



**REMSEN Senior Displays
Versatility in Success**
Photos And Full Story | Page 9

THE REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

May 2016 | Think big... make a big difference | 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.



**More Honors for
Championship
Winning Girls
Volleyball Team**
Full Story | Page 10

Painting of Erin Hamlin Unveiled at REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School Donated by County Executive's Office

Despite all the medals, records and fame that come along with being a luger for Team USA, Erin Hamlin has never forgotten her roots.

Her hometown of REMSEN - - and beyond - - has never forgotten about her, either.


On April 8, Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente, Jr. visited REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School to officially donate and unveil a painting of Hamlin, with hopes that it will inspire future generations of competitors.

The painting was completed by local artist Tom Varano from "Emotion into Art" after Leadership Mohawk Valley (LMV) - - an organization committed to the growth and development of individuals as effective leaders - - requested the painting for its 25th anniversary gala. After the gala, LMV donated the painting to Picente, who later decided to give it to REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School.

"Erin Hamlin's story is a powerful inspiration for all of the people of Oneida County, and we could not think of a more fitting place for this artwork than the school in her home community," said Picente.

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 To view a photo gallery, log onto www.remsencsd.org.

Innovation & Relevance, Stewardship & Optimism Guide REMSEN to Excellence

By Dr. William Crankshaw,
Superintendent and Mr. James Reilly,
Board of Education President

Through long-range planning, careful day-to-day financial management, and restoration of NYS school funding, the financial health of REMSEN has again significantly improved. Continuing a three year pattern, the REMSEN Board of Education 2016-2017 budget proposal will maintain our tax rate, restore programs, establish innovative new programs, and establish a long-range program to maintain our facilities.

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2016-17 Proposed Budget Hearing

May 10, 2016, at 6 p.m.

2016-17 Proposed Budget Vote and Board of Education Election

May 17, 2016, from 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Elementary School

BOE Election

One seat for a five (5) year term:

Candidates:

Mark B. Williams (incumbent)
Ryan Spatto

Innovation & Relevance, Stewardship & Optimism Guide REMSEN to Excellence

Continued From Cover

One great challenge for any school district, regardless of size, is to provide the very best educational program for its students within the means of local taxpayers and state aid. The 2016-2017 REMSEN School District budget reflects this responsibility. The proposed budget is based on a 0.11% tax decrease (\$5,692 decrease) in the local tax levy and an overall increase in spending of 3.58%. The increase in spending is paid for through a restoration of NYS school funding. The total proposed is \$11,550,000. For property owners who are eligible for Basic STAR or Enhanced STAR, actual taxes paid - after the NYS rebate - are expected to remain below the 2013 level.

This proposed budget builds on our commitment of stewardship of your tax dollars - staying below our allowable Tax Cap, by 2.1% last year and by 1.9% the year before. Achieving lower taxes in those years resulted in our negative Tax Cap this year, which is an example of how rules made by NYS challenge rational behavior every day. For example – and oddly enough - the District's negative Tax Cap is actually lower than the Tax Cap imposed by a contingency budget (0%). If the budget is voted down, taxes would not decrease in the scenario of a contingency budget. In such a scenario, the Board anticipates saving any additional funds in a reserve account to address future expenses.

Additional state aid that we have received will be used to invest in the long range financial and educational health of the district. Plans to restore, repair, replace, and improve our current facilities and grounds will be funded within this proposed budget through the use of three funding mechanisms: Capital Outlay Projects, Energy Performance Contracts, and Capital Projects. The approach by the Board and Administration is to budget for necessary funds within the existing budget, rather than ask for a tax increase to fund improvements. The Board plans to address routine maintenance and repair of the facilities through the inclusion of a District-funded Capital Outlay (limited to \$100,000) in our budget each year (refer to page 3). The actual cost of this effort to the REMSEN taxpayers is \$16,500; the State will pay the remaining \$83,500 resulting in an annual 500% return on investment for the taxpayers. A Capital Outlay is included in the 2016-2017 proposed budget.

Necessary projects, such as roofs, infrastructure, and more extensive site work, would exceed the amount of \$100,000. Therefore, Capital Reserve Funds, established with voter approval, will be used to address larger Capital Projects. Capital Reserve Funds are meant to minimize the impact of Capital Projects on taxpayers. Last year, a Capital Reserve Fund was proposed and approved by voters, and a second Capital Reserve Fund is proposed in the new budget. These funds will be used to pay for a Capital Project rather than asking voters for a tax increase, and can only be used if the community approves of it in a separate vote. Capital Projects are aided by NYS at 83.5%.

The intent of Capital Reserve Funds is to prevent an increase in our property tax rates for expenses we can expect. For example, replacing a school building roof at the end of its useful life in 20 years, would require that we designate a portion of the funds needed to replace it each year. Similarly, when we repair the track, we will also budget to maintain it - using Capital Reserve Funds.

The proposed budget maintains our current dynamic programs and current extra-curricular activities, and it improves opportunities for students in expanded and additional programs. Significant improvements are planned through additional Elementary Response to Intervention [RtI] capabilities, Technology and Instructional Support, JSHS Humanities offerings, Career & Technical Education programs, Athletics, Clubs & Activities, and Professional Clerical support for improved administrative efficiencies.

REMSen strives to maintain its reputation of excellent academic performance, individual attention to the needs of our students, and a realization of college, career and citizen readiness for all our students. Innovation and sustainability are key to our continued success and improvement. With the support and help of our community – we look forward to great success and continued improvement as we operate within our commitment to a strong educational mission and enduring goals.



Superintendent of Schools, Dr. William Crankshaw



Moving REMSEN Forward: Understanding a District-Funded Capital Outlay

The REMSEN Central School District prides itself on preparing its students to learn both traditional and innovative programs and helping them to become college, career and life ready. However, as soon as one class graduates and leaves the experience of the REMSEN Central School District, a new class of students joins the school district, requiring the same, if not even greater attention, in order to achieve their potential. So, while students come and go, the REMSEN Central School District is here to stay, and must always work to provide the best education possible for our students.

In addition to the preparation of a fiscally sound and responsible budget that addresses the needs of our students and the concerns of taxpayers, the school district has a responsibility to develop, procure, maintain and improve its resources, such as its facilities, equipment, technology and materials and supplies. A Capital Outlay Project can help our school district meet that responsibility and effectively implement a maintenance and improvement plan.

A district-funded Capital Outlay Project is when a school district spends money to either purchase a fixed asset or to extend its life. A Capital Outlay Project is not an immediate expense. Rather, the expense depreciates over time.

School districts like REMSEN may receive reimbursement for capital outlay projects that are wholly funded through capital outlay and which fall into one of the following categories:

- Total cost is no more than \$100,000
- Capital Outlay Project is also a construction emergency project (a project that provides immediate repairs in order to eliminate or mitigate hazards that threaten health and/or safety)

The proposed 2016-17 REMSEN Central School District budget includes a \$100,000 Capital Outlay Project.* If the proposed budget is passed, the project would fund continued, much needed work at the Junior-Senior High School, and would also enhance safety. As part of the project, moisture and drainage issues will be addressed at the Junior-Senior High School.

- Exterior courtyard doors will be replaced
- Interior courtyard drainage issues will be addressed
- Courtyard sidewalks near the building will be replaced

The REMSEN Central School District will be reimbursed by the state for 83.5% of the capital outlay project's cost

It is critically important that the REMSEN Central School District not only continues to provide a quality education for its students, but also a safe and modern place to learn. Capital Outlay Projects allow school districts to make necessary improvements to their infrastructure while limiting the cost burden. They can also pave the way for more feasible Capital Projects, which require a great deal of planning.

The Board of Education and Administration are currently planning a Capital Project (different from a Capital Outlay Project) to address larger projects that are critical to improving and sustaining the student learning environment, such as roofs, infrastructure, and site-work improvements and repairs. Thanks to conscientious stewardship of District funds and taxpayer's dollars, an upcoming Capital Improvement Project will have no additional impact on the tax levy.



Front Jr./Sr. high sidewalk



Exterior courtyard doors/sidewalk



Interior courtyard drainage issues



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 17 election, be at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States and registered to vote with the school district.

Can I Vote by Absentee Ballot?

Residents who will not be in the area on May 17, 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 16.

Absentee ballots must be returned to the district clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 17.

Attention: New Voting Method

When you vote on the school budget on May 17 – and those vying for a seat on the Board of Education – you will notice a big, and hopefully welcomed, change.

The REMSEN Central School District will no longer be using paper ballots and hand counting them. Instead, the District will be using electronic voting machines from the Oneida County Board of Elections.

Each voter will receive a pre-printed ballot and after filling it in, will be asked to simply feed the ballot through an electronic voting machine. The Oneida County Board of Elections will also assign a poll inspector to REMSEN for the vote.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the District Office at 315.831.3797.

Propositions on the Ballot

Bus Purchase Proposition

Seeks voter approval to purchase two (2) 66-passenger school buses at a cost not to exceed \$236,000, less trade in value.

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 76.5 percent of the cost would be reimbursable through state aid. This would reduce

the cost for local taxpayers from \$236,000 to less than \$55,000, which would be paid for through a five-year Bond.



Reserve Proposition

Asks voters to authorize the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund, with the purpose of such fund being to finance future construction, reconstruction, improvement and equipping of school buildings and facilities. This reserve shall not exceed the amount of \$1,000,000, with an initial deposit of \$0. The intent of the Capital Reserve Fund is to prevent a property tax increase. For example replacing a school building roof at the end of its useful life.

Bus Purchase Q & A

Why does the District purchase buses on a regular basis?

The proposed purchase of two (2) buses is part of an ongoing bus replacement plan designed to ensure student safety and control repair and maintenance costs on older buses. The replacement plan has also helped the District establish an excellent safety record with the New York State Department of Transportation.

How does the District determine when to replace a bus?

Mileage is not the only consideration when determining which buses to remove from service and to replace. The primary consideration is the age of the bus and the mileage of the bus. The salt mixture used on local roads is corrosive to a bus's structure. State law requires buses to undergo rigorous safety inspections twice a year. If a school bus fails one of the inspections, it must be taken off the road immediately, and cannot be put back into service until it meets the state's standards. It costs much more to maintain an older bus to the state's standards than it costs to maintain a new bus. New vehicles also carry lower maintenance costs for the first five years when they are under warranty.



Components of the Proposed 2016-2017 Remsen Central School District Budget

Administrative

The administrative component consists of overall management activities including board of education, superintendent's office, business office operations, such as payroll; data processing, purchasing, BOCES, administration, printing, mailing, legal and auditing services.

Function/Account	Approved 2015-2016	Proposed 2016-2017	Change
Board of Education	9,758	9,835	77
Central Administration	133,000	152,000	19,000
Finance	191,125	197,079	5,954
Legal	7,269	7,451	182
Personnel	1,500	1,500	-
Records Management	4,500	4,600	100
Central Data Processing	98,800	129,300	30,500
Other Special Items	71,000	71,000	-
Curriculum Development & Support	23,500	23,500	-
Supervision Regular School	278,994	343,602	64,608
Research, Evaluation, Planning	37,950	37,950	-
Employee Benefits	218,864	236,424	17,560
Total Administrative	\$1,076,260	\$1,214,241	\$137,981

Program

The program component consists of funding the instructional and educational support services of the District's 430+ students. Transportation of students, athletics and co-curricular activities are included here.

Function/Account	Approved 2015-2016	Proposed 2016-2017	Change
Legal	32,435	33,246	811
Instructional	5,029,247	5,400,858	371,611
Other District Transportation	594,404	578,381	(16,023)
Garage Building	21,200	21,200	-
Employee Benefits	2,807,038	2,677,434	(129,604)
Interfund Transfer	-	-	-
Total Program	\$8,484,324	\$8,711,119	\$226,795

Capital

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

Function/Account	Approved 2015-2016	Proposed 2016-2017	Change
Operation of Plant	697,860	714,700	16,840
Maintenance of Plant	106,981	109,300	2,319
Judgements & Claims & Insurance	45,000	45,000	-
Refund of Taxes	1,200	1,200	-
Employee Benefits	201,143	183,892	(17,251)
Debt Service	438,081	470,548	32,467
Transfer to capital fund	100,000	100,000	-
Total Capital	\$1,590,265	\$1,624,640	\$ 34,375

Total Budget Appropriation	\$11,150,849	\$11,550,000	\$399,151
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Although Small in Size, REMSEN Teacher Resource Center Making Big Impact

The REMSEN Central School District is the smallest school district in New York state to have a teacher center - - and REMSEN is taking full advantage of it.

The center, which was founded in 1987, offers and coordinates professional development for staff. Teachers can also request trainings and already this school year, there have been eight different trainings - - some spearheaded by the teachers themselves.

“When the teachers request trainings, sometimes our own teachers actually do the training,” said Anne Reilly, director of the REMSEN Teacher Center. “It allows for peer to peer interaction.”

Reilly attends meetings three to four times a year to network with other teacher centers across the state and to get direction from the New York State Education Department (NYSED), which funds all teacher centers with grant money.

Recently, the REMSEN Teacher Center has used that money to purchase 70 iPads to assist with instruction at the elementary school and high school and to conduct two book studies, on topics such as differentiated instruction and vocabulary strategies. The teacher center has also provided training for educational software like Castle Learning, Google Apps for Education and iPad applications.

“A lot of other districts have so many schools,” said Reilly. “With a small school like REMSEN, we can impact all of our teachers every day. Everything is right here, from books to equipment to professional magazines.”

The REMSEN Teacher Center is located in the elementary school near the library media center. In addition to Reilly serving as director, Kelly Runninger serves as chairperson and Laurie Woolheater serves as secretary.

“Our center is utilized by a majority of staff,” said Reilly. “We are constantly trying to offer more and more each year.”



COMPARATIVE SUMMARIES

REVENUE	Adopted		Proposed		Change	
	<i>2015-2016</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	\$\$	%
Est. State Aid	\$ 5,932,738	\$ 6,337,581	\$ 6,337,581	\$ 6,337,581	404,843	6.82%
Federal Aid	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
Tax Levy	\$ 4,988,111	\$ 4,982,419	\$ 4,982,419	\$ 4,982,419	(5,692)	-0.11%
*App Fund Balance	\$ 155,000	\$ 155,000	\$ 155,000	\$ 155,000	-	0.00%
Other Revenue	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	-	0.00%
Totals	\$ 11,150,849	\$ 11,550,000	\$ 11,550,000	\$ 11,550,000	399,151	3.58%

*Maintenance & Repair (District-Funded Capital Outlay) from fund-balance

EXPENDITURES	Adopted		Proposed		Change	
	<i>2015-2016</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	\$\$	%
Administration	\$ 1,076,260	\$ 1,214,241	\$ 1,214,241	\$ 1,214,241	137,981	12.82%
Program	\$ 8,484,324	\$ 8,711,119	\$ 8,711,119	\$ 8,711,119	226,795	2.67%
Capital	\$ 1,590,265	\$ 1,624,640	\$ 1,624,640	\$ 1,624,640	34,375	2.16%
Totals	\$ 11,150,849	\$ 11,550,000	\$ 11,550,000	\$ 11,550,000	399,151	3.58%

Expenditures

Administration 10% Capital 15% Program 75%



Painting of Erin Hamlin Unveiled at REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School

Continued From Cover

“This artwork is a reminder not just of Erin’s achievements, but that it does not matter where you come from; it matters if you have the desire to compete and the will to persevere.”

Like Picente, REMSEN Central School District Superintendent William Crankshaw is hopeful that the painting will motivate all who walk through the doors of REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School.

“We appreciate this gift as one more way that we can remind our students of the possibilities that lie ahead of them,” said Crankshaw. “Celebrating Erin Hamlin’s achievements and reminding students that anything is possible with hard work and commitment is part of our mission to pass on to future generations the legacy of this community.”

The painting - - now on full display for all to see - - is located in the main lobby of REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School.

Before the big unveiling, County Executive Picente, Superintendent Crankshaw, Ann Rushlo, executive director of Leadership Mohawk Valley, along with Erin Hamlin, addressed REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School’s students and staff, who all packed into the lobby for the special occasion.

“One of the great things about this community is its loyalty,” said Hamlin, who spent time chatting and taking pictures with students. “Fans come and go, but I know that every time I compete, the people of my hometown, and the many friends I have made across Oneida County, are always on my side.”

Hamlin is a three-time United States Olympian. She just completed the 2015-16 season and finished fourth overall in the World Cup standings - - her best season to date. In 2014, Hamlin became the first female American luger to medal at any Winter Olympics, after she won a bronze medal at the Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. Hamlin also won gold at the 2009 World Championships in Lake Placid.

“Erin Hamlin personifies so much that is great about the Mohawk Valley,” said Rushlo. “She’s the kind of home-grown success story Leadership Mohawk Valley wants to celebrate.”

It’s also a story REMSEN never wants to forget.

8th Grade Home and Careers Class Makes Food Donation

Mrs. Obernesser’s 8th grade home and careers class is lending a hand to the local community.

From March 14 through March 24, the class collected canned food and then donated it to the Foothills Rural Community Ministry in Holland Patent.

The effort was part of the class’s service learning project. For the project, students created advertisements, made daily morning announcements and sent out an email to faculty and staff, all in a push to collect as many canned food items as possible.

In the end, the class donated 75 canned food items.

Jr./Sr. High School Foods Class Visits the Grassy Cow, Bring Farm to the Table

In late March and early April, Mrs. Obernesser’s high school foods class learned about how to bring the “farm” to the “table.”

The students first learned about eggs and beef, and then watched the “Farmland” documentary. The documentary profiles young farmers and ranchers who have taken over their family business. On April 7, Mrs. Obernesser’s class, along with a few of REMSEN’S Future Farmers of America (FFA) students, visited the Grassy Cow Dairy on Prospect Road, in REMSEN.

While there, the students saw, firsthand, how the farm’s grass fed cows - - and their fresh milk - - turns into cheese curd and farmstead cheeses, for sale. In fact, 100 percent of the farm’s milk products are made from the milk of its cows.

After the educational field trip, local farmer Jim Roberts visited the students in school to talk about his beef farm. The “farm to table” unit concluded with the students making dishes using eggs, beef and cheese curd from the Grassy Cow.

REMSSEN’S local FFA chapter, which boasts a healthy membership, turns 77 years old this year. Under the direction of Advisor Mr. Byrne, the students hosted an agricultural round-table discussion with area agriculture business leaders on April 19. The club is also partnering with REMSEN Elementary School to plant a garden this spring, and in the past, has participated in the REMSEN Barn Festival of the Arts.



Renewable Energy Class Attends MV Technology Showcase

The REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School Renewable Energy Class attended the 2016 Mohawk Valley Technology Education & Pre-Engineering Showcase at SUNY Polytechnic Institute in Marcy on March 10.

The showcase included more than 400 students from at least 25 area schools and clubs, and gave students the opportunity to display and demonstrate projects that they have been working on in technology class.

There were a total of 11 competitions: CAD, Projectile Devices, FLL TRASH TREK Game, Digital Photography, Sumo Robots, CO2 Car Races, Balsa Bridges, Spaghetti Tower, Junkyard Wars, Mousetrap Vehicles and Kid Wind (turbines). Junkyard Wars was a team competition. Teams had to use random “junk” to solve a problem.

The REMSEN Central School District looks forward to seeing many more creations from its renewable energy class.



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.remsencsd.org.

REMSEN Takes Home Medals at Regional Science Fair

A group of REMSEN middle school students not only participated in, but took home medals, at the Regional Science Fair held at Utica College on April 2.

REMSEN took third place in two of the divisions - - the Junior Natural Sciences Division and the Junior Computer Sciences and Engineering Division. Also, the judges awarded special recognition to two of REMSEN'S groups.

“Our students came out of the Regional Science Fair with greater knowledge of inquiry-based scientific investigation, a better understanding of the nature of presenting research within the scientific community and a greater appreciation for the opportunities science can provide,” said Mr. O’Bryan, a science teacher at REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School.

O’Bryan explains that he hopes the fair will prove to REMSEN’S students that, “they can not only hold their own in this field, but that they can accomplish great things if they continue to choose this pathway into the future.”

Before the Regional Science Fair at Utica College, REMSEN held its own Middle School Science Fair on March 16 in the front hall of the Jr./Sr. High School. All seventh grade science students participated in the fair. Each student was asked to create a project - - which needed to be an experiment - - and then present it on a tri-fold poster board. After being judged by guest judges, a select few of the projects were entered into the Regional Science Fair at Utica College.

“Our own science fair marked the end of more than a month of student investigation and experimentation,” said O’Bryan. “The event allows students to share their findings, and it allows us to celebrate their accomplishments.”

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the Middle School Science Fair and Regional Science Fair.

Jr./Sr. High School Foods Class Bakes Cookies for Seniors

The REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School Foods Class isn’t only baking for a grade - - they’re baking for others.

On March 21, the class baked 80 chocolate chip and oatmeal raisin cookies for the REMSEN Teacher Association (RTA), who then donated the cookies to the XYZ Club, which is made up of local senior citizens. The cookies were given to the seniors for their meeting on March 22.

The donation marks the third year in a row that the RTA has spearheaded “Baking for Seniors,” and donated cookies.

The REMSEN Central School District takes great pride in being an active part of the REMSEN community and surrounding communities.



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.remsencsd.org.



Spotlight on Students



Michael Woolheater Displays Versatility in Success

REMSEN senior Michael Woolheater is a good student - - he's also a great athlete.

Over the course of his high school career, Woolheater has managed to earn an impressive three varsity letters from three different schools - - Remsen, Poland and Holland Patent - - while playing five different sports.

The versatile Woolheater, who has been a student in the REMSEN Central School District since kindergarten, has been on REMSEN'S Varsity Track team since the 7th grade and after two years on the REMSEN Modified Baseball team, he's currently the first baseman on the Varsity Baseball team. He also played modified and junior varsity basketball for REMSEN, and was the starting goalie on the REMSEN Varsity Boys Soccer team his junior year and this past season.



At the Holland Patent Central School District, Woolheater wrestled on the varsity team his sophomore year. He also played modified and junior varsity football for the Golden Knights. For his junior and senior seasons, Woolheater wrestled for the Poland Varsity Wrestling team. This past season, he was a captain, and led Poland to a 13-10 overall record and 3-1 league record - - Poland's best season ever. He placed 6th in the CSC League Championship, 4th in the Section III Class D Championship and was named a CSC honorable mention all-star. His 29 career wins for Poland, are the sixth-most in school history and he holds four school records - - most meet takedowns, most dual meet escapes, most dual meet major decisions and most overall decisions.

In his spare time, Woolheater volunteers with Poland's peewee wrestling program, which his 6-year-old brother, Adam, is a part of.

Woolheater will be attending North Country Community College in the fall, where he will major in criminal justice. He also plans on playing on the men's soccer team, as their goalie.

The REMSEN Central School District is proud of Michael's many accomplishments, and has no doubt he will continue to be very successful in the future.

REMSEN'S Pre-K Students Learn Importance of Good Dental Health



When it comes to proper dental hygiene, it's best to learn and develop good habits at a young age.

On March 1, Mrs. Spatto showed her pre-K students how to properly brush their teeth. With a toothbrush, toothpaste and hardboiled egg in hand, each student practiced brushing their egg like they would brush their very own teeth, all while using the correct techniques.



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.remsencsd.org.

The practice was the culminating lesson of a two-week unit on dental health. The pre-K students also learned about healthy food and unhealthy food - - which could damage your teeth and cause cavities if consumed in large amounts - - and how to properly floss.

After the practice was over, each student was given a toothbrush and toothpaste to bring home. Those who were a touch adventurous, got to eat their hardboiled egg, as well.

In addition to its rigorous curriculum, the REMSEN Central School District is committed to teaching many important life lessons to its students.

Four REMSEN Students Perform in Junior High Festival

Four REMSEN students participated in the Oneida County Music Educator Association's Junior High Festival on March 18 and 19. The festival started with a five hour long rehearsal, and concluded with a concert at Proctor High School on the 19th.

In order to perform in the festival, students from all over Oneida County in grades 7-9 auditioned in January to perform in the band, orchestra or chorus. Those that made the cut, then spent the next two months preparing and rehearsing for the concert.

The four students who represented REMSEN were:

Sydney Boucher – soprano
Breanna Williams – alto
Vicente Nunez – tenor
Ian Long – trumpet

REMSEN's students worked very hard, and were part of a very fine performance.



Varsity Girls Volleyball Team Earns Honors, Coach Roos Named Coach of the Year



The REMSEN Varsity Girls Volleyball team capped off the 2015-16 season with its third straight Section III Class D title. Now, individuals from the team are being honored.

Senior Hailey Murray was named Section III Class D MVP, League MVP (Center State Conference) and named to the All CNY Team. Murray, a three year player, ended her career with a school record 1,250 career assists. Junior Julia Roos, a two year player, was also named to the All CNY team. Additionally, she was named to the Section III Class D All-Star Team and was a league all-star. Julia led the team this year in aces and with 211 kills - a school record for a single season.



The following REMSEN players were also recognized:

League All-Stars – Madison Cyr, Elishia Hamilton

League Honorable Mention – Alicia Paige

The awards, though, weren't just reserved for the players. REMSEN Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach Greg Roos was named Section III Class D Coach of the Year. Since the 2011-12 season, Roos' teams have gone an impressive 77-23, and they have won three section titles and three league titles.

Job well done, once again, to the REMSEN Varsity Girls Volleyball team on their championship season, and congratulations to the individuals who were honored.

You're Invited: 104th REMSEN Alumni Banquet/Reunion

The 104th REMSEN Alumni Banquet/Reunion is taking place on Saturday, June 4, in the REMSEN High School Gym. A social hour is scheduled to start at 5:00 p.m. A buffet dinner, courtesy of Lady Di's-Swartfiguer, will be served at 6:00 p.m., and will include roast pork, baked chicken legs, butternut squash, tossed salad, ziti, mashed potatoes and dessert.

LaMar Hill, a Nanotechnology consultant and regional speaker, will be the evening's guest speaker. Hill will discuss Nanotechnology and its potential impact on our area. Dwight "Buzz" Putnam, Class of 1977, will be the master of ceremonies. A member of the 75, 50 and 25 year classes will also be on hand to share some fun memories. School tours and group tables can be arranged by request.

All alumni are invited to attend the banquet/reunion. Tickets for the buffet dinner cost \$16 and reservations, along with payment, must be received by May 20. Payment and reservations should be sent to:

Linda Cady
10471 Coombs Road
Holland Patent, NY 13354

Make checks payable to REMSEN Alumni Association

If you cannot attend the banquet/reunion, donations will still be gladly accepted. All donation money is used to fund scholarships for REMSEN seniors and education related projects at REMSEN. Also, don't forget to pay your dues!

For questions, please call 315.831.5256 or 315.896.2274.

Hope to see you there!



Important Announcements

REMSEN to Offer Driver's Education This Summer

Parents and Guardians:

The REMSEN Central School District is pleased to announce that it is offering Driver's Education this summer.

The class is a wonderful opportunity to save money on auto insurance and have a professional instructor teach your child the rules of the road - - all at a fraction of what other schools charge.

In order to be eligible for the class, your child must be 16 years old by July 1 and have a valid New York state learner's permit or driver's license.

The class starts on July 5 and runs through August 16. The cost is \$160.00 per child.

Only 24 students can be enrolled in the class, so students will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

To register your child for Driver's Education, fill out the required form and return the form, along with a \$50.00 deposit, to the REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School Guidance Office. Make checks payable to REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School.

If the class is filled to capacity, students will be placed on a waiting list.

New Vaccine Requirement for 2016-17 School Year

New for the 2016-17 school year:

All children entering 7th and 12th grade must have the meningococcal vaccine. Without it, they can't start school.

About the Vaccine:

- It's not a new vaccine. It's been recommended for a decade.
- Most parents already choose to vaccinate their children.
- What's new is that the vaccine will be required for school entry as of Sept. 1, 2016.

About Meningococcal Disease:

- It causes bacterial meningitis and other serious diseases.
- Teens and young adults are at greater risk.
- It comes on quickly and without warning.
- Its symptoms are similar to the flu.
- Every case of this disease can result in death or long-term disability.

Check with your doctor. Even kids who have had a shot before may need a booster to start school. To learn more, visit health.ny.gov/immunize.

Welcome Kathleen Nebush

Mrs. Kathleen Nebush joined the REMSEN Central School District earlier this school year and is the new REMSEN Jr./Sr. High School guidance counselor.

Nebush grew up in Carmel, NY, about three and a half hours south of REMSEN. After graduating high school, she attended the State University of New York at Oneonta, where she received her bachelor's degree in psychology and met her future husband, Luke. From there, she moved on to Mercy College, where she received her master's degree in school counseling.

Immediately after graduating from Mercy College, Nebush was hired at Barnstable High School on Cape Cod in Hyannis, Massachusetts, where she worked for the next four years. In 2008, Nebush and her husband, Luke, who is originally from Deerfield, moved to Utica so they could be closer to family.

While in the Utica area, Nebush was the director of school counseling, first at Rome Catholic Schools, and then Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School, for a total of seven years, before coming to REMSEN.

"I gained a great deal of invaluable knowledge and experience at Rome and Notre Dame, preparing me for the position here at REMSEN," said Nebush. "I look forward to all that the future holds, not only for me, but for the students of REMSEN. I am excited to be a part of the direction our district is moving in and helping our children build a strong foundation for their future."

Nebush is married and the mother of two young sons.





REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

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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.”*