



# THE REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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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).

2023-24

### BUDGET HEARING

May 9 | 6:00 p.m.

Elementary School Library Media Center

### SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE, BOE ELECTION & DISTRICT ART SHOW

May 16 | 1:00-8:00 p.m.

Elementary School Cafeteria

### FFA PLANT SALE

May 16 | 3:00 p.m.

Elementary School Cafeteria

### - VISION STATEMENT -

Remsen Central School District forever aspires to be a unique, distinguished, welcoming learning community that fosters a growth mindset and essential traits of great character. RCS will remain dedicated to cultivating and supporting each student's individual abilities and interests as they confidently work to realize their full potential to lead happy, healthy, successful lives. All Remsen students will Soar to Success.

MAY 2023 | SOAR TO SUCCESS | WWW.REMSENCSD.ORG

## Message from the Superintendent

### Dear Remsen Community,

Genuinely good, hard-working people make Remsen a very special place to live, learn, and work. Collectively, we understand that our 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 plays a critical role in raising, teaching, and growing our youth into productive, responsible, kind, hard-working citizens. It truly does make a difference.

We have been hard at work preparing our *Student Opportunities Plan* (proposed budget) for the 2023-2024 school year. Thoughtful planning and monthly work sessions enabled our team to develop a fiscally responsible budget, responsive to our students' needs, with only a slight tax levy increase of 1%. This increase is well below our allowable New York State Property Tax Cap levy increase limit and reflects our commitment to balance the needs of our school district with the challenges that we, as a society, continue to live in.

In addition to voting on the proposed 2023-2024 budget in the amount of \$14,315,125, we will also be voting on two propositions. The first proposition on the ballot will be for the purchase of one 66-passenger school bus. The proposed purchase is 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 82.6% of the cost would be reimbursable through state aid.

The second proposition on the ballot will be to create a capital reserve account to fund improvements to our buildings, fields, and parking lots. This savings account will have a limit of \$2,500,000 and is where we may deposit surplus funds over time. Saving for large future capital project expenses is a very important part of maintaining a stable financial condition while ensuring our facilities are safe, efficient, and remain a source of community pride.

Our budget hearing will take place on Tuesday, May 9th at 6:00 PM in the elementary library media center. Please consider joining us to learn more about our *Student Opportunities Plan* and to hear from our one Board of Education candidate seeking election. If you are unable to attend, the full presentation will be posted to our webpage shortly thereafter. Additional budget and Board of Education election information may also be found throughout this newsletter. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Our school budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 16th, from 1:00 PM until 8:00 PM in the Elementary cafeteria. Voter parking spaces will be reserved at the front of the elementary parking lot closest to the cafeteria doors. Back by popular demand, our FFA students will be selling plants outside of the cafeteria doors starting at 3:00 PM and student artwork will be on display for all to enjoy.

Outstanding educational programs, beautiful facilities and exciting extracurricular clubs and teams; Remsen School District's strong community makes it all possible for our students. **We are Remsen!** As always, your **support** of, and **pride** in, Remsen Central School will ensure that our students continue to **Soar to Success**. Thank you!

It is an honor and a privilege to be your superintendent, and to be an alumnus of Remsen Central School.

Sincerely,

Timothy Jenny  
Superintendent



## Three Components of Our Student Opportunities Plan

### Program

The program budget contains expenses directly related to the teaching of students, teachers, instructional aides and other professional salaries, 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.

Description	Approved 2022-2023	Proposed 2023-2024	Change
Legal	\$34,000	\$34,000	\$0
Instructional	\$6,319,046	\$6,431,479	\$112,433
District Transportation	\$739,264	\$735,895	(\$3,369)
Garage Building	\$23,500	\$28,500	\$5,000
Employee Benefits	\$3,136,628	\$3,208,623	\$71,995
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$10,252,438</b>	<b>\$10,438,497</b>	<b>\$186,059</b>

### Capital

The capital budget includes costs associated with operations and 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. The final piece of this budget is a transfer to capital for ongoing building improvements.

Description	Approved 2022-2023	Proposed 2023-2024	Change
Operation of Plant	\$775,657	\$850,549	\$74,892
Maintenance of Plant	\$152,934	\$162,078	\$9,144
Insurance and Claims	\$45,203	\$46,333	\$1,130
Refund of Taxes	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$ -
Employee Benefits	\$243,844	\$254,554	\$10,710
Debt Service	\$1,026,608	\$1,025,283	\$(1,325)
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$ -
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$2,345,446</b>	<b>\$2,439,997</b>	<b>\$94,551</b>

### Administrative

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

Description	Approved 2022-2023	Proposed 2023-2024	Change
Board of Education	\$26,184	\$26,184	\$0
Central Administration	\$148,716	\$152,978	\$4,262
Finance	\$282,005	\$287,336	\$5,331
Legal	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
Personnel	\$9,976	\$15,876	\$5,900
Records Management	\$7,700	\$7,700	\$0
Other Central Services	\$59,346	\$59,346	\$0
Other Special Items	\$103,935	\$109,672	\$5,737
Curriculum Development & Support	\$23,500	\$23,500	\$0
Supervision Regular School	\$349,944	\$369,805	\$19,861
Research, Evaluation, Planning	\$5,329	\$5,329	\$0
Employee Benefits	\$365,765	\$372,905	\$7,140
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>\$1,388,400</b>	<b>\$1,436,631</b>	<b>\$48,231</b>



## Student Opportunities Plan Summary

REVENUE	Adopted 2022-2023	Proposed 2023-2024	Increase/ Decrease	% Change
Estimated Aid (State & Federal)	\$7,797,456	\$8,095,765	\$298,309	3.83%
<b>Tax Levy</b>	<b>\$5,589,914</b>	<b>\$5,645,813</b>	<b>\$55,899</b>	<b>1.00%</b>
Other Revenue	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0	0.00%
Fund Balance	\$348,914	\$323,547	(\$25,367)	-7.27%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$13,986,284</b>	<b>\$14,315,125</b>	<b>\$328,841</b>	<b>2.35%</b>
EXPENDITURES	Adopted 2022-2023	Proposed 2023-2024	Increase/ Decrease	% Change
Program	\$10,252,438	\$10,438,497	\$186,059	1.81%
Capital	\$2,345,446	\$2,439,997	\$94,551	4.03%
Administrative	\$1,388,400	\$1,436,631	\$48,231	3.47%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$13,986,284</b>	<b>\$14,315,125</b>	<b>\$328,841</b>	<b>2.35%</b>

### 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 May 16 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?

Residents who will not be in the area on May 16, or who are unable to vote in person may apply for an absentee ballot at the Remsen Central School District Office. If the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be submitted at least seven days prior to the vote. If the absentee ballot is to be picked up by the voter in person, applications will be accepted until May 15. Absentee ballots must be returned to the district clerk no later than 5:00 PM on May 16.

### Propositions on the Ballot

#### 2023-2024 BUDGET PROPOSITION

RESOLVED, that the 2023-2024 Budget for the Remsen Central School District, in the amount of \$14,315,125 is hereby adopted and the requisite portion thereof is to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

#### Proposition #1 - Bus Purchase

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of one 66-passenger school bus, not to exceed estimated maximum cost of \$151,888, less trade-in value, if any, and that such costs, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$151,888 shall be issued, or the school district may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the school district to finance the purchase in that method.

#### Proposition #2 – Capital Reserve Fund

A second separate proposition is to create a reserve account to fund improvements to our buildings, fields, and parking lots. This savings account will have a limit of \$2,500,000 and is where we will deposit surplus funds over time. Saving for large future capital project expenses is a very important part of maintaining a stable financial condition while ensuring our facilities are safe, efficient, and remain a source of community pride.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to be designated, "2023 Capital Reserve Fund" created to defray the cost of the construction, reconstruction and equipping of School District buildings and facilities, including original equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, furnishings, land acquisitions, and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, and to defray the cost of, in whole or in part, and in order to accomplish the same, the Board is hereby authorized to establish the ultimate amount of such reserve fund to Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000) inclusive of accrued interest and other investment earnings, with a probable term of ten (10) years. The Board of Education is hereby authorized to pay funds from the available fund balance, state aid reimbursement to the School District on account of capital projects, such other monies as the voters may direct, and/or other legally available funds of the School District to such reserve fund in an amount determined by the Board of Education up to the maximum authorized amount.

### Student Opportunities Plan Breakdown

- Program 72.92%**
- Administrative 10.04%**
- Capital 17.04%**



## Board of Education Election

### BOARD OF EDUCATION SEAT

To elect one member to the Board of Education for a term of five (5) years commencing July 1, 2023.  
There is one candidate running and will appear on the ballot as follows: 1. Tara Kennerknecht





## REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

### Overall Budget Proposal

### Budget Adopted for the 2022-23 School Year

### Budget Proposed for the 2023-24 School Year

### Contingency Budget for the 2023-24 School Year\*

Total budgeted amount, not including separate propositions	\$ 13,986,284	\$14,315,125	\$14,252,864
Increase/decrease for 2023-2024 school year		\$328,841	\$266,580
Percentage increase/decrease in proposed budget		2.35%	1.91%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		8.0%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$5,589,914	\$5,645,813	
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)	\$5,589,914	\$5,645,813	\$5,589,914
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$95,697	\$126,009	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$5,513,131	\$5,641,733	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$5,494,217	\$5,519,804	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$18,914	\$121,929	
Administrative component	\$1,388,400	\$1,436,631	\$1,412,735
Program component	\$10,252,438	\$10,438,497	\$10,429,652
Capital component	\$2,345,446	\$2,439,997	\$2,410,477

\* Contingency budget maintains requirements pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

\*\* 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
<b>Bus Purchase (before State Aid of 82.6%)</b>	<b>\$151,888</b>
<b>Capital Reserve Creation (to save money for capital improvements up to \$2,500,000)</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>

### Under the Budget Proposed for the 2023-2024 School Year

**Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>**

**\$577.45**

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2023-24 by the qualified voters of the Remsen Central School District, Oneida County, New York, will be held at the Elementary School cafeteria in said District on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. prevailing time in the cafeteria, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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

#### Summary of District Budget Notice Above

Change in Operating Budget	2.35%
Change in Property Tax Levy	1.00%
Allowable Property Tax Levy Limit	3.18%

*This increase is below our allowable NYS Property Tax Cap Levy Increase Limit and reflects our commitment to balance the needs of our school district with the challenges that we, as a society, are currently living.*



## A Message from the Elementary School Principal

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Dear Remsen Families,

As the end of the school year quickly approaches, it is neat to look back to the beginning of the year and to reflect on all of the growth and progress that each student has made over the course of one school year. Our youngest students, those in our pre-kindergarten program, have grown and learned so much, and are beginning to look like little kindergarten students ready to take on the challenges of kindergarten. Our third-graders no longer seem like third-graders and are getting ready to move down to the "big kids" wing, where they will be assigned lockers. Finally, our sixth-grade students are beginning to show us that they are ready for their next adventure in junior high. Every single student, regardless of their grade or age, whether they love school or would rather be fishing, makes a tremendous amount of growth and progress in just one school year. As an educator, it is a privilege to be just a part of the ongoing learning and growth of our students.

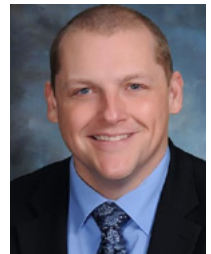
We have been very active in the elementary school. The month of March was a very busy month, full of a number of events and celebrations for our students. We celebrated Music in our Schools Month together with a special 5th-12th-grade concert. It was a special evening with performances from our junior and senior high ensembles, as well as a number of solo and duet performances from our students. During March, we also held our trimester two parent-teacher conferences and celebrated many of our students during our Evening of Excellence awards ceremony. As part of our Social Emotional/Character Education Program, The Positivity Project, we held a schoolwide assembly to review and discuss many of the character strengths that we have learned throughout the school year. Our sixth-graders helped to lead the assembly by speaking about each of the character strengths and discussing how they have seen the character strength displayed at school. One of the final activities for the month of March was our pre-kindergarten through third grade field trip to the Stanley Theater to see "Pete's Big Hollywood Adventure." Our students enjoyed a fun, musical adventure starring beloved storybook character Pete the Cat. April passed by very quickly, with spring and Easter celebrations, Spring Break and the grades three through eight New York State English Language Arts assessments.

Looking ahead, the last few months of the school year will be very exciting, as they usually are, full of important learning and fun, and many end-of-year activities. We have our Elementary Career Day, Olympic Day, third trimester Evening of Excellence and many other events to look forward to. Before we know it, the third trimester will come to an end, and we will be celebrating our sixth-grade students at their graduation. Information about these events and more will be posted on the school website, sent home or shared on ParentSquare. Also, be on the lookout for more information about our plans for summer programming. We are planning to provide summer camps/programs similar to those that we've offered the last few years.

It truly is amazing how quickly this school year has gone by and how much learning and growing has taken place. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. It is only in working together that we will be able to provide the best for the students of Remsen. If you need anything, do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

*Gary Winghart*  
*Elementary School Principal*



## A Message from the Jr./Sr. High School Principal

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Dear Remsen Families,

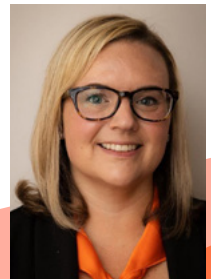
As we head toward the end of the school year, it is important to finish strong. There is still much to accomplish as our students and staff are busy preparing for end-of-year exams and we will make time to celebrate our students in a variety of ways like our Ram Ticket drawings, Honor Roll Celebrations, the Annual Academic Awards Ceremony, and the JV/Varsity Sports Awards Ceremony.

In the coming months, we can look forward to spring sports contests, Spirit Week, Junior/Senior Grand March and Prom, and the Band and Chorus Darien Lake Trip and Spring Concert. We will conclude our year celebrating our seniors at the 2023 Graduation ceremony on June 23. It is sure to be a busy but rewarding spring. If you have any questions about your student's progress or how we can help them reach their goals, please let me know.

Although being a young adult in today's world comes with its own challenges, we are striving to make sure that our students know that we care about them, that they matter, and that they are important to us. One of the recent ways we are doing this is through the positivity posters that are displayed throughout the building to provide visual reminders and words of encouragement to our students. We will continue to work together to encourage kindness, empathy, and perseverance so that all of our students can *Soar to Success!*

Sincerely,

*Sanya Pebrah*  
*Jr./Sr. High School Principal*



# CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT UPDATE

## District-wide Safety and Security Enhancements

*NO ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY*

*Anticipated Start: 2023-2024 School Year*

The proposed 2023-2024 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% 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 be to enhance the overall safety and security district-wide. Specifically, the scope includes installation of a blue light strobe system and push buttons for emergency lock downs, an Automatic 911 Dialer Incident Response Panel that immediately contacts 911 as soon as one of our buildings goes into a lock down, and remaining perimeter door contacts to alert staff when a door is ajar.

One of our overarching goals for the Remsen Central School District is 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.

## Meet the Candidate

### MRS. TARA KENNERKNECHT



#### BASIC BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

**Family:** *In 1983 my parents moved from Utica to the town of Remsen. I attended school at RCS and have lived in the area since. My husband and I have raised our one and only child in the District as well. Kole is currently an eighth-grader at Remsen Central School.*

**Education:** *I graduated from Remsen Central School in 1997. I have since attended and graduated from St. Elizabeth College of Nursing and Utica College (University), earning a bachelors degree in nursing.*

**Work Experience:** *Previous employment includes 12 years at Utica National Insurance Company, 11 years at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, and am currently employed by Mohawk Valley Health System as an IT manager of clinical applications.*

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION INFORMATION

**Why do you think it is important to serve the community and school as a BOE member?** *I think it's essential to serve the community and school as a BOE member because our small community should have various perspectives when advocating certain causes and considerations. Having already established relationships with many stakeholders would be beneficial in this role.*

**What strengths/experiences would you bring to board service?** *My experience with working with the public in addition to my leadership experience would bring value to the board service. In addition, my extensive residency within the community, and rapport with community members would be significant when advocating certain topics.*

**What do you think are or will be the most pressing issues facing education in general or Remsen Central School?** *I believe some of the most pressing issues facing education in general include mental health disparities, bullying, school safety, and inequality.*

**Other Information:** *I respect that everyone has a voice and I am willing to listen to all stakeholders with an open mind. It would be a great honor to work with the BOE members to create a safe, positive and impartial environment for everyone.*



*Five Remsen Students Earn the*  
**WALTER KACZOR**  
**MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
TO DEC SUMMER CAMP



Congratulations to Lucas Linke, Owen Piaschyk, Ethan Karis, Molly Southwick and Emily Shufelt. They are the recipients of the first Walter Kaczor Memorial Scholarship created by Mrs. Kaczor and her family, in memory of long-time Remsen Science teacher Mr. Walter Kaczor, who passed away unexpectedly last year. The Scholarship is intended to support students in attending programs and camps that teach and reinforce science, conservation, orienteering, forestry and protecting wildlife. This scholarship fully sponsors Remsen students to attend a DEC Summer Camp, honoring Mr. Kaczor's love for the students of RCS and his passion for learning and nature.

*Summer 2023*  
**LEARNING AND ENRICHMENT**  
OPPORTUNITIES

PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE:

**Rams Academy, Kindergarten Kick-Start,  
Motivation and Physical Fitness,  
Maker Camp, Various Athletic Camps and more!**

Please be on the lookout for more information about our Summer Programs on our school website and social media.





# SOARING *Students of the Month*

**FEBRUARY 2023**



Chase Helmer

Colton Randazzo

Colton Sypolt

Emerson LaBella

Emma Clapps

Ethan Behr

Gideon Dietrick

Haley Huising



Jase Kinsley

Jason Guo

Leah Houck

Luke Murphy

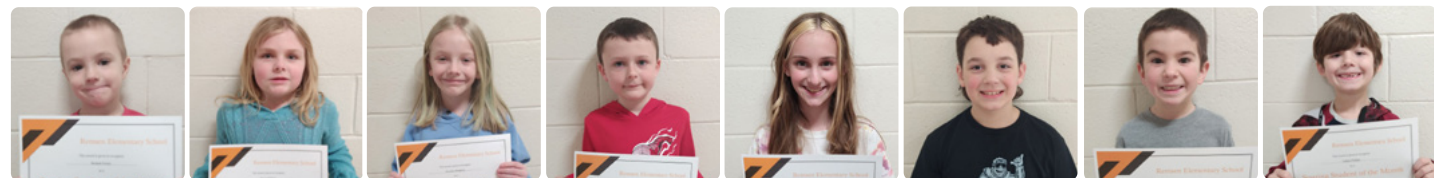
Lydia Gates

Mckenzie Myers

Norbert Bankert

Russell Schaffer

**MARCH 2023**



Beckett Porter

Brianna Petteys

Brynnlee Bourgeois

Chase Ultsch

Jayde Hammill

Jayden Rios

Jeremy Kasprovicz

Linken Phillips



Lucas Fox

Reagan Helmer

Reagan Tomaino

Reese Rowlands

Rosalie Walker

Trenton Porter

Willow DeLand





# Pete's BIG HOLLYWOOD ADVENTURE

On March 31, students in pre-kindergarten through grade three traveled to the Stanley Theater in Utica to enjoy "Pete's Big Hollywood Adventure," a fun, musical adventure starring the beloved storybook character Pete the Cat.

Pete the Cat and his buddy Callie travel to Hollywood and sneak into the Hollywood Studios. The two friends get lost in the world of movies. The students enjoyed the show as Pete and Callie jumped from movie to movie, meeting new friends like Ethel the Apatosaurus and Robo-Pete.



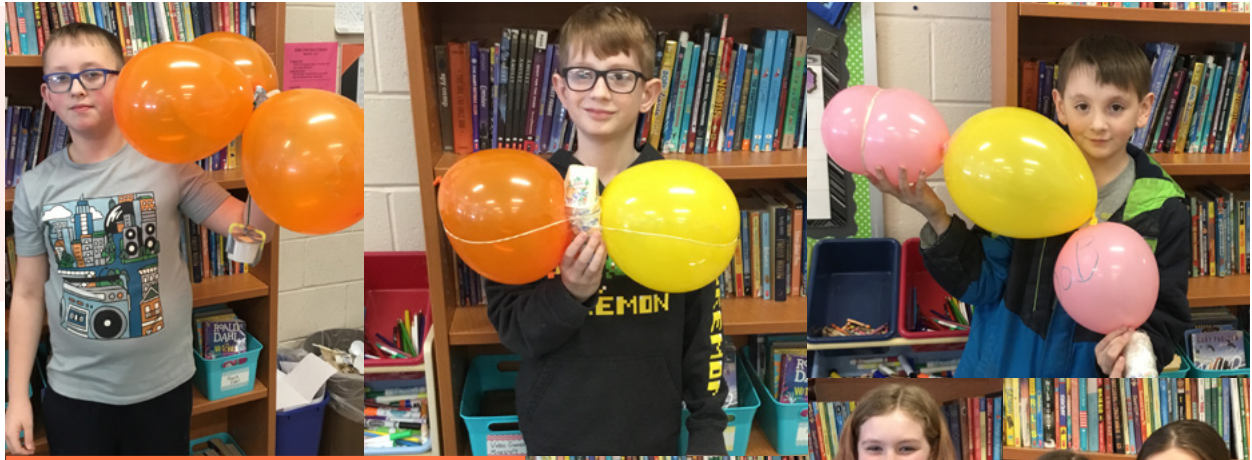
## ELEMENTARY ALL-COUNTY FESTIVAL

Four Remsen Elementary students were selected to participate in this year's Oneida County Music Educators Association (OCMEA) Elementary All-County Musical Festival hosted by the Rome City School District.

Ella Dickenson-Waldo represented Remsen in the All-County chorus, performing songs including "The Water is Wide," "Be Joyful" and "The Battle of Jericho." Cassidy Kerr also prepared to be part of the All-County chorus, but was unable to attend the event.

Anna Becker and Jasmine Colón represented Remsen in the All-County band performing songs including "Shock Wave," "Prehistoric Suite" and "Any Way You Want It."





# STEAM *Club*



On March 7, the fifth grade STEAM Club met to engage in thoughtful activities.

The students were supplied with an egg and various materials such as balloons and tape. The students then had the task of designing a structure that could keep their egg safe from harm after being dropped from two meters.

The STEAM students had fun designing and bringing their ideas to life.



# SECOND TRIMESTER

## *Evening of Excellence*

On the evening of March 28, Remsen Elementary students were honored for their academic achievements, hard work and attitude toward others during the second trimester of the 2022-23 school year. During the Evening of Excellence, Principal Winghart presented students with recognitions including Good Citizenship, Soaring to Success, Honor Roll, High Honor and the Remsen Alumni Association Award.



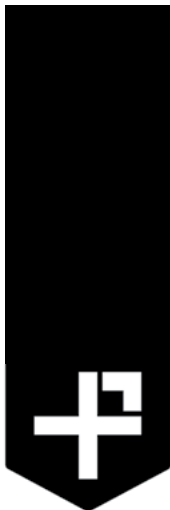
# POSITIVITY PROJECT

On March 16, Remsen Elementary students engaged in a Positivity Project (P2) ceremony for making it more than halfway through the program.

Students in grades pre-K through sixth grade gathered in the cafeteria and listened as Principal Winghart and the sixth grade presenters discussed the themes of P2. Each presenter discussed an attribute that they learned about through the program and discussed examples of how to apply the lessons to their own lives.

After each sixth grader presented, they announced the names of students in the elementary school who demonstrated the attributes discussed: teamwork, integrity, gratitude, kindness, self-control and perseverance. Each student called upon was awarded a personalized certificate by Principal Winghart and Ms. Kistowski, recognizing their hard work.

P2 is a 32-week program for schools, with more than 160 daily lessons that are differentiated for grades pre-K-12. The P2 program runs for a portion of the school year through daily 15-minute lessons, and focuses on a common schoolwide vocabulary developed through consistency and naturally woven throughout the entire school day.



**THE  
POSITIVITY  
PROJECT**

#otherpeoplematter



# The Pirates of PENZANCE JR.

On the weekend of March 10, Remsen Jr./Sr. High School's Drama Club performed the production of "The Pirates of Penzance Jr."

"The Pirates of Penzance Jr." is a new version of Gilbert & Sullivan's classic operetta as presented on Broadway by the New York Shakespeare Festival. The Libretto was written by Sir W.S. Gilbert and the music by Sir Arthur Sullivan.

This production of "Pirates of Penzance Jr." was co-advised and music directed by Mr. Dangler, co-directed and choreographed by Ms. Inman and co-directed and co-advised by Mrs. Taylor.

Additional accolades:

Set Design: Isabella C3lon

Costume Design: Ms. Inman and Mrs. Taylor

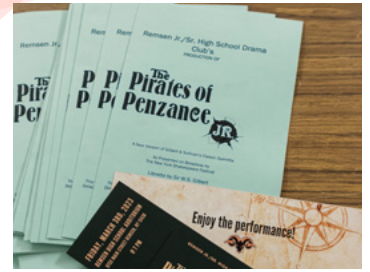
Sound: Chloe Matt

Stage Manager: Isabella C3lon

Stage Crew: Alice Roman, Chloe Matt and Isabella C3lon

Thanks to all the parents and teachers who made this production possible! Thank you, to Ms. Jodi Richard for the stunning backdrop, Dean and Diana MacLachlan for lending their chests and barrel, the Remsen Board of Education and RCS administration for their continued support of the Drama Club and the arts and the entire Remsen maintenance and custodial staff for their help during every practice and show dates.

The "Pirates of Penzance Jr." was presented through special arrangement with, and all authorized materials are supplied by, Music Theatre International, New York, NY.



## MOCK TRIAL

Each year, the New York State Bar Association presents a case for students to bring to life. Students then work to prepare their cases by learning designated roles and preparing questions specific to the case that will then be heard before a judge. Schools alternate between the prosecution and the defense and compete on the basis of their opening statements, witness direct examination and cross examination, witness preparation, professionalism and closing statements. Each component of the trial is timed, so students must be able to quickly adapt their line of questioning based on the witnesses' answers and the opposing counsel's direct examination questions. The entire mock trial process helps students to develop skills including public speaking, communication, problem solving, teamwork and critical analysis while working within strict legal guidelines.

Each mock trial team is composed of six witnesses and three attorneys, and matches were held at the Utica courthouse. Advisor Mrs. Nicole Nehme is proud of the team's dedication and hard work

Congratulations to the Remsen Mock Trial Team on a job well done!

# NATIONAL

# HONOR

## Society

### INDUCTION CEREMONY

On March 23, current National Honor Society (NHS) members joined together with new inductees to celebrate and honor each other as well as the tradition of the NHS.



#### CURRENT MEMBERS

##### 12th Grade

Julia Dening  
Grace Hajdasz  
Joshua Jordan  
Mary-Jane Kranbuhl  
Grace Shufelt  
Noah Skermont  
Benjamin Staskoski

##### 11th Grade

Imagin Aiken  
Frank Austin  
Benjamin Becker  
Sabrina Gates  
Isabella Lalyer  
Tayler Nelson  
Ava Russo  
Brian Secor

#### NEW MEMBERS

##### 10th Grade

Shianne Austin  
Jannah Day  
Wyatt Ehart  
Matthew Helmer, Jr.  
Dylan Jones  
Ean Piaschyk  
Colton Walker

##### 11th Grade

Zachary Helmer

##### 12th Grade

Teaghan Fox  
Kyrian Hall  
Grady Helmer  
Taylor Hollenbeck  
Skylie O'Connor-Russo



# Jr. High ALL-COUNTY

On March 17-18, Evalyn Gates, Trent Jenny and Owen Piaschyk were selected to attend the Jr. High All-County Festival. Congratulations on your achievement!



## NYS P H S A A Scholar ATHLETE

At the end of each sports season, the NYS P H S A A honors those teams and individuals that excel in the classroom. Those student-athletes, teams and schools work very hard throughout the year and deserve to be recognized for their academic success.

To receive Scholar-Athlete team recognition with a certificate, the team's average GPA for 75% of the roster must be greater than or equal to 90.00. This means you take 75% of your roster and then average their GPAs. Remsen Central School again this winter had 100% of their varsity teams qualify for the NYS P H S A A Scholar-Athlete team award.

### BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Kole Poczatek | Matthew Helmer | Dylan Jones | Benjamin Becker | Kyrian Hall | Grady Helmer | Joshua Jordan | Benjamin Staskoski

### GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Sienna Aiken | Jaiden Maher | Imagin Aiken | Sabrina Gates | Isabella Lalyer | Leila Ward | Teaghan Fox | Marissa Hefner

### BOYS INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Ethan Karis | Gavin Nelson | Wyatt Ehart | Ean Piaschyk | Zachary Helmer | Taylor Hollenbeck | Matthew Murphy

# SABA BREAKFAST

On March 30, Remsen students attended the School and Business Alliance Breakfast at the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES. In addition to hearing from a guest speaker, students engaged in discussions and networking related to a variety of careers. Additionally, Remsen senior Grace Shufelt was awarded the Kathleen A. Clements Scholarship.

**Congratulations, Grace!**





# BOCES Summer Camps

ENGAGING WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 7-10

Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES summer camps run from July 5-July 28 from 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m., daily. Transportation will be provided by Remsen. Applications can be found on our website or in guidance and are due by May 27.

## CAMPS INCLUDE

Automotive Mechanics | Construction Camp | Cosmetology Camp  
Creative Cooking | Leveraging Your Leadership | Welding

# SCIENCE FAIR

On March 6, Remsen middle school students participated in a Science Fair. At the start of the fair, the students gathered in the gym for a question and answer (Q&A) session. Following the Q&A from students and teachers, opening remarks were made and the judging began.

Many students from the middle school worked in teams to participate in the Science Fair. Each team displayed their ideas and research on tri-fold boards to engage the judges. Some teams also built or brought in 3D models of their projects to display with their research board.

Additional congratulations to our finalists who will present at the Utica University Science Fair. The finalists include Brooklyn Helmer & Olivia Lalyer, Jackson LaBella & Jimmy Lehman, Alexis Stevens & Evalyn Gates, Emily Spatto, Allannah Lawlor & Cynthia Poczatek, Bryce Graves & Owen Piaschyck, Trent Jenny and Wyatt Rapson.

The Science Fair served as a great way for students to bond and challenge themselves and they are excited for next year's event!





# INTERNATIONAL *Club*

# *Trip to* NYC



Members of the High School International Club attended a day trip to NYC on March 31. They visited various sites such as the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Members of the club also enjoyed French and Spanish cuisine.



# COOKING *Class*



The International Club recently held a cooking class with guest chef and the OHM BOCES dietician Hayley Mielnicki. Students made churros, a Spanish version of fried dough!



# Utica University SCIENCE FAIR

On April 1, a group of Remsen Junior High School students demonstrated their commitment to the District's newly adopted mission, vision and core values as they "soared to success" at the Utica University Regional Science Fair. Remsen students have participated in the Utica University Regional Science Fair for the past decade, and have seen incredible results in recent years. This year was no exception.

Remsen students had an impressive showing of place finishers and received several special recognition awards. All Remsen students that participated earned at least one award and all Remsen participants earned monetary prizes for their scientific efforts.

## Awards

*The "Doc" Aaronson Award in Biology, Junior Level: **Trent Jenny***

*The Doris Miga Award, Junior Level: **Brooklyn Helmer and Olivia Lalyer***

*The Madame Curie Award, Junior Level: **Bryce Graves and Owen Piaschyk***

*The Sally Lachut Majka and Donald Majka Award in Conservation: **Trent Jenny***

*AFCEA Awards supported by the Air Force Research Lab: **James Lehman and Jackson LaBella***

*Asa Gray Biological Society Award, Junior Level: **Wyatt Rapson***

*Association for Women Geoscientists Award: **Alannah Lawlor and Cynthia Poczatek***

*NASA Earth Systems Science Award, Junior Level: **Alannah Lawlor and Cynthia Poczatek***

*Office of Naval Research Science Award, Junior Level: **Trent Jenny***

*U.S. Metric Association Award: **Jackson LaBella and James Lehman***

*Junior Level Physical Science Division:*

*3rd Place: **Bryce Graves and Owen Piaschyk***

*2nd Place: **Evalyn Gates and Alexis Stevens***

*1st Place: **Jackson LaBella and James Lehman***

*Junior Level Natural Science Division:*

*4th Place: **Emily Spatto***

*2nd Place: **Brooklyn Helmer and Olivia Lalyer***

*1st Place: **Trent Jenny***

*Junior Level Math, Engineering and Computer Science:*

*1st Place: **Alannah Lawlor and Cynthia Poczatek***

*Grand Champion:*

*Junior Level: **Trent Jenny***



# UTICA UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY CAREER DAY

On March 29, students visited Utica University to learn more about careers in communications.



## NATIONAL MATHWORKS MODELING CHALLENGE

High School students participated in the MathWorks Modeling Challenge again this year.

MathWorks Math Modeling Challenge (M3 Challenge) is a free contest for high school juniors and seniors in the U.S. and sixth form students in England and Wales. Scholarships totaling \$100,000 are awarded annually.

Mr. John Glass supported our students as they came up with a viable solution for a real-world problem within the 14-hour time frame. This year's problem dealt with the growth in e-bike use. Students had various questions to answer, including creating a model to predict growth in e-bike sales, the causes for the growth and the impact the growth has on other areas.

Congratulations to Julia Dening, Grace Hajdasz, Zachary Helmer, Brian Secor and Benjamin Staskoski for working diligently to come up with a solution to the proposed problem.





REMSEN CENTRAL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

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— SOAR TO SUCCESS —

## 109<sup>th</sup> Annual ALUMNI BANQUET

The Remsen Alumni Association is holding our 109th Banquet on Saturday, June 10, 2023, starting with a social hour at 4:30 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. The banquet will celebrate the present Class of 2023, along with the 25, 50 and 75 year anniversaries. For more details and information, please contact Remsen Alumni Association President Mark Williams at 315.576.1974 or [markb2055@gmail.com](mailto:markb2055@gmail.com). We hope to see you there!

Your thoughtful contributions enable the Alumni Association to support the National Honor Society, FFA, high school music department, elementary excellence awards, and the high school end of year awards. Most importantly, your generosity serves our greatest goal, to proudly provide three scholarships to this year's deserving senior recipients.

If you would like to support the Remsen Alumni Association and school, please send donations to:

**Linda Cady | 10471 Coombs Road | Holland Patent, NY 13354**

*Checks should be made out to the Remsen Alumni Association.*

The Remsen Alumni Association is proud to be able to support our graduates and the Remsen Central School District, all made possible by the contributions, donations and dedication of our community.

Thank you for your support,

*Mark Williams*  
RAA PRESIDENT

