

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY



CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Home of the Cougars Fall 2023

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Community Members,

Just as the leaves transition in autumn, so do our students as they settle into another school year. As we step into this new season, I am reminded of the remarkable achievements and milestones that our district has accomplished thus far. These successes are a testament to the dedication and commitment of our outstanding students, educators, staff, and, of course, the invaluable contributions of our community members.



We remain focused on our mission to maintain a culture of excellence. We are committed in our belief that every student deserves an education that fosters curiosity, instills a love for learning, and empowers them to reach their full potential. With your ongoing support, we continue to pave the way for a future where every graduate of our district is equipped not only with knowledge, but also with the skills, values, and resilience to thrive in an ever-changing world.

I am especially pleased to acknowledge the remarkable efforts put forth to ensure high levels of daily student attendance. Consistent high attendance is the number one indicator for future success. A strong attendance record demonstrates commitment and discipline, but also provides students with the essential foundation of knowledge and skills that are crucial for future achievement.



As we move forward, let us remember that our shared commitment to the education of ALL children is a promise for the generations to come. I encourage you to continue to be actively involved in our district's initiatives, celebrations and endeavors. Your presence and voice are invaluable and we are immensely grateful for the unwavering support you provide.

As a community, I am humbled by the generosity, support and collaboration in our collective pursuit of educational excellence.

Wishing you all a season filled with crisp apples, warm sweaters and family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corey Graves".

Mr. Corey Graves,
Superintendent of Schools

SVCS MISSION/VISION

Mission: Culture of Excellence: Empower ALL students through exemplary educational experiences to safely learn and grow.

Vision: SVCS is student-centered, where ALL children, staff and the community are valued, acknowledged and actively involved.

GREETINGS FROM THE 7-12 PRINCIPAL

Welcome Back SVCS Families!

Our Homecoming weekend kicked off with an incredible dance and bonfire. Over 150 students were in attendance for the festivities. Thank you to the Munnsville Volunteer Fire Department for their help in orchestrating the bonfire and overseeing the safety of our students. The students had an amazing night and are grateful for the guidance of Mr. Jona Snyder and Ms. Jessica O'Mara, as well as the other staff members who gave up their time to help supervise. Our rivalry games against Madison saw the girl's soccer team as the victor bringing home the golden milk can. The boys played an incredibly tough game against Madison and while they did not finish victorious, they played with integrity. Both teams were off to sectionals where they exemplified sportsmanship, determination, and strong character.

Our students involved in the FFA will travel to Indianapolis, Indiana to participate and lead fellow members at the 96th Annual FFA National Convention, October 29 - Nov. 5. Best wishes as they travel to support agricultural education and FFA.

As the year gets underway, I can't stress enough the importance of student attendance. Not only does attendance support academic gains for our students, but studies have shown that attendance in school can predict future success. When students are absent 10%, or approximately 18 school days per year, their



academic achievement has proven to decline and students begin to further fall behind each year. We ask that everyone keep up the hard work and that families help support our efforts by, as always, having their children attend school when they are not sick. Thank you for your continued effort and support with this initiative.

Five-week reports went home to all families on Friday, October 20. If your child is struggling in a given area, please have him/her discuss with the teacher ways to get help to learn the material and help improve their academic performance. All teachers and staff are here to support our students. Please reach out if there are any concerns.

Lastly, as a reminder, State Law prohibits students from walking to and from school as there are no sidewalks adjoining the school to local roadways. Student safety is very important to us, so please remind your children to ride the bus or wait to be picked up. Thank you for your help in this manner.

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns at 315-495-4450. I hope to support you and your family in any way possible.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Lisa Hopkins
7-12 Principal



**ATTENDANCE
MATTERS.
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY**

When students are absent 10%, or approximately 18 school days per year, their academic achievement has proven to decline and students begin to further fall behind each year.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AND JUNIOR NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION

On October 12, the Stockbridge Valley Chapters of the National Honor Society and Junior National Honor Societies held their annual induction ceremony. Students are selected to these prestigious organizations by achieving a cumulative grade point average of 89.5% or higher. Additionally, these students must also have demonstrated qualities such as leadership, service, character and citizenship. These students complete an application process which is then reviewed by a panel of teachers for the determination of their acceptance. During the ceremony, the traditional candle lighting took place along with congratulatory speeches from Mrs. Hopkins and Mr. Graves. This year, SVCS 2nd grade teacher Mr. Tucker was the guest speaker and discussed the importance of hard work and the mentality to never give up.

Students inducted this year to National Honor Society were:

Hailey Beecher
Marlie Brummer
Madison Greene
Madison Hartle
Marilyn Jones
Emily Mobbs
Anthony Shaw
Hannah Sherman



Students inducted this year into the Junior National Honor Society were:

Anna Baker
Kiernan Berger
Logan Cady
Serenity Chapin
Chance Craft
Jayden Croniser
Madison Divens
Collin Hartle
Aven Hofmeyer
Ernest Moot III
Liam Plasse
Lena Snyder
Maiya Trew
Daniela Voyku



Congratulations to all on your accomplishments!

AWARDS RECOGNIZE HIGH-PERFORMING STUDENTS AND HELP THEM STAND OUT TO COLLEGES

Two students at Stockbridge Valley Central School District earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. These programs celebrate students' hard work in high school and showcase their strong academic performance. The academic honors for rural area, Black, Indigenous, and/or Latino students are an opportunity for students to share their strong academic achievements with colleges and scholarship programs that are seeking to recruit diverse talent.

Two Stockbridge Valley Central School District Seniors received the academic honor.

Edward DeMenezes

National Rural and Small Town Award (NRSTA)

Nicholas Smith

National Rural and Small Town Award (NRSTA)

"We're thrilled to celebrate our students and recognize them for the great work they've been doing. We're proud of their strong academic performance in the classroom and on College Board assessments like the PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, and AP® exams," said School Counselor, Cassandra Gleason. "There's so much that makes our students unique, and receiving this honor reinforces this as an asset for their future."

The criteria for eligible students include:

GPA of 3.5 or higher.

PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10 assessment scores that are within the top 10% of assessment takers in each state for each award program or earned a score of 3 or



L to R: SVCS Seniors, Edward DeMenezes and Nicholas Smith.

higher on 2 or more AP Exams in 9th and 10th grade. Attend school in a rural area or small town, or identify as African American/Black, Hispanic American/Latino, or Indigenous/Native.

Eligible students are invited to apply on BigFuture <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/> during their sophomore or junior year and are awarded at the start of the next school year in time to share their achievements in high school as they plan for the future.

November 10
VETERANS DAY
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Veterans' Day Breakfast
November 8, 2023
Starts at 9:00 AM
SVCS Cafeteria

To Register
Please call 315-495-4550

SILK SCREENING IN STUDIO ART



Mrs. Maguire's Studio Art class is designed around art careers. Students learn that art is all around us, from the chairs we sit in, the clothes we wear, the cars we ride in, to the school we learn in. Artists create our world!

The first art career that the students learn about is Graphic Design. Graphic Design is the art of combining text and pictures in advertisements, magazines, books,

t-shirts, etc. Students were able to create their own t-shirt design. Then, they used the silk screen process to print their shirt. Silk screening is a type of art that originated in Asia, where prints are created through a process where a stencil is used, and ink passes through a mesh material. Student shirts will be on display at our district's art show Tuesday, May 21.

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY CLAY TARGET CLUB



Members of the team competed at the USA National Championships in Lansing, Michigan this past July.

Nick Smith and Olivia Waldron qualified for the finals. Other members competing were James Peterson and Cade Zaleski. Edward DeMenezes, Alex Cullen and Liam Plasse also qualified, but did not attend.

In July some members volunteered their time at the NYS Sporting Clays Championships held at Vernon National. Members parked cars, manned stations and helped where needed.

In September, officers were elected for the 2023-24 year

as follows: President-Olivia Waldron; Vice President-Cade Zaleski; Secretary-Edward DeMenezes; Treasurer/Reporter-Liam Plasse. Rounding out the team are Nick Smith, James Peterson, Zach McCabe, Alex Cullen and newcomer Jasper Clark.

The team is currently competing in the NYS Clay Target League for trap and the USA National Sporting Clays League. The team would like to thank the parents, supporters and Vernon National for all their help.

Mrs. Patty Waldron
Clay Target Club Advisor

MESSAGE FROM THE K-6 PRINCIPAL

Greetings from the Elementary Office!

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits as we transition into the beautiful autumn season. It's hard to believe that we're already a few months into the school year, and I wanted to take a moment to share with you some of the incredible highlights from our vibrant school community.



A FANTASTIC START TO THE SCHOOL YEAR

The 2023-2024 school year has kicked off with an incredible burst of energy and enthusiasm. Our hallways have been filled with the laughter, creativity, and boundless curiosity of our students. It's truly heartwarming to see our children return to school with such excitement, eager to learn and grow.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and our extraordinary students for making this such a fantastic start to the school year. Together, we've created an atmosphere of inspiration and learning that will continue to thrive throughout the year.

A REVOLUTION IN READING EDUCATION: THE SCIENCE OF READING

We are proud to announce a significant enhancement to our curriculum this year with the implementation of a groundbreaking new reading program based on the "Science of Reading." This program draws upon the latest research regarding how students learn to read to provide a comprehensive and evidence-based approach to reading instruction.

Our enthusiastic teachers have embraced this program, and their passion for improving literacy skills among our students is palpable. We believe that this innovative approach will help our students become confident and proficient readers, and we look forward to witnessing their growth in this critical area.

LEARNING ABOUT FIRE SAFETY WITH THE MUNNSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

As part of our commitment to providing a well-rounded education, the Munnsville Volunteer Fire Department has graciously volunteered their time again to educate our students about fire safety. This invaluable partnership allows our students to learn essential skills and knowledge that can make a real difference in emergency situations.

Our students are not only having fun, but they are also gaining crucial information about fire prevention, evacuation procedures, and the importance of fire safety in their daily lives. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Munnsville Volunteer Fire Department for their commitment to our students' safety and well-being.



In closing, I want to express my immense pride in our school community and the tremendous strides we are making together. As we look ahead to the remainder of the school year, we are excited about the opportunities, growth, and learning that lie ahead for our students.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Together, we are creating a nurturing and empowering environment where every child can thrive.

Wishing you a wonderful autumn season filled with warmth, joy, and continued success.

Mrs. Julie Suber
K-6 Principal

ELEMENTARY ART CLUB PAINTED PUMPKINS AT FIRST MEETING



PRE-K STUDENTS EXPLORE FEELINGS & EMOTIONS



In Pre-K, the children learn about the various emotions a person can have. We look at pictures in books, and we practice changing our facial expressions in a mirror to help the children learn how to identify feelings. One of our favorite books that helps the students learn about feelings and emotions is 'Glad Monster Sad Monster' by Ed Emberley.



COME CELEBRATE OUR SIXTH GRADERS

Sixth Grade Soccer Players at their "Come Celebrate Our 6th Graders" celebration. James Carney, London Greenwood, Averi Buell, Lily Relyea, Jillyan Strain, Macie Moot along with coach Jason Moot.

BOOK CHARACTER PUMPKIN CONTEST

Miss Bovalino, school librarian, recently spearheaded the first "Book Character Pumpkin Contest". Students decorated pumpkins as book characters for a fun at-home project, with family help as needed. There were more than 50 entries, and the results were AMAZING!



FALL SPORTS SEASON WRAP UP

With the fall season winding down, Coach Peto's girls modified soccer team came so close to making it a perfect season with a record of 9-1. Coach DeBraccio's boys modified team had a very successful season as well, going 8-1-3. Great season for these two young teams!

On the varsity side, both boys and girls soccer teams qualified for sectionals. The girls traveled to Bishop Grimes on October 17 and defeated the Cobras 2-0. Two days later they were off to Saquoit Valley where they fell to the #1 seed.



On October 19, the boys team journeyed to Fabius Pompey for their first round of sectionals. The Cougars played stellar defense in the first half going into halftime tied at 0. They ended up falling to the Falcons 2-0 in the second half.

On Thursday, November 16 at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria, Coach Kiser and Coach Lehmann will recognize their teams at the Fall Varsity Sports Banquet.

REMINDER FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE



The district's School Health Services program supports your student's academic success by promoting health in the school setting. One way we provide care for your student is by performing the health screenings as mandated by the State of New York.

During this school year, the following screenings will be required or completed at school:



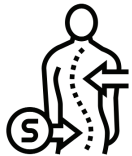
VISION

- Distance and near acuity for all newly entering students and students in Pre-K or Kindergarten, Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, and 11.
- Color perception screening for all newly entering students.



HEARING

- Hearing screening for all newly entering students and students in Pre-K or Kindergarten, Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, and 11.



SCOLIOSIS

- Scoliosis (spinal curvature) screening for all girls in grades 5 and 7, and boys in grade 9.

A letter will be sent home if there are any findings on the screening done at school that would cause concern or need medical follow-up. Please call the school's Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

New York State law also requires a health examination for all students **entering the school district for the first time and when entering Pre-K or K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th grade.**

If you have not yet sent in a copy of your child's health exam please do so as soon as possible. If we do not receive a copy of the exam, one will be done at the school.

If you have any questions please contact:

Mrs. Mattie Shea, School Nurse
Stockbridge Valley Central School
6011 Williams Rd.
Munnsville, NY 13409

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR OFFICE NEWS

It has been a great start to the school year with several Admission Counselors from area colleges visiting and meeting with students. Through these meetings, students have the ability to learn what colleges have to offer such as various degree programs, campus life, athletics, and scholarships. These visits were followed up with a trip to Oneida High School for a college fair where many Junior and Senior students had the ability to meet with even more admission counselors, technical school representatives, and military representatives to explore other post-secondary options. It is never too early to start exploring post-secondary options and if you ever have any questions, please contact the Guidance Office.



- a. One popular option is the Common App. This application can be used to apply to over 700 different colleges. You can find the app at coapp.org.
- b. Interested in only SUNY schools? SUNY has their own app you can use to apply to. This can be found at suny.edu.
- c. If you are planning on starting off at a community college, apply directly to their website. Many community colleges will waive the fee if you do so.

5. **Once you have applied, see Mrs. Gleason.** She needs to know so that she can send in your transcripts, etc.

6. **Periodically check the Senior Class Google Classroom for updated information regarding scholarships.** Many deadlines for scholarships approach quickly so check regularly so that you don't miss out.

CLASS OF 2024 – Deadlines are quickly approaching and applications to colleges should have already begun. The following is a list of steps/checklist of things that need to be completed as you apply to college:

1. **Financial Aid (FAFSA)** - the Free Application for Federal Student Aid is the entrance point for all federal and state financial aid. All students and their parents/guardians should complete this form ASAP when it opens in December of this year. <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
2. **Take the SAT or ACT.** Every college will have different requirements although many of them are test optional, taking the SAT or ACT can help your chances to get into colleges. Please see the college website to see what exams will be required. It is recommended to take the exams by December in order to get your scores in time to apply. Deadline for the SAT in December is November 4. Please see Mrs. Gleason with any questions.
3. **Talk to teachers/community members/employers for letters of recommendation.** You will want about 2 to 3 letters. Be sure to ask for these letters prior to submitting your application and have them submitted directly to me.
4. **Apply to your college of choice.** If you need assistance applying, Mrs. Gleason is more than willing to assist you through the process. There are several different ways to do so:

CLASS OF 2025 – Prior to your Senior year, it is recommended that you take your SAT exam. Colgate University offers a FREE SAT Preparation Course that begins in the end of January and meets once a week up until the SAT in May. Registration deadline for this course is December 1. This is a great opportunity to take advantage of and if you have any questions or for the information on how to register, please stop down to the guidance office or email SATPrep@colgate.edu

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Gleason if you need any help or have any questions at 315-495-1908 or cgleason@stockbridgevalley.org

Upcoming Events:

- **November 3** – SUNY Potsdam College Visit @ 2pm
- **November 7** - all Sophomores will have the opportunity to take the ASVAB Career Exploration Test to match their strengths and interests with potential careers.
- **November 28** - 8th graders will receive a brief tour of all of the BOCES CTE programs.

Mrs. Cassandra Gleason
K-12 School Counselor

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY FFA HARVESTS SUCCESS IN A FUN AND PRODUCTIVE FALL SEASON

On October 12, we co-hosted our annual Ag Day at Morrisville State College with over 415 elementary students from Stockbridge, Hamilton, Madison, Oneida, Chittenango, and Morrisville Eaton. There were more than 20 stations, including soil, wildlife, dairy, apples, maple, greenhouse, hay wagon rides, and many animals for them to pet.

Fifteen of our senior high members will be attending the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, from October 29 through November 5. On their way, students will visit seven locations, ranging from the Longwood Botanical Garden to The Wilds of Columbus Zoo to a CAT Remanufacturing shop. While at the convention, they will participate in sessions with keynote speakers, workshops, a significant career expo, and will



have the opportunity to interact with over 60,000 FFA members. The Parliamentary Procedure team will be competing at the convention, so we wish them good luck.

We would like to express our gratitude to all the buyers and sellers for the Apple and Mum sale; your support is greatly

appreciated. From October 25 to November 14, we have our citrus sale, which includes citrus fruit, cheese, sausages, cookie dough, poinsettias, and maple syrup. Delivery is scheduled for December 13. Please contact an FFA member to place an order.

Respectfully submitted,
Jade Nystrom
Senior High FFA Print Reporter

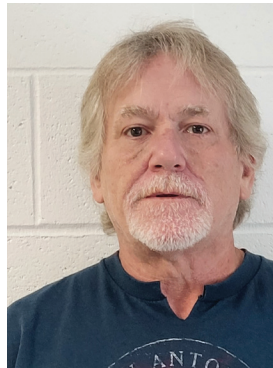
NEW FACES AT SVCS



Emily Cadrette
MOBOCES
Early Childhood
Education



Giovanna Crowe
Teacher Assistant



Randy Lamay
Cleaner



Bethany Rickard
MOBOCES
Counselor



Jeannette VanSlyke
MOBOCES Social
Worker

Presented by the
Stockbridge Valley
Drama Club

November 10th & 11th, 2023

7:00 P.M.

In the Charles E. Stratton Auditorium



Pre Sale Ticket Prices:

Adults—\$8 Seniors/Students/Children under 10—\$5

Night of the show All Tickets—\$8.00

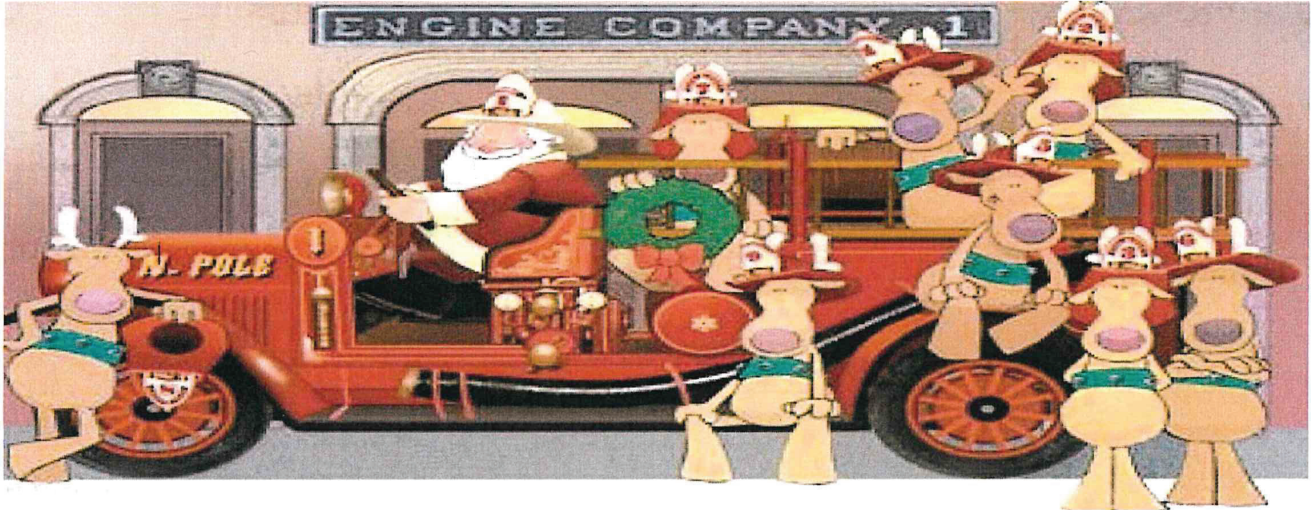
Contact Pam Mennig in the District Office 315--495-4400

The 13th Annual Village of Munnsville

FIRE TRUCK PARADE &

TREE LIGHTING

Hosted by the Munnsville Volunteer Fire Department



Saturday *December 2, 2023*

Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Tree Lighting with Santa at 7:00 PM (across from the Fire Hall) Refreshments will be served



Santa can't wait to see you!

Crafts ❄️ Food ❄️ Raffles

Many new and returning vendors

Featuring a wide array of
handmade gifts and goodies



Please join us as we celebrate
**Our Annual PTSO
Christmas Bazaar!**

Family friendly



Support local artists and crafters



Over 50 booths!

Shop early
for all your
holiday gifts!

Located at:

Stockbridge Valley Central School

6011 Williams Rd. Munnsville, NY

Saturday, November 18, 2023, 9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Made with PosterMyWall.com





**Santa
is Coming to Town!**

Stockbridge Valley Cafeteria
Saturday, December 9th, 2023 * 1pm - 4pm

Activities Include:
Cookie Decorating
Ornament Making
Face Painting
Photo with Santa
Christmas Movie
Coffee & Hot Cocoa

\$5 per child, adults are FREE

*Event is sponsored by the
Junior Class of 2025*

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

6011 Williams Road • P.O. Box 732
Munnsville, NY 13409

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LOCAL BOX HOLDER RURAL & STAR ROUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Doug Reed, President
Jonathan Strain, Vice President
Herb Bingel
Michael Gough
Kristin Guinto
Carol Marshall
Jaime Renner



ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Corey Graves, Superintendent
Beth Lamb, Business Administrator
Julie Suber, K-6 Principal/Director
of Special Education
Lisa Hopkins, 7-12 Principal

CONTACTS

Superintendent

Corey Graves
315-495-4400

District Clerk

Pam Mennig
315-495-4400

Business Administrator

Beth Lamb
315-495-4446

K-6 Principal/Director of Special Education

Julie Suber
315-495-4550

7-12 Principal

Lisa Hopkins
315-495-4450

Treasurer

Kelly Johnson
315-495-4445

Guidance Counselor

Cassandra Gleason
315-495-1908

Athletic Director

Mark Kiser
315-495-4590

Cafeteria Manager

Kathy Carney
315-495-1909

CSE Chairperson

Karen Carbone
315-495-1905

Head Bus Driver

Brian Leach
315-495-4599

School Nurse

Mattie Shea
315-495-4500

MISSION

Culture of Excellence:

Empower ALL students through exemplary
educational experiences to safely learn and grow.

VISION

SVCS is student-centered, where ALL
children, staff, and the community are valued,
acknowledged and actively involved.

