



# THE REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 2021 | Building the Future — One Child at a Time! | [www.remsencsd.org](http://www.remsencsd.org)

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## CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY 2021

- 6** ACT Exam  
**9** BOE Meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
**15-19** Mid-Winter Recess, No School

### MARCH 2020

- 4** Pre-K/Kindergarten Registration  
Deadline  
**9** BOE Meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
**12** Jr./Sr. HS Progress Reports Mailed  
**13** SAT Exam  
**17** ES Early Dismissal - Virtual ES  
Parent/Teacher Conf., 11:30 a.m.  
**18** ES Early Dismissal - Virtual ES  
Parent/Teacher Conf., 11:30 a.m.  
**19** Superintendent's Conference  
Day - No School

### APRIL 2020

- 2-9** Spring Recess, No School  
**13** BOE Meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
**17** ACT Exam  
**13** Jr./Sr. HS Report Cards Mailed

### MAY 2020

- 8** SAT Exam  
**11** BOE Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

For the complete District calendar, schedule of upcoming events and more District news, please visit [www.remsencsd.org](http://www.remsencsd.org).

## Message from the Superintendent



### LEAD WITH KINDNESS

How many hours a day do you spend on social media sites? If you were to run a stop watch when you began reading and/or posting on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, or any other social media platform, how much time would the stop watch indicate you spent doing this on a given day? Were any of the posts that you read, or posted yourself during this time negative, shortsighted or unkind? What was accomplished over the hours of time consumed doing this?

Now, run that same stop watch to clock how much time is spent sharing positive thoughts, compliments and inspiration. How much time is used actually speaking/interacting with your own family members, children and/or close friends? For those with family members and friends afar (and with our current COVID circumstances), "Facetiming"/"Zooming", or having a positive conversation on a social media platform would also fall into this category.

Is your social media negativity stopwatch clocking more hours than your family/friend positive interaction time? Do you find yourself reading, posting and/or fueling negativity? Whether the majority of your time, a portion of your time, or none of your time is used writing or reading negative comments, I challenge us all to help one another. It's time for a challenge. A challenge to step away from the phone and the computer and refrain from negativity. A challenge to choose family over Facebook and kindness over a keyboard. A challenge to channel our time and energy towards something far more valuable: each other.

I challenge our entire Remsen community to make this March the month of ultimate kindness. Let's rise by lifting others up. Let's prosper by sharing love, hope, inspiration and random acts of kindness. Here are just a few ideas that would brighten anyone's day:

1. Spend more time with your family
2. Compliment at least two people every day

3. Write someone a "just because" thank you note
4. Bake someone a surprise special treat
5. Smile
6. Pick up litter as you pass by
7. Help others
8. Give people you are talking to your undivided attention and resist the urge to look at your phone or watch
9. Recognize hard workers and let them know they are appreciated

Kindness is free, and the return on the investment is world-changing. Do not allow your time to be wasted reading negative comments from negative people. Make the decision to rise above. As Albert Einstein reminds us, "Stay away from negative people, they have a problem for every solution." I look forward to taking on this ultimate kindness challenge with you throughout the month of March. If we are successful, our month-long challenge will continue as an everyday way of life.

Kindness in words, kindness in actions, kindness in thinking, and kindness in giving; the positive impact of kindness is unquantifiable. When we choose to lead by example, our children learn to grow, live and lead in the same manner. Lead with strength. Lead with heart. Lead with kindness.

Sincerely,

Timothy Jenny  
Superintendent



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([www.facebook.com/remscsd](http://www.facebook.com/remscsd))

**Mission:** "REMSSEN is a dynamic school community of stakeholders providing diverse, demanding and innovative educational opportunities. Our culture fosters a conscientious desire to learn and achieve to individual potential. Students learn that responsible citizenship comes from critical, determined and sustained effort."

— SOAR TO SUCCESS —



## Elementary Principal's Message

Dear Remsen Families,

Recently, a wise classroom teacher shared a quote with me that I thought I would share here. This quote, and the message that it implies, helps to illustrate in a simple yet profound way, why we as parents, grandparents, teachers, administrators, etc. care for and invest daily in the incredible children that we have in our lives. The quote reads, "You can count the seeds in an apple, but you can't count the apples in a seed."

When applied to working with children, the metaphor contained in the quote is used to compare the growth and potential of a single apple seed to each child, and their amazing growth and potential. The idea that it is easy to count the seeds in an apple, points to the idea that it is easy to see children for what they are on the outside. It is easy to see and make conclusions based on the way that they behave and perform academically, socially and physically each day. The idea of being unable to count the apples in a seed, points to our inability to understand each child's future potential and what will develop from their young lives. When you plant an apple seed, or a young apple tree, you do your best to ensure that it is placed in the best location, with nutrient rich soil and good sunlight. As the tree grows, you do your best to give it what it needs to thrive, but you don't know how fruitful it will be until it gets to the point of producing fruit.

So much is similar about our work with children. In our daily lives, we can see only what is right in front of us. We see the children and do our best to teach them and to provide for their needs. As we nurture and care for the "seeds," we see how they are impacted by the world around them, we see their challenges and their growth and we do our best to provide for them and help them along the way. It is important for us as guardians and educators, to nurture positive relationships and create opportunities for healthy growth and regular enrichment, keeping in mind that these little ones will grow and develop, creating fruit and impacting the world in ways that we cannot yet comprehend. We have an incredible responsibility and a unique opportunity to work with our students, thank you for your partnership in this important work!

Looking ahead, we have some neat events and opportunities to help nurture the students at Remsen CSD. In February, we will be celebrating Valentine's Day, our 100th day of school and we will also all enjoy the mid-winter break. In March, we will be celebrating Read Across America Week with various reading activities. We will also be completing the second trimester and will hold parent-teacher conferences in March. In the coming weeks, also be on the lookout for information on our Elementary Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) club that we are looking to start up for students in grades four through six.

Again, thank you for your support and partnership. If you need anything, do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

*Gary M. Winghart Jr.*

*Elementary School Principal*

## VFW Gift Donations

The local Remsen VFW generously donated a gift for every student at Remsen Elementary School. The gifts were delivered to families on December 22 along with learning materials.

Thank you to the VFW!



## Remsen Pre-K/Kindergarten Registration

**The Remsen Central School District has begun the pre-K and kindergarten recruitment and registration process for the 2021-2022 school year. Registration will be open until March 4, 2021.**

Universal pre-K is a full-day program and is open to all children residing in the Remsen Central School District who will be four (4) years old on or before December 1 of the current school year (2021). Income eligibility is not a factor and all families are encouraged to apply. Up to 18 children are allowed in the class. If enrollment exceeds 18 students, a lottery will take place to determine the students that will receive a spot in our pre-K program. Any student in addition to the 18 chosen through the lottery will be placed on a waiting list.

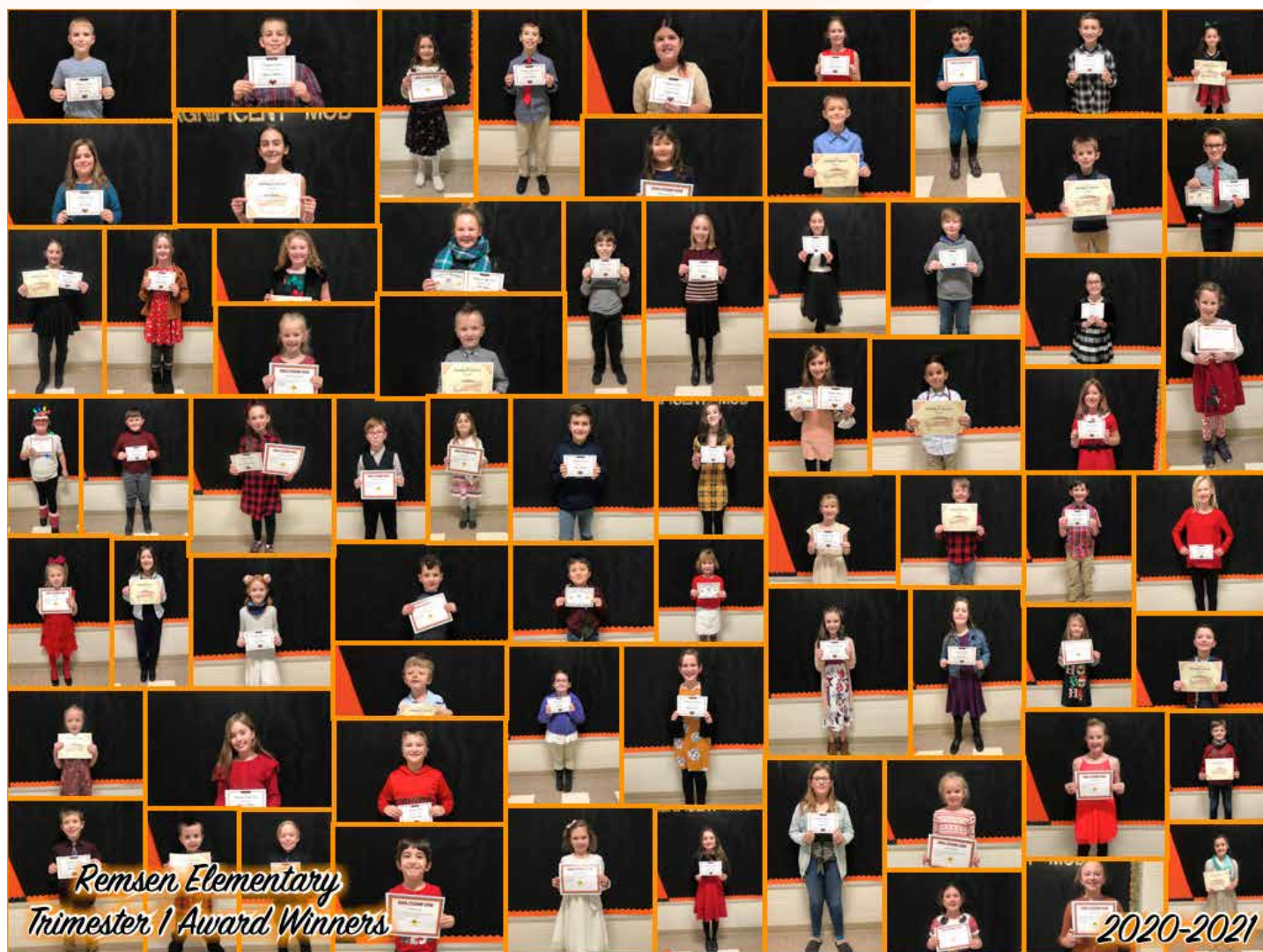
Kindergarten is open to all children residing in the Remsen Central School District who will be five (5) years old on or before December 1 of the current school year (2021).

If your child did not attend our pre-K program, they will need to be registered to attend our kindergarten program. If your child will be starting school this coming fall for either the pre-K or kindergarten program, please contact the Elementary Secretary Ms. Kerr at 315.205.4300 ext. 4223 to request a registration packet. Once you have completed your registration packet, please call Ms. Kerr to schedule an appointment to return your completed paperwork.

Registration paperwork is also available on the Remsen district website at [www.remsencsd.org](http://www.remsencsd.org).



## Remsen Elementary First Trimester Award Winners



### GOOD CITIZENSHIP

Brynnlee Bourgeois, Braden Broadbent, Blake Carnright, Chase Cook, Grace Dalton, Ella Dickenson-Waldo, Emma Fox, Hayden Graves, Glen LaFave, Emma Lehman, Chloe Matt, Gemma McCarthy, Hallie Mulligan, Taylor Murphy, Mckenzie Myers, Johnna Newland, Lillian Roberts, Eliza Smith, Markus Stacy, Sophie Sudol and Hannah Winghart.

### SOARING TO SUCCESS

Ethan Behr, Mark Dutch, Aiden Edwards, Carolyn Garcia, Adam Hill, Jackson Jenny, Emerson Iabell, Alannah Lawlor, Graycie Lyons, Caleb Millick, Shea Mundell, Trenton Porter, Wyatt Rapson, Vincent Ruggiero, Tucker Scouten, Madison Spadaro, Emily Spatto, Presley Stooks, Dixie Wilson, Timothy Winghart and Sophia Yager.

### HONOR ROLL

Spencer Anderson, Andrew Becker, Oliver Burns, Jasmine Colón, Arynn Day, Ella Dickenson-Waldo, Leah Doolen, Tiarra Fox, Angelyn Garcia, Morgan Gates, Jayde Hammill, Colin Jones, Daniel Kaufman, Cassidy Kerr, Mason LaBella, Makayla Mauldin, Avery Morrison, Connor Nelson, Wyatt Rapson, Isabella Wilcox and Adam Woolheater.

### HIGH HONOR

Evalyn Gates, Lydia Gates, Bryce Graves, Brooklyn Helmer, Trent Jenny, Olivia Johnson, Marissa Karis, Jackson Labella, Olivia Lalyer, Alannah Lawlor, Lexxis Mosher, Julia Natalini, Owen Piaschky, Madelyn Prosser, Evelyn Shew and Madison Wollaber.

### REMSEN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD

Holly Dalton, Jayde Hammill, Trent Jenny, Logan Johnson, Olivia Lalyer and Evan McCarthy.





## The Jr./Sr. High School Principal's Corner:

Dear Remsen Families,

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the end of the second marking period for the Remsen Jr./Sr. High School. This time signals we are closer to wrapping up our school year than starting it, and although many may wish to quickly turn the page and move on from the challenges we faced and the global events of 2020, there are still many great things happening here at Remsen Jr./Sr. High School and much to look forward to in the months to come.

As we wrapped up the first marking period, we saw that despite the challenges of hybrid and remote learning, our students once again rose to the occasion, and over 100 students in the building earned spots on our honor roll and high honor roll. We started seeing extracurricular activities commence in ways that were safe and met public health guidelines. This included the induction of new members into the Remsen chapter of the National Honor Society through a ceremony hosted on Zoom, Zoom Student Council, International Club, FFA and Remsen Class of 2021 meetings, just to name a few.

As we look forward to the next few months, we will see students continuing these activities and planning for the path ahead. For some, this was supported by the guidance department's Zoom information session hosted by Mrs. Nebush, where she shared information about graduation requirements, different academic pathways here at Remsen Jr./Sr. High School and discussion of the selection of courses for the next school year. If you missed the meeting, all of the information shared can be found on the guidance department page on the Remsen District website. While we look forward to the opportunities of next year and beyond, we also want to celebrate all of the positive things of this school year, including some upcoming special events for our graduating seniors.

While I look forward to a time when we can come together to celebrate our school events, I want to share that I am constantly awed by all that our students are currently doing and the positivity they bring to our school building. I know this is a product of the support you are providing them at home, and I am thankful to be a part of it each day.

Most Sincerely,

*Daniel O'Bryan*

Jr./Sr. High School Principal

## RCSD Dedicates New Scoreboard to Senior Athletes



On December 21, 2020, Remsen Central School held a virtual dedication ceremony with the fall 2020 senior athletes. At this ceremony, the beautiful new scoreboard, made possible by the Edwin J. Wadas Foundation, was dedicated to the fall senior athletes and to their fellow outdoor athletes from the spring and fall 2020 seasons.

Superintendent Jenny shared the following with the senior athletes: "As you will learn throughout your lives, sometimes we must make difficult decisions for the greater good of our community. Decisions that may not seem fair at the time, especially when we have to give up something that we love to do. We understand the sacrifice that you all had to make by not having a season this fall and the sacrifice our spring athletes had to make last year when their season was lost. As a permanent symbol of our gratitude for the role each of you played in helping to keep our school and our community as safe as possible during the pandemic, we are dedicating the new scoreboard to you and to all of your fellow outdoor athletes from the spring season of 2020 and this fall 2020."

Two gold plaques will forever be mounted underneath the score board. The top plaque reads, "This scoreboard is dedicated to all spring and fall 2020 Remsen athletes that sacrificed their seasons during the pandemic; putting the health of our community first." The second plaque contains their names and the names of all Remsen athletes from this fall and last spring.

Athletic Director Mr. Denning shared his congratulations and sentiments with the seniors to end the ceremony. The following fall senior athletes took part in the ceremony:

Taylor Anderson	Hailey Jewett	Madelyn McCormack	Emma Skermont
Brady Coe	Morgan Jones	Hunter Prosser	Jamie Ultsch
Jade Denning	Griffin Klossner	Josh Rowlands	
Ryan Graves	Dan Lehman	Kylie Singer	

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# Remsen High School First Quarter Honor Roll

## High Honor Roll

### Grade 7

#### High Honor

Angelina DelGuidice  
Sara Hill  
Keara Hyde  
Ethan Karis  
Regan Meeker  
Ellie Secor  
Emily Shufelt  
Jaedyn Wilcox  
Makayla Wilcox

### Grade 8

#### High Honor

Jack Anken  
Natalie Barnard  
Jennah Day  
Josiah DeLand  
Shaylyn Dolly  
Dylan Gutowski  
Matthew Helmer  
Tucker Hollenbeck  
Andrew Jones  
Dylan Jones  
Brayton Mulligan  
Madisyn Pett  
Ean Piaschky  
Colton Walker  
Shawna Williams

### Grade 9

#### High Honor

Benjamin Becker  
Zoey Coe  
Charles DeLand  
Dakota Flagler  
Sabrina Gates  
Zachery Helmer  
Isabella Lalyer  
Taylor Nelson  
Ava Russo  
Brian Secor  
Leila Ward

### Grade 10

#### High Honor

Julia Dening  
Serenity Fenton  
Colleen Fox  
Teaghan Fox  
Grace Hajdasz  
Kyrian Hall  
Marissa Hefner  
Grady Helmer  
Matthew Jones  
Joshua Jordan  
Alexander McCormack  
Michael Sacco  
Grace Shufelt  
Noah Skermont  
Benjamin Staskoski

### Grade 11

#### High Honor

Abby Barton  
Amber Decker  
Randell Dolly  
Denise Fox  
Adriana Hoover  
Hailey Jenkins  
Paige Loveric  
Mason Natalini  
Sam Nichols  
Jessica Rimmer  
Olivia Stanford  
Ryan Staskoski  
Christopher Tavenner  
Gavin Thompson  
Julia Woolheater

### Grade 12

#### High Honor

Taylor Anderson  
Chelsea Barnhart  
Jade Dening  
Zachary Flint  
Ryan Graves  
Anna Jones  
McKenna Jones  
Morgan Jones  
Daniel Lehman  
Madelyn McCormack  
Kylie Singer  
Emma Skermont  
Noah Sylvester  
Jamie Ultsch

## Honor Roll

### Grade 7

#### Honor

Sienna Aiken  
Johnathan Dickenson  
Burke Gates  
Marissa Morris  
Gavin Nelson  
Kole Poczatek  
Ashely Roberts  
Ella Staskoski

### Grade 8

#### Honor

Baileigh Briggs  
Alexander Camright  
Isabella Colon  
Wyatt Ehart  
Mitchell Fox  
Alice Roman  
Abbie Tyson

### Grade 9

#### Honor

Imagin Aiken  
Ellyssa Besaw  
Wyatt Monroe  
Matthew Tavenner

### Grade 10

#### Honor

Wyatt Broadbent  
Taylor Hollenbeck  
Mary Jane Kranbuhl  
Matthew Murphy  
Skylie O'Connor-Russo

### Grade 11

#### Honor

Beulah Bigelow  
Nathanial Diaz  
Jonathan Jewett  
Evelyn Morgan  
James Roberts  
Dylan Taylor

### Grade 12

#### Honor

Dakota Darling  
Amy Kelly  
Brendan Rockwell  
Joshua Rowlands

## Disc Golf Anyone?



Have you ever wondered what those metal baskets on poles were when you saw them at a park or playground somewhere? Have you seen them here at RCSD? Thanks to our Building Healthy Schools and Communities Grant liaison Deb Spinella, our Remsen Central School District's campus is dotted with nine delightfully challenging disc golf baskets.

When faced with some remaining funds towards the end of our grant, the Health and Wellness Team decided they may as well inquire, although it could have been a costly project. Low and behold, the project was accepted for nine permanent disc golf baskets for the school's and community's use. Mapping, consulting and placement positions for the baskets were finalized, and the course started to materialize.

There were some challenges for installation. First, the school construction project, then the rainy weather of fall, winter, and of course, COVID-19! Finally last summer, during one of our glorious sunny days, the RCSD maintenance crew and PE department installed our nine disc golf course baskets. Since that time, the Health and Wellness Team ordered a collection of discs for students' use at the elementary and high schools and are currently in the planning phase of adding signage and developing scorecards and maps that will include par information for each basket.

The course was enjoyed by disc golf enthusiasts at the end of the summer, and by students during PE classes this fall. However, disc golf isn't limited to three seasons. It can be enjoyed in winter too. It can be enjoyed by all ages and whichever means you may take to get from hole to hole. Snowshoes or skis anyone?

Currently, the course can be used by community members during off-school hours, weekends and during vacations when school is not in session ensuring that all NYSDOH guidance is followed. Gather some discs and people, and challenge yourself to nine baskets of disc sailing fun.



## “Donors Choose Grant” Granted to Spanish Classes



Spanish teacher Mrs. Izzo recently wrote and received a Donors Choose grant for \$400 for leveled readers in Spanish. She received 24 books written in Spanish to be used for sustained silent reading for her “leer en Español, leer es poder” (read in Spanish, reading is power) movement.

This is the third grant Mrs. Izzo has received in two years.

## Mrs. Izzo’s Spanish Classes Get Creative

Despite the many differences this school year has had, Mrs. Izzo’s Spanish class was able to continue to create and celebrate in-person. During the fall, they got creative in celebration of El Dia De Los Muertos.



This past December, Spanish classes completed a WebQuest about Christmas in Mexico and studied farolitos, or tin punched luminaries.



Students participated in making their own farolito to bring home.

In January, Spanish classes learned about Él Día de Los Tres Reyes Magos (Three Kings’ Day).



The culminating project was for the students to make their own reyes (kings). Special thank you to Ms. Richards for donating construction paper.





## Remsen CSD First Quarter Incentive Winners



Two passes to Water Safari: Breannah Pula  
\$25 gift certificate to Luigi's Pizzeria: Isabella Colon  
Google Home Mini: Mitchell Fox  
\$25 gift card to Amazon: Sabrina Gates  
Fitness Tracker HR: Jaden Guo  
\*Not pictured: Shimano fishing rod and reel: Brian Secor



## Remsen Science Fair to Take on a Different Look This Year

It's the time of year when our Remsen Jr./Sr. High School students begin making observations and measurements. We are excited to share that we will be continuing our Remsen Middle School Science Fair this year.

In the past, our students have shared their research with students, community members and professional scientists in an event hosted in the high school gymnasium. Although large public gatherings are still not possible, we are developing new ways for students to share their work with the Remsen community, celebrate their accomplishments and interact with professionals.

Watch for announcements on the school webpage and social media channels about our science fair in the near future.

## Remsen Seniors Madelyn McCormack and Jade Dening Commit to Continue Athletics Locally



Like many other student-athletes across the country, Remsen volleyball stand-out Madelyn McCormack had to sacrifice her senior year of athletics due to the pandemic.

McCormack is one of the lucky (and talented) high school seniors who will get the opportunity to play again, this time in SUNY Cortland attire.

"Not being able to play this year was a big challenge to overcome," McCormack said. "The first week of not having volleyball was hard, I didn't know how I should train to improve without the help of my coach or being on the court in game scenarios. Since then, I have been working out every day and getting reps to improve my volleyball skills."

She will work toward obtaining a degree in physical education, along with suiting up alongside other passionate Red Dragons to take to the court after a long hiatus.



Track and cross country athlete senior Jade Dening has also chosen to stay close to home and attend Utica College this fall. Although several NCAA Division I schools expressed interest in her talent, she ultimately made the decision to stay close to her tight-knit hometown.

Dening has been a part of Remsen's varsity track and field team since seventh grade and the cross country team since eighth grade. She currently holds the Remsen school track record in the 3000-meter run as well as several other All-State and All-Central recognitions.

"Once I found out that I wouldn't be able to race last track season and this cross country season as well as indoor, I knew I couldn't give up and had to focus on becoming stronger," said Dening. "I trained on my own and did several workouts on my own so that my training could keep moving forward."

She will study health sciences in the fall at Utica College, with a business minor. After canceled seasons and an unexpected ending to her successful high school career, Dening is excited for her new chapter and to get back out on the track as a Utica College Pioneer.





## REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 406, 9733 Main St.  
Remsen, New York 13438

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## Pre-K Virtual Holiday Celebrations



Mrs. Spatto's pre-K class was able to celebrate the holidays together and virtually. For Thanksgiving, they took part in a family project to make a fashionable turkey, while being as creative as possible.

They also decorated their annual gingerbread houses together on December 18. Since the class is fully virtual this year, they built and decorated their houses via Zoom.



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