

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY



CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Home of the Cougars

May 2021

Culture of Hope

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Spring everyone!!! It's been a long winter, not so much in terms of weather, but definitely in terms of pandemic. Fortunately, as the spring flowers begin to bloom we are able to begin planning end of year events that were not able to take place last year. Whereas many of the traditional events are going to take place, they will look a little different as we still need to ensure that we employ the NYS and Department of Health protocols. Something is still better than nothing. Stay tuned for information that will be forthcoming from the building principals.

Additionally, our 2021-2022 school budget was adopted by the school board on April 13 and will be presented to our community on May 11. Next year's budget increased by 1.69% which is in line with the Consumer Price Index.

Please support our wonderful school district by coming out and casting your vote for the budget and for the three Board of Education seats that are open on May 18.

Respectfully,

Susan

Dr. Susan Vickers

BUDGET HEARING DETAILS

Budget Hearing - In-Person May 11, 2021 in the Cafeteria at 6:30 p.m.

The hearing will be streamed live:
Please use the link below to view the Budget Hearing:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnxkpdEatH7m-l6pk_NYbjA/featured

IN SUMMARY

Board of Education Adopted April 13, 2021
Total Budget \$11,954,120
Tax Levy Increase.....2.2%
Budget HearingMay 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.
Absentee Ballots Due.....May 18, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY CLASS OF 2021 TOP TEN!

Adriene Byron
Valedictorian

Thomas Meeker
Salutatorian

Camdyn Cross
Austin Nolley
Rebecca Ax
Tanner Dager
Markalynn Eaton
Wyatt Reed
Hannah Greene
Zachary Fleming

SVCS MISSION/VISION

Mission: We empower students through education.

Vision: We embrace a culture of respect and support that allows every student to recognize their worth, realize their purpose, cultivate their passions and achieve their ultimate potential.

Candidates for the SVCS Board of Education. There are three seats available for terms from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024.

CAROL GARRETT



Hello Stockbridge Residents. My name is Carol Garrett and I am running for School Board for the Stockbridge Valley Central School. Since moving here,

I have become an active member of the Stockbridge Valley FFA Alumni. I have been to several school concerts, musicals and basketball games, both girls and boys. It is clear the heart that the students, teachers and staff have for this school and community. I would love to help keep that spirit alive by contributing my thoughts and voting on the matters that come before the school board.

For me, the main responsibility of a School Board member is to support our student's growth, both academically and socially. As a public school parent of three children that participated in Music, Art, Sports and extracurricular activities, I realize their importance in enriching kids' lives. Teachers and staff also have a tremendous influence on student growth. Support for them is also part of what is expected of a School Board. Community members and taxpayers also have a vested interest in SVCS. We, as board members must keep that in mind as well. Being fiscally responsible for making the best choices for the future of our school is a must. I am a graduate of a small school and can see the possibilities necessary for success for students, teachers and staff.

As a current employee at Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES, I am an advocate for alternate career paths for students. I look forward to getting to know additional faculty, staff and community members through my role as a School Board Member.

Thank you for your vote on May 18.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

KEITH JOSEPHS



I moved into the Stockbridge Valley Central School District in the Fall of 2006 to become a secondary science teacher in the district. Over the next 13 years I

had the pleasure of serving the school teaching a variety of science courses and participating in various community events such as playing the piano for the school concerts. Two years ago I took a job opportunity at another district while still residing within Stockbridge Valley School District. Currently my three children in 10th, 7th, and 4th grades attend Stockbridge Valley. They are the primary reason for running for school board, participating and taking an active role in forming their educational environment. I believe that with my background as both a parent and teacher, that I can bring valuable insight and perspective to the Board of Education.

KRISTIN GUINTO



Hello, my name is Kristin Guinto and I am asking for your vote so that I may continue to serve on the Stockbridge Valley School Board of

Education. I moved into Stockbridge Valley in 2004 and instantly knew this is where I was meant to raise my family. I live with my husband John, and our two children, Barbara (20) and Alex (18), who are night and day in every aspect of their lives. I feel that their differences has offered me the advantage of looking at their education with eyes wide open. I have served on the SVCS Board of Education for the last 4 years and am seeking re-election so that I am able to continue to work to strengthen

and support our school and its offerings. This last year has brought challenges for everyone. The board has worked diligently with the Superintendent of Schools to ensure we are providing what is best for the kids. These decisions are not always easy, but the commitment as a board we had, is something I'm proud to say I was a part of. I have served as a member of the budget committee for the last 4 years and have worked with the committee to ensure that programs and staffing needs are met for our students while not increasing the burden to not only the budget but to our community as well. In addition to being a school board member, I have been an active member of the Stockbridge Valley Educational Foundation since 2009 and involved in the Drama Club as the parent coordinator. I enjoy being an active member in the school with the students, even if my own children are not involved.

I believe Stockbridge Valley Central School has so many unique opportunities available to students. The diverse clubs options, the shared services that offer opportunities at a reduced cost, the college courses that we continue to work to enhance, and the faculty and staff that interact with our students daily are just a part of what makes me appreciate Stockbridge Valley Central School.

I would be honored to receive your vote to have the ability to continue to serve with this Board. Thank you for your time.

JENNIE CHAPIN



My name is Jennie Chapin and I have been a resident of the Munnsville and Stockbridge area for the last 34 years. I am married to Richard (Reno) Chapin, we have

been married for 34 years. We have raised our 3 children here and now all our grandchildren are here. I believe it is important to give back when you have the ability and the time to do it.

Continued on page 3

MEET THE CANDIDATES

I have sold real estate for 32 years and a few years ago opened my own real estate company.

I believe that I can be an effective board member for the school district for a variety of reasons. I have served on several boards in the past and have been the President of the Greater Syracuse Board of REALTORS. I feel that when I am on a board that I am very effective of communicating with the board and the public where needed. I am capable of working with the board to move forward to decisions that may not always be easy to make. I am very comfortable with making decisions with the information needed to help make the decision and always willing to listen to all the other board members reasoning for their decisions because a team decision is the best result. I am goal oriented and follow a schedule and always make sure my priorities are where they are supposed to be.

I personally feel a good board is a board that doesn't always agree with each other, but listens to each other and when they leave the board room, they are solid on the decisions that have been made even though there may be a member or few that don't agree. I believe a board has to work towards the vision and goals that have been set forth and to remember that the board represents the community and the children. A board has to remember their fiduciary duty and to set aside their personal feelings and be prepared to lead.

I am hoping that I can have your vote.

Here is my resume in a brief form to show that I believe I am truly qualified for a position on this board:

Central New York Information Services Board of Directors 2020 and currently serving on this board for a second term
Secretary Country Manor Board of Directors 2021
President Greater Association of REALTORS Board of Directors 2018
President Greater Association of REALTORS Board of Directors 2017
President Elect Greater Association of REALTORS Board of Directors 2016
Executive Board of Directors Certified Residential Specialist Chicago, IL 2016

Certified Residential Special Board of Directors 2015

Regional Vice President Certified Board of Directors Regions WI, IN, IL 2013 2014

President of New York State Certified Board of Directors 2012, 2013 and 2015

JONATHAN STRAIN



Dear fellow School District Parents and Taxpayers: I would like to introduce myself: My name is Jonathan Strain. I have been a member of this

outstanding school district for over 40 years. My love for this school district, Stockbridge Valley School District, and the community is overwhelming. I have chosen to live in this community with my wife, Jennifer, and daughter, Jillyan; I couldn't imagine leaving this area. My daughter is currently in 3rd Grade. I would like your support in helping me run for a 2nd term on the Stockbridge Valley Board of Education. There are so many questions, comments and concerns as a parent, and community member, that myself and other parents and tax-payers in the community need to express. I would like to continue to be a voice, and a resource, for those unable to express themselves at a higher level. The well-being within our school district is one of the most urgent of all school needs at this time. Although there are many concerns that arise everyday among the people of the school district, a majority of this is the COVID19 pandemic and the education your children are receiving in these unprecedented times. We are all aware of the multitude of issues that COVID19 has caused this past year. I know that none of us were able to visit Stockbridge Valley Central School within this past year and thought to ourselves, "how safe is it". No matter what your personal feelings may be in regards to this pandemic it's not only our children

in this school, but our grandchildren, nieces, nephews, siblings, mothers, fathers, teachers, and staff that work in the school building. We are truly all family; it is our obligation to keep all these people safe. I want to assure you that we, as a School Board, did all we could within our capabilities to keep all these people safe. As well as trying to provide a top notch education during this pandemic. I know it hasn't been easy. We, as a community may have not always been in agreement, but I also assure you that myself, along with the rest of the Stockbridge Valley School Board, spent hours in making many difficult decisions this past year but they were always about the students needs, not personal belief or politics. I want to continue being an effective part of the decision-making process in this school district.

If elected to a second term on the Board of Education, I will not be only looking out for the well-being of my child, but also every individual who passes through our school district doors. May we come together to rectify these questions, comments and concerns we may all have, through our diverse backgrounds and communication. I believe that in order to make effective, lasting changes, having a school board with a wide range of backgrounds, can only benefit our school district, and ultimately, our children. Whether it is health and safety, educational resources, staffing and faculty concerns, and/or building/ground concerns, let's tackle these matters together as a community, as we have in the past.

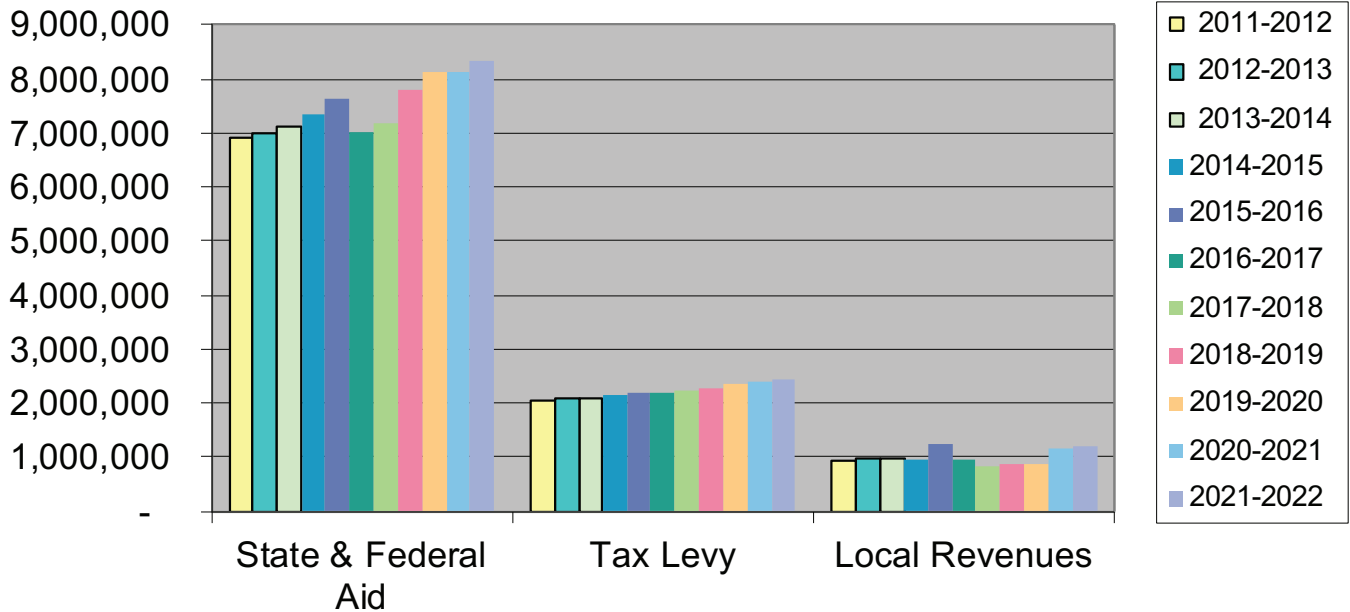
I look forward to receiving your vote for serving our community on the Stockbridge Valley School Board. Let's keep Stockbridge safe and community-oriented, while providing the quality education our children need.

PROPOSED BUDGET 2021-22*Three Part Budget Summary*

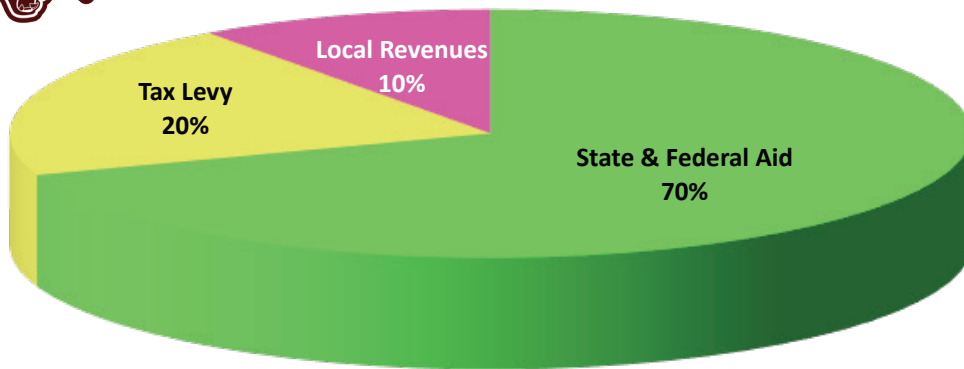
	2020-21 Adjusted Budget	2021-22 Proposed Budget	Inc./Dec. from prior year
Proposed Program Budget			
Teaching Regular Instruction	2,518,785	2,656,053	137,268
Career & Technical Instruction	489,481	494,907	5,426
Programs for Students w/Special Needs	1,323,215	1,393,845	70,630
Special Schools/Programs	128,331	36,726	(91,605)
Media & Computer Technology Services	383,037	387,121	4,084
Pupil Services	427,540	437,049	9,509
Interfund Transfer	21,500	21,600	100
Transportation Services	811,131	796,135	(14,996)
Employee Benefits	2,254,928	2,306,870	51,942
Total	8,357,948	8,530,306	172,358
Capital Expenditures			
Facility & Grounds Operation & Maintenance	648,774	644,772	(4,002)
Debt Service	918,435	928,481	10,046
Employee Benefits	239,762	238,435	(1,327)
Total	1,806,971	1,811,688	4,717
Administrative Expenditures			
Board of Education	12,692	12,781	89
Central Admin./Finance	444,660	457,226	12,566
Central Services	333,896	327,611	(6,285)
Instructional Administration	370,383	379,363	8,980
Employee Benefits	429,232	435,146	5,914
Total	1,590,863	1,612,126	21,263
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	11,755,782	11,954,120	198,338



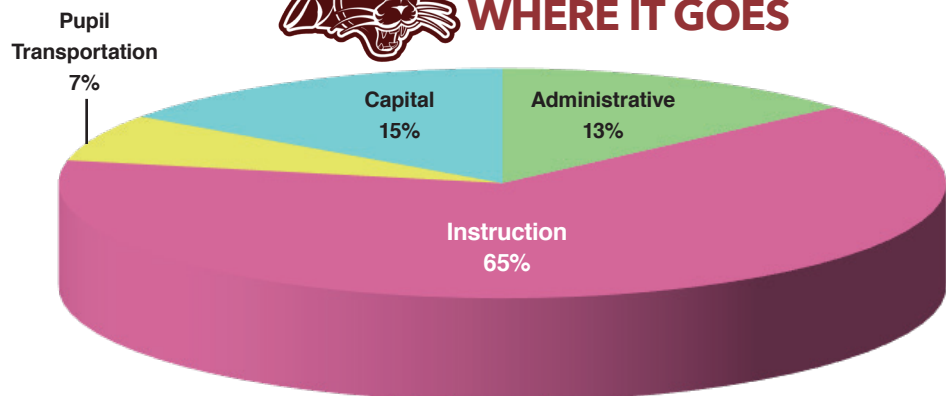
REVENUE COMPARISON 2011-12 TO 2021-2022



WHERE IT COMES FROM

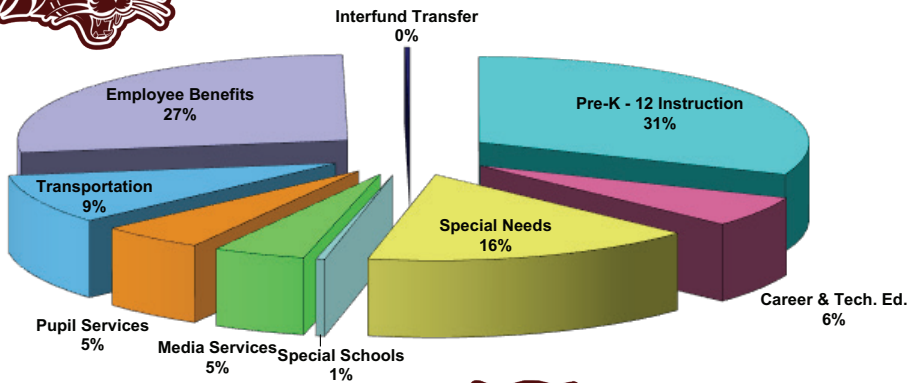


WHERE IT GOES

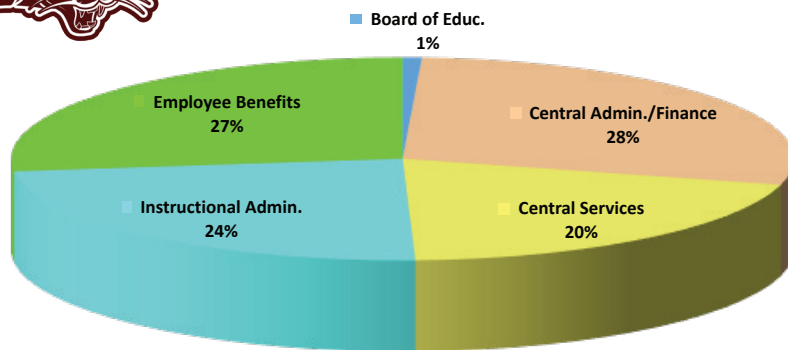




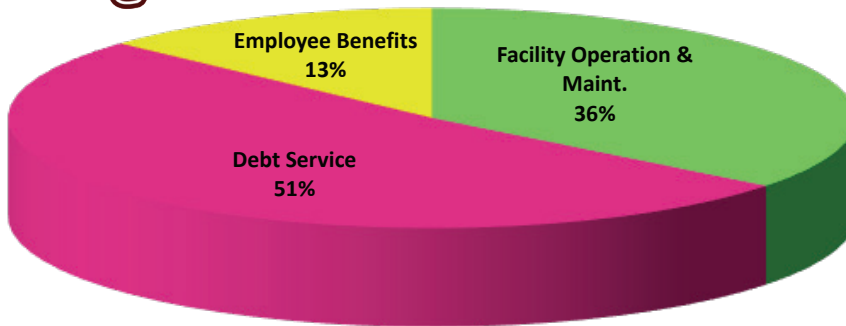
PROGRAM EXPENDITURES



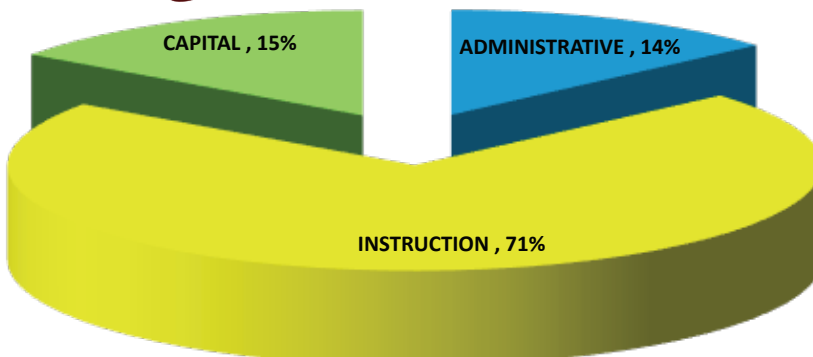
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES



CAPITAL EXPENDITURES



THREE PART BUDGET



QUALIFIED VOTER:

A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the United States of America, (2) eighteen years of age or older, and (3) resident with the School District for a period of thirty (30) days next preceding the annual vote and election.

If you are not registered with the County Board of Elections, and if you are a U.S. citizen, eighteen years of age or older, a resident of the school district for at least 30 days before the vote, you may apply for an absentee ballot for the school district vote by contacting the office of the District Clerk at 315-495-4400.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 11,755,782	\$ 11,954,120	\$ 11,919,370
Increase/Decrease for the 2021-22 School Year		\$ 198,338	\$ 163,588
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.69 %	1.39%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 2,393,352	\$ 2,445,898	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$	\$	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$	\$	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$	\$	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 2,393,352	\$ 2,445,898	\$ 2,393,352
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 379	\$ 0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 2,398,315	\$ 2,445,898	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 2,393,352	\$ 2,445,898	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 5,342	\$ 0	
Administrative Component	\$ 1,590,863	\$ 1,612,126	\$ 1,611,226
Program Component	\$ 8,357,948	\$ 8,530,306	\$ 8,518,456
Capital Component	\$ 1,806,971	\$ 1,811,688	\$ 1,789,688
<p>* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-22 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <p><i>In projecting the contingency budget for 2021-2022, the District has assumed a total of \$34,750 of non-contingent items to be removed from the proposed budget.</i></p>			
** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	Description		Amount
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$ 584.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-22 by the qualified voters of the Stockbridge Valley School District, Madison County, New York, will be held at Stockbridge Valley School in said district on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, between the hours of 10:00 am and 8:00 pm, prevailing time in the School Foyer, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

Please be advised that Safety Measures as provided by NYS DOH & NYS Board of Elections to prevent transmission of Covid-19 at the polling station will be implemented. All individuals voting in-person will be required to wear a mask. Voters concerned about the transmission of Covid-19 are encouraged to request an absentee ballot by contacting the District Clerk at 315-495-4400 no later than May 11, 2021, if ballot is to be mailed.

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

One of the most unique school years in recent history is coming to a close. For the rest of their lives, generations to come will want to hear our students' and teachers' stories. What was life like during a global pandemic? Restrictions dictated how we traveled, worked, went to school, and even learned. Sports and clubs were canceled, masks were worn, and desks were six feet apart. While it is easy reflecting on the year by focusing on what we've lost and how things have changed, take a moment to think about what was good and what we've learned.

Allow me to start with a story I heard recently. A young boy was sitting at home, learning virtually, and having difficulty adjusting to his new lifestyle. Often he became frustrated, shutting down not only with his teacher but his mom. One day, as the boy was upset and on the brink of tears, his mom had an epiphany. Rather than "battling" with her son to do his work, she stopped and said, "Do you know that now kids in the history of kids have never had to do school at home, watching their teacher on a computer? You and your friends are making history." The young boy perked up and asked, "What does that mean?" To which his mother explained, "I haven't given you nearly enough credit for rolling with the punches... I am proud of you. Kids this year are doing the impossible, and they're doing a really great job."

What a profound way to think about this experience, and I could not agree more. Therefore, allow me to go first; what good things came out of this year, and what have I learned? I have learned how strong and resilient, kind and supportive, patient and courageous all of you are. I have learned there is nothing you can't achieve, accomplish, and overcome. Remember this as you go through life as I will.

I am incredibly proud of all of our Cougars, of all of you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Andrea Smith
7-12 Principal



JUNIOR CLASS FUNDRAISERS

The last few months have been very busy as the Juniors have been raising funds through various fundraisers to help their class.

Our winter paint night, Cocoa-n-Canvas, was a huge success! All of the paintings came out beautiful and we thank Mrs. Thomas for leading us along the way to develop such masterpieces!

The St. Patrick's Day Friendshipgrams were another hit and we hope that everyone who received one enjoyed their special treats. Thank you to all who purchased one!

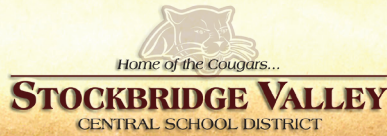
Also in March, the juniors hosted a Bottle Drive at Cash for Cans collecting a little over 20,000 bottles!!! Juniors had a chance to collect community service hours as well as practicing their public speaking. Thank you to all that was involved and donated! The bottle drive will end on August 31st with another bottle drive at Cash for Cans on July 10th (9am-3pm).

To kick off the Easter holiday, we raised money and delivered chocolate bunnies to let others know that "Somebunny Special Loves Them!"

And lastly, our final fundraising event is coming up on April 30! Mrs. Thomas is once again leading others in another paint night, Brushes-n-Blossoms. We can't wait to see the turnout! The juniors would like to thank everyone for their support this year!

Erica Laraby & Melissa McNamara
Junior Class Advisors





Honor Roll - April 2021

Grade 6

High Honor

Nevaeh Bingel
Lyla Cross
Alex Cullen
Greggory Eddy
Alyssa Fisher
Thomas Jones
Colton Kiehn
Delilah McEathron
Paislee Stevens

Honor

Aliya Bartlett
Bethany Benishek
Eddie DeMenezes
Jade Nystrom
Aspen Tucci
Landon Youngkrans

Grade 7

High Honor

Esther Claxton
Rebekah Cullen
Gabrielle Davis
Evan Ellerbruch
Rileigh Fuller
Abigail Jantzi
Maria Josephs
Dylan LaFave
Elizabeth Shaver
Lilly Stevens
Mallory Tysco

Honor

Michael Aldasch
Hayden Grow
Magavin Moot
Ameera Panebianco

Grade 8

High Honor

Hailey Beecher
Marlie Brummer
Madison Greene
Madison Hartle
Marilyn Jones
Serena Keville
Robert Miller
Emily Mobbs
Braden Renner
Ashley Scott
Anthony Shaw
Hannah Sherman
Shayden Tiff

Honor

Levi Claxton
Emma DeMenezes
Wyatt Douthit
Jaiden Drake
Hayden Dye
Kendra Genge
Carter Highers
Esther Mann
Lachlin McHugh
Marcus Moot
Cole Russ
Sullivan Tiff

Grade 9

High Honor

Mary Beecher
Ella Bonvicino
Summer Boronow
Edward DeMenezes
Elizabeth Dungey
Abigail Fisher
Lily Kiehn

Siena Marzan
Madison Nolley
Nicholas Smith
Sophia Stevens
Austin Zaleski

Honor

Logan Brown
Dominick Eddy
Joshua Kiehn
Joseph Pizzuto
Paige Webb

Grade 10

High Honor

Rowan Cady
Hannah Claxton
Charles Cross
Tristan Ellerbruch
Ava Genge
Benjamin Jantzi
Myah LaFave
Riley LaLonde
Alexis Mazzye
Abigail Reed
Abigail Smith
Devin Smith

Honor

Amanda Brown
Connor Clark
Scott Josephs
Jayce Rood

Grade 11

High Honor

Hailey Bernet
Grace Bump
William Douthit
Alyssa Enslow

Brooke Gillespie
Sarah Hofmeister
Jillian Jacobs
Rachel Mennig
Autumn Mills
Lisa Powless
Nevaeh Randel
Dylan Skellham
Devin Smith
Ethan Smith
Robert Wagner

Honor

Shirley Coe
Tyler Fisher
Reilly Gardner
Alexander Smith
Alexandra Spring

Grade 12

High Honor

Rebecca Ax
Toby Bonvicino
Adriene Byron
Camdyn Cross
Tanner Dager
Zachary Fleming
Hannah Greene
Thomas Meeker
Alexis Mintel
Austin Nolley
Wyatt Reed

Honor

Emily Carey
Austin Coe
Emma Copperwheat
Markalynn Eaton
Alexander Guinto
Erin Marshall

Grade 6 - High Honor Roll (omitted from 2nd quarters honor roll)

Thomas Jones
Delilah McEathron

Congratulations Class of 2021 Val and Sal!



Adriene Byron,
Valedictorian



L to R: Andrea Smith, High School Principal; Adriene Byron,
Thomas Meeker and Cassandra Gleason, School Counselor.



Thomas Meeker,
Salutatorian

Adriene Byron, Valedictorian

Stockbridge Valley is proud to announce Adriene Byron as the Stockbridge Valley Valedictorian for the Class of 2021. Adriene is the daughter of Karen and Jacob Byron of Munnsville. She has been accepted to Bennington College, Savannah College of Art and Design, Moore College of Art and Design, Nazareth College, SUNY Fredonia and SUNY New Paltz. Adriene will be attending Bennington College this fall to major in Advancement in Public Action.

Adriene has earned numerous honors and awards including the Peter Drucker Scholarship (Bennington), Kevin McCabe Scholarship (Maine Media), SCAD eStar Scholarship, Stockbridge Valley Educational Foundation Grant recipient, US Senate Scholarship Finalist. Adriene has served as the Class of 2021 president, photographer, Math Club president and treasurer, Journalism Club and Spanish Club photographer, Art Club president, secretary and vice president, Yearbook press secretary, FFA reporter and vice president. She has participated in volleyball, Culinary Club, Student Council, Select Choir, National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society.

Adriene has accumulated many hours of community service by volunteering to run the scoreboard and keep the books for soccer, basketball, volleyball and softball games; assisting with set-up, clean-up and concessions for soccer, basketball, volleyball and softball games; working at the PTSO Bazaar and Spring Social; selling milk and ice cream at the NYS Farm Show; presenting agriculture classes for elementary students, preparing and distributing food for local low income families; planning and growing a local food bank; planning and building new and safer bridges for local nature trails; volunteering with the Madison County Youth Bureau.

When asked to describe a highlight/personal accomplishment of her high school career, Adriene responded, "Through FFA, I had the opportunity to write a grant for \$3,000 which our chapter received.

That year, I was able to take charge of our Backpack Food Program, packing food and snacks for families and students in our community. At Christmas, we were able to supply over 30 families with gift cards, milk and bread. We held food drives at FFA events and I designed informational pamphlets on nutrition and food insecurity. I then developed lesson plans for elementary and middle school classes where we got to meet with students and talk to them about food insecurity and nutrition while doing different activities."

Thomas Meeker, Salutatorian

Through his determination and strong work ethic, Thomas Meeker has earned the distinction of Class of 2021 Salutatorian. Tom has been accepted to SUNY Cortland, SUNY Morrisville and SUNY Oswego. He will be attending SUNY Cortland to pursue a career in Mathematics: Adolescence Education (7-12). Tom is the son of Ann Marie and Roy Meeker of Munnsville.

Tom has been inducted into the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society as well as achieving High Honor Roll status throughout high school. He has been an active member of the Drama Club, Select Choir, Yearbook Club, Spanish Club, Math Club, Student Council and FFA. He has also participated on the golf and soccer teams.

Tom displayed great support of his community by volunteering his time at Vacation Bible School and by keeping the books for the SVCS boys and girls varsity basketball teams.

Tom stated that being accepted into the New Visions Professions program at BOCES was one of his personal accomplishments of high school because it helped him to prepare for college and make new friends.

Another highlight of Tom's was becoming CCL Champions in golf for two years in a row. This was exceptional because it had been 17 years since the golf team earned the CCL title.

HELLO FFA FRIENDS!

With our winter not being as busy as usual, we are SPRINGing into action with our participation in CDE/LDE competitions, maple production, and greenhouse sales. A big thank you to all those whose families brought in maple sap for our sugarhouse this year! We had a great sugar season. Maple syrup is available year round online at the SVCS website under Jr. Sr. High Clubs & Activities FFA Store or by contacting the SVCS business office. Keep an eye on the school website and our social media for more information on the opening of greenhouse on Mother's Day weekend.

I am proud to say our chapter has done very well this year in our leadership development event competitions. At sub-states, our vice president of Growing Leaders, Myah LaFave, placed 1st in Jr. Creed and Sr. Extemporaneous Speaking. Her Conduct of Chapter Meeting team placed 2nd; this team consists of our chapter's secretary, Amanda Brown, one of our treasurers, Abby Smith, our sentinel, Edward DeMenezes, both of the Stockbridge Valley reporters, Madison Nolley and Rowan Cady, and lastly our parliamentarian, Austin Zaleski. Our Parliamentary Procedure team came in second as well and consists of our Stockbridge president, Rebecca Ax, the vice president of Promoting Agriculture, Ethan Smith, both of our treasurers, Tristan Ellerbruch and Abby Smith, our secretary, Amanda Brown and Alex Smith. Madison Nolley paced 1st in Jr. People in Ag and 4th in Jr. Prepared Speaking. Congratulations to all those moving on to the state convention which will be held virtually May 9-15!

As we all have known, the pandemic has canceled most in-person activities such as conventions and workshops but, come this summer our FFA members will have a chance to attend Camp Oswegatchie. Due to COVID restrictions, camp will only be held three days and three nights instead of the usual one week trip. Although only 3 days and wearing masks, Camp Oswegatchie is an amazing opportunity to really get out there and meet new people and our members are looking forward to some good old fun this summer!!

To end our school year, our officers are trying very hard to plan a COVID friendly banquet in June, more information on that will be posted to our Facebook and Instagram pages in the near future.

Thank you all so much for all of your support this 2020-2021 year! It definitely hasn't been an easy one, but with such an amazing community like ours, we have been able to do more than most.

We are looking forward to your continued support of the Stockbridge Valley FFA chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

Rowan Cady - Chapter Print Reporter



A MESSAGE FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

We continue to learn and grow in the elementary this year. Our students and staff are doing amazing things despite the various challenges that a pandemic may bring. We have been fortunate to be open 5 days a week for in-person instruction this entire school year. This has allowed us to meet our students needs and help them grow academically, socially, and emotionally throughout this year.

Our students are doing an amazing job following all of the different procedures in place this year. This year has been a challenge for all of us and you and your child deserve a round of applause for continuing to adjust to the ever-changing protocols. The students are doing a great job wearing their masks and socially distancing.

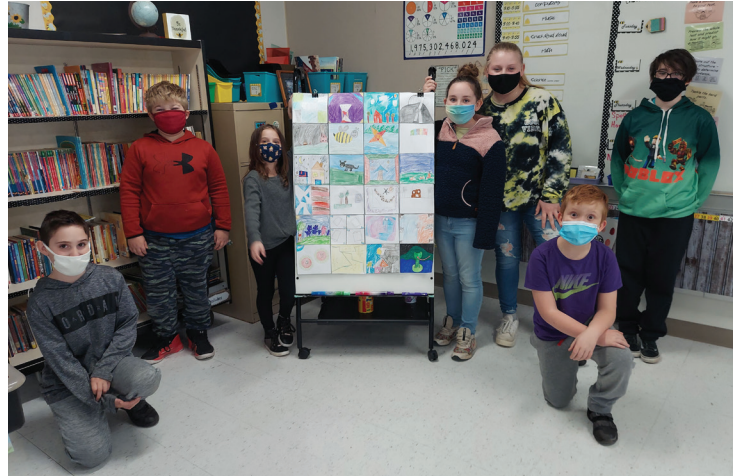
New York State tests were given this year to our in-person students in grades 3-8. Virtual students have the option to come to school and take the tests if they would like, but are not obligated to do so. Testing will only be one day this year, not two as in previous years. We hope to use this information to help identify any learning gaps that might have occurred during this pandemic and make a plan to help all of our students to be successful.

Our playground is officially open! We are so excited to be using our playground again! We have been missing our beautiful playground all year. Now all of our students have the opportunity to use the playground on days that the weather permits us to do so. Cleaning and safety procedures have been put in place to ensure that we can continue to enjoy it for the rest of the year. This also allows our students a chance to get outside to enjoy some exercise and fresh air.

This year we are planning for our Kindergarten and Sixth grade graduations to be virtual celebrations for the families to enjoy together in the evening. Portions of the graduation will be pre-recorded and included in the virtual celebrations. Kindergarten will be in the evening of Monday, June 21st and Sixth grade will be in the evening of Wednesday, June 23. More information and exact times will be available soon.

Thank you for your continued support and flexibility this school year as we work together to make it the greatest that it can be. We know that it can be challenging at times and we couldn't do it without the strong family support that we have in our Stockbridge community.

Julie Suber, Principal K-6



Students have been studying the Underground Railroad and learning some of the signs and symbols used to guide slaves to freedom. Students each made their own Underground Railroad quilt square with colors and shapes that symbolize something that would be important/helpful to them if they were traveling on the Underground Railroad. This is the "quilt" that their squares created!

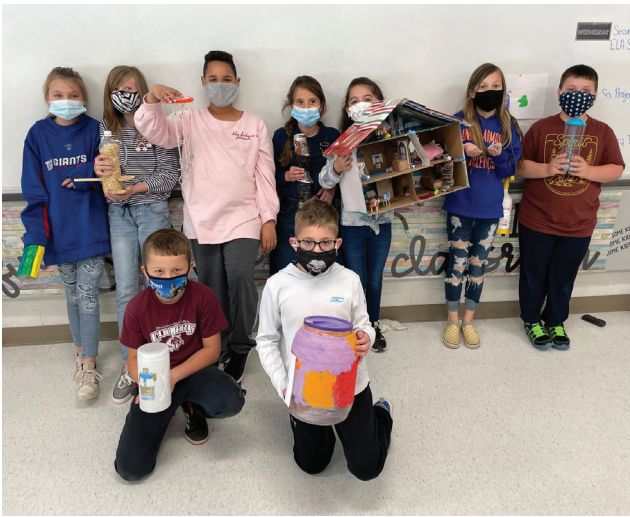
4TH GRADE STUDENTS STUDY THE ABOLITIONIST MOVEMENT

Students in 4th grade have been learning about slavery and the abolitionist movement. A focus was on 4 abolitionists in particular (Harriet Tubman, Samuel Cornish, William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglass), and the impact they had on the abolitionist movement. Students selected one of these four renowned Americans and conducted research to learn more about the amazing things they did to help shape history. This research was transformed into biographical presentations (in the form of slide presentations, posters and short essays) about the life of the selected abolitionist. Finally, students created a "Biography Bottle" in the likeness of their abolitionist, then shared their presentation and bottle abolitionists with their class. They showed great creativity with their projects and (most importantly) had fun with the task.

Mrs. Karlene Brazee - 4th Grade Social Studies



4TH GRADERS CELEBRATE EARTH DAY



Fourth graders celebrated Earth Day by participating in a Garbage Challenge in science. They took a piece of garbage and turned it into something of use. Some examples of what students made were jewelry, a bird feeder, a doll house, a piggy bank, a candle holder and a plant holder. Students really used their imaginations when making their creations all while having fun during the process!

Mrs. Erica Laraby, 4th Grade Teacher

5TH GRADERS ARE VERY GOOD AT ARGUING!!

They have just finished learning about how to form an opinion and defend it with research and facts. They have explored why it is important to advocate for topics in which they feel are important.

Fifth graders are getting ready to dive into the fantasy genre. They will form fantasy book clubs and learn about the magic of themes and symbols. Settings are complex, and characters are not always what they seem!

I would like to thank all of our families for your continued support of our remote learning opportunities this school year. We have all learned and practiced many new skills in this area!

Mrs. Michele Wright - 5th Grade Teacher



1ST GRADERS AT SVCS HAVE BEEN VERY BUSY THIS SPRING!

We started things off with our March Madness Book Bracket! The tournament had its ups and downs, but the winner ended up being... "We Don't Eat Our Classmates" by Ryan Higgins. In March, we celebrated the 120th Day of School and what better way to celebrate than with a crown and a delicious snack! In Social Studies, the students have been learning all about their community and the community helpers it has within it. Together the three classes created an entire "map" bulletin board. They included a lot of local favorites including Pozzie's, Dollar General, and of course Cone Masters! In Science, the students have been learning about Astronomy and were able to create pizza box ovens and cook S'mores with the sun.

First Grade Teachers: Ms. Rebecca Arroyo; Mrs. Nicole Byron and Miss Lindsey Taylor



2ND GRADERS GETTING A "HOOT" OUT OF LEARNING

In our Diversity of Life science unit, the second graders have been busy learning about different habitats and how animals adapt to survive in those habitats. One habitat that we learned about was the deciduous forest.

After learning about the deciduous forest, we learned more about owls. We learned what owls eat and how they digest their food. The second graders were interested to learn about the formation of owl pellets. Each student got to be a scientist and dissect an owl pellet to discover what the owl ate. The students used a chart to help sort and identify the bones that they found. Our second grade scientists were amazed by what they found! There were some very hungry owls!

Second Grade Teachers
Miss Michelle Bovalino
Ms. Allyson Zangrilli

BONE SORTING CHART

	RAT	VOLE	MOUSE	SHREW	MOLE	BIRD
SKULL						
JAW						
JAW LENGTH (mm)	17-30	15-20	10-15	7-14		15-40
SKULL LENGTH (mm)	40-45	25-31		16-22	29-44	
TOOTH TYPE	LOBED	ANGLED	LOBED	POINTED		NONE
SHOULDER BLADES						
HIPS						
UPPER LEG						
LOWER LEG						
RIBS						
VERTEBRATE						
FOOT						



2ND GRADE EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

Second grade classes, Miss Bovalino and Ms. Zangrilli's class cleaning up the school for Earth Day.



Understanding Tick Bites and Lyme Disease

How to prevent tick bites



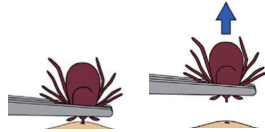
Ticks can spread disease, including Lyme disease.

Protect yourself:

- Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol, or 2-undecanone. Always follow product instructions.
- Wear clothing treated with permethrin.
- Shower as soon as possible after spending time outdoors.
- Check for ticks daily. Ticks can hide under the armpits, behind the knees, in the hair, and in the groin.
- Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors. If the clothes are damp, additional time may be needed.

How to remove a tick

1. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure to remove the tick. Avoid twisting or jerking.
3. Clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.



Notes:

- Remove the tick as soon as possible to reduce your chances of getting an infection from the tick bite.
- Don't use nail polish, petroleum jelly, or a hot match to make the tick detach.
- If tick mouthparts remain in the skin, leave them alone. In most cases, they will fall out in a few days.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Facial paralysis.



Bull's eye rash on the back.



Arthritic knee.

When to see your healthcare provider

If you develop a rash, fever, exhaustion, or joint and muscle aches within several weeks of removing a tick or spending time in tick habitat, see your healthcare provider. Be sure to mention your recent tick bite and when it happened, or that you've spent time in places where ticks may live.

If left untreated, Lyme disease can affect the joints, heart, or nervous system.

Antibiotics treat Lyme disease

People treated with antibiotics in the early stages of Lyme disease usually recover rapidly and completely. The antibiotics most commonly used to treat Lyme disease include: doxycycline, amoxicillin, or cefuroxime axetil.

Looking ahead to recovery

Rest and take antibiotics as prescribed. Recovery may take several weeks or longer.

Some people wonder if there is a test to confirm that they are cured, but there is no such test. Retesting for Lyme disease is not recommended because blood tests might be positive for months or years after you have been treated. A positive test doesn't mean you are still infected. It simply means that your immune system remembers your infection.

You can get Lyme disease again if you are bitten by another infected tick, so protect yourself from tick bites.

For more information see www.cdc.gov/Lyme and www.cdc.gov/Ticks

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Teacher Appreciation Week: May 3-7, 2021

Thank you Stockbridge Valley teachers for your hard work and dedication to your students!

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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



ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Susan Vickers, Interim Superintendent
Beth Lamb, Business Administrator
Julie Suber, K-6 Principal
Andrea Smith, 7-12 Principal
Erin Belanger, Administrative Intern

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K-6 Principal

Julie Suber
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7-12 Principal

Andrea Smith
315-495-4450

Treasurer

Kelly Johnson
315-495-4445

Guidance Counselor

Cassandra Gleason
315-495-1908

Athletic Director

Jay Lehmann
315-495-4590

Cafeteria Manager

Kathy Carney
315-495-1909

CSE Office

Julianna Lillibridge
315-495-1905

Head Bus Driver

Brian Leach
315-495-4599

School Nurse

Mattie Shea
315-495-4500



**ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR THE BUDGET
AND BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTE
MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT CLERK
BY 4:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021.**

FOR SCHOOL NEWS/STORIES PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA SITES:

www.stockbridgevalley.org | Facebook: Stockbridge Valley Central School District | Twitter: @StockValleyCSD