calendar. We offer both morning and afternoon sessions.

Our quality program utilizes research based, age-appropriate practices which are aligned with NY State's Pre-K Standards. Your child will acquire pre-reading skills, a richer vocabulary, and strong basic math skills. Pre-K children will be exposed to numbers, letters, shapes, and words. They will learn how to share, take turns, cooperate, follow directions, solve problems, and contribute to the classroom community. Theodore Roosevelt's Pre-K students will grow socially, emotionally, physically, and intellectually, which will better prepare them for Kindergarten.

Kindergarten Registration

**For the 2024-2025 School Year
Now Open!!!**

If you are sending your child to Kindergarten in September, please either email a completed application available on the district website (Central Registration Quick Links Tab) along with all the required documentation to sloanregistration@cheektowagasloan.org, or contact the Central Registrar at 891-6427 for assistance or additional information regarding the registration process.

To register any student, you will need the following items:

- Student Identification: Birth certificate, passport or other documentary evidence of birth date
- Parent Identification: Legal parent/guardian photo identification, such as a Driver's License
- Proof of Immunizations and Health Appraisal: Records provided by Doctor's office
- Three (3) Proofs of Residence: Housing documents, utilities, payroll stub, government records
- Guardianship Documents: if applicable, court documentation identifying residential custody

Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before December 1, 2024 and a legal resident of the Cheektowaga Sloan School District.

SAVE THE DATES

Kindergarten Screening

Will take place May 6th-10th

**Appointments will be confirmed via a phone call once registration is complete, reviewed and provided to Theodore Roosevelt Elementary.*

Kindergarten Orientation

May 20th

Further information to follow as we approach this date



Letter from the Principal

TR Parents and Guardians,

There is no question about it, success at school begins at home. Parents are the single most important variable in a child's education. We count on our partnership with our TR parents every year. I wanted to share a few key areas that can make a huge impact on our youngest students: reading daily at home, sleep, and attendance.

I encourage our Theodore Roosevelt parents and family members to help our TR students finish off the year strong. At home, it is important to provide routines as we do in school. Build a daily "quiet time" when the television or screen time is turned off. This quiet time provides students the opportunity to complete schoolwork or for recreational reading. During this quiet time, a suitable place, somewhat free of other distractions, should be available. The routine of daily quiet time provides an opportunity to develop self-discipline, stimulate imagination, and enhance reading skills.

Below are 3 reasons why developing a habit of reading daily with your child at home can instill confidence, knowledge, and a love of reading:

- Reading with or alongside your child, models a love of reading for your child.
- Students and children listen better and longer, while developing a wider vocabulary.
- Reading together promotes social and emotional interactions among family members.

Below are the recommended hours of sleep for children by the National Sleep Foundation:

- 3 - 5 years need 11 - 13 hours of sleep
- 5 - 12 years need 10 - 11 hours of sleep

The #1 tip for children's good sleeping habits is to follow a nightly routine. Try to make bedtime the same time every night. Make bedtime a positive and relaxing experience without TV or screen time. According to many studies, screen time before bed can lead to difficulty falling and

staying asleep. Save your child's favorite relaxing, non-stimulating activities until last, and have them occur in the child's bedroom. The best activity is 20 minutes of reading either to or with your child. Have students get outside and play right after school to provide physical activity and assist with helping them fall asleep more easily.

Finally, school attendance is one of the most powerful predictors of academic achievement. Knowing this, having every student attend school daily, when they are well enough to do so, is critically important. When a student is frequently absent, tardy, or leaves early from school, they lose valuable instructional time and can fall behind. Please continue to communicate your child's absences with the school and send in notes to the main office to ensure the ones that can be deemed excused are accounted for appropriately.

School and home can work together to build skills and knowledge, reinforce values, and develop a strong sense of self-worth for our future leaders following

the 7 Habits in both locations. This is an important year for our school with our Leader in Me Program. Our goal is to become a Lighthouse School. The Leader in Me Lighthouse School title is awarded by Franklin Covey to honor the attainment of a well-rounded leadership model. Lighthouse Schools serve as models of leadership and mentors to other schools throughout the world. Ask your child to show you their leadership binder or just have a conversation about the 7 Habits during a family meal. I'm sure they will surprise you. Visit the TR webpage and click on the Leader in Me Tab for additional information and resources.

Please enjoy the rest of the highlights and happenings at TR in this newsletter. As always, feel free to reach out to me or your child's teacher for any assistance to finish the school year on a positive note. I hope you found the above information useful to support our efforts in educating all TR students together!

Sincerely,

Jeff Mochrie, Principal

Tower Garden is Providing Healthy Options Thanks to the Student Lighthouse Team

The Theodore Roosevelt Elementary Student Lighthouse Team harvested four varieties of lettuce with Mr. Mochrie that they were growing in their Tower Garden. The Tower Garden is part of the District's Health and Wellness Grant. The lettuce was provided to the TR Faculty and Staff as part of a healthy tailgate luncheon option in celebration of the Super Bowl. Additional lettuce is now being grown and offered to staff and students who are interested in trying it. The students are looking forward to growing other items in the future.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY

2495 William Street, Cheektowaga, NY 14206 • Jeffrey S. Mochrie, Principal



Main Office 716-891-6424

TR's Teddy Bear Mail Club

Students at Theodore Roosevelt have the opportunity to write and mail letters to friends, siblings, and teachers within the school. This in-school postal service is operated by the 2nd Grade Teddy Bear Mail Club. These 2nd Grade students use their leadership skills to carry out all their "postal duties". They perform the roles of Postmasters, Facers, Sorters, Nixie Clerks and, most importantly, Letter Carriers. These Teddy Bear Mailers have been busy this year. They have collected, processed, and delivered over 500 letters! The Teddy Bear Mailers know how important it is to synergize. They see how working together gets the job done!



Creativity in the TR Art Room

This year all kindergarten, first and second grade artists have been letting their creativity out with Mrs. Sealander in the art room! They have used markers, crayons, colored pencils, watercolor paints, tempera paints, oil pastels, chalk, clay and tons of paper. Practicing their ABC's while learning about Jasper Johns in Kindergarten. Focusing on the planets and the art of Alma Woodsey Thomas in first grade. Second grade artists have used mixed media like artist Heather Galler - they have covered a lot. Art work has covered the walls of TR this school year and will be coming home to decorate your homes after the art shows. We are enjoying all of the talent here at TR.



Music Foundations are Being Built in the TR Music Room

In music students have focused on the foundations of building music skills in reading, playing, and moving to music with Mrs. Fitzner. Students also build connections with skills in literature, music, and making connections to history and science as they learn music. The music room is often full of singing, playing, and moving to the beat every day. Students in second grade can further develop their skills by participating in choir and drama.



First Grade Students Learn and Teach Animal Groups

First grade students in Miss Markiewicz's class are working on a new science unit, called *A Bunny's Life*. In this unit students are learning all about animal babies and how each animal takes care of their offspring. During one of their lessons, students worked together to become experts about different types of animal groups and their babies. Students explored reptiles, mammals, birds, and fish. Students then took on the role of teacher and taught their classmates all about their animal group.



TR's UPK Students Have Been Working on their WIGS

Pre-Kindergarten students have been hard at work this school year with a continued focus on their WIG's (Wildly Important Goal) of learning 26 uppercase and lowercase letters. Pre-Kindergarten students have also been participating in daily Academic Learning Centers, which allows for our students to learn through play and socialize with their peers. Teachers and aides are able to work in small groups / one-on-one with students to help build pre-foundational skills necessary for academic success in years to come.





Learning about Leaders in 2nd Grade

Second Grade students have been learning about various leaders who have impacted our country. The leaders they learned about included Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., President George Washington, Ruby Bridges, and George Washington Carver. The students worked together to read, research, write and share about these leaders and their amazing accomplishments.



First Graders Hard at Work

Students in Mrs. Rogowski's first grade class have been working on becoming more fluent readers and mathematicians. They have worked on writing skills to create narrative and opinion pieces. First graders learned about families, traditions, and holidays from all around the world. They've even learned about some complex topics such as sky patterns and animal traits.



TR's Family First Dinner

TR's Annual Family First Dinner was another huge success with over 300 people in attendance. This year's theme was Camp Out featuring grilled hot dogs, macaroni salad, chips, and desserts. Students lead a restorative circle with a marshmallow talking piece to start the night. Families learned about the 7 Habits and Restorative Practices, while enjoying dinner and entertainment. Each student left with a build their own Smores activity to enjoy and conduct a circle at home without screen time.



Kindergarten Students Celebrated the 100th Day of School in Style

Kindergarteners celebrated their 100th day of learning this year by participating in various activities centered around the number 100. Some of the highlights included stacking 100 cups, trying to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop in 100 licks, and taking part in our Annual 100th Day Fashion Show. The students had the opportunity to show off their homemade 100th Day T-shirts. It was a memorable day enjoyed by all!



First Graders Learn about the Chinese Lunar New Year

Mrs. Peterson's class celebrated the Chinese Lunar New Year. They learned about the history and cultural traditions of the holiday. To celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year, Mrs. Peterson's class made their own lanterns and ate fortune cookies.



TECHNOLOGY

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Office 716-891-6402



Technology Updates

The Department of Data and Technology has continued to make progress in reaching the department's goals of providing modern technology to students and teachers to enrich instruction and learning, ensuring students can navigate technology in the 21st century, and protecting student, teacher, and staff members' data.

In the 2023-2024 school year, all 5th and 8th grade NY State assessments were required to be administered on a computer. Due to our successful one-to-one initiative, every kindergarten through 12th-grade student has a Chromebook assigned to them. This allowed us to seamlessly transition to computer-based tests for all grade 3-8 students. We provided all teachers access to the eDoctrina testing platform to prepare students for the transition. This allowed teachers to introduce various online testing tools and provide practice time for students to become familiar with how to use the tools.

With the help of Federal and State grants and the previously approved budget, the Department of Data and Technology has met the refresh cycle requirements for hardware. We continue to purchase new Chromebooks for students entering kindergarten, fifth grade, and ninth grade. We are updating older SMART boards and Promethean boards with Newline interactive whiteboards to ensure that every instructional space in our District can provide interactive and engaging lessons to students. New laptops were purchased for the faculty at JFK, and there are plans to upgrade laptops for the faculty at Woodrow Wilson and Theodore Roosevelt in future years. Finally, 60 new iPads have been purchased to permit the most secure iOS to be installed for the unique cases when a Chromebook does not meet a student's needs.

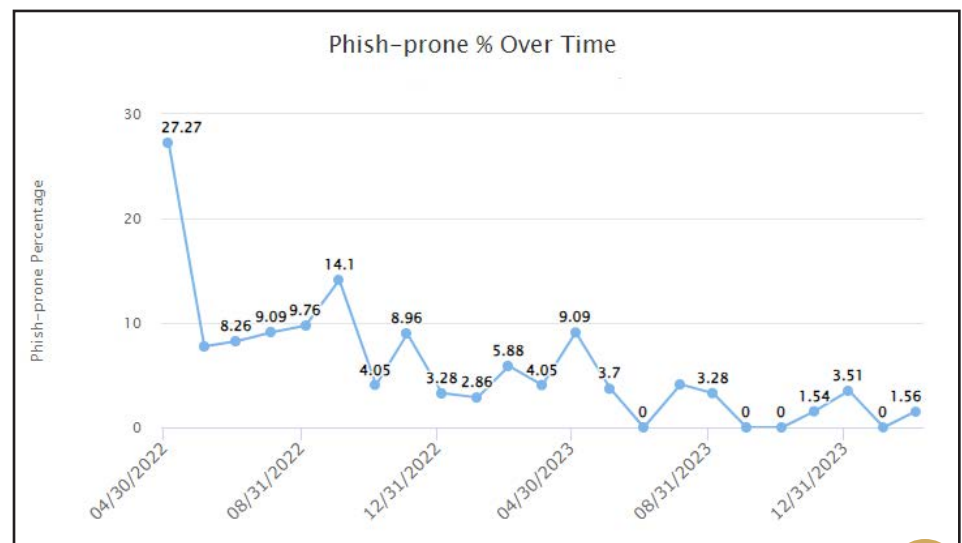
We have increased our cybersecurity position by investing in Microsoft A5



security licenses. This investment utilizes endpoint behavioral sensors, cloud security analytics, and threat intelligence to detect and respond to advanced threats. We also purchased a new state-of-the-art computer server to house our most sensitive student data with additional protections and backup options that ensure student data is always protected. In addition, we continue to train faculty and staff in email phishing tactics and regularly run phishing simulations to ensure that all employees are vigilant in protecting District accounts and student

data. The educational industry has a 29.2% phishing-prone rating. Our faculty and staff scored a 1.6% phishing-prone rating in our most recent phishing simulation, performing eighteen times better than the industry average.

Finally, the Department of Data and Technology has been working on a new website for the 2024-2025 school year. The website will have a more modern look and be focused on easy navigation for parents, students, faculty, staff, and community members to find the information that is important to them.





Update from the Department of Special Education & Student Services

I am pleased to provide you with an update from the Department of Special Education & Student Services. This school year, our support staff have gone above and beyond to meet the needs of our students in creative, collaborative, and innovative ways.

Special Education Teachers & Therapists:

The Department of Special Education has focused on providing personalized and meaningful learning experiences for our students during the 2023-2024 school year. Our department has taken various steps to ensure that all decisions regarding student programming are made individually and through a creative approach. We have also developed a systematic approach to addressing student behavior, procedures regarding how meetings are conducted, and student transitions.

Our special education students have made significant progress in reading this year. At Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, our special education teachers used the Phonics First reading program to provide targeted instruction to students. This targeted instruction has allowed our students to achieve the following:

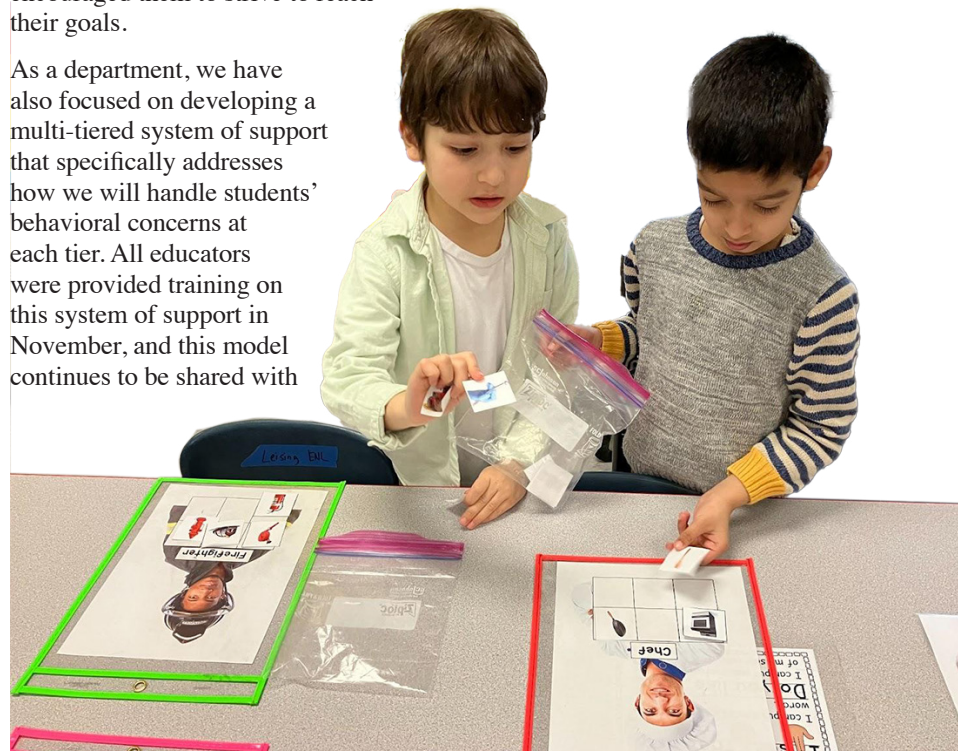
- All Kindergarten students who work with Mrs. Angrignon can recognize all upper and lower-case letters.
- Our 2nd-grade students working with Mrs. Stockwell have made significant reading growth through the multi-sensory approach and are close to reading on grade level.
- Mrs. D'Amato's 3rd-grade students are working on strengthening their foundational academic skills such as literacy, numeracy, problem-solving, and critical thinking. The growth they have made so far is exceptional.
- Our 4th-grade students working with Mrs. Moloney are taking on new leadership roles in restorative practice due to the confidence they gained by improving their reading level through targeted instruction.

At JFK Middle and High School, we have focused on developing processes and procedures regarding secondary transition planning. All teachers met individually with students, and assessments were completed to help students develop plans for life after graduation. During these meetings, students were guided through the transition planning process to set short and long-term post-secondary goals and to make informed decisions regarding their courses and instruction while in high school to support these goals. These conversations have empowered students to take responsibility for transition plans that focus on their individualized interests and strengths, as well as bring awareness to their specific needs. Many students have shared their plans with their families and teachers, which has increased meaningful conversations about their future and encouraged them to strive to reach their goals.

As a department, we have also focused on developing a multi-tiered system of support that specifically addresses how we will handle students' behavioral concerns at each tier. All educators were provided training on this system of support in November, and this model continues to be shared with



teachers through student-specific meetings at each building. We have also streamlined how meetings are facilitated within the department, ensuring that all meetings are scheduled six weeks before the date of the meeting to ensure all stakeholders have ample time to prepare, and meetings can be conducted in a timely student-centered manner. These procedures have helped the department function effectively, efficiently, and with students' best interests in mind.



SPECIAL EDUCATION

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Office 716-891-6429



Cont'd from previous page



Student Support Team:

This year, we have welcomed many new Student Support Team Members, and we are thrilled to have all these new members on board. The social-emotional needs of our students continue to be of high priority to our student support staff. Individual and group counseling sessions continue to happen throughout the school day to ensure that the needs of all students are met. Our school social workers and counselors have also been working closely as a department to develop a systematic approach to ensuring that the social and emotional needs of students are met daily with fidelity.

English as New Language Teachers:

With the support of our talented English as a New Language teachers, we have seen tremendous growth in our ELL students this year. The growth we have seen is attributed to the individual learning plans our ENL teachers wrote for each student. These learning plans outline demographic information, accommodations, and modifications and list specific supports that can help English Language Learners be successful in their classes. These plans are unique to our district and something we are very proud of.



Nurses:

The health and safety of our students are of the utmost importance to our community, especially our nurses. They have worked diligently this year to ensure that all students' health needs are met, and their commitment to this is evident daily. We are very appreciative of the amazing work our nurses do, as they are vital members of our school community.

In conclusion, it has been amazing to see all the hard work the Cheektowaga-Sloan Special Education and Student Services department has done this year to meet the needs of all of our students. We also thank our community for their continued support.



Food Service

The Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD food service department has made many improvements to our program since last year. This past summer, we no longer ordered pre-packaged lunches from Buffalo Public Schools for the summer feeding program. Instead, our own food service employees prepared the meals in the Theodore Roosevelt School kitchen. This offers children fresher foods with more variety, while also saving money on daily delivery fees.

New breakfast carts were purchased and introduced for grab and go breakfasts at Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. The carts are eye-catching and colorful, which is designed to encourage more student participation in the national school breakfast program. They were definitely a hit with students!

At the beginning of the school year, we brought back the salad bar to JFK middle and high schools. Students are thrilled to build their own salads with a vast selection of vegetables, meats, dried fruits, seeds, cheeses and an array of dressings.

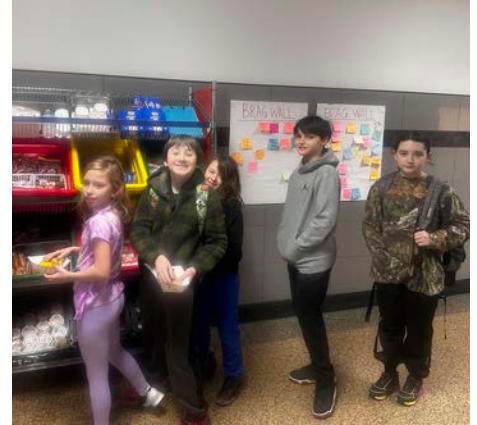
We also introduced two new lunch options at Theodore Roosevelt - salad platters, and

fun foods yogurt lunches. Our youngest students are very much enjoying a made fresh daily salad and a no-meat option of the yogurt lunch, which has a food component from each of the food groups: protein/meat alternative, fruit, vegetable, whole grain and dairy.

This year marked the return of Fine Dining at Theodore Roosevelt. Each month, Mr. Mochrie selects a class to dine with himself, the classroom teacher, and teacher aide in the cafeteria. Students are able to choose their own lunch from a menu for the day, sit at tables adorned with linens and china, and get served their lunch from monitors and food service staff.

New menu items this year have been Kung Pao chicken, lemongrass chicken, broccoli cheddar soup and the baked potato bar, which is wildly popular with both JFK students and staff.

The food service department continues to cater special occasions and meals for the district. Honors breakfasts at JFK middle and high school, new teacher orientation luncheons over the summer, Superintendent Conference Day staff



breakfast, pizzas for restorative practice training, and Superintendent Council luncheons. So far this year, we have done a Halloween themed lunch and most recently, a Soup-Palooza, where Mrs. Galenski, Mr. Julian and the members of the council were able to select from six different kinds of homemade soups.

The hard-working food service staff of Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and JFK are dedicated to serving up nutritious meals each day to help fuel up our students for a fun-filled day of learning!



CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

166 Halstead Avenue, Sloan, NY 14212 • Business Hours 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

District Office 716-891-6402



JFK Athletics - A Team First Approach to Success

John F. Kennedy Athletics is more than just playing sports to achieve wins. The athletic department seeks to not only challenge student-athletes on the field or court with athletic skill and strategy, but to also teach each student to become part of a team and to learn to work as a group towards a common goal. The coaches at J.F.K. have been promoting a team-first approach all year long to help build team camaraderie and to guide our student-athletes on how to be successful beyond their years at J.F.K. High School.

Fall

Fall 2023 finished with teams improving upon their skill level and team chemistry throughout the season. Many of our teams were filled with young players who look forward to their future sports experiences at J.F.K. Our spirit week, pep rally, homecoming game and senior games were all full of energy and excitement.

Winter

This past winter season we had two of our athletes set career milestones.

Girls' bowler Olivia Rhoat was statistically the best bowler for all small schools in our area.

Boys' basketball player Mike Mingle

surpassed 1,000 career points as a junior this season. Great job to Olivia and Mike on their individual accomplishments!



Team highlights include our girl's basketball team posting a winning record as they won 11 games, while our boy's bowling team took second place in the division. Our competitive cheerleading team held their own in all of their competitions. Boys basketball teams at all levels were competitive throughout the season. We ended the winter season with our spirit week which boasted of a successful, fun, and entertaining pep rally that hyped our students just before the playoffs.

Spring

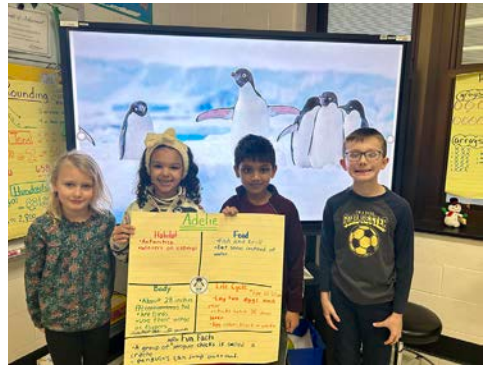
At the time of production of this newsletter, spring sports are just beginning. At J.F.K., we offer varsity and modified baseball, softball, track and field, and varsity co-ed tennis. We look forward to successful campaigns on and off the field for all teams as we move into the spring season.

A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Frank and The Bears' Nook bookstore club workers who have used the money earned from this year to donate a brand new BEAR mascot costume for our school! The costume will make its initial appearance at the spring pep rally.





Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 5776
Buffalo, NY



NOTE: If you do not wish to receive this publication, please call 891-6427 to be removed from our mailing list.