

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Home of the Cougars November 2024

Culture of Excellence

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Families & Community Members,

There are a number of changes in store for our school this year, however one element remains the same – our mission to provide a “Culture of Excellence: Empowering ALL students through exemplary educational experience to safely learn and grow.”

Our most recent capital project work has officially begun. Site work has started with the cleaning out of catchment basins and swales to maintain our beautiful school property. The old fuel oil tank has been removed. Our bus garage upgrades have begun, including a new boiler, hot water heater and Hotsey pressure washer. We are also anticipating renovation on our greenhouse to take place this fall. Throughout the next couple of months our phone and PA systems will be upgraded. The remaining work, exterior doors/stairwell windows, boilers, RTU units, electrical upgrades and drinking fountain bottle fillers and gymnasium renovation are scheduled to be completed this spring and summer. The investment in our school infrastructure ensures we can provide a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and our community’s investment in our school is well maintained long into the future.



Throughout the past few months you may also have been hearing about the New York State Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC). The commission has been tasked with taking a deep dive and exploring what it means to obtain a diploma in New York State and what that diploma should signify to ensure educational excellence for all students in New York. The commission along with various stakeholder groups will be making a set of recommendations called “Portrait of a Graduate” to the NYS Education Commissioner in a few months. What our students need to know today is vastly different than even 20 years ago. Should how we prepare them for today's world also be different? That is the key question surrounding education today.

As we move forward, let us remember that our shared commitment to the education of ALL children is a promise for the generations to come. I encourage you to continue to be actively involved in our district's initiatives, celebrations and endeavors. Your presence and voice are invaluable and we are immensely grateful for the unwavering support you provide.

Mr. Corey Graves

Superintendent of Schools

NEW SVCS STAFF



Hunter Divens
Cleaner



Doug Hadlock
Groundskeeper



Abigail Walker
Long-term 3rd
Grade Substitute



Samantha Gaudin
Pre K Aide
Teacher



Amy White
Cleaner



Eric Bertini
Bus Driver

SVCS MISSION/VISION

Mission: Culture of Excellence: Empower ALL students through exemplary educational experiences to safely learn and grow.

Vision: SVCS is student-centered, where ALL children, staff and the community are valued, acknowledged and actively involved.

MESSAGE FROM THE 7-12 PRINCIPAL

Dear Students, Families, and Community Members,

We have had an exciting start to our school year! Thank you, parents and community members, for your commitment to our students. Without your support these events wouldn't be possible.

Past Events:

- **District Collaboration:** In September, our core area teachers had the opportunity to collaborate with Madison and Morrisville-Eaton teachers to share ideas, discuss curriculum challenges, and plan for a highly successful school year. This time for collaboration brought comradery and helped build a partnership amongst our teachers and our districts. We are planning a future opportunity for collaboration in December.

Recent Events:

- **Senior Night for Girls and Boys Soccer:** We proudly honored our senior soccer players at the Senior Night games at Morrisville-Eaton School on October 2 and 9. Thank you for the love and support that all of our seniors felt as the large crowd cheered with excitement.
- **Pep Rally:** Showing our school spirit at our recent pep rally helped students to stand in appreciation and pride for each other and their community.
- **Dance and Bonfire:** A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our recent homecoming dance and bonfire! It was a fantastic night of fun and community. A huge thank you to the Munnsville Fire Department for teaming up with us to make this evening possible.
- **Under the Lights Game:** The Under the Lights game carried on the annual tradition of competing for the golden milk jug against Madison Central School. Girls soccer came out the victor and kept the golden milk jug at Stockbridge Valley. Thank you for attending and supporting our athletes as they competed under the lights. A huge thank you to Mark Kiser for setting this night up and V.V.S. Central School District for allowing our teams to play at their stadium.
- **College Fair at Oneida High School:** Our juniors and seniors had the opportunity to attend the College Fair. This was a great opportunity for students to explore college options and connect with representatives. Thank you, Mrs. Gleason, for arranging this opportunity.



- **Fire Prevention Presentation:** On Friday, October 18, our 7-12 grade students participated in a presentation given by Kara Judd of the Clark Burn Center at Upstate and David Bartlett, Assistant Chief of the Munnsville Fire Department regarding fire safety. Students discussed the three elements that a fire needs to sustain itself and how taking each of those elements away, can put out the fire. The main topic of discussion was restricting oxygen flow by closing doors and detailed pictures were shown of simulation tests that showed the differences in results when doors are closed. Thank you to the presenters and all students for their great questions and engagement throughout the presentation.

Important Information:

- **Cell Phone Policy:** We're pleased to report that the cell phone policy is going well! Students are focusing more in class and minimizing phone distractions. Keep up the great work!
- **Attendance and Academic Work:** We encourage everyone to continue prioritizing attendance and academic performance. Every day counts!
- **SST Meetings:** Student Support Team (SST) meetings are underway to provide support for our students. We're committed to helping everyone succeed.
- **Sources of Strength:** On October 29, A national trainer for the Sources of Strength program will be training counselors, teachers, and students to provide a program of positive, character-building events to Stockbridge Valley High School.

Upcoming Dates:

- November 8 and 9: Stockbridge Valley Drama Club will be performing "Into the Woods."
- November 8: Veteran's Day Breakfast - Thank you to all of the veterans who have served our country. Your service is admirable and appreciated.
- November 18: National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Let's make this school year a memorable one!

Warm regards,
Mrs. Lisa Hopkins
7-12 Principal

JUNIOR CLASS NEWS

The year is off to a great start and the juniors are already in planning mode for their prom. Our first two fundraisers, the cougar apparel and youth sports bake sale, were both a huge success thanks to the help and support from you! In the upcoming months, be on the lookout for the many events that we have planned. Dates will be released closer to the event:

- November: Drop-n-Shop Babysitting at the PTSO Bazaar
- December: Cookies & Cocoa with Santa
- January: Dine to Donate at Texas Roadhouse
- February: Grades 3-6 Dance
- March: Bottle Drive

These events will help us have a memorable and unforgettable prom. We thank you for the continued support!

Mrs. Laraby
Junior Class Advisor



SVCS CLAY TARGET

Members of the team competed over the summer at the Scholastic Clay Target Program Nationals in Ohio. Competing were James Peterson, Cade Zaleski, Liam Plasse, Edward DeMenezes and Olivia Waldron. Nick Smith competed at the USA High School Nationals in Michigan.

Members shooting this fall in trap and 5-stand are Chris Chapin, Jasper Clark, Zach McCabe, Liam Plasse and Olivia Waldron. While other members are competing in fall sports.

Please stop by and say hello at the PTSO Bazaar. We are looking for new members and the spring season will start in February.

Mrs. Waldron
Clay Target Club Advisor



FFA'S FALL FUN

To kick off the fall, Stockbridge's FFA Senior High Officer Team got to work team-building and laying out and planning the Program of Activities (POA) for the year at our officer retreat on September 20-22. They worked together to divide the activities into specific groups each vice president will oversee throughout the year. These activities will help our chapter apply for the National Chapter Degree this spring. Members also participated in the State Officer Tour and the Cornell Officer Leadership Training (COLT) that took place these last few weeks. On October 1, students from Stockbridge Valley attended the New York FFA State Officer Tour. At this event, students had the option to participate in two of three workshops hosted by our state officers. These workshops consisted of creating good relationships, creating SMART goals, and working on our Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE.) After the workshops, students had dinner and then participated in a large group game with everyone at the event. All in all, everyone had a great time and learned a lot! Only a few days later on October 5, a few of our Senior High FFA Officers attended the Cornell Officer Leadership Training (COLT).



At COLT our Senior High FFA Officers took on a "Chapter Challenge" to brainstorm how they would encourage their peers to participate in the 100-year challenge put on by the State Officers to celebrate 100 years of New York FFA. After this challenge, they attended the State Officers workshops to grow their leadership and teamwork skills. They will continue to push forward to grow themselves and their leadership skills.

Another annual fall tradition has come and gone and a huge thank you goes out to those who helped support our Fall Harvest Fundraiser selling apples, cider, and mums. If you missed it don't worry, the Winter FFA Fundraiser is up and running. This sale, previously known as the Citrus Sale, includes citrus, poinsettias, cheese, sausage, maple syrup, and cookie dough. See your local SVCS FFA member before November 6 to place your orders.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebekah Cullen
Sr. High FFA Reporter



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOOD DRIVE

The Stockbridge Valley chapter of the National Honor Society will once again be hosting their annual food drive to support our local food pantry. The drive will take place starting Monday, November 4, and end on Wednesday, November 20.

Donations can be sent to school with your students, and will be picked up from classrooms by members of the National Honor Society. We ask that items be non-perishable and please avoid glass containers.

The SVCS National Honor Society thanks you so very much for your generosity!



MESSAGE FROM THE K-6 PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

As we dive into another fantastic school year, I'm thrilled to share that we are off to a wonderful start! The halls are buzzing with energy, and our students are already deeply engaged in a variety of learning activities that blend education with fun.

Recently, we had the pleasure of hosting Randy Phillips, who delivered an enlightening presentation on Native American Culture. Our fourth grade students learned about traditions, history, and the significance of respect for diverse cultures. It was an inspiring experience that broadened their understanding and appreciation of the world around them.

We also welcomed our Munnsville Fire Department, who provided an invaluable lesson on fire safety. The highlight for many students was seeing a firefighter in full gear, which sparked their curiosity and imagination. The firefighters shared essential safety tips and even allowed our students to explore various fire trucks. It was a memorable day that reinforced the importance of safety in our community.

In addition to these enriching experiences, our elementary clubs have kicked off with great enthusiasm! Fifth and sixth graders are enjoying intramurals twice a week, while third through sixth graders can participate in the Wellness Club, Library Book Club, Library Lego Club, and Art Club. We have also begun practices for the upcoming Spelling Bee in December, fostering a love for words among our students.

Excitingly, our Elementary Student Council officers have been selected and are already busy planning fantastic

activities for their peers. As part of our community outreach, Student Council, along with our other elementary clubs, is collecting new socks for our annual Socktober event. Socks can be brought to your child's classroom or directly to the elementary office, and will be donated to local shelters in memory of Sarah Bennati.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events coming up that we hope you will join us for! Our annual Halloween Parade is set for Thursday, October 31, at 1:15 PM. This event is a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase their creativity and spirit as they dress up and parade through the school. We invite families to come out and cheer on our young ghouls and goblins!

Additionally, we are proud to host our annual Veterans Day Breakfast on Friday, November 8, at 9:00 AM. This event honors the brave men and women who have served our country, and we encourage all veterans and their families to attend. It's a special way for our students to express gratitude and learn about the sacrifices made by our veterans.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we are creating a positive and enriching environment for our students to learn and grow.

Warm regards,
Mrs. Julie Suber



Elementary art club has had fun making yarn and felt owls and painting a fall sunset.



Fourth grade participates in a Native American presentation



Fifth and sixth grade youth soccer team



First and second grade youth soccer team

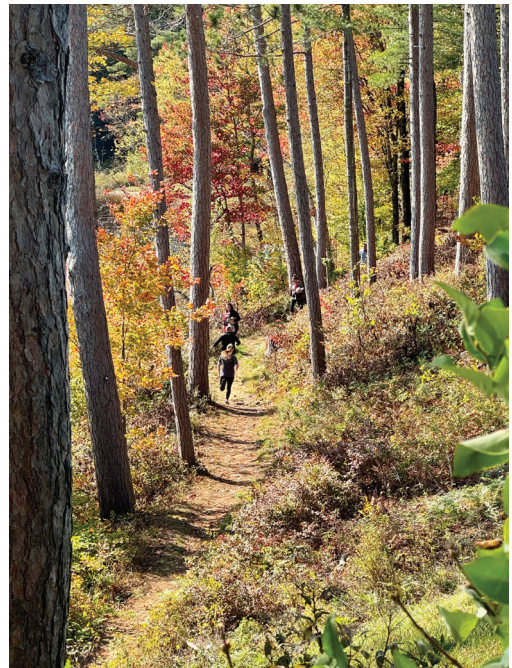


Third and fourth grade youth soccer team



Cougar Pride!

STAFF TEAM BUILDING AT CAMP OSWEGATCHIE EDUCATIONAL CENTER



FACULTY & STAFF ART SHOW

We had 28 pieces of artwork in this year's Faculty & Staff Art Show, with 19 different participants. These participants included current teachers, a teacher assistant, retirees, a school counselor, the district treasurer, the secretary to the superintendent, and the superintendent. The mediums ranged from acrylic painting, digital photography, watercolor, clay, crochet, cross-stitch, wood burning, to resin and wood projects. We have a very creative Stockbridge CSD community!



**PRESENTED BY THE
STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY
DRAMA CLUB
NOVEMBER 8TH & 9TH, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

IN THE CHARLES E. STRATTON AUDITORIUM



Pre-Sale Tickets
\$10 Adults
\$7 Students/Seniors
Night Of the Show
\$10 All Tickets

Tickets available online
<https://our.show/stockbridgevalleydramaclub>

or
Contact - Pam Dymes
District Office
(315) 495-4400



SVCS PTSO presents
a family-friendly

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

FOOD | CRAFTS | RAFFLES
DROP-N-SHOP BABYSITTING
LOTS OF LOCAL VENDORS

FREE ENTRY

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
6011 WILLIAMS ROAD, MUNNSVILLE, NY 13409

Saturday, November 23rd, 2024
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Shop Local  Buy Local

**MAKE YOUR CHILD'S
HOLIDAYS MAGICAL WITH A
CHRISTMAS EVE GIFT BOX!**

*Available for \$10.00 at the PTSO Bazaar
November 23rd*

Gift Box includes:
Magic Reindeer Food Magic Grinch Repellent
Santa's Magic Key Rudolph's Magic Bell
Letter to Santa Christmas Socks & Ornament
Hot Chocolate Popcorn & Candy Cane

We will also take orders until 12/24; delivered by 12/20! Scan this
QR code to place your order!



Your support will help the SVCS Newspaper Club
"fun"draise for our trip to NYC!



The Junior Class of 2026 Presents

DROP-N-SHOP BABYSITTING

PTSO HOLIDAY BAZAAR
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd 9AM-3PM

\$7 per kid/per hour
Vendors: All Day
Rate \$35 per kid

LEAVE YOUR CHILD(REN) WITH US WHILE
YOU SHOP

SIGN IN BY AUDITORIUM DOORS

Crafts, Coloring, Games, Movie & More!

Made with PosterMyWall.com

**The 14th Annual Village of Munnsville
FIRE TRUCK PARADE &
TREE LIGHTING**

Hosted by the Munnsville Volunteer Fire Department



Saturday *December 7, 2024*
Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Tree Lighting with Santa at 7:00 PM (across from the Fire
Hall) Refreshments will be served



SANTA CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!!!

HEAD LICE INFORMATION AND PREVENTION

Head lice are common in communities and can be brought into schools unintentionally. Though lice spread most often in the summer through camps and sleepovers, they exist year-round. Because symptoms like itching may not show for weeks, we encourage families to check their children's heads weekly. Here's what to look for:

Lice: Small, wingless insects (about sesame seed size), typically light brown or grey, that live close to the scalp.

Nits (eggs): Small, white/yellowish, cling to hair shafts and resemble dandruff but don't wash away.

For suspected infestations, treat with recommended shampoo, then comb out all nits to prevent re-infestation. Check every 2–3 days for 2–3 weeks following treatment. Wash recently used items in hot water; vacuum items that can't be washed. Notify close contacts and remind children not to share hats, brushes, or accessories. For more information, visit the CDC website.



WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME WITH ILLNESS

It can be hard to know when to send children to school if they tell you that they do not feel well. Usually, the best place for them is in school, but there are some times when keeping them home to rest or call for an appointment with your health care provider is recommended.

Please keep your child home and/or contact your child's doctor for:

- Fever greater than 100.0° (taken by mouth)
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- Severe sore throat along with fever and feeling ill for more than 48 hours, or after exposure to Strep throat infection
- Honey-crusted sores around the nose or mouth or rash on other body parts
- Large amounts of mucous (liquid) from their nose, with face pain or headache
- Severe ear pain or fluid coming from the ear
- Severe headache, especially with fever

If your child has a fever, it is not a good idea to give them medicine like Tylenol or Advil and send them to school because as soon as the medicine wears off, the fever may return and you will be called to come and pick up your child.

Please keep children home for 24 hours after the fever ends or they have completed 24 hours of medication if prescribed by your health care provider.

If you find your child is frequently asking to stay home from school, if they are falling behind or appear anxious about school, or if there does not appear to be any physical symptoms, contact your school nurse and your health care provider to discuss your concerns.

Remind children to throw away used tissues, cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, keep their hands away from their face, and to wash hands often with soap and warm water will help keep everyone healthier.

Please call us with any concerns or questions.

Mattie Shea, RN
School Nurse
Stockbridge Valley CSD
(315) 495-4500

STOCKBRIDGE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

6011 Williams Road • P.O. Box 732
Munnsville, NY 13409

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LOCAL BOX HOLDER RURAL & STAR ROUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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



ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Corey Graves, Superintendent
Beth Lamb, Business Administrator
Julie Suber, K-6 Principal/Director
of Special Education
Lisa Hopkins, 7-12 Principal

CONTACTS

Superintendent

Corey Graves
315-495-4400

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315-495-4400

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Beth Lamb
315-495-4446

K-6 Principal/ Director of Special Education

Julie Suber
315-495-4550

7-12 Principal

Lisa Hopkins
315-495-4450

Treasurer

Kelly Johnson
315-495-4445

Guidance Counselor

Cassandra Gleason
315-495-1908

Athletic Director

Mark Kiser
315-495-4590

Cafeteria Manager

Kathy Carney
315-495-1909

CSE Chairperson

Karen Carbone
315-495-1905

Head Bus Driver

Brian Leach
315-495-4599

School Nurse

Mattie Shea
315-495-4500

