



SPECIAL SCHOOL BUDGET EDITION

# THE REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MAY 2020 | BUILDING THE FUTURE - ONE CHILD AT A TIME! | WWW.REMSENCSD.ORG

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## CALENDAR

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

### Dear Remsen Community:

Beautiful countryside, farms, small businesses, the Arts Center, the Remsen Depot, the Barn Festival of the Arts, genuinely good, hard-working people and an amazing school make Remsen a wonderful place to live and work.

Every community member, from young child to seasoned adult, contributes to making Remsen the special place we call home. Our collective goal must always be to ensure that we leave our children, for generations to come, with an even better community and school than we had. This is accomplished by continuing to work together to help cultivate our Remsen community and by providing our children the ability to receive an innovative education, full of diverse learning opportunities and experiences.

The level of support that our students receive from every district resident is appreciated beyond words. Even if you currently do not have students enrolled in school, your support of Remsen Central School District plays a critical role in raising, teaching and growing our youth into productive, responsible, kind, hard-working citizens.

New York was facing a tremendous deficit before the coronavirus. Given this unprecedented pandemic, New York is now facing an even larger deficit. The state is asking for assistance from the federal government, but it does not look promising at this time. The state budget freezes our foundation aid (main source of state aid revenue) at the amount received for the current school year with no increase. In other words; all of our expenses continue to rise, but our main revenue stream will not increase this year and it is likely to decrease substantially.

A "pandemic adjustment" amount (\$164,600 for RCSD) was removed from each school's state aid funding. This amount was then replaced with federal stimulus money. Written into law is the Governor's ability to take away that money, plus any additional foundation aid over the course of scheduled "look back periods" during the year if New York state does not realize expected revenues. In other words, in addition to our main source of funding being frozen and/or decreased, our school's budget was reduced by a large chunk of state money and replaced with a one-time federal stimulus for the same amount. The Governor may have to take all of this stimulus back to cover New York's deficit, and may even need to dig deeper and take more of our school's foundation aid away.

As it currently stands, we look to receive approximately \$220,000 less in state aid next year while our expenses continue to rise. Through a great deal of work and planning, we were able to develop a fiscally responsible budget and

keep our operating expenses for next school year at a 0 percent increase at \$13,198,752. Even at a 0 percent operating budget increase, with a slight increase in the tax levy (2.26 percent = the allowable limit for RCSD), the gap between revenue and expenditures is still approximately \$425,000.00, requiring the use of part of our fund balance (savings) to make up the difference.

The state budget we were given is clearly not ideal. Together, we will persevere through a tough budget cycle to ensure that our students continue to receive a quality education.

Our virtual budget hearing will take place on Tuesday, May 26 at 6:00 p.m. Our webpage will contain the link to view the hearing as well as my email address to send questions that you may have before, during or after the presentation. Per the Governor's executive order, all voting must be done through absentee ballots. We will be mailing absentee ballots with prepaid return postage soon. If you do not receive one, please call Mrs. Catherine Chandler, District Clerk, at 315.205.4300. Completed absentee ballots must be mailed back to the school and in the district clerk's possession by 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020.

In addition to voting on the 2020-2021 budget, you will also be voting on two propositions:

- One (1) small, 20 passenger school bus
- One (1) Board of Education seat

Outstanding educational programs, diverse learning opportunities, beautiful facilities and exciting extracurricular clubs and teams; Remsen School District's strong community makes it all possible for our students. Your support of and pride in Remsen Central School District will ensure that our students continue to Soar to Success. THANK YOU!

It is a privilege and honor to be your superintendent. Do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

## Budget Vote

**School Budget and BOE candidate absentee ballots** will be mailed to eligible voters with a prepaid return envelope and are due back to school by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020

**Mission:** "REMSEN 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."

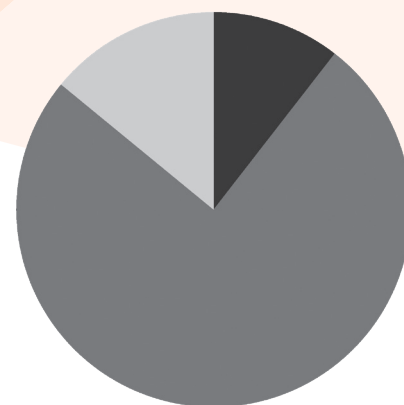
— SOAR TO SUCCESS —

## Comparative Summaries

| <b>REVENUE</b>   | <b>Adopted<br/>2019-2020</b> | <b>Proposed<br/>2020-2021</b> | <b>Change<br/>\$\$</b> | <b>%</b>     |
|------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Est. State Aid   | \$ 7,522,128                 | \$ 7,301,393                  | (220,735)              | -2.93%       |
| <b>Tax Levy</b>  | <b>\$ 5,351,624</b>          | <b>\$ 5,472,359</b>           | <b>120,735</b>         | <b>2.26%</b> |
| App Fund Balance | \$ 250,000                   | \$ 250,000                    | -                      |              |
| Other Revenue    | \$ 75,000                    | \$ 175,000                    | 100,000                | 133.33%      |
| <b>Totals</b>    | <b>\$ 13,198,752</b>         | <b>\$ 13,198,752</b>          | <b>-</b>               | <b>0.00%</b> |

| <b>EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>Adopted<br/>2019-2020</b> | <b>Proposed<br/>2020-2021</b> | <b>Change<br/>\$\$</b> | <b>%</b>     |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Administration      | \$ 1,264,087                 | \$ 1,312,743                  | 48,656                 | 3.85%        |
| Program             | \$ 9,697,297                 | \$ 9,699,977                  | 2,680                  | 0.03%        |
| Capital             | \$ 2,237,368                 | \$ 2,186,032                  | (51,336)               | -2.29%       |
| <b>Totals</b>       | <b>\$ 13,198,752</b>         | <b>\$ 13,198,752</b>          | <b>-</b>               | <b>0.00%</b> |

## Expenditures



■ Administration: 10%  
■ Capital: 17%  
■ Program: 73%

## Who Can Vote?

To be eligible to vote, a resident must have lived in the Remsen Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the June 9 election, be at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States and registered to vote with the school district. No person shall have the right to register for or vote who would not be qualified to register for or vote at an election in accordance with the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law.

## Can I Vote by Absentee Ballot?

School Budget and BOE candidate absentee ballots will be mailed to eligible voters with a prepaid return envelope and are due back to school by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2020

## Propositions on the Ballot

### BUS PURCHASE PROPOSITION

The Remsen Central School District seeks voter approval to purchase (1) 20-passenger school bus at a cost not to exceed \$53,000 less trade in value. The proposed purchases are part of an ongoing bus replacement plan designed to keep the District's fleet in safe, working order by phasing out buses that are no longer cost effective to maintain.

If the proposition is approved, the actual cost to the District will be significantly less than the amount sought. Approximately 75.3 percent of the cost would be reimbursable through state aid.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION SEAT

To elect one member to the Board of Education for a term of 5 years commencing July 1, 2020.



*Pictured: The health and fitness center in progress*

## Capital Project Update

### Capital Outlay Project #6

- Renovation of old boy's locker room records storage area and corridor improvements
- NO ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL IMPACT TO THE COMMUNITY
- Anticipated start – Spring 2021

The proposed 2020-2021 Remsen Central School District budget includes a \$100,000 Capital Outlay Project. It is important to note that the Remsen Central School District will be reimbursed by the state for 83.5 percent of the capital outlay project's cost. In other words; a \$100,000 project only costs the district \$16,500. The proposed project for next year will renovate the old boy's locker room records storage space and provide corridor improvements in the same area. Both items are in dire need of improvement.

Our current capital outlay project is looking great! Soon, our students will have a completely renovated health and fitness center space.

It is essential for Remsen Central School District to continue to provide safe, efficient and operational facilities for our students and our community members. Capital outlay projects allow us to responsibly make necessary improvements without placing a large burden on the community.

## Components of the Proposed 2020-2021 Remsen Central School District Budget Program

The program component consists of costs associated with funding the educational support services of our 430 students, including teachers, materials and supplies, textbooks, special education, health services, library-media, and guidance services. Transportation of students, athletics, and co-curricular activities are also included here.

| Function/Account              | Approved<br>2019-2020 | Proposed<br>2020-2021 | Change         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Legal                         | \$28,378              | \$31,065              | \$2,687        |
| Instructional                 | \$6,081,588           | \$6,029,454           | (\$52,134)     |
| Other District Transportation | \$660,830             | \$615,143             | (\$45,687)     |
| Garage Building               | \$23,500              | \$23,500              | -              |
| Employee Benefits             | \$2,903,001           | \$3,000,815           | \$97,814       |
| Interfund Transfer            | -                     | -                     | -              |
| <b>Total Program</b>          | <b>\$9,697,297</b>    | <b>\$9,699,977</b>    | <b>\$2,680</b> |

### Capital

The capital component consists of costs associated with maintenance of buildings, upkeep of grounds, electricity, heat, oil, water, sewer and telephone services. Funds are also included here for the lease and purchase of buses, payment of debt for capital projects (principal and interest), refund of taxes and insurance.

| Function/Account                | Approved<br>2019-2020 | Proposed<br>2020-2021 | Change          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Operation of Plant              | \$790,576             | \$745,705             | (\$44,871)      |
| Maintenance of Plant            | \$126,000             | \$127,500             | \$1,500         |
| Judgements & Claims & Insurance | \$46,000              | \$47,000              | \$1,000         |
| Refund of Taxes                 | \$1,200               | \$1,200               | -               |
| Employee Benefits               | \$205,487             | \$202,747             | (\$2,740)       |
| Debt Service                    | \$968,105             | \$961,880             | (\$6,225)       |
| Transfer to capital fund        | \$100,000             | \$100,000             | -               |
| <b>Total Capital</b>            | <b>\$2,237,368</b>    | <b>\$2,186,032</b>    | <b>(51,336)</b> |

### Administrative

The administrative component consists of costs associated with management activities including Board of Education, superintendent's office, district clerk, business office and operations such as payroll, data processing, purchasing, BOCES, administration, printing, mailing, legal, and auditing services.

| Function/Account                 | Approved<br>2019-2020 | Proposed<br>2020-2021 | Change          |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Board of Education               | \$19,959              | \$25,950              | \$5,991         |
| Central Administration           | \$138,000             | \$143,000             | \$5,000         |
| Finance                          | \$244,609             | \$237,100             | (\$7,509)       |
| Legal                            | \$6,360               | \$6,962               | \$602           |
| Personnel                        | \$3,500               | \$3,500               | -               |
| Records Management               | \$7,466               | \$7,700               | \$234           |
| Other Central Services           | \$43,739              | \$58,000              | \$14,261        |
| Other Special Items              | \$99,852              | \$103,599             | \$3,747         |
| Curriculum Development & Support | \$23,500              | \$23,500              | -               |
| Supervision Regular School       | \$366,096             | \$372,400             | \$6,304         |
| Supervision Special School       | -                     | -                     | -               |
| Research, Evaluation, Planning   | \$5,000               | \$7,500               | \$2,500         |
| Employee Benefits                | \$306,006             | \$323,532             | \$17,526        |
| <b>Total Administrative</b>      | <b>\$1,264,087</b>    | <b>\$1,312,743</b>    | <b>\$48,656</b> |

**Total Budget Appropriation** **\$13,198,752** **\$13,198,752** **-**





## School District Budget Notice

| Overall Budget Proposal  | Budget Adopted<br>for the 2019-20<br>School Year | Budget Proposed<br>for the 2020-21<br>School Year | Contingency Budget<br>for the 2020-21<br>School Year * |  |             |        |   |          |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|-------------|--------|---|----------|--|
| Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions   | \$ 13,198,752                                    | \$13,198,752                                      | \$12,974,390   |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year  |  | \$ 0  | \$ 224,362   |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget  |  | 0.0 %   | -1.7%  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| Change in the Consumer Price Index   |  | 1.81%   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
|  |  |   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount  | \$5,351,624                                      | \$5,472,359                                       |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| 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)   | \$5,351,624                                      | \$5,472,359                                       | \$5,351,624  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| F. Total Permissible Exclusions  | \$ 124,361                                       | \$ 145,579  |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions   | \$5,227,263                                      | \$5,326,780                                       |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)  | \$5,227,263                                      | \$5,326,780                                       |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **  | \$0  | \$0   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
|  |  |   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| Administrative Component   | \$1,264,087                                      | \$1,312,743                                       | \$1,255,541  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| Program Component  | \$9,697,297                                      | \$9,699,977                                       | \$9,632,817  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| Capital Component  | \$2,237,368                                      | \$2,186,032                                       | \$2,086,032  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
|  |  |   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| * Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2020-21 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.  |  |   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| <table><tr><td></td><td>Description</td><td>Amount</td></tr><tr><td>Bus Proposition (before State Aid of 75.3%)</td><td>\$53,000</td><td></td></tr></table>  |  |   |  |  | Description | Amount | Bus Proposition (before State Aid of 75.3%) | \$53,000 |  |
|  | Description                                      | Amount  |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| Bus Proposition (before State Aid of 75.3%)  | \$53,000   |   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |
| ** 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) |  |   |  |  |             |        |   |          |  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | Under the Budget Proposed<br>for the 2020-21 School Year |
| Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup> | \$607  |

**The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-2021 by the qualified voters of the Remsen Central School District, Oneida County, New York, will be held on June 9, 2020 by absentee ballot only, pursuant to New York Governor Executive Order 202.26.**



## Elementary High Honor and Honor Roll (March 2020)

### High Honor

Evalyn Gates  
Bryce Graves  
Brooklyn Helmer  
Sara Hill  
Keara Hyde  
Trent Jenny  
Marissa Karis  
Jackson LaBella  
Olivia Lalyer  
Madelyn Prosser  
Ellie Secor  
Madison Wollaber

### Honor

Andrew Becker  
Tiarra Fox  
Burke Gates  
Morgan Gates  
Jameson Hamilton  
Alexis Helmer  
Cory Helmer  
Kailyn Helmer  
Colin Jones  
Ethan Karis  
Kole Kennerknecht  
Ella LaFave  
Alannah Lawlor  
Chloe Matt  
Lexxis Mosher  
Daniel Mulhall  
Taylor Murphy  
Gavin Nelson  
Owen Piaschky  
Chase Poczek  
Cynthia Poczek  
Kole Poczek  
Hunter Polovick  
Wyatt Rapson  
Emily Spatto  
Ella Staskoski  
London Swank  
Hayden Tesmer  
Alexis Stevens  
Makayla Wilcox

## Elementary Citizenship and On-A-Roll Recipients (March 2020)

### Citizenship

Addison Battle  
Braden Broadbent  
Rylee Bryant  
Grace Dalton  
Holly Dalton  
Brooklyn Helmer  
Reagan Helmer  
Sara Hill  
Daniel Kozak  
Jaxson Matt  
Evan McCarthy  
Gemma McCarthy  
Chelsea McCauley  
Marissa Morris  
Kole Poczek  
Gardner Walker  
Adam Woolheater

### On-A-Roll

Anna Becker  
Willow DeLand  
Ashley Depew  
Destiny Farber  
Burke Gates  
Mason LaBella  
Arielle McAleavey  
Michael Montegari  
Hallie Mulligan  
Eva Newland  
Jasmine Petteys  
Waylon Rapson  
Vincent Ruggiero  
Graysen Schorer  
Emmelia Smith  
London Swank  
Grayson White

## Drone Program at Remsen Jr./Sr. High School

Drones are coming to Remsen Jr./Sr. High School for the 2020-21 school year! Remsen agriculture teacher Mrs. Ives is excited to announce that she was awarded a grant from America's Farmers Grow Rural Education for Remsen's agriculture program and has purchased a DJI Phantom 4 V2.0 Drone with a Sentera NDVI sensor to begin a drone program at Remsen Jr./Sr. High School.

The grant funding will also provide full instructor training and materials for 10 students through SkyOp in Canandaigua, NY. Remsen Jr./Sr. High School students will be taught a rigorous and relevant curriculum about recreational and commercial use of drones, use drone flight simulation software, hands on drone flight training and FAA Part 107 Test Prep. Upon completion of the program, students who are 16 or older will be eligible to take the 60 question FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Knowledge Test and, upon passing the test, apply for their Remote Pilot Certificate. This certificate will enable Remsen students to use their own drones as a source of income.

Remsen Central School District is also bringing programming and robotics into the seventh grade and recreational drone flight into the eighth grade, taught by Mrs. Smith, business teacher and Career and Technical Education Coordinator. Mrs. Ives and Mrs. Smith will each complete nearly 40 hours of training in drone curriculum and drone flight.

Why bring a drone program to Remsen Jr./Sr. High School? Small unmanned aircraft systems, otherwise known as drones, are a dynamic, emerging technology that can literally transform how industries function. This course will teach our students to use drones safely and legally. They will learn how to fly, understand which type of flight systems are available, know the system capabilities, understand how drones are used in industry and learn what to look for when choosing their own drones.

During the hands-on component of this course, students will receive a SYMA X5C Quadcopter which they will first learn to navigate through obstacle courses indoors. This style of indoor flight training allows students to focus solely on controlling the aircraft without outdoor factors such as wind or weather. After completing a series of increasingly difficult exercises, they will then train outside. This approach develops the primary skills needed to create the safest, most proficient remote pilots anywhere!

Some current uses for drones are capturing videos of homes and properties for real estate sales, checking fields in agriculture, inspecting damages for insurance companies, inspecting towers for energy companies, surveying, checking job sites in construction, delivering packages and filming during movie production. Students who have earned their Remote Pilot Certificates will be able to use their drones commercially or may incorporate it into future employment. Those who take the new class will learn how to use the DJI Phantom 4 V2.0 Drone with a Sentera NDVI sensor to help local farmers create maps of their fields for analysis and GPS planning and potentially participate in local drone competitions. Some may even venture on to a career in the drone industry. The possibilities are endless!

Also with the funds from the \$25,000 grant, Mrs. Ives purchased three FarmBots which are open source precision agriculture CNC farming machines which will be built on raised garden beds. These will be housed indoors and at both the elementary and high schools. They will be assembled and programmed by the agriculture students. Additionally, she was able to purchase a large floral cooler to incorporate floral design into the agriculture program.



## High School Second Quarter Honor Roll

### Grade 7

#### High Honor

Jennah Day  
Wyatt Ehart  
Matthew Helmer  
Andrew Jones  
Dylan Jones  
Brayton Mulligan  
Meredith Munn  
Ean Piaschik  
Addison Tesmer  
Colton Walker

### Grade 8

#### High Honor

Imagin Aiken  
Benjamin Becker  
Makayla Finn  
Sabrina Gates  
Zachery Helmer  
Isabella Lalyer  
Taylor Nelson  
Jaden Prosser  
Ava Russo  
Brian Secor

### Grade 9

#### High Honor

Julia Denning  
Serenity Fenton  
Colleen Fox  
Teaghan Fox  
Grace Hajdasz  
Marissa Hefuer  
Grady Helmer  
Matthew Jones

### Grade 10

#### High Honor

Abby Barton  
Beulah Bigelow  
Ty Bowers  
Randell Dolly  
Adriana Hoover  
Hailey Jenkins  
Paige Loveric  
Mason Natalini  
Sam Nichols  
Jessica Rimmer  
Ryan Staskoski  
Olivia Stanford  
Dylan Taylor  
Gavin Thompson

### Grade 11

#### High Honor

Chelsea Barnhart  
Jade Denning  
Anna Jones  
McKenna Jones  
Morgan Jones  
Madelyn McCormack  
Emma Skermont  
Jamie Ultsch

### Grade 12

#### High Honor

Sydney Boucher  
Gavin Green  
Evan Griswold  
Thomas Natalini  
Amber Palen  
Sapphire Pett  
Michael Roberts  
Ryan Putrelo  
Michael Roberts  
Kirsten Waterbury  
Breanna Williams

### Grade 7

#### Honor

Jack Anlcan  
Shianne Austin  
Natalie Barnard  
Mitchell Fox  
Dylan Gutowski  
Tucker Hollenbeck  
Jaden Jordon  
Alice Roman

### Grade 8

#### Honor

Frank Austin  
Zoey Coe  
Charles Deland  
Owen Long  
Malik Pett  
Matthew Tavenner

### Grade 9

#### Honor

Wyatt Broadbent  
Matthew Farr  
Taylor Hollenbeck  
Emily Johnson  
Morgan Perry  
Nicholas Tillman

### Grade 10

#### Honor

Grace Costa  
Amber Decker  
Kendall Decker  
Jonathan Jewett  
Evelyn Morgan  
Julia Woolheater  
Morgan Wright

### Grade 11

#### Honor

Zachary Flint  
Ryan Graves  
Amy Kelly  
Daniel Lehman  
Hunter Prosser  
Kylie Singer  
Noah Sylvester

### Grade 12

#### Honor

Aaliyah Davis  
Ian Long  
Brandon Murphy

## Student of the Quarter

### Grade 7

**Shianne Austin** - Ms. DiNitto  
**Dylan Gutowski** - Mrs. Boyd  
**Matthew Helmer** - Ms. Brockway and Mrs. Cooper  
**Meredith Munn** - Mr. Dangler and Mr. O'Brien  
**Addison Tesmer** - Mrs. Denning

### Grade 8

**Isabella Lalyer** - Mrs. Carpenter  
**Wyatt Monroe** - Ms. Blovat

### Grade 9

**Michael Sacco** - Mrs. Izzo  
**Noah Skermont** - Mr. Bunker

### Grade 10

**Abby Barton** - Mr. Gallo

### Grade 11

**Taylor Anderson** - Mr. Haynes and Mrs. Obernesser

### Grade 12

**Jeremiah Major** - Mrs. Casper

## Most Improved Student

### Grade 7

**Ethan Lawson** - Mr. Bunker

### Grade 8

**Imagin Aiken** - O'Brien  
**Frank Austin** - Ms. Blovat  
**Dakota Flagler** - Mr. Dangler  
**Dakota Flagler** - Mrs. Carpenter  
**Austin Jones** - Ms. Brockway and Ms. Izzo

### Grade 9

**Colleen Fox** - Mrs. Cooper  
**Morgan Perry** - Ms. Boyd

### Grade 10

**Ty Bowers** - Mrs. Obernesser

### Grade 11

**Brendan Rockwell** - Mr. Bryne  
**Noah Sylvester** - Mr. Haynes

### Grade 12

**Tim Anderson** - Mrs. Martin  
**Andrew Paige** - Mrs. Casper



*Pictured: Remsen Students Celebrate Mardi Gras*

## Center State Conference All-Stars for the Winter Season

### Indoor Track:

Jade Denning (11th grade)  
Ryan Graves (11th grade)  
Mike Roberts (12th grade)  
Brady Coe (11th grade)

### Boys Basketball:

Isiah Furman-Houck (12th grade)  
Mike Sacco (9th grade)

### Girls Volleyball:

Madelyn McCormack (11th grade)  
Hailey Jewett (11th grade)

\*Madelyn McCormack was also named to the All-CNY Winter Volleyball All-Star Team

## Winter Sports Scholar-Athlete Team Award Winners

At the end of each sports season, the NYSPHSAA honors those teams and individuals that excelled in the classroom.

To receive Scholar-Athlete team recognition with a certificate, the team's average GPA for 75 percent of the roster must be greater than or equal to 90.00.

### 2019-2020 Winter Sports Scholar-Athlete Team Award Winners:

#### Girls Varsity Indoor Track:

Jade Denning  
Julia Denning  
Grace Hajdasz  
Mary-Jane Kranbuhl  
Tayler Nelson  
Emily Rudolph

#### Varsity Volleyball:

Chelsea Barnhart  
McKenna Jones  
Amy Kelly  
Madelyn McCormack  
Amber Palen  
Kylie Singer  
Olivia Stanford



## Elementary School Principal's Message



### Dear Remsen Families:

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Over and over throughout this school year, the quote above, by Ralph Waldo Emerson, has been proven true by the students, teachers and families of Remsen. We have faced some very difficult situations and challenges as a school and as a community including the most recent coronavirus pandemic. The challenges that we have faced have not been "tiny matters." In fact, they have been life-altering, perspective changing and very painful at times. Yet, through every challenge that we have faced, the strength and goodness that lies within us has been more than enough to bring us through, to keep us going and to strengthen us individually and as a community.

As I write this message for our newsletter, the students, parents, teachers, staff and administration are pulling together, from a very safe distance, in a tremendous way in order to continue to provide learning opportunities for the students of Remsen CSD. Literally, in a matter of days, our teachers quickly shifted their plans, traded in familiar teaching methods and developed remote learning opportunities for students both online and in hard copy format. Overnight, our students and parents were asked to throw many of their familiar routines and ways of doing life out the window in order to adopt new routines and new ways to learn. This unprecedented pandemic situation that we are living through has affected every single family, including families without children in school, in so many ways.

One of the greatest challenges, on top of continuing to provide quality learning opportunities for our students, has been to maintain the connections with students and their families and to provide as much support as possible. It has been wonderful to see how our community has pulled together through this difficult time to fulfill this need. Whether it be through the preparation and delivery of meals each day by our fantastic transportation and cafeteria departments, the resourceful modes of communication being used to present materials, "checking-in" with each other or the offers for donations and support by community members, the Remsen team has been working through and supporting each other through this pandemic in an incredible way.

As I have said many times before, I am very proud to be a part of the Remsen CSD team and look forward to continuing to work with each of you. For our students, keep doing your best job! I am very proud of you. Check in with your teachers regularly and continue to do your school work. For our parents, thank you for the hard work that you are doing each day to keep your child engaged in their learning. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions or any help that you need. To everyone, thank you for your support, please continue to stay healthy and safe.

*Gary Winghart*

**Elementary School Principal  
Remsen Central School District**



*Pictured: Remsen CSD at the 2020 Heart Run and Walk*

## ELA Regents Scores

### Distribution of grades:

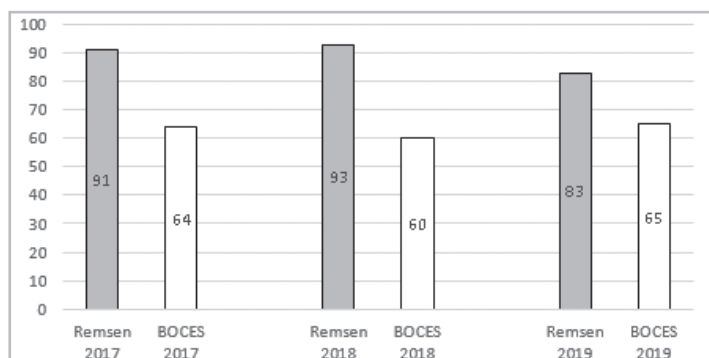
#### 2020 January ELA Regents Number of Students (32 Total)

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 99 | 4 |
| 98 | 3 |
| 97 | 7 |
| 96 | 3 |
| 95 | 1 |
| 94 | 1 |
| 93 | 1 |
| 90 | 1 |
| 88 | 3 |

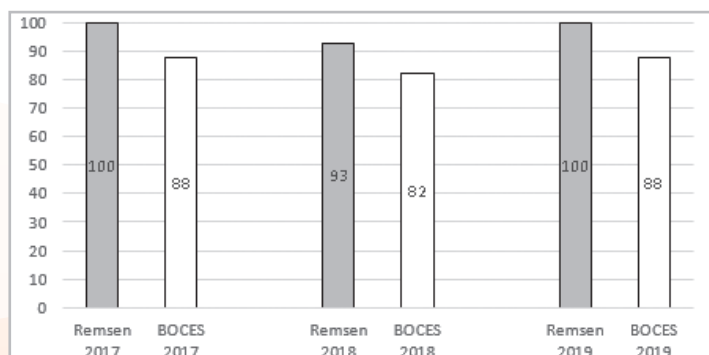
Congratulations to our English Language Arts Department and our students.

The graph shows our percentage of students passing the English Regents each year, and the percent of mastery (score or 85 or better). Next to each, you will see the BOCES percent, which we are consistently exceeding. The BOCES numbers are made up of all the public schools in our area. Also, this January (2020), many of our juniors had very high scores on the Regents, which can be seen in the table.

### ELA Regents Mastery % (85 or higher)



### ELA Regents Passing % (65 or higher)



## Jr./Sr. High School Principal's Message



### Dear Parents, Students, Faculty and Remsen Community:

What an amazing turn of events has taken place in the past couple of months. My last words on the afternoon announcements on March 13 were; "Have a great weekend, and I'll see you on Monday." That didn't happen. We were all thrust into a situation that I hope we never have to deal with again. Parents: you didn't sign up to be home-school teachers and students/staff didn't ask to become virtual learners and teachers.

My top priority being a principal, whether we are in school or out, is for the overall health and safety of all. That continues to be my main focus; be safe! Second, I'm responsible for student achievement. Staff members quickly learned how to use Zoom and hold Google Meets and they experimented with software programs they may have never used before. Students and parents created schedules, vying for technology time, worked through internet issues and more.

None of us will be perfect as we navigate this uncharted ground, but we can each give our best every day. I would like to thank each and every person for stepping up to help out, to understand and be flexible and to trudge through this together. There has truly been evidence of a community working together as partners to make the best of this.

I always try to look for the silver lining in everything. Although we live in a digital and electronic world right now, I really do believe that this experience has allowed us all to appreciate the value of human interaction. I have heard so many people say over and over, "I miss you" or, "I miss the students so much." When we get together again, it will be amazing! Until then, give and be your best! I'm proud to work with you all!

*Kristy McGrath*

**Jr./Sr. High School Principal  
Remsen Central School District**

## Second Marking Period Positive Behavior Prizes



Winners of the second marking period positive behavior prizes were awarded a Google Mini (Beulah Bigelow), two Water Safari tickets (Meredith Munn), a \$25 Stewart's gift card (Brandon Murphy), two Woods Valley tubing tickets (Shawna Williams), a \$25 Amazon gift card (Kirsten Waterbury) and a monitor and Burger King gift cards (Wyatt Monroe).

## Elementary BREIA Snowshoeing Trip



Remsen Elementary fourth, fifth, and sixth graders recently visited the Black River Environmental Improvement Association (BREIA) trails for a day of snowshoeing and cross country skiing.

The field trip was part of the Black River Outdoor Education Program (BROEP), which uses educational and aerobic activities to teach students the benefits and importance of outdoor recreation and gives them a chance to better their physical endurance and overall health.

## 2020 CTE Job Fair



Remsen Central School District seniors attended the CTE (Career and Technical Education) Job Fair hosted at OHM BOCES on February 11.

Local businesses, organizations, colleges and unions were available for students to offer resumes and ask questions pertaining to future careers and employment. Many students were interested in Baillie Lumber and their extensive number of mills and facilities located throughout Central New York and nearby states.

Ryan Putrelo reported that the local International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union chapter was an attractive personal career that he had not considered before. Isiah Furman-Houck was able to ask questions pertaining to law enforcement at the Oneida County Sheriff's display. Alisa Smith was able to provide her resume to Eastern Star Daycare in preparation for her career after high school.

Overwhelmingly, students reported that they valued the experience and opportunities made possible by attending the CTE Job Fair. All of the students stated that they learned about more career choices than they previously knew and that the job fair exceeded their expectations.





**"Remsen CSD has done a great job providing lunches and learning packets to all students during the coronavirus closure!"**



## RCSD World Rankings Report

On April 21, U.S. News and World Report issued their 2020 Best High School Report. They used various data points to rate schools such as; graduation rate, math and reading scores and advanced placement rates and success.

We are pleased to announce that Remsen has achieved the following ratings:

Ranking 2,847 out of 17,792 schools in the nation = 84th percentile

Ranking 269 out of 1,342 schools in the state = 80th percentile

Ranking 5 out of 26 schools in the Utica area = 81st percentile

## Remsen CSD Drama Club Presents: the Wizard of Oz

On March 6, the Remsen CSD drama club performed a preview of the Wizard of Oz for their fellow classmates and teachers.

Feature length performances took place on the evenings of March 6 and 7 for the entire community to enjoy.



## From the Health Offices

In order to stay positive during this unsettled time, let's look to the future "minus the virus!"

The 2020-2021 school year will be knocking at our doors at a time when we hope to see a healthier world.

Parents, please watch your mail for packets of information regarding physicals, immunizations and medication forms for the 2020-2021 school year. These do not need to be acted on immediately, as no one can predict when life may return to a more normal state. Please read them, keep them in a safe place and address what is needed for your child/children with your healthcare provider when you are able to, even if over the summer.

Thanks for sharing your amazing students with us, stay well and hugs to you all.



## Foreign Language Grant

Recently, Remsen CSD was awarded a \$2,000 grant from the Adirondack Foundation's Foreign Language Enhancement Fund to expand their Free Choice Reading program in the French and Spanish classrooms.

The money will go towards classroom materials and professional development.

Spanish teacher Ms. Izzo was also awarded \$150 through Donors Choose to expand her classroom library.





## Remsen Elementary Celebrates 100 Days of School



## Remsen Middle School Students Show Their Smarts at Annual Science Fair



Remsen Jr./Sr. high school hosted its annual science fair on March 4. This year, the number of projects expanded to nearly 50, completed by all seventh and eighth grade students, including several students enrolled in ninth grade coursework.

This year saw projects judged by not only the Remsen science department, but also by Remsen students involved in college-level science coursework as well as some guest judges including Mr. Adrian Piaschky and Mr. Jack Lombardi, both researchers with different organizations at Rome Labs, and Mrs. Brittany Gaffney from Model Schools and the Mohawk Valley Regional Information Center. The guest judges volunteered their time to share some of the opportunities they have had as a result of engaging in science with our students. Many younger students were able to get a preview of what to expect when they arrive at the high school as well as several classes from the elementary school who were able to attend and interact with their older classmates.

An additional opportunity for all students, new this year, was provided by Mrs. Lisa Davis and Mrs. Laurie Yager. Mrs. Davis, from OHM BOCES, shared augmented and virtual reality experiences with students, while Mrs. Yager, from the Regional Information Center, shared information about computer programming, coding and robotics with students who were able to see her robot NAOmi in action.

The experience was topped off for all participants by another group of high school students, as Mrs. Obernesser's classes provided specially made refreshments for all in attendance.

After the judge's scores were tallied, razor thin margins separated the top scoring projects that qualified to attend the Regional Science Fair at Utica College. The Utica College Regional Science Fair typically hosts student projects from schools from throughout Central New York, who compete for monetary prizes, college tuition and the opportunity to move on to the National Science Fair. However, due to the health related concerns surrounding COVID-19, the Utica College Science Fair was postponed until 2021.

### Projects that qualified to compete at the Utica College Regional Science Fair:

#### Seventh grade:

Reflection Projection by Nathan Amo and Brian Crowell  
Golden Noses by Natalie Barnard  
Supercapacitor vs Battery by Ean Piaschky  
Flashback Felines and Canines by Abbie Tyson and Addison Tesmer

#### Eighth Grade:

Student Mood and Ability by Imagin Aiken and Sabrina Gates  
Hole in One by Benjamin Becker and Zachary Helmer  
How You Digest a Gummy Bear by Dakota Flagler and Jaden Prosser  
Plant Growth by Malik Pett and Matthew Tavenner



## Boys Varsity Basketball Senior Night



On February 3, Remsen's varsity basketball team faced New York Mills. Remsen pulled off a 67-64 win, all while honoring their senior athletes.

Senior basketball players included: Brandon Murphy and Isiah Furman-Houck.

## Cabin Fever Fest 2020

On February 14, at the Remsen Jr/Sr High School, cabin fever was cured, at least for a few short hours.

Students in grades pre-K through 12 were paired together for a morning of learning, physical activity and a celebration of the healthy heart. Watching the older students working hand-in-hand with the younger ones to complete an activity or learn something new, brought smiles to the faces of all who were involved.

The event was a team effort for an energizing heart healthy day!

Thank you to:

- Engaging staff members at Remsen CSD as they challenged, calmed and helped create kindness within the student's hearts.
- SNAP-Ed Central Region for their food tasting and nutrition education.
- Chobani yogurt for their food donation.
- Our superhero students of every age.
- Zumba guru Jeannie Wolcott.
- Mrs. Ives and her classes for organizing the film challenge that Remsen won, allowing students at the high school to enjoy another heartbeat stomping visit from Roscoe Red, our prize-winning DJ.







## REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

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We are sorry to announce  
that due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Alumni Banquet has been canceled.  
A flyer from the Alumni Association with more information will be mailed out soon.



REMSEN CSD CLASS OF 2020