

February 2026

ELLICOTTVILLE

D I S T R I C T • N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 56, Issue 4

SNOOPY!

(LONDON
VERSION)

A MUSICAL THAT IS A HEARTWARMING TREAT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Get ready to smile — our school is proud to present Snoopy!!!, The Musical, a charming and lyrical celebration of imagination, friendship, and the small moments that mean the most. Centered on the beloved beagle from Charles M. Schulz's Peanuts, this production blends humor, memorable songs, and touching scenes that will delight audiences of all ages.

Delightful song-and-dance numbers, Snoopy's imaginative and tender moments that explore friendship and belonging all while allowing Snoopy a chance to take center stage as the Big Bow Wow! The show balances lighthearted comedy with heartfelt storytelling — perfect for families and community members.

Our talented student cast brings warmth and energy to every role. This is a wonderful opportunity to support young performers, celebrate

arts education, and enjoy an evening of accessible, family-friendly theatre. Students on stage include Timothy DeChane, Nicholas Wedvik, Keira Baldwin, Audrey Meacham-Williams, Isabella Wilder, Marshall DeChane, Allison Terhune, Grace Kwagalakwe, Carter Kaleta, Keegan Kaleta, and Kaegan Bauer. Helping behind the scenes are: Collin Weber, Jaxson LaCroix, Ella Grundy and Ava Weber.

SHOW DETAILS:

DATES: MARCH 13TH & 14TH

TIMES: 7 PM

LOCATION: THE WARD

TICKETS: \$10 – TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR

Join us for an affectionate, music-filled tribute to one of America's most enduring comic characters. Whether you're a longtime Peanuts fan or discovering Snoopy for the first time, Snoopy!!! The Musical promises laughs, a few happy tears, and a whole lot of

Ellicottville High School Drama Club



SNOOPY!!!

March 13th & 14th - 7 PM
Tickets sold at the door \$10
The Ward

Director – Jonathan R. Wilder Choreographer – Jennie Caruso
Vocal Director – Pat Waldron Producer – Crystal Wilder
Accompanist – Jamie Edwards

SNOOPY!!! is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals in behalf of Turner Worldwide, LLC.
©1995 Concord Theatricals
SNOOPY!!!
The Musical
Based on the Peanuts comic strip by Charles M. Schulz
Music by Charles M. Schulz, Christopher YOUNG
Lyrics by Charles M. Schulz, Christopher YOUNG, and Michael J. Calkin
Book by Larry Green
Script by Larry Green
Originally produced by Arthur Winkler, Michael J. Gluck and Susan Bloom
Originally released by Warner Brothers

heart. Don't miss it — bring the whole family!

The production is directed by Jonathan Wilder, with Pat Waldron as Vocal Director, Jennie Caruso as Choreographer, Crystal Wilder as Producer, and Jamie Edwards as Accompanist.

VOTE

Tuesday, February 10, 2026
1:00pm - 8:00pm
Elementary School Foyer



\$8,990,000
ECS Turf
Athletic
Complex

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS You are eligible to vote if you are a United States citizen, 18 years or older, and a resident of the Ellicottville Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the date of the vote.

VOTER REGISTRATION shall take place with the District Clerk, Deputy District Clerk or a member of the Board of Registration during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (any school day) at the District Office located at 5873 Route 219, Ellicottville, New York, provided, however, that such registration shall not take place after January 30th, 2026. If you are not an active registered voter with your local Board of Elections, you need to register for the February 10th, 2026 vote.

APPLICATIONS FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS applications for absentee ballots may be obtained at the office of the District Clerk between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the Special Meeting and Vote, if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on the day before the Special Meeting and Vote, if the ballot is to be issued personally to the voter at the District Clerk's office. The list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection in the office of the District Clerk, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, until the day set for voting, except for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. No absentee ballot will be canvassed unless it is received prior to 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on February 10, 2026, in the office of the District Clerk, 5873 Route, 219 South, Ellicottville, New York.

February 2026

Dear Ellicottville Community,

I am truly honored and excited to serve as the next Superintendent of the Ellicottville Central School District. Ellicottville holds a very special place in my heart. I lived here for twelve years, and my three daughters had the privilege of attending school in this district. What makes Ellicottville truly remarkable is the care, kindness, and genuine sense of community that define it, along with its strong commitment to supporting and educating every student. As both a parent and community member, I experienced firsthand the compassion, pride, and dedication that make this district and community so special.

Returning to Ellicottville feels like coming home. I am eager to reconnect with the community and to bring my experiences as a teacher, principal, and superintendent back to a district that helped shape my own family. I am excited to build upon the many great things that are already happening in our school and to support the culture of excellence and school pride that is clearly established.

I look forward to collaborating closely with the Board of Education, our dedicated staff, students, families, and community members as we continue to strengthen the district and ensure success for all learners. Ellicottville's strengths are many, and together we will continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have already received. As we begin 2026, my goal is to foster and support a positive, inclusive school culture while learning as much as possible about what it truly means to be an "Ellicottville Eagle."

I invite you to join me for an informal Meet and Greet on **Thursday, February 12th at 5:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria**. I look forward to meeting many of you, hearing your perspectives, and beginning this next chapter together.

Warm regards,



Tiffany Giannicchi
Superintendent



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, February 16th, 2026
SCHOOL CLOSED- PRESIDENT'S DAY

Tuesday, February 17-20th, 2026
FEBRUARY BREAK

March 19th, 2026
PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES (1/2 DAY FOR STUDENTS GRADES K-12)

March 20th, 2026
SUPERINTENDENT'S STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS)



ALL-WESTERN NEW YORK WINNERS FOR FALL SPORTS SEASON ANNOUNCED

Section 6 recently announced the 2025 All-Western New York Scholar Athlete Fall Sports winners.

To be nominated for the team, students must have carried a 90-plus average for the previous six semesters and been a starter or significant player in their winter sport. The scholar-athlete team is open to seniors from Western New York's 100-plus public and private schools and the selections are made by a committee.

Representing Ellicottville Central School as a winner of the honor was



Section 6, Class D Championship. Congratulations to Ande on her accomplishments on the court and in the classroom!

Senior Ande Northrup. Ande was a member of the Girls Varsity Volleyball team, earning CCAA Division 2 First Team All Star this season while helping the Eagles win the

The Eagles were also very well represented on the Honorable Mention Team. For Girls Soccer, Teaghan Finn, Drew Ficek, Harper Klein, and Olivia Tighe were all recognized. Faith Burlingame and Izzy Coburn were named for Girls Volleyball. Grady Byroads and Cameron Mendell represented the F/E Titan Football team. Jordan O'Connell was represented for F/E Titan Cheer, while Jackson Kruszynski was named for Boys Soccer. Congratulations to all of our Eagles and Titans for being amazing student athletes!

A Domino Effect of Kindness: Cereal Drive Success

Our ECS school and community came together in a big way to make this year's Cereal Drive a tremendous success! Thanks to the generosity of our teachers, staff, students, families, and community members an incredible 653 boxes of cereal were donated to support local families.

To celebrate this achievement, our 5th grade students created a truly unforgettable moment. They carefully arranged the cereal boxes into a giant domino train that stretched the length of the entire elementary school filling both the top and bottom hallways. Students lined the halls with excitement as the cereal train was set in motion, cheering as box after box toppled down the line. It was a fun and powerful visual reminder of how one act of kindness can lead to another.

All donated cereal was given to Project Christmas, as well as the Great Valley and Ellicottville Food Pantries, helping to support local families throughout our community. We are incredibly proud of our students for turning generosity into action and learning firsthand the impact of giving back.

Thank you to everyone who donated to and supported the Cereal Drive. Your kindness made a meaningful difference and showed what can happen when our school community works together for a great cause.





THE POWER OF PLAY: WHY BOARD GAMES MATTER

In a world filled with busy schedules and digital distractions, board games offer families a simple and meaningful way to reconnect. Playing board games together encourages face-to-face interaction, communication, and teamwork. Children practice important skills like problem-solving, counting, reading, and taking turns often without even realizing they're learning. For adults, it's a chance to slow down, laugh, and create positive memories with their children. Best of all, board games level the playing field: everyone sits at the

same table, follows the same rules, and enjoys quality time together.

To celebrate the benefits of family play, we're excited to announce an upcoming Elementary Family Game Night at ECS! Students and their families are invited to join us for an evening of fun, connection, and friendly competition. Families can choose from a variety of board games to play together, enjoy fresh popcorn, and relax in a welcoming school setting.

As an added bonus, several local friends of the District have generously donated

board games that will be given away throughout the evening. Families will have the chance to win a game to take home and continue the fun long after the night ends. We hope you'll join us on March 4th for this special event and make family game night a new tradition, both at school and at home!

*If you have any board games in your home that are no longer being enjoyed by your family, please consider donating them to the event. Please contact Leah Farnum for pick up or drop off scheduling.



5 STEPS TO GOOD ORAL CARE

February is National Children's Dental Health Month!

1

Brush your teeth twice a day

Use a soft toothbrush, fluoride toothpaste and brush once in the morning and once at night.

Don't swallow the toothpaste – spit it out in the basin!



2

Limit sugary snacks & drinks

Remember to eat lots of fruit and vegetables! Try to limit sugary drinks – water or a glass of milk is healthier for your teeth.

3

Visit your dentist

Visit your dentist or dental hygienist regularly to help keep your teeth and gums healthy.

Mom and Dad: Start dental visits early & build enthusiasm.



4

Floss

As soon as you've got 2 teeth that touch, you (along with your Mom or Dad) should floss to remove the plaque.

Hold the floss between your fingers, and gently rub the floss between your teeth.

5

Change your toothbrush every 3 months

If the bristles on your toothbrush are looking worn, they won't remove as much plaque so it's time for a new one!

Ask your Mom or Dad for a new toothbrush every 3 months.



- Tooth decay is the most common childhood disease. 5x more common than asthma.
- 3 out of 5 children are affected. More than 50% of children will be affected by tooth decay before age 5.
- Tooth decay is almost entirely preventable.

- More than 51 million school hours are lost each year to dental-related conditions.
- Every \$1 spent on preventative dental care could save you \$8-\$50 in restorative and emergency dental treatments.

What can you do?

- Follow the 2-2-2 rule. Visit the dentist 2 times a year, brush/floss 2 times a day for 2 minutes.
- Follow the tell-show-do model. Explain how to brush and floss, let children watch you, help them do it.
- Encourage healthy dental habits.

2026-2027
SCHOOL YEAR

Kindergarten Enrollment

is open for the
2026-2027
school year

Do you have a child that will be Kindergarten age this fall, but is not currently enrolled in our Pre-K program? Please notify the Elementary Office at 699-2318, ext. 1600 so we may include your family in any upcoming activities this spring such as Kindergarten Screening. Our Kindergarten program is a full school day. The state considers a child Kindergarten age if they turn 5 years old before December 1, 2026.



716-699-2318
ext 1600



ckosinski@ecsny.org



PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

If you are the parent/guardian of a child turning 4 years old by December 1, 2026, and have an interest in enrolling your child in our Full-Day Pre-K Program, please get in touch with Mrs. Clara Kosinski in the Elementary Office at 716-699-2318 ext. 1600 or via email at ckosinski@ecsny.org.

The enrollment process starts with an application for each child.

The state considers a child pre-school age if their birth date is between December 1, 2021, and November 30, 2022.





MARDI GRAS CRAFT FAIR

TO SUPPORT THE
ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL
SCHOOL PTO

SOUP/BREAD/BAKED GOODS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
FREE ENTRY!!

MARCH 14TH, 2026 10AM-4PM

5873 ROUTE 219,
ELLICOTTVILLE, NY 14731

INTERESTED IN BEING A
VENDOR? CALL OR TEXT
KRISTEN PEARL AT
716-378-8565 OR EMAIL:

KPEARL@ECSNY.ORG

CONGRATULATIONS ECS HIGH SCHOOL QUIZ BOWL TEAM

The ECS High School Quiz Bowl Team had a strong showing at this year's Scholastic Challenge run by Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES. They finished 4th in total points of the 27 teams and participated in some very competitive matches. Great job Quiz Bowlers!



Collin Weber, Isabella Czamara, Alison Antholzner, Jackson Kruszynski, Skye Wood, Ella Grundy, Grace Kwagalakwe, Cayda Kruszynski, Carston Kosinski

Jostens

RESERVE YOUR Ellicottville Central School YEARBOOK TODAY

Books are selling fast! Don't miss out on the best memories from the year — place your order by Feb 13th



ORDER NOW

jostens.com/ybkad

251033

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

Requests for transportation of non-public school children should be submitted to the Ellicottville Central School District Superintendent's Office by **April 1, 2026**.

Regulations require that the district transport students to non-public schools when a student resides within 15 miles of the non-public school. The 15 miles is measured from the home of the student to the non-public school.

Please send requests to:

Ellicottville Central School
ATTN: Mrs. Tiffany Giannicchi,
Superintendent
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, New York 14731



SHOP WITH A COP

Students in Mrs. Lafferty's and Mrs. Romance's class participated in the annual Shop with a Cop event on December 3, 2025, accompanied by Officer Amber, ECS's trusted resource officer. This event was sponsored by the Ellicottville Police Association, The Bob McCarthy Foundation, and Tim and Bonnie's. Prior to shopping, students learned several life skills including budgeting, the importance of gift giving, learned how police officers can help within the community, and created a wish list for a secret Santa gift exchange with their peers.

After students shopped, they were able to enjoy a fun lunch at Tim and Bonnie's, followed by a dance off and some friendly bowling. Students then brainstormed ways to show appreciation for our sponsors and wrote thank you cards.

Students helped prepare for a luncheon celebration and gift exchange by baking cookies, making other various treats, wrapping presents, and setting the table! Students were full of smiles and laughter as they displayed teamwork through playing charades and joining in on some karaoke! This event offers our students an opportunity to learn many life skills all while having a wonderful time!

Thank you to our wonderful sponsors for making this event possible!





3RD GRADE
& PRE-K
STUDENTS
PLAY
TOGETHER
AND LEARN
LETTERS!



PROJECT CHRISTMAS

The Project Christmas committee would like to thank the Ellicottville Central School community for their continued and very generous support. This past December, the program was able to help over 30 Ellicottville Central School District families. We are all so fortunate to live in a community where support is available when it is needed.

Best wishes to everyone, for a very Healthy and Happy 2026!



PETITIONS AVAILABLE FOR ONE (1) SEAT ON THE ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nominating petitions for the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education are now available. The annual election will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026. Nominating petitions must be filed with the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2026.

The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be assigned an expired term seat beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2031.

Petitions must contain the signatures and legal addresses of at least 25 qualified voters living in the Ellicottville Central School District. A qualified voter must be a United States citizen, be at least 18 years of age, a district resident for 30 days prior to the election, with their current address on the nominating petition. To qualify as a candidate, one must be a qualified voter and a district resident for one year immediately prior to the election.

Nominating petitions and further information are available from Kristen Pearl, District Clerk, during regular business hours (when school is in session), 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by calling (716) 699-2368 ext. 1300.



The ELLWOODVILLE Post

VOL. 50, NO. 4

ECS

SPECIAL EDITION

SAYING GOODBYE TO A LEGEND!

MARK WARD IS OFFICIALLY RETIRING!!



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR ECS! ENJOY YOUR TRAVELS!!

ELLCOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, NY 14731
www.ellicottvillecentral.com

2025-2026 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mr. Karl Northrup, *President*
Mrs. Carla Kruszynski, *Vice President*
Mrs. Tiffany Frentz
Mrs. Debra Golley
Mr. David "Scotty" McGee
Mrs. Jenna O'Connell
Miss Juliana O'Connell, *Student Ex Officio*

ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Tiffany Giannicchi,
Superintendent
Mrs. Elisabeth Beaver,
Assistant Principal K-12
Mrs. Kathryn Mendell,
Elementary Principal/Director of Curriculum
Dr. Erich Ploetz,
6-12 Principal

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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Olean, NY 14760
ECRWSS

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL
Or CURRENT RESIDENT



**EMBRACING
CHANGE**



**CELEBRATING
SUCCESS**



**SURPASSING
EXPECTATIONS**



ELLCOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

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