



SAUQUOIT VALLEY™

Central School District

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

As we transition into spring, we intensify preparations for the last few weeks of the 2024-25 school year. Please stay tuned for multiple end of the year activities that take place on campus during May and June. Event details will be displayed on the school calendar, the school website and shared via ParentSquare. The end of the school year also includes final exams and projects, and we wish all students a strong finish and hope that their efforts will yield a very successful ending.

Spring is also a time of increased preparations for the 2025-26 school year. As May approaches, it is time for the District's annual Board elections and budget vote. We began the formal budget development process in January and the Board adopted the budget in April to place before voters on May 20. There will be a budget hearing on May 13 in the high school auditorium which will involve a review of the budget being proposed to the voters. Your support is critical, and we urge you to join us to provide input in order to ensure that the decisions we make are reflective of the community's wishes.

Since the Governor's state budget release in January, the District has been meeting at 6:00 p.m. prior to each Board meeting to discuss and develop the budget. Without an adopted, detailed state budget at the time of this writing, we find ourselves facing uncertainty with our anticipated Foundation Aid. We are hopeful that the final aid is increased from the Governor's first proposal. The District continues to explore opportunities for supplemental revenue through the rental of additional classroom space to the OHM BOCES. More information regarding this potential adjustment will be forthcoming.

The following information is a summary of the proposed 2025-26 budget and Board elections for the voters to consider on May 20:

- The proposed budget for 2025-26 is \$27,187,654 (2.20% above last year's budget).
- The proposed tax levy increase for the 2025-26 budget is 2.38%, the calculated tax levy limit for the school district.
- The purchase of two diesel school buses (not electric) at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$360,000. We appreciate the community's continued support in our initiative to maintain a bus replacement program to minimize the potential of costly repairs our buses endure as they approach the end of their useful life.
- The purchase of one zero-emission electric school bus with an estimated net maximum cost of \$190,000 after the receipt of grants, credits, rebates and/or trade-in value. Should the propositions for both the diesel school buses and the electric school bus pass, the recommendation would be to purchase all three buses to replace school buses that have recently been taken out of service for mechanical issues
- The budget includes funding for a capital outlay project to continue the replacement of doors at the elementary school to provide a more secure environment for the students and staff.
- The election of two open Board of Education seats currently held by Patricia Collins and Lynn Weibel. Each open seat will be for three-year terms.

Further detailed information regarding the budget will be shared later in this issue and through the budget postcard you will receive before the May 20 vote.

While the 2025-26 budget maintains adequate staffing levels, it includes the addition of one special education position that was eliminated in 2024-25. We are also appropriating over \$1,000,000 of our fund balance to support our students, due to the insufficient increases to state aid that are anticipated.

Continued on page 2 >>

MAY 2025
NEWS + VIEWS

CALENDAR
UPCOMING
DAYS OFF &
GRADUATION

MEMORIAL DAY
May 26

JUNETEENTH
June 19

**LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL**
June 27

HS GRADUATION
June 27 at 7:00 p.m.

*Possible unused
snow days:*

May 23
June 27





In summary, we will be putting forth a school budget for 2025-26 at an amount of \$27,187,654 with a tax levy increase at the tax cap of 2.38%. The annual budget vote will take place on May 20 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium lobby. Additionally, the community will vote on the purchase of two diesel school buses with an estimated maximum total cost of \$360,000, the purchase of one zero-emission bus and to fill two open Board of Education seats for three-year terms each.

Thank you for your continued support of the District. Together, we will continue to find ways to support our mission and provide the most enriching learning experiences for our students in preparing them for their future.

David Stayton
SUPERINTENDENT

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Registered voters can apply for absentee ballots as follows:

If you are a voting resident in the SVCSD and have reason to request an absentee ballot, you can do so by emailing the District Clerk Marie Goodman at mgoodman@svcsd.org or calling 315-839-6311 before May 20, 2025 for an application.

- After confirmation of the applicant's registration status, a ballot will be issued.
- Completed ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 20, 2025.

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

- A citizen of the United States
- Eighteen (18) or more years of age
- A resident within the District for a period of 30 days or more preceding the May 20, 2025 Annual Budget Vote

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Candidate Bios

Patricia Collins

My name is Patricia (Patty) Collins. I am running for a second term on the Sauquoit Valley Board of Education. I live in Clayville and have been a member of the SVCSD community for the past 20 years. My two adult children graduated from Sauquoit in 2021 and 2022. Hannah is now a senior at SUNY Plattsburgh, where she studies childhood and special education. Benjamin is proudly serving our country active duty in the United States Air Force and resides on Travis Air Force Base in California. My youngest daughter, Abigail, currently attends Sauquoit Valley middle school as a seventh grader.

The Sauquoit Valley is a wonderful place to live. I believe in the people of this community - the students, parents, grandparents, exceptional academic staff and everyone in between.

My first three years serving on the Board of Education were positive and productive. I hope to serve another three years on the Board to continue enhancing opportunities for students, expanding challenge and goals and giving back to the community that has blessed my family. Thank you.

Lynn Weibel

My name is Lynn Weibel. I am running for another term on the school board for the Sauquoit Valley Central School District.

I have lived in this community for 26+ years. I work for a major financial institution in risk & compliance data management. My husband and I are both graduates of Sauquoit Valley, our son graduated last year and I have a daughter in the high school. I've volunteered as a coach and treasurer for AYSO and assisted in set building for the school's drama club productions.

My purpose in running for another term is to continue the forward progress the Board of Education has been making over the last few years. My focus remains on our students, and providing them with every academic and athletic opportunity we can make available.



SAUQUOIT VALLEY FOUNDATION

DUST OFF THOSE GOLF CLUBS!

The Sauquoit Valley Foundation is working on the annual golf tournament. This is our 20th annual tournament and will be held on July 21, 2025 at Cedar Lake Golf Club. This is the Foundation's major yearly fundraiser, with money raised from the tournament going directly into an endowment. This endowment provides funding for a variety of student-oriented programs and projects within the schools or Sauquoit Valley community. Registration for the tournament or to become a sponsor can be completed online at svfgolf.com or by mail using a registration form from our website at sauquoitvalleyfoundation.org. All golfers are welcome for a fun day of golf at a wonderful golf course! Get a team together and join the fun!

ENGRAVED BRICKS

It was a long winter and spring is finally here! Now is the time to order an engraved brick to place in the Sauquoit Valley Community Walkway located at the high school stadium. Buy a brick to honor a special achievement, high school graduate, graduating class or as a memorial for a loved one. Bricks are available for purchase online at the Sauquoit Valley Foundation website at sauquoitvalleyfoundation.org.

Keep an eye out for upcoming information for the annual "Witch Way is the 5K?" Road Race and Kids Run. Returning on October 5, 2025. Come run and enjoy the fun!

The Sauquoit Valley Foundation is a charitable, not-for-profit with the mission to promote and support excellence in our schools and the Sauquoit Valley Community. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the high school board room. Come join a meeting and volunteer for an event, program or project with the Foundation!

HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

The high school physical education department recently went on their annual trip to Black River in Boonville. Black River consists of more than 30 miles of trails for cross country skiing, snowshoeing, biking and much more. During their trip, students participated in cross-country skiing as the sport offers an exciting, unique experience compared to downhill skiing. By participating in these educational and physical activities, students learn about the value of outdoor recreation, which helps them improve their physical fitness as well as their overall well-being. During their visit to Potato Hill Farm, they skied over four miles of trails spanning across 170 acres. The students had a blast! Trying something new and spending time

outdoors is always better with friends and a supportive team. A big thank you to

Ms. Arrigo and Mr. Cardillo for organizing such a memorable trip for the students!





ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT	PROPOSED BUDGET 2025-26	ADOPTED BUDGET 2024-25	DIFFERENCE
Board of Education	10,236	10,031	205
Central Administration	233,594	222,869	10,725
Finance	396,958	386,441	10,517
Legal Services	15,000	15,000	0
Personnel	11,280	10,857	423
Records Management	9,450	8,925	525
Public Information	16,600	17,948	(1,348)
Other Central Services	62,200	62,200	0
Special Items	346,131	347,697	(1,566)
Curriculum Development	384,651	251,293	133,358
Supervision Regular School	526,034	527,898	(1,864)
Employee Benefits	643,204	600,162	43,042
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	\$2,655,338	\$2,461,321	\$194,017

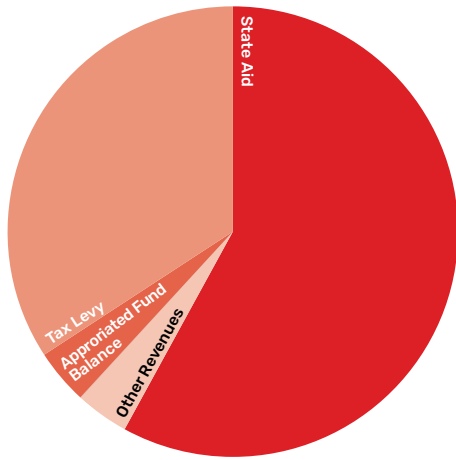
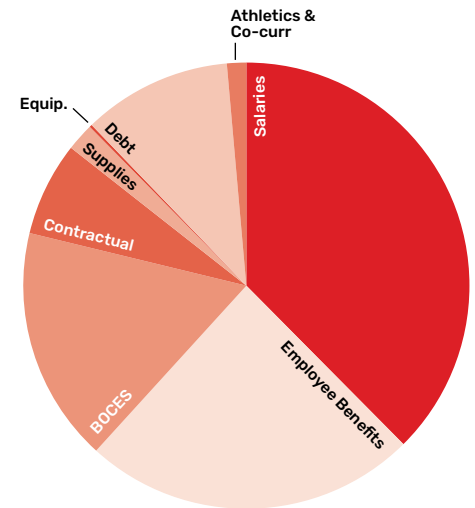
PROGRAM COMPONENT	PROPOSED BUDGET 2025-26	ADOPTED BUDGET 2024-25	DIFFERENCE
Legal Services	10,000	10,000	0
Instruction	12,535,442	12,573,632	(38,190)
District Transportation	1,292,025	1,201,624	90,401
Garage Building	77,000	77,000	0
Community Service	0	0	0
Employee Benefits	5,385,933	5,025,505	360,428
Other Transfers	40,000	50,000	(10,000)
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$19,340,400	\$18,937,761	\$402,639

CAPITAL COMPONENT	PROPOSED BUDGET 2025-26	ADOPTED BUDGET 2024-25	DIFFERENCE
Operations of Plant	1,317,149	1,256,663	60,486
Maintenance of Plant	286,598	199,301	87,297
Property Tax Refunds	5,000	5,000	0
Employee Benefits	545,862	509,333	36,529
Debt Service - Principal Payments	1,685,000	1,645,000	40,000
Debt Service - Interest Payments	1,237,307	1,472,658	(235,351)
Revenue Anticipation Note	15,000	15,000	0
Other Transfers - Capital Outlay	100,000	100,000	0
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$5,191,916	\$5,202,955	(\$11,039)

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$27,187,654	\$26,602,037	\$585,617
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EXPENDITURES	PROPOSED BUDGET 2025-26	ADOPTED BUDGET 2024-25	% CHANGE
Salaries	10,214,842	9,994,454	2.21%
Employee Benefits	6,575,000	6,135,000	7.17%
BOCES	4,631,480	4,660,219	-0.62%
Contractual	1,852,300	1,747,800	5.98%
Supplies	546,620	531,300	2.88%
Equipment	50,000	30,000	66.67%
Debt	2,937,307	3,132,658	-6.24%
Athletics & Co-curr	380,105	370,606	2.56%
TOTAL	\$27,187,654	\$26,602,037	2.20%

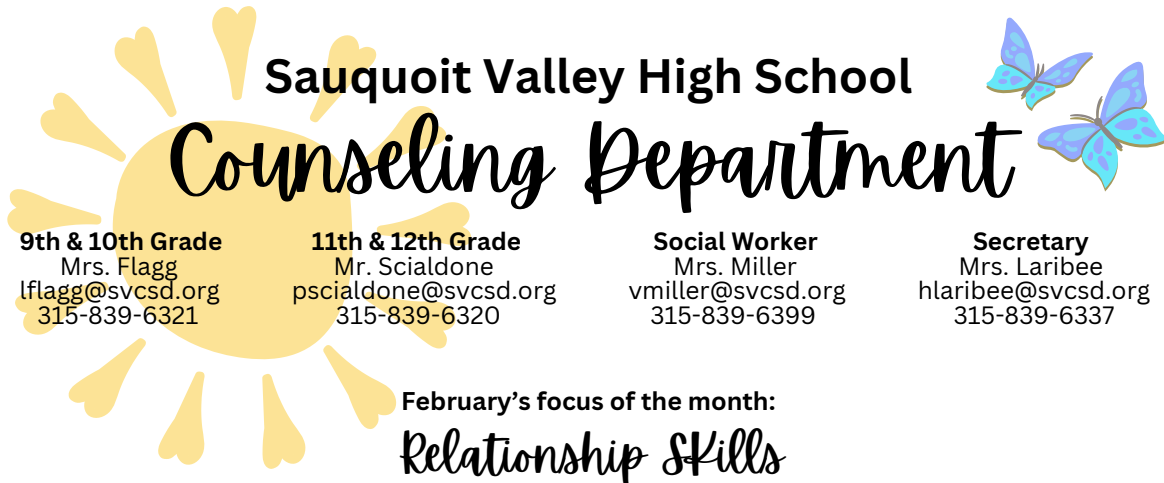


REVENUE	PROPOSED BUDGET 2025-26	ADOPTED BUDGET 2024-25	% CHANGE
State Aid	15,762,000	15,532,900	1.47%
Other Revenues	1,050,000	810,000	29.63%
Transfer from Debt Service	0	100,000	100.00%
Appropriated Fund Balance	1,077,080	1,077,080	0.00%
Tax Levy	9,298,574	9,082,057	2.38%
TOTAL	27,187,654	26,602,037	2.20%

ESTIMATED TAX RATES PER \$1,000 OF ASSESSED VALUE

TOWN	2023-2024 PROJECTED RATE	2023-2024 FINAL TAX RATE	2024-2025 PROJECTED RATE	2024-2025 FINAL TAX RATE	2025-2026 PROJECTED RATE	EST. INCREASE 2024-2025 TO 2025-2026	ESTIMATED ADD'L TAX ON \$100K ASSESSMENT
Paris	24.0565	24.0968	25.4221	25.2486	25.8505	0.6019	\$60.19
New Hartford	27.4929	26.8446	28.3209	28.1067	28.7768	0.6701	\$67.01
Frankfort	29.8630	30.0027	31.6528	32.3346	33.1055	0.7709	\$77.09
Litchfield	24.7790	24.6797	26.0369	26.6010	27.2352	0.6342	\$63.42
Marshall	34.6411	36.4319	38.4356	39.2015	40.1360	0.9345	\$93.45
Kirkland	35.7124	35.5846	37.5417	37.7128	38.6119	0.8991	\$89.91
Bridgewater	20.6197	21.7041	22.8978	25.2057	25.8070	0.6013	\$60.13
Tax on True	17.3205	15.3014	16.1429	14.8966	15.2517	0.3551	

Note: Rates are estimates based on information available at the current time. Final assessment figures and equalization rates will not be available until August. Estimated additional tax does not include additional STAR savings available to those that receive a STAR credit check.



9th & 10th Grade
Mrs. Flagg
lflagg@svcsd.org
315-839-6321

11th & 12th Grade
Mr. Scialdone
pscialdone@svcsd.org
315-839-6320

Social Worker
Mrs. Miller
vmiller@svcsd.org
315-839-6399

Secretary
Mrs. Laribee
hlaribee@svcsd.org
315-839-6337

February's focus of the month:

Relationship Skills

For the month of February, our high school students learned about building relationship skills, which focused on the ability to establish and maintain healthy relationships and effectively navigate settings with diverse individuals and groups. Relationship skills encompass the ability to build and maintain healthy connections involving communication, empathy, trust, respect and conflict resolution.

Some key skills that can contribute to building strong relationships:

- Demonstrating active listening
- Providing clear and honest communication with others
- Demonstrating empathy for others
- Recognizing and maintaining your own emotions, as well as responding to the emotions of others

Students were provided with tools and resources to increase their relationship skills through exposure in classroom lessons, announcements, a curated music playlist, library displays with book recommendations and daily announcements.



April's focus of the month will be **Responsible Decision Making**.

A Message from Mrs. Miller:

SEL lessons are starting to wrap up at the high school. Sophomores and seniors recently completed their final lessons, and freshmen will be wrapping up in April.

April's schoolwide focus is responsible decision making! This month, we encourage students to focus on thinking about their choices and understanding the consequences of their actions. SEL lessons for this topic include utilizing critical thinking skills and problem solving tactics to work through different scenarios. This could be working through an imagined scenario, such as getting off a sinking ship, or more realistic scenarios such as bullying or unhealthy relationships.





INNOVATIVE NEW NINTH GRADE HONORS PROJECT CONNECTS ANCIENT WORLD TO TODAY

What happens when you take “The Odyssey,” cross it with pre-AP global history and send it to the high school library? The ninth-grade students in Mrs. Cardillo’s ELA 9 honors class and Mr. Hutchinson’s pre-AP global history 9 class get a unique opportunity to practice the reading, writing and critical thinking skills essential to academic success through a new, innovative, cross-curricular research project connecting the ancient worlds of Greece and Rome to the politics and pressures of today.

“When I started my new ninth grade honors teaching assignment, I quickly realized by coincidence that my students came right from Mr. Hutch’s class. In the opening few days of school, I visited Mr. Hutch to let him know of this alignment and gauged his interest for some cross-curricular projects and activities, and he was fully on board,” said Mrs. Cardillo.

“Research and research writing are both crucial skills in the 21st century, especially for college-bound students,” said Mr. Hutchinson. “Being able to collaborate with Mrs. Babbie and Mrs. Cardillo has been and will continue to be very beneficial for our students as they will have an opportunity to learn multiple strategies to hone their skills in reading, writing and analytical thinking. I have also found that being able to block out the full hour per day has been very beneficial, as it provides students with an environment that feels less rushed and gives them an opportunity to ask questions that they normally might not have.”

So how do you connect the Punic Wars of the early Common Era with modern news headlines? By exploring ties between the rich literary themes in “The Odyssey” and enduring issues that change, but remain the same, throughout history. Over the past several weeks, Mrs. Cardillo and Mr. Hutchinson worked together, along with high school librarian Mrs. Babbie, to guide their ninth grade honors students through a research-driven exploration of both “The Odyssey” and enduring issues which are defined as historical issues that have shaped societies across the globe.

As Mrs. Cardillo shared, “In truth, the literary themes of ‘The Odyssey’ – including power, loyalty, vengeance, hospitality and antiquated gender roles, among countless others – are already naturally linked to timeless (‘enduring’) issues through the

historical lens, such as conflict, desire for power, alliances, interconnectedness and inequity, as well as so many potential others.”

Under Mrs. Cardillo’s guidance, students identified and analyzed literary themes from “The Odyssey,” while Mr. Hutchinson led them in connecting these themes to enduring issues. Mrs. Babbie then supported students’ research and critical thinking skills in finding and evaluating credible information resources.

“Being a critical consumer of information is such an essential skill for our students today. They are bombarded by millions of pieces of information, and then use that information to make decisions that impact their lives,” said Mrs. Babbie. “By giving them the time and space in class to practice finding and evaluating sources, this project helps them build the skills they need to make sound decisions, both now and as adults.”

In the second leg of the project, the team engaged the students in the lengthy and sophisticated task of reading and annotating their research sources to later synthesize the information they found, along with their new understanding of the enduring issues in a mini research-style essay.

“This project is focused on empowering our students to be critical thinkers and develop a mindset of inquiry and lifelong learning,” said high school principal Michael Flagg. “We want students to be able to form their own opinions and ideas, and they need to know how to access authentic information. This will prepare our kids to not only know how to best receive information, but also help them to be better producers of information and use their talents and skills to make an impact. It has also been wonderful to see how Mrs. Cardillo, Mr. Hutchinson and Mrs. Babbie are modeling all of these skills as they collaborate on this project. The energy and enthusiasm they have shown is infectious!”

Students have expressed how working on this project has influenced their learning. When asked, students were eager to share. One student explained, “Doing this project has helped me go deeper into my work.” Another said, “This kind of thinking has helped me be more patient and take time to find what I need with my sources.” A third student stated, “I can see that I used to think I had good sources,

but when you really need to know what you are looking for, you know you might need more information so you can make a better decision.”

“This project was an organic way for students to see how literature teaches us about values and challenges that have persisted across generations,” said Mrs. Cardillo. “It also helped to develop the critical skills associated with reading and writing for informational and argumentative purposes – skills that will be essential to students in their future experiences.”

POSITIVITY AWARD

We are happy to announce that the February winner of the Sauquoit Valley High School Positivity Award is Parker Wentrack!

Parker was nominated by Mrs. Hartnett, who wrote: “He is mindful and resilient during chemistry class, which is not always easy. He is friendly to the staff, as well as his classmates, and I have witnessed him engaging the underclassmen in a friendly way that helps them quickly feel welcomed in the school.”

The Sauquoit Valley High School Positivity Award is presented to students who consistently demonstrate positive behaviors and a positive attitude. We created this award because we know how important it is for our students to develop a positive mindset. We want to celebrate those who exhibit it.

Parker will receive a certificate and a \$20 gift card to the Willowvale Diner, courtesy of the Sauquoit Valley PTO. Congratulations, Parker!



MARKING PERIOD 2

HIGH
HONOR
ROLL

GRADE 9

Silvana Barrett
Grace Cardillo
Karina Chmukh
Michael Colucci
James Crompt
John Crompt
Alexa Cuthbertson
Lottie Hartnett
Jacob Jalowiec
Anastasiya Kachanovich
Colton Larsen
Daniel Lewandowski
Jack Madore
Alexa Nolan
Gianna Pellegrino
Luke Roberson
Addison Sullivan

GRADE 10

Allyson Brennan
Raina Christensen
Emma Conklin
Kaylyn Dreidel
Mark Enjem
Samuel Freitag
Mia King
Nicholas Sanders
Afton Sherman
Sophia Zegarelli

GRADE 11

Jared Jouben
Makayla Land
Kamryn Yerman

GRADE 12

Frank Acquaviva
Jacob Banas
Julia Colucci
Hannah Davis
Samantha Dawes
Ella Dischiavo
Emilie Fancett
Liam Fiegl
Nathan Hanna
Katherine Judway
Daria Kachanovich
Sydney Marceau
Aidan McGarry
Mia Morgan
Madison Polarolo
Joan Price
Sydney Sallustio
Callum Torruella

HONOR
ROLL

GRADE 9

Alexandra Allen
Hailey Benn
Evalyn Boone
Braydon Call
Chase DelMedico
Chace Femia
Addison Fredericks
Mackynzi Johnson
Daniel Krupa
Luke Lallier
Jiana Leao
Colin Meeker
Luke Patrick
Isabella Petzke
Josephine Polish
Addison Prouty
Levi Vaber
Stella Weibel
Trentyn Wilson

GRADE 10

Hailey Aylesworth
Benjamin Brown
Paige Burton
Isabella Carnevale
Lydia Curriere
Amethyst Evans-Akins
Benjamin Freemire
Brooke Hunt
Nora Kalil
Jacob Kolmer
Blake LoGalbo
Lucielle Miller
Nicholas Perritano
Darya Rabkavets
Genevieve Reinhardt
Kaylie Roach
Mairead Smith
Henry Szweczyk, III
Gordon Tibbitts
Angelo Torchia
Jayden White
Parker White

GRADE 11

Broc Barker
Margaret Call
Vitaliy Chmukh
Evan Critelli
Brittany Evans
Julia Farrell
Rocco Femia
Madalyn Fredericks
Mya Hernandez
Alexander Krupa
Jacob Latino
Julia Makuszek
Trinity Manzer
Daniel Marcano
Alexia Miner
Makayla Montrose
Ryleigh Ostrosky
Owen Reile
Sara Steinbacher
Brynn Weaver
Lilianna Werthman
Tristyn Williams
Lilith Zehr

GRADE 12

Caden Beecher
Julia Burton
Alessandro Carnevale
Morgan Craft
Jake Decker
Mason Farrell
Alexander Keller
Olivia LaSalle
Addison Lazarek
Aiden Lyke
Jaclyn Perritano
Zachary Pett
Alesia Rabkavets
Sophia Sacco
Sophia Selmi
Toryn Snyder
Sophia Tomasso
Julia Zegarelli

MERIT
ROLL

GRADE 9

Logan Angiulli
Angelia Curriere
Olivianna Ekes
Olivia George
Lia Harvey
Cole Marceau
Myah Pierce
Brian Randall
Matthew Swiderski
Annabel Tompkins
Lincoln Walker

GRADE 10

Tobias Ballard
Desiree Banks
Maxwell Carangelo
John Carey
Michael Colosimo IV
Aiden Conklin
Jaxon Cuthbertson
Jenweh Dikar
Alexis Farrell
Lily Giannatelli
Madison Gifford
Kenny Grimes
Ellie Handzel
Wyatt Kimball
Mason McGarry
Jason Mroz
Lucas Nowlan
Jacob Strong
Kiernan Sullivan
Campbell Wadsworth
Gideon Williams

GRADE 11

Isabella Barrett
Jack Jones
Hannah Miller
Maddison Newell
Danniel Rivera-Litz
Nathan Silchuk
Parker Wentrick
Dwayne Williams

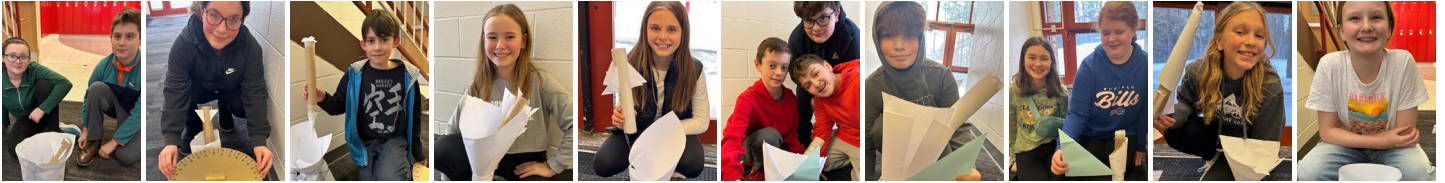
GRADE 12

Thomas Coughlin
Carly Crowe
Alexander Cruikshank
Jada Giannatelli
Kobe Kolmer
Brayden Maltese
Aaron Messenger
Lewis Messett
Maria Simon
Garrett West
Sophia Zammello



SIXTH GRADE SCIENTISTS MEETING THE CHALLENGE!

Sixth graders at Sauquoit Valley Middle School participated in the Science Buddies Rocket Challenge for 2025. During this challenge, students were given a set of constraints and criteria pertaining to the design of a rocket catcher. They worked individually or with a partner to build and test their design, making any needed adjustments along the way. Data was collected and the results were sent to "Science Buddies." We are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the winners for the challenge. Should one of our entries be chosen, a \$1000 check will be given to that team to purchase STEM materials for student use. A great time was had by all who participated in the challenge!



INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS: NEW CHESS CLUB LAUNCHES AT SAUQUOIT VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL



Checkmate! Students at the middle school are sharpening their strategic thinking skills with the launch of a brand new Chess Club. The club, which held its second official meeting on March 18, aims to provide students with a fun and competitive environment to learn and master the classic game.

The club welcomes players of all skill levels, from beginners just learning the moves, to experienced players looking to hone their strategies. Chess is a

great way for students to develop critical thinking, patience and problem solving skills.

The club meets one day every other week after school in room 207 or the library. During the meetings, students will learn the pieces, how to play, engage in practice matches and even participate in friendly tournaments. Plans are also in place for the club to hopefully compete against other schools someday.

With such a high interest level in the club, it is set to become a staple of the school's extracurricular scene. Interested students can still join by speaking with Mrs. Cook or attending the next club meeting.

A special thank you to the PTO for helping make this happen!



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



Six enthusiastic students from our middle school recently participated in a Battle of the Books competition. This competition takes place between teams from other regional middle schools. During the competition, teams compete against each other to name the title and author of the book, simply based on quotations. These quotations came from a predetermined list of 13 books that cover a wide range of genres and styles. Reading and preparing for this competition did not happen overnight and the bulk of the work took place outside of school.

Representing the Sauquoit Valley Middle School team was Logan Barsuch, Eli Montrose, Gheller Winget and Nicholai Yaletchko. We also were fortunate to have two students who supported the team



as alternates: Jack Kellmurray and Teddie Tylutki. The team members read all 13 selected books and worked hard to learn the correct pronunciations of every author's name. The team had a great time reading, buzzing in their answers and putting forth an outstanding team effort. While first place was slightly out of reach, Mrs. Corleto is looking forward to forming a group of middle schoolers that will be excited to compete in next year's battle!





MARKING PERIOD 2

PRINCIPAL'S
LIST

GRADE 5

Parker Alsante
Everett Corleto
Kolten DelMedico
Aubrey Klenotiz
Jaxen Loy
Emaliana Morrison
Natalie Ostrosky
Mason Randall
Patrick Stacy II
Abigail Swienton
Adalind Weeks
Evelyn White
Chloe Yearby

GRADE 6

Erin Brown
Ella Davies
Chloe DelMedico
Liana Kachanovich
Mia Lopiccolo
Charlotte Lupia
Remington Mackey
Maxx Malone
Charlotte Merrell
Frank Moore
Tristan Parslow
Alexis Porter
Teagan Rapke
Samuel Simon
Caleb Vivacqua
Amarah Weeks
Phoenix Woods

GRADE 7

Annalise Ballard
Emma DeCarr
Lily Flynt
Avery Haberek
Luke Jones
Lia Lallier
Gianna Marcello
Yasmina Selmi
Stella Sen
Cecilia Sumner
Virginia Tylutki
Alzaina Weeks
Jaxon Winget
Nicholai Yaletchko

GRADE 8

Parker Allen
Ava Carangelo
Leo Colosimo
Shae Crowe
Caleb Davies
Adriana Gehringer
Owen LoGalbo
Sophia Macrina
Harper Reile
Mason Stoddard
Charlotte Wadsworth
Kaylin Yearby

HIGHEST
HONORS
LIST

GRADE 5

Owen Barsuch
Eden Cardillo
Frank Curriere
Charlotte Day
Shepherd Gaska
Laila George
Ava Joy
Bennett Keida
Everly Kidder
Jaxson Longo
Brayden McKissick
Lilly Olmstead
Juliet Tinker
Theodora Tylutki
Gheller Winget

GRADE 6

Maggie Cardillo
Mason Day
Rachel Dellea
Sarah Freitag
Grace Jerzak
Lilly Kelly
Lily Nora
Lyvia Sherman
Avery Thall

GRADE 7

Logan Barsuch
Elsie Boone
Claire Cardillo
Abigail Collins
Kelsey Corleto
Sahntee Dikar
Mason Enjem
Elaina Gagnon
Elliana George
Violet Kidder
Julia Merrell
Logan Reed
Phoebe Valeriano
Connor Vivacqua

GRADE 8

Kenedi Barker
Lillyan Brennan
Margaret Davis
Nikeya Hoch
Alexa Juliano
Raegan Kellmurray
Jackson Nora
Alexander Sacco

HONORS
LIST

GRADE 5

Sebastian Carangelo
Joseph Colosimo
Izabel Cook
Carter Davy
Nathaniel Gorton
Mariana Heredia
Mason Hoff
Jack Kellmurray
Keyarra Kurgan
Quinn Noonan
Mason Poe
Makayla Swiderski
Kyle Tibbitts
Silas Vaber
AnnaBella VanDyke

GRADE 6

Abigail DeCarr
Luella Dodge
Alexis Doerr
Jovonna Loughlin
Alivia Misiaszek
Harper Paciello
Colin Peckham
Katherine Polish
Sage Reed
Millie Sullivan
Andre Talerico
Olivia VanEtten
Arieanna Wratten

GRADE 7

Charlotte Allen
Eden Handzel
Logan Lovrencic
Leah Nichols
Jacob Nolan
Adrian Palmer
Dolores Szewczyk
Mason Vaber
Evan Wood

GRADE 8

Hannah Alsante
Evan Aylesworth
Lily Bianco
Julianna Calenzo
Jimmy Gomez-Lopez
Olivia Griffiths
Sean Lee
Austin Lopiccolo
Trenton Noonan
Landon Parslow
Courtney Potter
Kseniya Rabkavets
Natalie Roberts
Jaxen Rocker
Matthew Silchuk



MIDDLE SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION UPDATE: BADMINTON MADNESS

Our middle school physical education classes have been swinging their rackets and serving up some serious excitement during the annual badminton tournaments! Each class crowned its own champion, and those lucky winners then faced off in an epic battle to see who would claim the title of school champion. It was a thrilling display of athleticism and strategy, with players showing off their most impressive birdie smashes and crafty net shots.

Who knew badminton could be so intense?



SAUQUOIT VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL STEAM CLUB

Throughout the school year, the Sauquoit Valley Middle School STEAM Club runs different programs each quarter. STEAM Club has sought to provide students with opportunities to expand their skills in the areas of science, technology, engineering, art and math. Some quarters offer engineering challenges and others offer opportunities for students to develop robotics and programming skills.

This year, the first quarter challenge was the BB Coaster Challenge. In this challenge, students were tasked with designing and building a three-dimensional roller coaster through which a metal BB must travel. The objective was to build the most innovative coaster and receive the most points based on the criteria of height, length,

time taken to travel through the track and of course the number of twists, turns and loops in the track. With this challenge, students had the opportunity to engage in the engineering design process to plan, design, build and refine their solution. They developed collaboration, problem solving and critical thinking skills as they sought to meet the criteria of this challenge. Returning students were able to expand on this challenge by having access to more materials, but also fitting their coaster on a smaller board.

Our second and third quarter challenges involved learning to build and program a Lego SPIKE Prime robot or learning to program a Sphero BOLT robot. This allowed students to utilize iPads and either a Lego SPIKE Prime robot or a

Sphero BOLT robot to meet various challenges. Students developed basic programming skills and had access to technology they would otherwise not be exposed to. Students who participated in both these quarterly challenges were able to experience both robots. This often leads students to success in related areas as they grow in these skills.

Some of our students recently had a chance to present what they have been working on at an educational showcase sponsored by the OHM BOCES.



Students were able to interact with administrators and board members from the component schools and share what they have been working on in STEAM Club. It was a wonderful opportunity to share what students are doing at Sauquoit, as well as see what other districts are doing to gain ideas for how to best utilize resources and meet student needs.

The fourth quarter challenge will be starting soon. This challenge will involve building a solar oven to cook a s'more. Students will need to think about energy conversions, thermal conductivity and overall design to be successful in this challenge. Then, they have the opportunity to use their oven to cook a delicious s'more. This is a perfect challenge to end a successful year in STEAM Club.

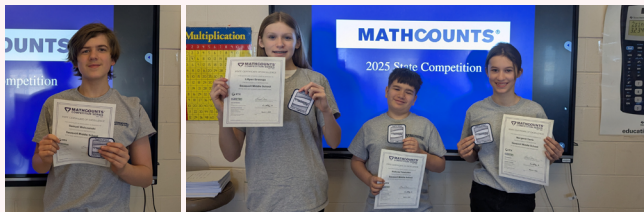


Middle School MathCounts Team Achieves Outstanding Success Again this Year

The Sauquoit Valley Middle School MathCounts team is dedicated to fostering a love of math and helping students develop problem-solving skills in a collaborative environment. The club is open to grades 6–8, with students meeting weekly to work on challenging math problems, engage in teamwork and explore higher-level math concepts. This year, there were 18 students competing at the school level with the top performers advancing to the regional competition in February. On February 1, seven students qualified for the regional competition, held right here at Sauquoit Valley Middle School. At regionals, students competed against other neighboring districts, placing second overall as a team. The top four students from regionals continued their journey at the state level, traveling to Saratoga Springs in March. We are so proud of the work they have put in and the success they have seen this year. Great job to all participants!



Top 7 students advancing to Regionals: Samuel Wolczanski, Owen LoGalbo, Margaret Davis, Lillyan Brennan, Nicholai Yaletchko, Abigail Collins and not pictured: Alexander Sacco



Top 4 students advancing to States: Samuel Wolczanski, Lillyan Brennan, Nicholai Yaletchko and Margaret Davis

PACK THE PANTRY



From left: Matthew Gagnon, Carmine Lupia, Hudson Stephens, Salvatore Moore

Elementary Students Show Generosity in Annual Pack the Pantry Challenge

This February at our elementary school, the spirit of giving was alive and well during the annual Pack the Pantry food drive challenge! This friendly competition between grade levels encouraged students to bring in food donations for those in need, and the results were nothing short of amazing.

A grand total of 2,276 food items were collected, all of which were donated to Sauquoit Valley Friends and Neighbors, a local organization dedicated to helping families in our community.

This incredible achievement would not have been possible without the generosity of the families who donated food, the teachers who counted and sorted items and our custodial staff who delivered the donations. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making this year's food drive such a success!

We are proud of our students for demonstrating kindness and community spirit, and we look forward to another fantastic Pack the Pantry challenge next year!

Thank you once again for your kindness and generosity!



Sauquoit Valley Central School COUNSELING DEPARTMENT



Mr. Dischiavo

Elementary School

pdischiavo@svcsd.org

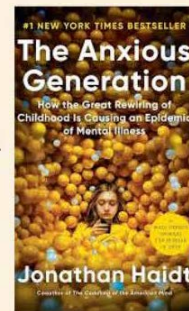
The Anxious Generation: Free Community Workshop & Discussion

Wednesday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria

Please join us for a presentation by Jeremy Butler of ICAN on the positive and negative impacts of social media, cell phones and other technologies on children's and teens' mental health.

INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON

- How we've gone from a "play based" to a "screen based" childhood and what can be done about it.
- Impact on brain and social development.
- What ONE event has significantly impacted rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidality in teens?
- What are the major differences in the way boys and girls use technology and social media, and the different effects on each?
- Learn about "gamification" and social media addiction.
- Tips to structure screen time at home.
- Parents as role models.
- Q & A with the audience.



Middle School

Mr. Ryan
eryan@svcsd.org

Miss. VanAlstyne
cvanalstyne@svcsd.org

Career Day

On March 28, Sauquoit Valley Middle School hosted a dynamic career day with the support and coordination of the OHM BOCES School and Business Alliance, providing students with an exciting opportunity to explore a wide range of careers. Local professionals from diverse industries shared insights into their fields, offering valuable advice and hands-on activities to help students connect classroom learning to real-world careers. From healthcare and engineering to skilled trades and technology, students engaged in interactive discussions and learned about potential future careers, skill development and the importance of education in achieving their goals. The event highlighted the importance of career exploration at an early age, inspiring students to start thinking about their paths with confidence and curiosity. Special thanks to our SABA coordinator and all the professionals who volunteered their time to make this experience engaging and meaningful for our students!

Character All-Star Awards

All-Star students are positive role models who demonstrate good decision making abilities, and are honest, kind and responsible members of our school community. Every other week, we will be awarding our All-Stars with a shout out on the announcements, a certificate of recognition and an ice cream coupon! We will be featuring our award recipients during each installment of the News & Views!

Award Recipients:

<u>January</u>	<u>March</u>	
Marie Elizabeth Green	Olivia Hughes	
Mason Day	Elaina Gagnon	
Connor Vivoequa	Andre Talarico	<u>April</u>
Conner Smith	Charli Day	
Natalie Roberts	Lillian Brennan	
Evan Wood	Eden Handzel	
Rachel Dellea	Jovonna Loughlin	
Makayla Swiderski	Mason Hoff	



Doug Jones was recently honored as the Section III Athletic Director of the Year at the New York State Athletic Administrators Association annual conference.

Congratulations to Mr. Jones!



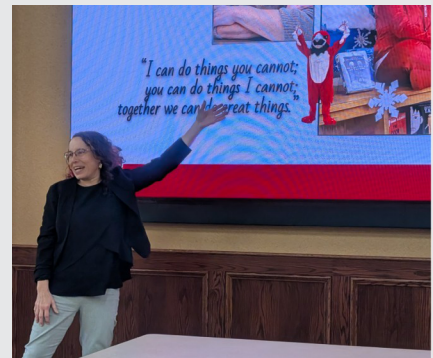
Mr. Joseph Corleto was recently recognized at the NYSTEEA Awards Ceremony as the Regional Teacher of the Year by his colleagues from the Mohawk Valley Technology and Engineering Educators Association.

Congratulations, Mr. Corleto!

Sauquoit Librarians Present at OHM BOCES Librarians Breakfast

On April 4th at the OHM BOCES Librarians and Administrators Breakfast, librarians and administrators throughout the region were treated to inspiring showcases by Sauquoit's talented library media specialists, Jackie Corleto and Michelle Babbie! Mrs. Corleto and Ms. Babbie presented on the dynamic and pivotal role school libraries play in fostering student success. Themes that resonated throughout the presentations included the power of teamwork and collaboration amongst educators, the rich possibilities of cross-curricular learning opportunities sparked by the library, and the unwavering commitment to supporting literacy for all learners. Furthermore, the presentations highlighted the vital connections with community partners, and an emphasis on nurturing strong student connections within the library environment.

Our libraries are welcoming spaces for growth and discovery for all students! Thank you Ms. Babbie and Mrs. Corleto for all you do for our students and for representing Sauquoit Valley CSD so well!



Heart Run and Walk

On March 8, an amazing group of middle school students dressed up in red tutus and sunglasses to brave the cold and help raise money for the American Heart Association by participating in this year's Heart Run and Walk. This middle school team, appropriately

named "The Sauquoit Savers," raised \$1,204.63 that will go towards the fight against heart disease. Mrs. Purrington would like to thank everyone who was part of this "unstoppable" team for their effort in making heart disease "stopable" for everyone!



OPTIMISTS OF THE MONTH

Optimists of the Month are seniors chosen based on their community and school-based activities, as well as their general attitude as good citizens in helping others.

Congratulations

TO OUR OPTIMISTS OF THE MONTH:

JANUARY	Sydney Sallustio
FEBRUARY	Caden Beecher
MARCH	Sophia Sacco
APRIL	Jamie Allen
MAY	Olivia LaSalle



ROTARY CLUB OF SAUQUOIT

RECOGNIZING JUNIORS OF THE MONTH

Students are selected based on the Rotarian four-way test: Must be fair to all, build friendships, be trustworthy and participate in community service.

Congratulations
TO OUR JUNIORS
OF THE MONTH:

FEBRUARY

Makayla Land

MARCH

Brynn Weaver

APRIL

Julia Makuszak

MAY

Tristyn Williams



UPCOMING

TENURE

APPOINTMENTS

The following people are due for tenure appointment consideration as indicated. If any member of the public has a question, please contact the superintendent of schools at 315-839-6311.

PATRICIA MURPHY

ALYSIA MAINE

SARA WILLIAMS



Clayville Library

SERVING THE GREATER SAUQUOIT VALLEY

2265 Oneida St. Clayville, NY 13322
315.839.5893 | 315.839.5070 (fax)

- A notary public is available by phone appointment.
- Legos in the Library is every Saturday from noon-2 p.m. Bring a friend and let your imaginations loose!
- Take & Make craft kits are available to children throughout the month.
- Our Book Club meets the last Tuesday of the month. Current book selection is "The Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Join us for a good read and good company.
- The Ludlow Community Room is available for parties, meetings and events for 2025 and is free to the residents of the Town of Paris. Call the library to reserve the community room for your meeting or event.

RETURNING EVENTS

Village Days planning is in full swing! If you know any talented crafters who'd like to join the fun and showcase their creations, please have them reach out to the library for an application. Spaces are limited, so be sure to sign up soon to secure a spot! The event will take place from May 31 to June 1.

LIBRARY HOURS

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY
1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

THURSDAY
3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

SATURDAY
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We're sad to share that our amazing story time reader Amanda, has moved out of the area. This means the library is on the lookout for someone special to take over and create a fun, engaging story hour for our little ones. They'll miss the fantastic stories and creative crafts, but we're excited to find someone new to keep this tradition alive!

Please contact the Library Director Anasheh, and share your interest in this volunteering opportunity.

Do you love to bake?



CLAYVILLE VILLAGE DAYS Bake Sale!

Baked good donations are needed for our Village Days Bake Sale!



Drop-off Deadline:
Friday, May 30 & Saturday, May 31

CLAYVILLE VILLAGE DAYS

May 31 - June 1 2025

Chicken BBQ Village-Wide Garage Sales

Crafters' Tent Basket Raffle Plant Sale

Book Sale Bounce House Bake Sale

Zoo Mobile Tuesday Night BB Slime Booth

Sheriff ID Kits Face Painting Balloon Animals

NY Energy Zone Sno-Cones Cotton Candy/Ice Cream

Sat. 10 - 4

Sun. 11 - 3



There are many more events happening this weekend so watch our FB & Instagram Pages for updates

2265 Oneida St. Clayville, NY 13322
315-839-5893 www.clayvillelibraryassoc.org



2601 Oneida Street • P.O. Box 1000
Sauquoit, New York 13456-1000

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Anthony Nicotera, *President*
Lynn Weibel, *Vice President*
Patricia Collins
Ron Critelli
Mike Makuszak
Cathy Pumilia
Mike Sacco

SUPERINTENDENT

David Stayton

Postal Patron Local
ECRWSS

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Doug E. Jones
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
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Wellness Center
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**Alison Pirger/
Anne Rieben**
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