

ELLICOTTVILLE

DISTRICT • NEWSLETTER

Volume 56, Issue 7

ELLICOTTVILLE CLASS OF 2026

ECS TOP 5 STUDENTS

Skye Wood - Valedictorian

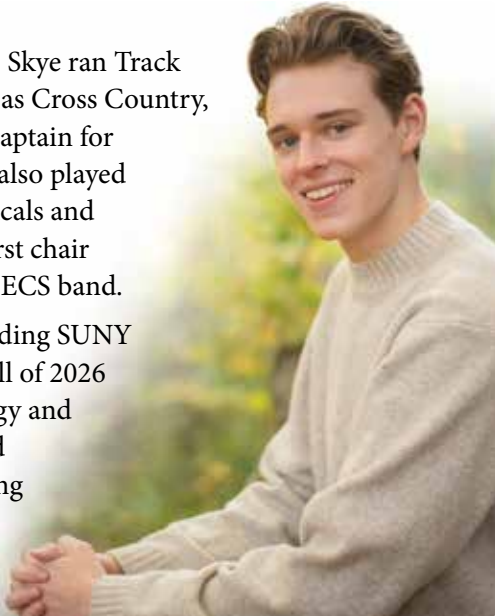
Skye Wood is the son of Blair Wood and Shannon Fitzpatrick-Wood. He is graduating as the valedictorian of his class with an Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors and Mastery in Math and Science, as well as a New York State Seal of Bilingualism in Spanish. Through Dual Enrollment coursework with JCC, he achieved a weighted average of 118.38.

Skye was selected into the New Vision: Health Professions Program at the Olean BOCES Center. There, he took college courses related to biology and medicine, and shadowed healthcare professionals at Olean General Hospital. He was the recipient of the first quarter Outstanding Student award in the program.

As the president of National Honor Society, Skye organized blood drives for Ellicottville Central School and created service project plans. He is the treasurer of Quiz Bowl, and has assisted his team in winning multiple competitions. He also achieved his certification in Peer Tutoring through many hours of training and experience. Outside of school, he has held a job at The Purple Doorknob for over two years.

In previous years, Skye ran Track and Field, as well as Cross Country, acting as a team captain for the latter. He has also played lead roles in musicals and is currently the first chair saxophone of the ECS band.

Skye will be attending SUNY Geneseo in the fall of 2026 to major in Biology and Earth Science and receive his teaching certifications for both subjects.



Jackson Kruszynski Salutatorian

Jackson Kruszynski is the son of Dan and Carla Kruszynski.

He is graduating as Salutatorian of his class with an Advanced Regents Diploma and has attained high honor roll throughout his high school career with a weighted average of 118.03. He was selected for the New Vision: Health Profession Program at

the Olean BOCES Center. Jackson has served as President and Captain of Quiz Bowl, Treasurer for Varsity Club, and various behind the scenes roles for a multitude of clubs and organizations. He is a member of many school organizations including Quiz Bowl, Varsity Club, Yearbook, and National Honor Society. Jackson has participated in Varsity Soccer, Alpine Ski, Track and Field, and Golf and he was named a Captain for Varsity Soccer and Alpine Ski.

Jackson has received the New York State Seal of Bilingualism and the Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award.

Outside of school, Jackson volunteers with the Ellicottville Fire Department as a Firefighter, Ellicottville/Great Valley Ambulance as an Emergency Medical Technician, and with Holiday Valley Ski Patrol as a Ski Patroller. He was a primary organizer of the Mock Accident Demonstration held at the school in 2025. In the winter Jackson works at the Boardroom tuning skis and snowboards and setting up rentals and in the Summer, he lifeguards at Holiday Valley.

Jackson will be attending D'Youville University in the Fall. He will be majoring in Biology on a pre-Physician Assistant track.

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ELLCOTTVILLE TOP 5 STUDENTS

Continued from page 1



Harper Klein Third in Class

Harper Klein is the daughter of Jason Klein and Niki Klein. She is graduating third in her class with an Advanced

Regents Diploma with Honors and a weighted average of 117.21. She was selected for the New Visions: Health Professions Program at the Olean BOCES Center. She has served as Treasurer of her class for three years. She is also Treasurer for both Student Council and National Honors Society, as well as Vice President of Caring Closet. Harper was also Photography Editor for Yearbook club and in Ecology Club. She has also participated in Varsity Soccer, Varsity Ski Team, and Varsity Track. Harper was the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award for both Ski Team and Soccer, the Team Award for Soccer, and named team captain of the Ski Team. Harper was awarded the New York State Seal of Biliteracy and the Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award. She was also a 2025 recipient of the RIT Science and Math Scholarship, Clarkson High School Achievement Scholarship, and the Keuka College George H. Ball Community Achievement Award.

Outside of school, Harper spends her free time with friends and family. She has worked as a ski instructor and lifeguard at Holiday Valley. Harper was also a referee for Youth Soccer. She takes part in many community service activities throughout her school and community.

Harper will be attending Gannon University in the fall. She will be minoring in Spanish and majoring in Health Science in their direct entry Physical Therapy program.



Oliver Wedvik Fourth in Class

Oliver Wedvik is the son of Steve Wedvik and Mychelle McNeil-Wedvik. He is graduating fourth

in his class with an Advanced Regents Diploma and a weighted average of 116.17. He was selected for the New Vision: Health Professions Program at the Olean BOCES Center where, along with other classes at Ellicottville, he has amassed 51 Jamestown Community College Credits. Oliver is a member of National Honor Society and has also participated in Envirothon for two years and Trap Club for 5 years.

In December of 2023 Oliver joined West Valley Volunteer Hose Company as a junior certified first responder. Within his first year of service he completed BEFO (Basic Exterior Firefighting Operations) and IFO (Interior Firefighting Operations) which certified him as an Interior Structural Firefighter. During his second year of service Oliver completed a New York State Emergency Medical Technician class, and in July he passed the state registry becoming a certified Basic-EMT. Now only halfway through his third year, he has taken an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course and is now able to drive fire apparatus and ambulances.

Outside of schooling and responding to emergency calls, Oliver spends most of his time at the fire station and the Memorial Banquet Hall helping with community events or doing work around the department. Oliver plans to continue his schooling by taking a Paramedic course either through Erie Community College or Jamestown Community College.



Ande Northrup Fifth in Class

Ande Northrup is the daughter of Jill and Karl Northrup. She is graduating fifth in her class with an Advanced

Regents Diploma with Mastery in Mathematics and a weighted cumulative average of 113.87. Ande has held a plethora of leadership positions throughout her high school career including Senior Class President, Vice President of National Honor Society and Secretary of Student Council. In addition, she has also been a two-year Captain of the Varsity Volleyball team, two-year Captain of the Varsity Softball team and a Captain of the girls' Varsity Basketball team her senior year for Ellicottville. She has been a varsity scholar athlete recipient for the entirety of her time in high school. Ande is also the first-chair trumpet for the ECS band and enjoys her time participating in Jazz Band, the ECS Caring Closet, Varsity Club and Yearbook Staff. This year, Ande also took part in the County Government Student Intern Program through the Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES Center.

Ande has been awarded the New York State Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish and is a recipient of the Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award. She was also a winner of the All-WNY scholar athlete award for both fall and winter sports representing her volleyball and basketball teams. Ande is also honored in receiving the University of Rochester's George Eastman Young Leaders Award, the RIT Business and Leadership Award and the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Innovation Award.

Outside of school, Ande enjoys staying active and spending time with her family. She also volunteers her time with events in the community, has altar served at Holy Name of Mary Church for several years and performs Taps at the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony in town. Ande takes part in many activities and is a dedicated member of her school and community.

In the fall, Ande will be attending Allegheny College to continue her academic and athletic career majoring in Mathematics on a Pre-Law track and playing softball.

ELLCOTTVILLE CLASS OF 2026 FUTURE PLANS

Dakari Adams	Employment	UB Videographer
Patrick Andera	Employment	
Keira Baldwin	Alfred State College	Culinary Arts
Maitlin Brown	Employment	
Faith Burlingame	SUNY Geneseo	Psychology & Communications
Bianca Bush	Duquesne University	Health Science
Kaden Button	U.S. Navy	
Grady Byroads	Alfred State College	Construction & Business
Kyle Clawges	Employment	
Isabelle Coburn	Mount Aloysius College	Radiography
Kalyn Crowley	SUNY Cortland	Biomedical Science
Kristopher Curtis	Jamestown Community College	Criminal Justice
Caleb Degolier-Hurley	Employment	
Drew Ficek	St. Bonaventure University	Health Science
Teaghan Finn	Coastal Carolina University	Elementary Education
Jordan Folts	Employment	B&R Landscaping
Henry Frank	Alfred State College	Business Administration
Aiddan Gascon	Employment	
Shyann Harber	Employment	Cosmetology
Parker John	Southeast Lineman Trade Center	Electrical Lineman
Emma Kaminski	Employment	Music
Harper Klein	Gannon University	Physical Therapy
Jackson Kruszynski	D'Youville University	Biology/Physician Assistant
Grace Kwagalakwe	Ohio Wesleyan University	Psychology
Alexa Liskow	St. Bonaventure University	Clinical Psychology
Cameron Mendell	Jamestown Community College	Business
Nolan Murphy	Alfred State College	Collision Repair
Delaney Myers	Mt. Aloysius College	Ultrasonography
Anna Nazareth	SUNY Geneseo	Biology
Mackenzie Noga	SUNY Cortland	Biomedical Science
Ande Northrup	Allegheny College	Math/Pre-Law
Jordan O'Connell	St. Bonaventure University	Educational Studies
Camden Palmatier	Alfred State College	HVAC
Jackson Pearl	Alfred State College	Motorsport Technology
Ethan Pennell	Continuing Education	Etsy Store
Makayla Potter	Alfred State College	Graphic & Media Design
Owen Quinn	Employment	
Curtis Robison	Alfred State College	Electrical Construction
Olivia Tighe	University of Cincinnati	Communications
Zachary Vassar	Employment	Moss Construction
Oliver Wedvik	Erie Community College	Paramedic
Kaylee Wilkins	SUNY Brockport	Nursing
Lanie Wilson	East Tennessee State University	Nursing
Skye Wood	SUNY Geneseo	Biology & Earth Science
Hunter Woodarek	Alfred State College	Diesel Mechanic
Talyn Wyatt	University at Buffalo	Musical Theater

FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Ellicottville Community,

As we close this school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a busy, joyful, and memorable semester it has been across our district. From classroom celebrations and concerts to athletic competitions, academic achievements, field trips, and everyday moments of learning, our school has been filled with energy, connection, and pride.

This year reminded us that school is about so much more than schedules and assignments. It is about relationships, growth, laughter, resilience, and the moments that bring us together as a community. Our students, staff, and families created countless memories that will stay with us long after the final bell rings.

As summer begins, I encourage all of our students and families to take time to reflect, recharge, and reconnect. Enjoy the simple pleasures of the season. Play outside, spend time with loved ones, share meals together, read a good book, and explore new places. Put down devices for a while and enjoy conversation and connection or simply enjoy an unhurried afternoon together.

In *The Power of Moments*, authors Chip and Dan Heath remind us that even the smallest moments can have the greatest impact. A shared laugh, an encouraging word, a family tradition, or time spent together can become the memories that shape us most deeply. Summer offers us the opportunity to slow down and create those meaningful moments of connection.

Thank you for your partnership, support, and commitment throughout the school year. It is a privilege to serve such an outstanding community.

On behalf of our entire district, I wish you a happy, healthy, safe, and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the fall for another wonderful year of learning and growth.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Giannicchi
Superintendent

6th Graders Travel to Niagara Falls



The 6th grade went on their annual trip to Niagara Falls on Wednesday, May 27th. We rode the Maid of the Mist and got to see the Falls up close. Niagara Falls State Park is a beautiful park, and we got to walk along the river Niagara while touring the park. The weather was perfect and everyone had a wonderful day.

Arbor Day 2026 Celebration

Ellicottville Elementary School proudly continues a cherished tradition with its annual Arbor Day Celebration. Dating back to 1992, the event brings students and staff together each spring to plant a new tree on campus while students enthusiastically chant, "Grow Tree, Grow!" Although the tradition paused during the pandemic, it has experienced a meaningful revival in recent years through a wonderful partnership with Nannen Arboretum. For the past three years, the Arboretum has generously donated a tree for the celebration, helping to strengthen the school's long-standing commitment to environmental stewardship and community connection. In addition to donating trees, the Arboretum has created valuable educational opportunities for Ellicottville students through hands-on learning experiences onsite at the Arboretum. These experiences allow students to deepen their understanding of nature, conservation, and the importance of caring for the environment. As each newly planted tree takes root and grows, so too does the tradition itself—continuing to inspire future generations of Eagles to appreciate and protect the natural world.

Mrs. Mendell



Tortellini's Day Out

Pre-K students took advantage of the beautiful spring weather by taking their class pet, Tortellini the Tortoise, outside to stretch her legs.



ECS Agriculture Awareness & Drive Your Tractor To School Day

By: Mrs. Cathie Nason

Tuesday, May 9th was an exciting day at ECS. The day started bright and early with Dr. Ploetz, MS/HS Principal meeting students to drive their tractors to school and parade around the front circle as students of all grades looked on.

The elementary classes then experienced NYS Mobile Dairy experience which is a semi-trailer that opens up to 1000 square feet of everything dairy. Milk For Health representatives were on hand to help teach and answer any questions. On the way out, students were treated to a cheese stick. Paisley Rublee, Dairy Ambassador for Cattaraugus County was also there to answer questions and present more dairy information to classes while giving out yogurt. Nason's Dairy Farm had two dairy calves, an Ayrshire and a Jersey, for students to meet.

The Agriculture day was then opened up to the whole school from Noon-3:00. All of Mrs. Nason's Introduction to Agriculture class students presented a farm animal that they raised (or a friend raised) to students as they stopped to meet and pet the animals. We had pigs, goats, horses, cows/calves, ducks/ducklings, chickens/chicks, turkeys, and rabbits. We also had a 1/64 farm and tractor display that the class put together.

Other presentations included: Everything Horses with Ruth Ann Courtney and Hope Niesyty, Make a cattle ear tag with Paisley Nelson and Layla Gearhart, Plant a Sunflower with Sheldon Kenyon Cattaraugus County Farm to School Educator, Soil and Water Conservation demonstration, Entomology Lab with Mychelle Wedvik, and Bird Conservation with Mr. Schadt.

Java Farm Supply and Larry Romance & Sons tractor dealerships provided tractors for the students to view. Ellicottville Teachers Association and Mrs. Tammy Auge provided t-shirts for the students that were helping out for the day. Springville Dairy came to help promote dairy and sell ice cream to help keep us cool on the HOT, sunny day. Ellicottville Student Council held their budget day hot dog meal fundraiser. There were also some farm games with prizes provided by PTO, face painting, and farm tattoos.

Thank you to everyone that helped make this day possible and we hope students came home more aware of the agriculture around them.



2nd Graders Learn about Kids Cash Program



Second Grade recently welcomed Ms. Nina and Ms. Jayme from CCB (Cattaraugus County Bank) to talk to us about money! We identified and counted coins. They provided each second grader with a coloring book all about money, new crayons, and a piggy bank! In addition,

we learned about the Kids Cash Club program, a savings account designed for kids 17 and under. Part of this program is a reading contest. For each book they read, they have an entry form to fill out and return to the bank. They will be entered for a \$25 deposit to their savings account for

each entry! This visit coincided with our Economics Unit. We are learning about the importance of needs versus wants, as well as what it means to save, spend, and give! Thank you to Cattaraugus County Bank for this informative and well-timed visit!

Congrats to High School Band & Chorus Members!

On May, 18th the high school band & chorus members competed against other schools at Darien Lake. The band brought home 1st place & Grand Champions of their site. Chorus brought home 2nd place! Congrats ECS Eagle Musicians.



Students in Mrs. Steger's middle school classes used similar triangles to approximate the heights of trees. They measured their own heights and the lengths of their shadow and the tree's shadow. Using a proportion, they could find the missing measurement of the tree's height. The only tools they needed were meter sticks, calculators, and their brains!

Celebrating a Year of Dance!

This year marked an exciting milestone for our school as we launched the inaugural season of our pilot dance team program.

What began as a new opportunity for student expression quickly grew into a vibrant, creative, and dedicated ensemble committed to exploring the art of dance in multiple styles. Dance team members: Meghan Emborsky (coach), Isabella Wilder (teacher assistant – 11th grade), Sophia Joesel (7th), Emmary Adcock (6th), Lauren Emborsky (6th), Lillian McCarthy (6th), Simone Phillips (6th), John Smith (6th) and Riley Swan (6th).



team proudly shared their talents with the community. Performances included an appearance for the Bob McCarthy Foundation's Irish Christmas, participation in the ECS local talent showcase, and a presentation of a jazz routine at Club Jazz.

Each opportunity allowed students to demonstrate their growth while representing the school with enthusiasm and professionalism.

As a pilot program, this new experience would not have been

possible without the generous support of community partners, ECS staff organizations, and administration that helped provide funding, resources, and meaningful performance opportunities for our students. The dance team would like to publicly thank the Bob McCarthy Foundation, Ellicottville Teachers Association (ETA), ECS Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), Ellicottville Related Professional Association (ECSRPA), and Project Christmas for their invaluable



support of our dreams this year.

Looking ahead, the team's goals include continuing to strengthen technique across all dance styles and, in the future, preparing select pieces to potentially be entered into dance competitions.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all who supported the program in its first year, and we celebrate our dancers for their



Throughout the year, students trained in hip hop, ballet, lyrical, and jazz, building both technical skills and confidence as performers. Their dedication was further enriched by the opportunity to attend a professional performance of Riverdance at She's Performing Arts Center, where students experienced world-class choreography and stage production firsthand.

In addition to their training and enrichment experiences, the dance



commitment, creativity, and perseverance. This program is open to students in grades 6–8, and we look forward to building on this strong foundation as it continues to grow in the years ahead.

Middle and High School Bands Honor Community at Memorial Day Celebration



On Monday, May 25, students from the Middle and High School bands represented our school at the community Memorial Day celebration in town. The band performed patriotic selections including "The Star-Spangled Banner," "America," and "You're a Grand Old Flag." Senior Ande Northrup and freshman Nicholas Wedvik delivered a moving rendition of "Taps," honoring those who have served.

We are proud that our students could support the community and contribute to such a meaningful observance. Their respectful participation reflected the solemnity and gratitude this day deserves.



EAGLES ON THE RUN!

Eagles on the Run is an exciting new after-school club designed for girls in grades 4 through 8 who want to build confidence, stay active, and have fun together. Each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 40 girls assembled together after school to form a supportive and encouraging team.

Throughout the season, girls have taken part in engaging activities that promote teamwork, friendship, and personal growth. Older and younger students had the chance to connect and build lasting relationships across grade levels. Each session blends running with interactive lessons about healthy habits, goal setting, and positive self-image.

Eagles on the Run isn't just about physical fitness- it's about helping girls discover their inner strength and believe in themselves. Whether they're running laps, playing games, or cheering each other on, every participant plays an important role in creating a positive team environment.

The inaugural season culminated with the Ellicottville Happy Half 5K run! This event celebrated their hard work, determination, and growth, giving each girl a chance to accomplish something truly meaningful.

Eagles on the Run is more than a club; it's a place to grow, connect, and have fun while becoming the best version of yourself.

MATH LAB

Our 2nd grade students have been enjoying monthly visits to the STEM Lab as part of their special Math Lab experiences! During these lessons, students work together using Building Thinking Classrooms principles to solve challenging word problems through collaboration, discussion, and hands-on learning.

Students work in random groups made up of classmates from both 2nd grade classrooms, giving them opportunities to collaborate with different peers each month. They solve problems while working on vertical surfaces, encouraging teamwork, communication, and active thinking. Students are also able to choose their own level of difficulty when selecting word

problems, helping them build confidence while appropriately challenging themselves.

Throughout the lessons, students practice using bar models and algorithms while exploring math concepts with a variety of hands-on manipulatives and interactive activities. Each month's Math Lab features a fun theme to make learning even more exciting. One recent favorite was our "Cereal Lab," where students answered cereal themed word problems to strengthen their math thinking and problem-solving skills.

These group lessons help students build confidence, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of math concepts proving that math really is cerealously fun!



ECOLOGY CLUB TAKES ON ENVIROTHON

ECS Ecology Club took on the 2026 Cattaraugus County Envirothon with 2 teams.

Team 1: Sawyer Miller, Carson Mendell, Blake Smith, Rylan Benjamin, Grayson Neal.

Team 2: Cayda Kruszynski, Ande Northrup, Anna Nazareth, Nicky Wedvik, Drew Ficek, Olivia Tighe.

Coaches: Arden Schadt, Erin Dunn

Even though the day was full of clouds and rain, Team 2 was able to end the competition, securing second place! We are so proud of our students taking the leap with either trying something new or returning to the competition. With our graduating students, we thank you for the help! With our new students we cannot wait to go back next year and compete again for the 2027 Cattaraugus County Envirothon.



¡Felicitaciones!



ECS proudly recognizes twelve outstanding students who have earned the prestigious New York State Education Department Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB) this year. This distinction honors graduating seniors who have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in English and at least one additional language through rigorous

coursework, presentations, and interviews. The NYSSB is a highly selective recognition earned by only about 5% of graduating seniors statewide.

The NYSSB is awarded to students who not only develop strong communication skills in multiple languages, but also demonstrate cultural understanding, global awareness, and a commitment to academic excellence. Recipients complete an extensive portfolio and presentation process that showcases their ability to read, write, speak, and listen effectively in two languages.

This year's twelve recipients represent months — and in many cases years — of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. Throughout the process, students conducted research, prepared formal presentations, participated in question-and-answer interviews, and reflected on how bilingualism will impact their future educational and career goals.

Earning the Seal of Biliteracy provides students with numerous long-term benefits, including enhanced college and career opportunities, recognition of valuable multilingual skills, and the ability to stand out in an increasingly global workforce. The seal is placed directly on students' diplomas

and transcripts, and recipients are also awarded a medal to wear at graduation as an official recognition of their achievement.

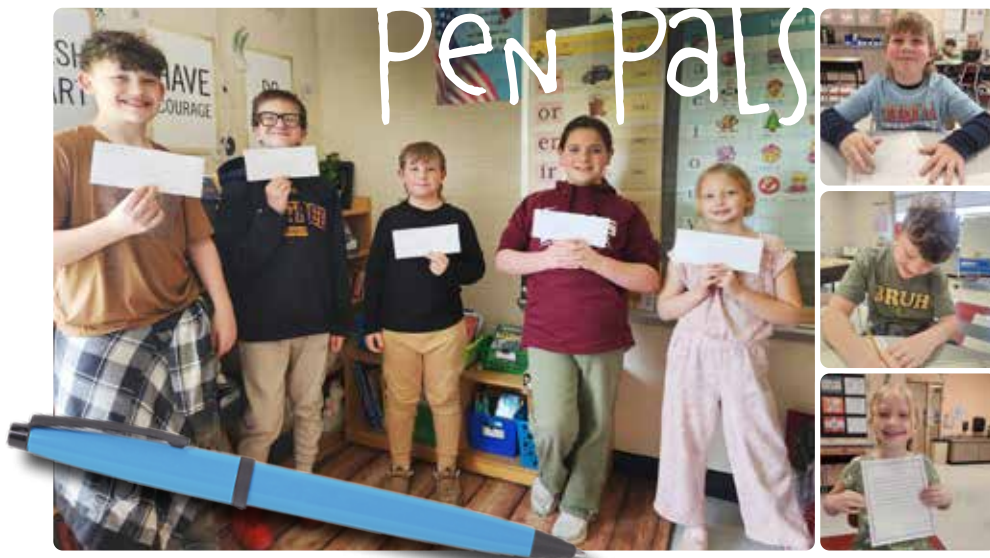
The district commends these students for their exceptional effort and congratulates them on this remarkable accomplishment. Their success reflects not only their individual determination, but also the support of families, teachers, and the school community that helped guide them throughout the process.

Congratulations to our 2026 NYSSB recipients:

Bianca Bush	Grace Kwagalakwe
Kalyn Crowley	Mackenzie Noga
Drew Ficek	Ande Northrup
Teaghan Finn	Jordan O'Connell
Harper Klein	Olivia Tighe
Jackson Kruszynski	Skye Wood

The district is honored to celebrate these students and their commitment to academic excellence, cultural understanding, and multilingual communication, and look forward to seeing the many ways they will continue to make a positive impact in their communities and beyond.

Pen Pals



Students in Mrs. Romance's 12:1:1 class teamed up with Miss Ploetz's 12:1:1 class from the Addison Central School District to become pen pals! We kicked off the unit by reading *Dear Dragon: A Pen Pal Tale* by Josh Funk, which inspired students to begin building new friendships through writing, drawing, and sharing stories. This exciting activity gave students the chance to strengthen their communication skills in a fun and meaningful way. Students eagerly anticipated receiving letters and were just as excited to write back to their new friends. This special partnership encouraged creativity, confidence, and connection while helping create lasting memories across school communities!

Important Reminder from THE SCHOOL NURSE: NYS PHYSICAL & IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS



As we prepare for a healthy and successful school year, please review the following New York State health requirements for students. Keeping your child's health records up to date helps ensure they can fully participate in school activities.



REQUIRED PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

New York State requires a health examination for students who are:

- ✓ Entering school for the first time
- ✓ Entering Pre-K or Kindergarten
- ✓ Entering grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11
- ✓ New entrants to the district



Physicals must be completed by a New York State licensed provider and submitted to the health office.



Student athletes are required to have an updated physical every year in order to participate in school sports.



REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS

Students must meet New York State immunization requirements to attend school. Important reminders include:



Pre-K through Grade 12: Required vaccinations include DTaP/Tdap, Polio, MMR, Hepatitis B, and Varicella.



6th Grade: Students are required to receive the Tdap vaccine.



7th Grade: Students must receive the Meningococcal vaccine.



Additional doses of the Meningococcal vaccine are required for older students based on age and grade level.



Please contact your child's healthcare provider if you are unsure whether your child is up to date on required immunizations.

HELPFUL REMINDERS



Schedule physicals and immunization appointments early to avoid delays.



Submit all updated health forms directly to the school health office.



Notify the nurse of any new medical conditions, allergies, or medication changes.



Questions?

If you have questions regarding your child's health records or requirements, please contact the school health office.

Leandra Hackett, RN

(716) 699-2318 x1604

lhackett@ecsny.org



NYSSMA Solo Festival 2025-2026

On May 8th and 9th, students in grades 6th–11th proudly represented our school at the NYSSMA Solo Festival hosted by Allegany-Limestone. Over the course of several months, students dedicated themselves to preparing individual solos, practicing scales, and strengthening their sight-reading skills in anticipation of this important musical event.

During the festival, each student performed for an adjudicator and received an official score based on their performance. These results will be reviewed, and students earning the highest scores may be invited to participate in next year's Area All-State or New York State All-State ensembles.

We are incredibly proud of our band and chorus students for their hard work, perseverance, and commitment to musical excellence. Their dedication to personal growth and the Arts is truly commendable. We are especially excited to share that every participating student earned a rating of Excellence or higher!

The following students participated, some prepared two solos:

Grade 6

Lauren Emborsky, Lilliana Farnham, Aliya Mendell, Anderson Mix, Elias Norton, Simone Phillips, Emmitt Pierce, Paisley Rublee, John Smith

Grade 7

Rose Benjamin, Violet Bly, Evelyn Earley, Jack Kerns, Caroline Sun

Grade 8

Aston Seeley, Macie Unruh, Emma Wallace

Grade 9

Marjorie Brown, Cayda Kruszynski, Whitney Powers, Allison Terhune

Grade 10

Alison Antholzner, Eva LoGiudice

Grade 11

Jadyn Nevins, Isabella Wilder



HONOR ROLL

3RD QUARTER

SENIORS

High Honor

Andera, Patrick
Burlingame, Faith
Bush, Bianca
Coburn, Isabelle
Crowley, Kalyn
Ficek, Drew
Finn, Teaghan
Folts, Jordan
Klein, Harper
Kruszynski, Jackson
Kwagalakwe, Grace
Liskow, Alexa
Myers, Delaney
Noga, Mackenzie
Northrup, Ande
Pennell, Ethan
Potter, Makayla
Tighe, Olivia
Wedvik, Oliver
Wilkins, Kaylee
Wilson, Lanie
Wood, Skye
Wyatt, Talya

Honors

Byroads, Grady
Finn, Teaghan
John, Parker
Nazareth, Anna

O'Connell, Jordan
Robison, Curtis

JUNIORS

High Honor

Andrews, Adalynn
Atwater, Eli
Bless, Kristen
Byroads, Breanna
DeChane, Timothy III
DeChane, Trinity
Edwards, Ainsley
Edwards, Christopher
Fuller, Ava
Green, McKenzie
Grundy, Ella
Klein, Tosh
LaCroix, Jaxson
Mann, Jonah
Murray, Eliza
Nevins, Jadyn
O'Connell, Juliana
Weber, Ava
Wedvik, Benjamin
Wilder, Isabella

Honors

Benjamin, Rylan
Carls, Coleman
Krause, Abigail
Pasinski, Ava
Quinn, Ellen
Tirado, Dominic
Whitmer, Riley

SOPHOMORES

High Honor

Antholzner, Alison
Brennan, Zachary
Czamara, Isabella
Finch, Audrianna
Johnson, Rian
Kaleta, Keegan
Lafferty, Katie
LoGiudice, Eva
Miller, Sawyer
Northrup, Karle
Rust, Abigail
Sciara, Cooper
Tomsick, Jackson
Weber, Collin

Honors

Button, Rylie
Howard, Camden
Lyon, Juleana
Milks, Coleman
Northrup, Riley
Olson, Meegan
Pierce, Trenton
Schumacher, Colton

FRESHMEN

High Honor

DeChane, Gabriel
DeChane, Marshall
Fennell, Elise
Kosinski, Carsten
Krause, Audrey
Kruszynski, Cayda

Maynard, Marlee
Mendell, McKenna
Meyer, Rae Ann
Myers, Andrew
Pearl, Lillian
Perks, Taylor
Riley, Camerie
Tarr, Briyona
Tupchik, Stella
Weber, Ella
Wedvik, Nicholas

Honors

Bauer, Kaegan
Coolidge, Cooper
McCarthy, Benjamin
Pearl, Calvin
Powers, Whitney
Quijano-Fuentes, Anjolyna
Ross, Patricia
Terhune, Allison
Watson, Lindsay

8TH GRADERS

High Honor

Andera, Harley
Andrews, Allyana
Brennan, Myla
Dahlman, Liam
Decker, Rowan
Faulkner, Maggie
LaCroix, Mason
Myers, Caelan
Norton, Charlie
Parmenter, Everett

Pawlowski, Reagan
Seeley, Aston
Siperek, Teagan
Unruh, Macie

Honors

Gearhart, Layla
Howard, Ty
Sciara, Griffen
Scott, Audri
Wallace, Emma

7TH GRADERS

High Honor

Bishop, Liberty
Bly, Violet
Bunk, Noah
Burlingame, Jameson
Earley, Evelyn
Frank, Jacob
Joesel, Sophia
Kell, Quinn
Kerns, Jack
Miller, Shiloh
Sun, Caroline
Travis, Vander

Honors

Benjamin, Rose
Blouvet, Robert
Erlandson, Carly
Helie, James
Johnson, Oliver
Klein, Joanna
Rust, Theron
Van Buren, Braylon

STITCHBUFFALO

Stitch Buffalo is a non-profit textile arts center committed to empowering refugee and immigrant women, community education, and stewardship of otherwise discarded materials into something beautiful and creative. A small group of World Language Club members from ECS toured the studio and learned from Founder and Executive Director Dawne Hoeg about the Refugee Women's Workshop, Second Stitch, Community Art, and the custom orders you can get through Stitch Buffalo (such as the big furry Bills and Sabres hats you may have seen during playoff seasons). Our visit taught us about the wide variety of ways your passions and interests can serve your community through a non-profit, through volunteering, or as a career path. We enjoyed browsing traditionally handcrafted items from various cultures, and appreciating the work that goes into each handmade item. Students contributed to a community art project that remade "unusable" fabric into something beautiful and useful, and each participant created her own wall hanging out of scrap materials using the felt loom. We hope our connection to Stitch Buffalo will continue to encourage ECS students to "stitch together" their interests, skills, and goals to become a beautiful part of the community. To learn more about Stitch, visit www.stitchbuffalo.org.



STEM Showcase

The ECS STEM Showcase was an exciting evening filled with creativity, problem-solving, and hands-on learning as students proudly shared their STEM projects and activities with families and community members. We were thrilled to welcome so many family members who came out to celebrate the amazing work happening at ECS!

Our 4th grade students showcased their technology and coding skills through engaging Bee-Bot and Indi activities that were specially created for students in grades Pre-K through 3 to explore and enjoy. Family members had fun trying the games and puzzles students designed while learning how coding, sequencing, and critical thinking come together through these interactive tools. Students did a wonderful job explaining their work and helping younger students participate in the challenges.

The 5th grade maker stations were another highlight of the evening and were also designed for students in grades Pre-K through 3 to explore through hands-on learning experiences. Families had the opportunity to participate in activities including making slime, creating cloud dough, launching rockets, and experimenting with other exciting STEM challenges. The stations were filled with energy, creativity, and teamwork as students guided younger learners and family members through each activity.

In addition to the interactive stations, fantastic student science work was proudly displayed throughout the showcase. Family members were able to see the hard work, curiosity, and innovation our students have demonstrated throughout the year in their science investigations and projects.

A special thank you goes out to all of the families, staff members, and community supporters who attended and helped make the ECS STEM Showcase such a memorable event. Your support and enthusiasm help inspire our students to continue exploring, creating, and discovering through STEM learning experiences. We are so proud of our students and grateful to everyone who joined us for this wonderful evening!



Student Council & Ellicottville Rotary Club Leadership Meeting



On Thursday, May 21st Ellicottville's Student Council joined the Ellicottville Rotary Club for one of their meetings. Juniors, Juliana O'Connell and Isabella Wilder with advisor Mrs. Nason presented Leadership skills that they learned on their Disney trip in January of this year. More Student Council members would have been present, however there was an important softball game that night also! Juliana and Isabella went over the five keys of Disney and how they will apply them here at ECS, various types of leadership, and how communication is important. We are very appreciative of the monetary donation and assistance the Rotary Club provided Student Council that made this Disney Leadership trip possible.

WOMEN IN SPORTS

On April 14, Miss DeLellis and Mrs. Steger took 25 female athletes to St. Bonaventure for Women in Sports Day. St. Bonaventure hosted 24 schools for this event. The introduction was given by the Provost, Dr. David Hilmey, who spoke about using one's passion and determination to forge an unwillingness to give up. Our athletes participated in various sports activities before listening to a panel of St. Bonaventure's female athletes answer various questions related to college life and athletics.



VOLCANO

The 6th grade recently finished up their science unit "Geological Processes." With

the help of Ms. Hoch, our librarian, students chose a volcano to study, ranging from well-known giants like Mount Fuji in Japan to lesser known but equally fascinating formations in remote regions of the Pacific. Over the course of several days, they investigated how volcanoes form, the

different types of eruptions, and the impact these natural phenomena have on nearby communities and ecosystems. Beyond scientific knowledge, the assignment has encouraged students to use their creativity and art skills to design a poster displaying the information they learned.

Varsity Softball

The Varsity Softball Team put together another great season. These Lady Eagles ended their season with an overall record of 13 wins and 4 losses and won the CCAA Division 4 League Championship with a 9 – 1 League Record. They were League Champs for the second season in a row. Along their path, the Lady Eagles had collected a seven game winning streak.

In a tough Class C playoff bracket, they were awarded the #4 seed. In their first playoff game, the Eagles defeated the #13 Seeded North Collins by the score of 12 – 0. The Eagles put together a complete game, offensively and defensively. In the second round of the playoffs, the Lady Eagles were matched up against another league opponent, the Falconer Falcons, for the third time this season. Unfortunately for the Eagles, it was just not our day and the Falcons won that day and eventually advanced to the Sectional 6 Championship. Though the season came to a quicker than expected halt, this team embraced the We>me philosophy after the game with support for each other through their hugs, tears, and well wishes.

Not only were these ladies successful as a team, individual milestones were achieved throughout the season. Ande Northrup had her 100th career hit in her first game of the season and scored her 100th career run in her third game of the season. Ande will end her softball career with 122 hits and 116 runs! Katie Lafferty recorded 187 strikeouts this season. She also achieved both her 300th and 400th career strikeout of her career this season as a sophomore!

At the Spring Awards Banquet, Ande Northrup was named Team MVP. Katie Lafferty was named Offensive MVP, and Riley Whitmer was named Defensive MVP. Izzy Coburn was named Most Improved Player. Drew Ficek and Kalyn Crowley were given the Coach's Award for their dedication to the team while recovering from their injuries.

The team consisted of two sophomores; Katie Lafferty and Karle Northrup, three juniors; Ady Andrews, Ava Weber, and Riley Whitmer, and seven seniors; Keira Baldwin, Izzy Coburn, Kalyn Crowley, Drew Ficek, Teaghan Finn, Delaney Myers, and Ande Northrup.

Thank you to all the players, families, and supporters this season!

A very special thank you goes out to the seven Seniors - you have been playing ball for the Ellicottville Community since you were in Little League and have always given your best effort! You have made us all very proud! Remember, once an Eagle, always an Eagle, and once a Finnlet, always a Finnlet!



Varsity Golf

The Varsity Golf Team finished the 2026 season with a league record of 8–4, and an overall record of 12-7. The Eagles finished 2nd in a very challenging conference, dealing with wet conditions at a variety of courses. Each player showed improvement throughout the year, with many new faces joining the team for the first time.

Cameron Mendell and Coleman Carls both qualified for Sectionals by finishing in the top 8 at Qualifiers held at Bartlett

Country Club. At sectionals, which was at Shelridge CC this year, Cameron finished 7th after the initial 18 holes, but then fell out of the top 9 after the final 9 holes. Cameron and Coleman were both 1st Team All-Stars, with Nolan Murphy and Jaxson LaCroix receiving Honorable Mention.

This year's golfers consisted of six seniors; Bianca Bush, Grady Byroads, Aiddan Gascon, Alexa Liskow, Cameron

JV Softball

This season marked an exciting return for our Girls JV team, as the program was brought back after not having a JV team last year. Despite being one of the less experienced teams at this level, the players showed tremendous growth, determination, and teamwork throughout the season. Each game provided valuable experience that helped the team continue to improve and compete with confidence. This team featured sophomores Kelsey Feldbauer, Juleana Lyon, and Abby Rust. This year's roster included the following freshman: Kaegan Bauer, Lilliana Horton, Marlee Maynard, McKenna Mendell, Whitney Powers, Briyona Tarr, Lindsay Watson, and Ella Weber. We are proud of the dedication, sportsmanship, and positive attitude these athletes brought to the field, and we are excited about the future of the program.

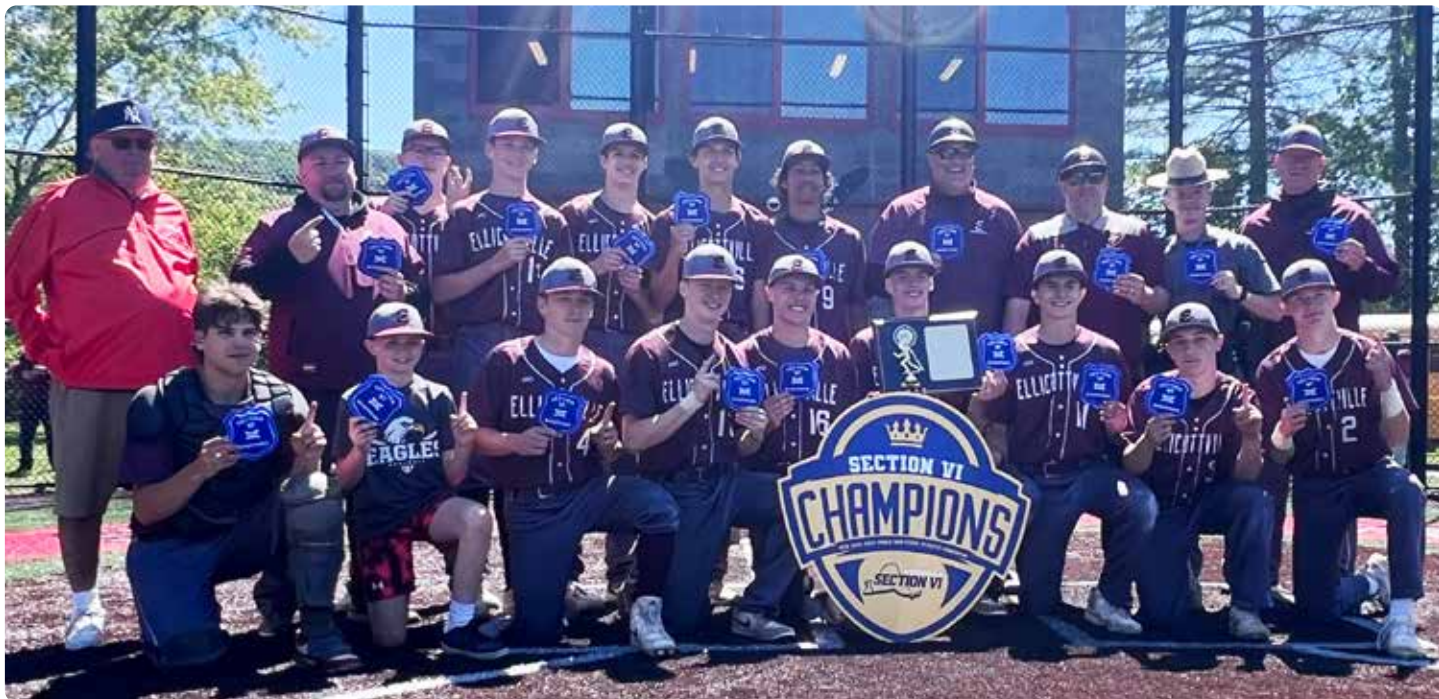
Modified Softball

The modified softball team is currently enjoying an undefeated season and continues to impress with their hard work, teamwork, and determination on the field. Throughout the season, the players have shown tremendous growth in their skills and confidence while competing with great sportsmanship. Highlighting the season so far, Teagan, Rose, and Shiloh each earned exciting in-the-park home runs, helping lead the team's success. Coaches are extremely proud of the athletes' effort, positive attitude, and growth throughout the season.

Mendell, Nolan Murphy, and Lanie Wilson, four Juniors; Coleman Carls, Jaxson LaCroix, Jonah Mann, and Dominic Polino, two Sophomores; Holden Basher, and Riley Northrup; two Freshman; Cayda Kruszynski and Mario Polino, and two 8th graders; Griffin Sciara, and Aston Seely.

Thank you to all the golfers for a fun and successful season.

Varsity Baseball



Our Ellicottville varsity baseball team, led by seniors Cameron Mendell, Parker John, and Camden Palmatier, is having a standout season. With a record of 12-6, we just defeated Pine Valley 12 to 8 in the Class D semifinals. Tomorrow, we will face Maple Grove in the Section VI Class D championship. What makes this team so special is the bond they share—they truly play for each other. There's no "I" in this team; it's a total effort guided by our three seniors, who set the example every day. Our roster also includes juniors Rylan Benjamin, Blake Smith, Reed Nazareth, Dominic Tirado and sophomores, Carson Mendell, Grayson Neal, Zach Brennan and

Sawyer Miller, along with freshmen A.J. Myers and Brody Erlandson. Matthew Myers is our team manager. With solid

pitching, defense, and hitting all year, this well-rounded group is ready for tomorrow's big game. Go Eagles!



Varsity Track & Field

The FE Titans Track and Field team had another successful season. The Ellicottville boys that participated were Marshall Dechane, Timothy Dechane, Christopher Edwards, Tosh Klein, Ben Wedvik, Axel Moore, Jackson Tomsick, Collin Weber, Keegan Kaleta, Carter Kaleta, Cooper Sciara, and Liam Dahlman. Allison Terhune was the lone girl that competed.

Throughout the season both the boys and girls had impressive wins during the dual and the invitational events. The dual events were meets against a single school, the invitational events were typically attended by 20 or more schools.

Even against larger schools our athletes were able to compete throughout the season,

performing well in the individual and the relay events. Excelling at the track as well as the field events.

With the lone Senior on the team coming from Franklinville the boys team will look forward to building off this year into the future. After another successful year, the girls team will reload heading into next season.

JUNIOR CLASS VISITS ELDRED'S WWII MUSEUM



This April, the Junior class took an exciting field trip to the World War 2 Museum in Eldred, Pennsylvania. They recently just finished their chapter on World War 2 in their United States History class, and this provided the insight the students needed to be able to ace their Regents. Upon arriving, the students started off with a competitive scavenger hunt organized by Ms. James and raced to find War artifacts and memorabilia from veterans and a variety of countries. After the winners were declared, the students were free to roam around and witness the history unfold. The museum was full of information and stories, that provided clear examples of the war. From small models of ships and planes to real German Motorcycles with sidecars as well as a submarine periscope, the students were enthralled with the museum. The various rooms and sections told stories and encapsulated the devastation the war caused in the world. To end the educational day, the Juniors made a pit stop at Sprague's and had a group lunch where they were able to enjoy each other's company and bond.



LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS AND MORE!



First graders, parents and teachers had a fun filled day at the Buffalo Zoo!

The weather was perfect, sunny but not too hot. It was just the right weather for the animals to be out and about and show off for all of us!

There were so many animals that we couldn't mention them all.

Some of our favorites were the giraffes, otters, polar bears, gorillas and red pandas.

The reptile room and the rainforest building were full of interesting creatures, big and small.

What a great way to celebrate a fantastic first grade year!



2026 Yearbook Distribution Party

By: Cathie Nason, Yearbook Advisor

The 2026 Ellicottville Yearbook was given out on Thursday, May 28th during middle and high school lunches. Students came to the courtyard, received their yearbooks, and enjoyed a sweet treat from the Yearbook Staff. Just a friendly reminder that this publication is created by students who made every effort to proofread and include everyone while meeting strict deadlines.

The Yearbook Staff chose to dedicate this year's book to Mrs. June Chapman. The halls of ECS haven't been the same since she left us last May.

If you forgot to purchase a yearbook and would now like one, we have a few extras. They are \$70.00 plus 8 % tax (if you preorder yearbooks in September the price is \$60.00). We have some slightly damaged books that we are selling for \$50 + 8% tax – the tops and bottoms of the pages are wavy, but the print/pictures are fine.

Please send cash or check made out to ECS Yearbook and bring to Mrs. Nason in the high school. On behalf of the ECS Yearbook Staff, thank you for your support!



3RD GRADERS VISIT

Nannen Arboretum

During the last week of May, Mrs. Donoghue's and Mr. Przybyla's third-grade classrooms spent the afternoon at the Nannen Arboretum. Mrs. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Ward, and a team of wonderful volunteers created eight exciting science-based exploration stations. Our students learned about using natural dyes to make greeting cards using items from our environment such as flowers and leaves. A team of volunteers put on an interactive skit about the life cycle of a Monarch butterfly. We also learned when and how to properly prune trees from Mr. Johnson. Another station taught us the importance of mulching trees to protect them from times of drought. After reviewing different kinds of trees found at the Nannen Arboretum, the students learned about local products made from the trees. Other stations included solving a word search with new vocabulary terms and making "dirt" from rotted tree logs. The final station had us look at tree canopies and visualize the various colors of the leaves so that we could paint a puzzle piece to create a class painting. Our field trip ended with a review activity and each student was given a "tree cookie" with the challenge to count how old the tree was by counting the rings. This collaborative opportunity was possible because of the talented volunteers who help at the Nannen Arboretum.



**Summer Fun and
Summer Meals!**

**Kids and
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Kids ages 18 and under can get **free, healthy meals** this summer at places nearby. No sign up needed—just drop by when meals are served!

Find Summer Meals:



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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOSEN AS PREVENTION CHAMPION

May 10th-16th is National Prevention Week. It is a time to recognize communities that are working to prevent substance use and promoting well-being.

During Prevention Week, CASA-Trinity Catt Co recognizes one business and one school as Prevention Champions. This award is in appreciation of their remarkable dedication, leadership, and steadfast commitment to promoting prevention in our community. Their advocacy has inspired others, and tireless effort has created a lasting impact, paving the way for a healthier, safer future for everyone.

Ellicottville Elementary School has been chosen as this year's Prevention Champion because of the continued implementation of the Too Good For Drugs program in grades K-5. This gives students the opportunity to continue learning about living healthy lives. The partnership between the school and CASA-Trinity is productive and meaningful.



Kindergarten Green Houses

Our kindergarten students have been busy planting bean seeds in their very own "green houses" as part of their plant science study in the STEM Lab! Students are learning about what plants need to grow while observing the changes that happen from seed to sprout.

The bean seeds were made available through the new seed catalog at Ellicottville Memorial Library thanks to generous donations from Chautauqua Institution, Silver Creek Hanover Garden Club, and The Home Depot. We are grateful for the community support that helps provide hands-on learning opportunities for our students!



Ellicottville Central School Alumni Association Annual Banquet

This event will be held on Saturday, July 18, 2026. We are looking forward to a fun and entertaining evening with fellow alumni!

ELLCOTTVILLE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 1033 · Ellicottville, NY. 14731-1033 • ECS ALUMNI BANQUET - Saturday, July 18, 2026
Social Hour Beginning at 5:30pm, Dinner at 7pm • Tannenbaum Lodge Upper Holiday Valley Ellicottville, NY

RESERVATION FORM

Please complete and return this form, along with your check made payable to the ECS Alumni Association at the above address, no later than July 9, 2026. Dinner is \$40.00 per person. You can also call Donna Brooks 716-699-2553 to make phone reservations. If you would prefer to make your reservations and pay online you can go to <https://www.ellicottvillealumni.com/> and click on the "Annual Banquet" link.

Last Name	First Name	(Maiden Name)	Graduation Year
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☐ Filet Mignon ☐ Stuffed Chicken ☐ Salmon ☐ Vegetarian

☐ Filet Mignon ☐ Stuffed Chicken ☐ Salmon ☐ Vegetarian

Current Mailing Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Guests: _____

☐ Filet Mignon ☐ Stuffed Chicken ☐ Salmon ☐ Vegetarian

There will be brunch at the United Church of Ellicottville on Saturday, July 18th from 9:00 am – 11:00 am.

Please come and socialize with other alumni. Please mark here if you plan on attending the brunch.

_____ Number of Guests for Brunch

I am pleased and supportive of what our Association is doing to further the education and careers of ECS graduates. Please accept my following contribution to support the on-going operation expenses of the Association \$10, \$20, \$50, Other Amount _____.

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5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, NY 14731
www.ellicottvillecentral.com

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On behalf of the Board of Education, administration, teachers, support staff, but most importantly the students, we want to thank you for your support!

Proposition 1- Basic Budget

160 YES 25 NO
\$16,899,130- Basic Budget

Proposition 2- School Bus Lease

169 YES 17 NO
Not to exceed \$66,000 to lease
(2) 66 passenger buses

Proposition 3- Renewal of Transportation Reserve

162 YES 22 NO

Proposition 4- Use of funds from the transportation reserve

166 YES 19 NO

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