

TIGER TRIBUNE

Waterloo Central School District

ALL STUDENTS. ALL STAFF. ONE FAMILY.

A Message From The Superintendent:

DEAR WATERLOO COMMUNITY

It's been a tremendous year for the Waterloo Central School District with many opportunities for students and staff to celebrate academic, athletic, and artistic achievements. Congratulations to the Class of 2025 for all that they have accomplished, and the experiences they will carry with them into the next phase of their lives. We will certainly miss the laughter, smiles, and memories they brought to our school. They will always be Tigers, and will always have the Waterloo community behind them no matter where they go.

Summer school began on July 7. Our summer school offerings are an important resource for students looking to enter the next school year on pace with their peers, whether by preparing them for state exams in August or enriching their understanding of material from the previous year. Thank you to the teachers and staff who make these programs thrive each year.

If you've been in or around our school buildings these past few weeks, you've noticed the construction going on. Our west athletic field will be closed to all activities until August 24, and the Skoi-Yase Primary School playground will not be accessible for the remainder of the summer. Work on the transportation office will force buses to relocate to the parking lots at LaFayette Intermediate School, which may limit parking for summer activities there. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

In accordance with New York State, the Waterloo Central School District has coordinated with community stakeholders to implement a district-

wide policy regarding the use of personal internet-enabled devices during the school day, including smartphones, tablets, smartwatches, and more. Students will be required to place them in on-site storage during school hours, and will be prohibited from using these devices in general. Storage may include lockers, cubbies, lockable pouches, or any place where a device can be secure.

We considered all of the possibilities for when access to an internet-enabled device may be required, and included exceptions to the policy in certain circumstances such as during an emergency, when translation assistance is needed, or when authorized by a staff member. Parents and guardians can also contact their child during the school day through a variety of channels, including the main office of the student's school building or a designated contact email address in each building. We believe that this policy will limit the usage of internet-enabled devices as required by the state, while allowing for smooth and efficient communication when the need arises.

Summer is usually associated with a lull in school activity, but as you can tell we are quite busy preparing for the 2025-26 academic year. I hope you have a wonderful rest of your summer, and are looking forward to September as much as I am.

With Tiger Pride,

Sarah Cupelli

Superintendent of Schools



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WATERLOO CSD NAMES NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL & ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Christal Jensen Kent stepped into her new role as the principal of the Waterloo Middle School on July 1. A 1996 graduate of Waterloo Central School, Mrs. Kent has served the district in several capacities including most recently as director of health, physical education & athletics.

"I am excited to support our Waterloo community from a new lens, and committed to guiding our students toward success," Mrs. Kent said. "I look forward to continuing to support our Waterloo students and staff from a new perspective in the same school I graduated from in 1996 and then started teaching at in 2003. The opportunity to

lead Waterloo Middle School is one I approach with a vested commitment to our students, staff and families."

Mrs. Kent holds a master's degree in reading teacher education from Elmira College, where she also received her bachelor's degree in elementary education and teaching. She also holds a certificate of advanced studies in educational leadership and administration from SUNY Oswego.

Christian Maher filled the role of director of health, physical education & athletics on July 1. Mr. Maher previously served as the athletic director of the Auburn Enlarged City School District for 4

years, where he also served as a principal at Genesee Elementary School and assistant principal of Auburn High School. Prior to his tenure at Auburn, Mr. Maher also served as the athletic director at the Weedsport Central School District and the Hamilton Central School District.

"I am very excited for the opportunity to join the team here at Waterloo," said Mr. Maher. "Mrs. Kent has been fantastic in bringing me up to speed the last few weeks, all while preparing for her new role as principal. I look forward to working with our student-athletes, coaches and school community in the years to come, and let's go Tigers!"



Waterloo Middle School RESPECT Team Hosts Autism Walk

The second Annual Autism Walk was held at Tom Coughlin Field on June 1. The goal of the event was to raise funds for AutismUp, an organization in Rochester that supports people living with autism and their families. The walk was created and organized by the Waterloo Middle School RESPECT team, consisting of sixth, seventh and eighth grade students who strive to be role models in their school and community by organizing service projects.

SECOND-GRADE STUDENTS PUBLISH BOOK

Second-grade students in Mrs. Kennedy's classroom at Skoi-Yase Primary School published a book titled "All About Animals." The book details each student's favorite animal, complete with illustrations and reasons why they picked that animal. Mrs. Kennedy, along with her co-teacher Mrs. Henry and teacher assistant Mrs. Darling, guided the students through the writing and publishing process.

"From researching their animals, to all of the rough drafts, I'm so proud of how my students stuck with it and got this book to the finish line," said Mrs. Kennedy.

Once they were happy with the finished product, they sent it to Studenttreasures Publishing so that it could be turned into a book. They celebrated the book's release at a launch party on April 6, where they were joined by parents and friends.



RADICAL READERS

LaFayette Intermediate School celebrated six "radical readers" at the conclusion of the school year. Students set their own reading goals and answered a variety of questions to earn points, with the top point-earners being rewarded with a special lunch of pizza and ice cream with Principal Molly Lahr.

"'Radical Readers' is a school-wide reading challenge designed to build excitement around books and help students grow as readers," Ms. Lahr said.

Congratulations to Brooklyn Cocola, Charlotte Estes, McKenzie Cocola, Sage Waltz, Jocelyn Thomas, and Olivia Swarhout!



Skoi-Yase Second-Graders Tour LaFayette Intermediate School

Skoi-Yase Primary School second-graders and their families took a special tour of their future school at LaFayette Intermediate School, where they will be third-graders beginning in the fall. They met some of their third-grade teachers, and visited the art room, music room, gym, and more! The day was also special for LaFayette students, as they reunited with their second-grade teachers.





Jayden Mansell

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2025

The Waterloo Central School District held its 139th Commencement Ceremony on June 28 in the Waterloo High School Gym. The bleachers were packed with parents, family members, and community supporters who came to celebrate the Class of 2025 for all of their hard work and accomplishments.

"You've learned together, grown together, and supported one another through it all," said High School Principal Jim Karcz. "It's an absolute honor to speak in front of you as your principal, and to celebrate everything you've accomplished and the people you've become."

Class President Nathan Robson offered a welcome address to his peers and the assembled crowd, thanking the assembled parents for all of their work in guiding the graduates through four years of high school.

"I hope you continue to support us in our journeys beyond Waterloo, whether that be in the trades, college or whatever the future looks like," said Robson. "The Class of 2025 has a measurable talent that is greatly appreciated, and should be celebrated."

Superintendent Sarah Cupelli stated that graduation is a milestone, representing the end of one chapter of life and the beginning of another.

"You've grown up in a time of rapid change, a time that has tested your flexibility, your character, and your vision," said Cupelli. "But here you are, stronger, smarter, and ready for what comes next. You've learned to work as a team, speak up for what you believe in, and to keep going when things get tough, all skills that will carry you far beyond high school." She emphasized how each graduate's individual journey would matter deeply to their families, teachers, and community. "Be fearless, but never forget where you came from."

Valedictorian Jayden Mansell encouraged his peers to see the diplomas they would receive as the tools to build a better future for themselves.

"Each one of us is going to shape the future in our positive way," said Mansell. "We are the authors of our own books."

He added that although the future can be uncertain, and times of struggle may arise. Failure may sting, in his words, but it also encourages us to try and try again until we find a way forward.

Salutatorian Violet Enslow echoed the sentiments from Robson earlier in the evening by thanking the adult figures in the lives of the Class of 2025.

"You've given us the firm ground to stand on, amidst all of the challenges we've faced," she said.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025!



Nathan Robson



Violet Enslow





Waterloo High School Class of 2025

Aidan Acquilano
Evan Albrecht
Zackary Alnutt
Chloe Anthony
Alexander Arar
Bergren Aunkst-Park
Haylee Beesley
Dillon Beniamino
Dylan Bennett
Kamryn Bennett
Brigit Bowman
Dylan Caraballo
Ethan Carr
Elizabeth Caster
Breigh Chambers
Ethan Clough
Eli Coleman
Brayden Cooper
Christ Dampog
Avery DeFrancesco

Kyan Dickey
Jailyn Dunbar
Violet Enslow
Ryan Farnsworth
Justine Fiorelli Cruz
Savannah Fish
Nevaeh Gipson
Blaze Greenfield
Jacob Griffiths
Megan Hall
Hannah Harris
Nicole Harris
Mia Hartwell
Aidan Heindl
Baleigh Hodder
Olivia Howard
Xiao Yan Huang
Kayleigh Hubbard
Makenna Huling
Cameron Jacobs
Natalie Jones

Andre Kerns
Ryan King
Justin Knowlton
Natalie Knowlton
Draylan Lass
Brandon Lee
Kaka Lu
Marina Lyon
Olivia Lyon
Jayden Mansell
Alivia Mattoon
Madison McCann
Aiden McDonald
Garrett McDougal
Chloey Meldrum
Roberto Montero
Ari Mooneyhan
Donatella Morabito
Alexandria Mosley
Gustavo Moyao
Gyavahna Murphy

Hope Murphy
Trevor Murray
Kaylin Newton
Joseph Paine
Joseph Parkhurst
Sydney Paul
Jordan Peterson
Elaina Plate
Roy Poormon
Sydney Poormon
Haylee Prouty
Gabriel Rey
Noah Ridley
Nathan Robson
Alexander Rogers
Canon Rogers
Aiden Rosario
Spencer Saville
Delyiah Schreier
Angelina Sgarlata
Caden Shangraw

Alexander Sindoni
Kaydance Smith
Peter Spinelli
Gavin Swartley
Tarynn Tam
Jack Thissell
Taylor Thornton
Jaylyn Ticconi
Nickolas Tomkins
Gavin Twitchell
Jazalyne Valder
Mystique Vacellaro
Zane Wells
Aubrey Westerberg
Madison Westerberg
Madalynn Wheeler
Kaitlin Wilson
Jacob Wolff
JaLeah Wright

ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

The 59th Waterloo Varsity Club Sports Banquet was held June 12 at Club 86 in Geneva, with over 260 Waterloo athletes, coaches, administrators and their families in attendance to honor Waterloo's sports teams. In addition to the student-athletes recognized with awards by their coaches in individual sports, congratulations to the following student-athletes for receiving special recognition:

- Jim White Freshman Basketball Award: Hayden Willett
- 2024-2025 Scholar Athlete of the Year: Jayden Mansell
- The 2025 William Glinski Athletic Director's Award: Madison Westerberg
- Varsity Club Service Awards: Nickolas Tomkins and Jayden Mansell
- Harry T. Schwarze Memorial Scholarship: Nathan Robson
- Bill Luce Memorial Golf Committee Scholarships: Marina Lyon, Aiden McDonald, Nathan Robson, Jacob Wolff
- Mark J. Boudreau Memorial Scholarship: Jayden Mansell and Madison Westerberg
- Mark C. Dunham Class Act Scholarship: Aiden Rosario
- Homer "Gene" Emerick Memorial Award: Aubrey Westerberg
- Kory Rauscher Memorial Scholarship: Dylan Caraballo & Alexander Rogers
- 2024-2025 Athletes of the Year: Dylan Caraballo & Madison Westerberg

Congratulations to the baseball, softball, girls lacrosse and girls track & field teams for being named NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete teams for spring 2025.

The Waterloo Varsity Softball Team finished runners-up in the Section V Class B1 softball tournament, defeating Hornell and Aquinas before losing to Haverling in the championship game. Congratulations for a strong showing in the sectional tournament!

The Waterloo Varsity Girls Lacrosse Team finished runners-up in the Section V Class D girls lacrosse tournament, defeating Mynderse/Romulus before losing in the finals to Penn Yan. Congratulations for a strong showing!

Congratulations to Varsity Track and Field runner Nathan Robson for winning the sectional title in the 3200 meter event.

Madison Westerberg capped off an incredible career on the Waterloo Varsity Softball team, finishing second all-time in Section V for home runs with 34. This season, she was named Finger Lakes East Player of the Year for her efforts.

Congratulations to Maci Mueller for all of her accomplishments in girls lacrosse this season, which included being named Finger Lakes East Player of the Year and breaking the all-time points record at Waterloo during the month of April.





WATERLOO MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL BANDS RECOGNIZED WITH NYSSMA GOLD AWARDS

Both the Waterloo Middle and High School Bands won Gold Awards at the NYSSMA Majors competition, held on April 2. The Gold Award is the highest honor presented to participating bands. Both bands had to perform before two judges, where they received written and verbal feedback on specific areas of music criteria. Congratulations to the Waterloo Music program for this tremendous accomplishment!

OLIVIA LYON RECEIVES EMPIRE DEGREE FROM THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION



Graduating senior Olivia Lyon was awarded with an Empire Degree in May 2025, considered the highest degree awarded by the National FFA Organization. The degree is given to students who have found tremendous success in the areas of community service and leadership, and who meet a lengthy amount of criteria based on volunteer hours, FFA tenure, and more. Applicants

are also considered based on their performance in their supervised agricultural experiences (SAE's), which are hands-on learning opportunities that provide real-world experience in agriculture. Congratulations to Olivia on a job well done!



WATERLOO MIDDLE SCHOOLERS SHARE HAPPENINGS IN THE CLASSROOM

In April, six students at Waterloo Middle School were given the opportunity to share some of the unique things they get to do during the school day with the school board and community. Eighth graders Bentley Wheeler and Karter Freeman explored their love of hip-hop by creating a rap backing track for their music class. Seventh grader Savannah Dalere-Coryell talked about a virtual trip to Mexico City that Spanish students created, while sixth graders Kelsey Bailey and Leah Sessler did an interactive social studies project within the video game Minecraft. Thank you for sharing!

KEY DATES

AUGUST

19-20 Regents Examinations

SEPTEMBER

1 Labor Day Holiday

2 & 3 Superintendent's
Conference Day

4 First Day for Students

26 Half Day for Students

OCTOBER

10 Superintendent's
Conference Day

13 Indigenous Peoples' Day /
Columbus Day Holiday

TRANSPORTATION AWARD WINNERS

Three Waterloo Central School District Transportation Department staff members received state-level recognition at the New York Association for Pupil Transportation's annual awards banquet.

Rick Leisenring received an award for School Bus Driver of the Year. He has been recognized multiple times by the district as an Unsung Hero for being trusted by student passengers and their families. He forges deep connections with students, transporting them to and from school, on field trips, and to the Finger Lakes Technical & Career Center.



Armin Winters and MaryAnn Bennett were recognized with an award for School Bus Driver and Attendant/Monitor Team of the Year. As a team, they have nurtured a positive and strong culture on their bus that allows student passengers from three districts to thrive and feel welcomed. Mrs. Bennett has taken classes in American Sign Language to better communicate with her passengers, while Mr. Winters is heavily involved in school activities, and has even assisted neighboring district's athletic teams with transportation to their events.



WATERLOO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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