

# FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL COMET NEWS

MARCH 2019

EDITOR - SHELLEY MARCUS • ASSOCIATE EDITOR - SARAH UNGERLEIDER • CONTRIBUTING EDITOR - LARRY SCHAFMAN

## SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Dear School Community Member:

I hope this update finds you in the best of health and spirit as we await winter's end. Spring is really just an eye blink away. As of this writing, five snow days remain. If there are any changes to the school calendar, I will send letters home to parents and we will put that information on the district website ([fallsburgcsd.net](http://fallsburgcsd.net)) and on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/FallsburgCSD/>). Weather aside, I would like to take a moment to share something special with you that I believe the entire school community can be proud of.

In early February, The Fallsburg Central School District hosted a special program called Sweethearts and Heroes. This program (presented to students, staff and the community) focused on the importance of hope and the difference one person can make in another person's life.

I am proud to tell you that Fallsburg has its own Sweethearts and Heroes on staff. In the past few weeks two of our heroes, Dominick Scanna and Lucille Carter-Harris showed what it means to make a difference in the lives of others. On two sepa-

rate occasions, two elementary students were choking on some food. In both of those instances a student immediately went to an adult for help. Those two students, by the way, are sweethearts and heroes in their own right and are receiving special awards for their quick thinking.

Dominick Scanna and Lucille Carter-Harris were the adults that the two students reached right away. Both Mr. Scanna and Ms. Carter-Harris immediately administered the Heimlich maneuver to the choking students and saved their lives.

Both of these individuals sprang to action relying on their previous training to guide them through this ordeal. Fortunately, tragedy was averted, and we can all celebrate the outcome. As Superintendent of Schools I am thankful and exceptionally proud of Mr. Scanna and Ms. Carter-Harris who showed, by their actions, what it means to be real live sweethearts and heroes.

Educationally yours,

*Ivan J. Katz*, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools

### Athletic Director Suzanne Lenzian Earns CAA Recognition

The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) recognized Suzanne M. Lenzian, Director of Physical Education and Athletics at Fallsburg Central School District, as a Certified Athletic Administrator.

To earn this distinction, Ms. Lenzian demonstrated the highest level of knowledge and expertise in the field of interscholastic athletic administration. The certification process included a thorough evaluation of the candidate's educational background, experience and professional contributions, as well as a rigorous, comprehensive written examination. Ms. Lenzian is one of an elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism.

The NIAAA is a national professional organization consisting of all 50-state athletic administrator associations and more than 10,000 individual members. It is dedicated to promoting the professional growth of high school athletic administrators and preserving the educational nature of interscholastic athletics and the place of these programs in the secondary school curriculum.

Congratulations to Ms. Lenzian for achieving this recognition from her peers in the NIAAA. Her dedication to her work in the District and to her profession is admirable.

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## School Nurse Lonnie Lindsey Honored for her Service

Prior to the High School Girls Basketball game versus Cornwall on February 1, 2019, FCSD honored Nurse Lonnie



Lindsey for her long and faithful service to the District for the past 29 years. Having the ceremony before a sports event was totally appropriate because Mrs. Lindsey has been responsible for making sure all Fallsburg athletes had their physicals prior to eligibility and attended to many injuries and illnesses affecting the players after games during the school week.

The most memorable honor of the evening was the words of gratitude from two colleagues, Ms. Lisa McAdoo and Ms. Sue Lenzian. Lisa grew up in Fallsburg, starred on the basketball team and is currently a Teacher's Aide. She attends most of the sports events and assists in scorekeeping and whatever else is needed. Ms. Lenzian is Director of Athletics. They thanked Mrs. Lindsey for her profound effect on each of their lives.

Ms. Lenzian's words capture Ms. McAdoo's and countless others: "Lonnie your dedication, commitment and love for Fallsburg will never be forgotten. You have touched so many lives in this community including mine. I appreciate all you have taught me, all you have supported me through and for all the love you have shared. We wish you a huge congratulations and best of luck."

### Robotics 2019

Fallsburg Girl Powered team 99561G wowed the judges at the Lansingburg BOTS TAKE THE BURGH competition on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, earning the prestigious "Design Award" and a trip to the NYS Championship. The Design Award is presented to a team that demonstrates an organized and professional approach to the design process, project and time management and team organization. In the photo above top (left to right) are: *Gabby Pantel, Jasmine Johnson, Ava Anderman, Dawn Ruhren, and Neema Darboe.*

Fallsburg Junior High team 99561A dominated the field of 50 teams at the Lansingburg BOTS TAKE THE BURGH competition on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> to become the tournament champions and earn a trip to the NYS VEX Robotics Championship. This was an impressive accomplishment considering the fact that 45 of the 50 teams were high school level. In the photo above (left to right) are: the two members of their alliance from team 817B from East Longmeadow Massachusetts, *Nicholas Muscia (holding the trophy), Amanda Murtagh, Jaedon Espinosa, and Christos Vernezos*

### All Six FJSHS Robotics Teams Make NYS Tournament

For the first time in its four year history, all six teams representing Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School will be competing in the New York State Championships on March 2, 2019 in Syracuse. Coach Don Thomas is very proud of the students, who have put considerable time and effort into accomplishing this prestigious standing. A total of 35 students are participants. Four of the six teams are middle school teams, and three of the teams are considered "Girl Powered" (all females). VEX Robotics that sponsors state, national and international competitions is committed to increase participation of female students. Last year the ratio world-wide was one to five for girls versus boys. Fallsburg's numbers are 11 girls and 19 boys! It has been a very exciting season, especially with all six teams qualified for the NYS Championship.

## Student and Teacher Honored by Fallsburg CSD for Saving a Life

On the evening of February 11 2019 FCSD Superintendent Dr. Ivan Katz presented two STAR Awards at the Board of Education meeting to sixth grade student Andre King and First Grade Teacher Dominick Scanna. Dr. Katz was honoring them for their quick response to a kindergarten child that was choking on a hard candy on January 18<sup>th</sup> at Benjamin Cosor Elementary School.

When twelve-year-old Andre realized that the child was in serious distress and that he could not help him, he did what he was taught to do - get an adult right away. Fortunately, Dominick Scanna was that adult. He rushed to the choking child and applied the Heimlich maneuver to save the little boy's life.

When asked how he knew what to do, Mr. Scanna said, "I acted on instinct. You do whatever you can to help someone else." Scanna had more than instinct. He was trained in this lifesaving procedure in one of the courses that prepared him to be a coach at Fallsburg. This was the second time in his teaching career that he had to use the Heimlich procedure. The first occurred twenty years ago as a student teacher at Emma Chase Elementary School in Wurtsboro.

To a newspaper reporter that wrote about the incident, Dr. Katz said, "That Dominick responded to a crisis and acted immediately is just who he is. To say that he loves children and that they are part of his life blood just scratches the surface. Dominick Scanna is a class act."

At the Board presentation of Star Awards, Dr. Katz said the two recipients acted in the finest tradition of the Fallsburg School District. As he handed them the certificates, he said, "We present you with this award to let you know how proud we are of what you did." The Board and community members applauded loudly in agreement with the Superintendent's words.



## Sweethearts & Heroes Speaks with FJSHS and BCES over Two Day Period

On January 14 and 15, FCSD welcomed back Tom Murphy and Rick Yarosh from **Sweethearts & Heroes**. Rolling V Bus Company financed the visit that included discussion of cyberbullying with all students, staff and a parent/community forum. Additionally, the two presenters requested a meeting with school leaders from the high school selected by staff and administration. Also they sat with the BCES PBIS/Olweus Team to discuss specific programs suited to work with fifth and sixth graders - an age when bullying behavior is more prevalent in the schools. In order to qualify as bullying, four things must be present:

- 1) Does it happen habitually?
- 2) Is it Intimidating or scary?
- 3) Does it involve someone who is smaller or weaker?
- 4) is it intentional and mean?

S&H focused on cyberbullying. It is **deliberate** use of **electronic communication** to bully a person - typically by sending messages of an **intimidating** or threatening nature which often becomes a **pattern**, and is done with **no remorse**.

At this point Tom introduced Rick Yarosh, who embodies HOPE to Tom. In his poignant tale of his severe, near-death wounding inside a tank in Iraq in 2011, Rick Yarosh's message is clear - no matter how bleak things were for him he had only a brief moment of losing hope. In a flash, Hope led him quickly to find a way to extinguish flames that were engulfing his body, and his buddies got him airlifted to safety. After months of many surgeries and rehabilitation, Rick discovered his true calling: to tell his story and how H.O.P.E. is his universal message.

**HOLD ON, POSSIBILITIES EXIST.**



# FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

## Safety First at BCES

As a community, our priority is the safety and well-being of our children. Through PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) and Olweus Bullying Prevention programs we reinforce, encourage and support positive interactions between students. For a second year in a row, the district arranged student assemblies, staff workshops and a parent workshop with the members of Sweethearts and Heroes to continue our efforts. Our students actively participated in the Sweethearts and Heroes assemblies. They learned the ABC's of being a "sweetheart" (or hero) as a way to empower the bystander. When we see someone who is being treated unkindly, we can go over and take him/her "A"way from the situation by asking him/her to play somewhere else. We can be a "B"uddy when someone is upset by going over and talking with him/her or we can "C"onfront the "bully" and tell him/her to stop. If he/she does not stop, we "C"all for an adult to help. During the assemblies (K-3 and 4-6) several

different students were invited up on stage to act-out each of these important "superhero" powers!

As a way of promoting the safety of our children the Members of the Grand Lodge of the Free and accepted Masons offered parents an opportunity to have their child photographed, fingerprinted and a DNA sample taken. This voluntary program was at no cost to our families and is part of the NYS Child Identification Program.

We appreciate the support of our community in keeping our children's safety and well-being at the forefront of our decision-making. We will continue to offer programs to our students, parents and community members as we know it takes a village to raise a child and together, we can and will make a difference!

*Mary Kate Stinehour and the BCES staff*

## From the Elementary Assistant Principal

A few issues ago, I wrote about the number of new teachers here at Benjamin Cosor Elementary School. In addition, we also have several new faces among our School-Related Personnel staff. They are Ms. Barrera, Ms. Platania, and Mr. Justiniano.

Ms. Barrera is usually the first person whom visitors to our school see. While her job title is "bilingual aide," she does much more than that. She "signs in" visitors, directs people to where they need to go, handles the bus notes, and often

works as a translator in meetings. Ms. Barrera has enjoyed her time here at BCES. She says that everyone has been very nice and welcoming.

Ms. Platania is a teaching assistant who has been working mostly with our younger students. She has been assigned to kindergarten, as well as first and second grade classrooms. Like Ms. Barrera, Ms. Platania has found our school to be a warm, welcoming place. She has said that the people are very friendly.

While this is Mr. Justiniano's first year in Cosor, he is not new to the Fallsburg Central School District. Last year, "Mr. J," as he is called, worked at the junior-senior high school. Here, he serves as a one-on-one aide in Mrs. Markle's classroom. In addition, he coaches the junior varsity basketball team. He too has been made to feel very welcome here at Benjamin Cosor.

*Dave Viglione*

# FROM THE ASSISTANT HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

As the winter months fade into the sunny skies of spring, the school year turns to its testing cycle. No matter how you feel about testing it is important to realize that testing does serve two important roles. First it measures student performance which allows us to see how your child is developing.

Second, it gives the school data which allows us the opportunity to evaluate what is being taught.

Here are the middle school/ high school testing dates to mark on your calendar.

### ELA Testing:

Grade 7 – 4/2/19, 4/3/19  
Grade 8 – 4/4/19, 4/5/19

### Math Testing

Grade 8 – 4/30/19, 5/1/19  
Grade 7 – 5/2/19, 5/3/19

### Science Written Tests

Grade 8 – 6/3/19

*Frank Godlewski*

## Musical Notes

### All County Music Festival

Congratulations to the students selected for the All County Middle School Band:

*Hannah Johnson, Ceshia Ulatoski, Nicole Jimenez, and Daryl McPherson*

Congratulations to members of the Benjamin Cosor Elementary Chorus who are participating in this year's All County Music Festival:

*Angelina Alvarado, Kyleigh Avery, Lillian Betancourt, Isaac Delgado, Isabella Giannico, Isaac Hernandez Martinez, Jaxon Ingber, Morwenna Nielsen, Justin Nicolai, Joslyn Odell Schreier, William Martinez Martinez, Madeline Pantel, Nathalie Quinteros, Marilyn Santos, and Abigail Toledo*



# EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: JUNE 2019

Students must verify with their schools the exact times that they are to report for their State examinations.

June 3 MONDAY	June 18 TUESDAY	June 19 WEDNESDAY	June 20 THURSDAY	June 21 FRIDAY	June 24 MONDAY*	June 25 TUESDAY	June 26 WEDNESDAY
<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>RATING DAY</b>
Global History & Geography II (New Framework)*	U.S. History & Government	English Language Arts	Transition Exam in Global History & Geography	Geometry	<small>World Language Assessment suggested date/time:</small> Locally developed Checkpoint A Exam	Physical Setting/ Chemistry	
	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Uniform Admission Deadlines</b>  Morning Examinations: 10:00 a.m.  Afternoon Examinations: 2:00 p.m.
	Living Environment	Algebra I	Physical Setting/ Earth Science	Algebra II	<small>World Language Assessment suggested date/time:</small> Locally developed Checkpoint B Exam	Physical Setting/ Physics	

\* The Conversion Chart for this exam will be available no later than June 26, 2019.



# MAMMA MIA!

Join Us...

**March 29 & 30 • 7pm**  
**Fallsburg High School Auditorium**

# 2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6							1	2	3							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29						
30													30	31						30	31								

  

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
													1	2							1	2							
				1	2	3							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9								
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	31							28	29	30							

  

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST											
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					
													1																			
				1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6													
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24					
26	27	28	29	30	31								28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									

  SCHOOL CLOSED    
   CONFERENCE DAY    
   REGENTS EXAMS    
   TESTING DAYS    
   GO HOME EARLY DRILL

### SCHOOL CLOSED

SEPTEMBER	.....	10, 19
OCTOBER	.....	8
NOVEMBER	.....	2, 21-23
DECEMBER	.....	24-31
JANUARY	.....	1, 21
FEBRUARY	.....	18
MARCH	.....	0
APRIL	.....	14-18
MAY	.....	27

### SCHOOL DAYS

SEPTEMBER	.....	16	+ 1 CONFERENCE
OCTOBER	.....	22	
NOVEMBER	.....	17	+ 1 CONFERENCE
DECEMBER	.....	14	+ 1 CONFERENCE
JANUARY	.....	21	
FEBRUARY	.....	19	
MARCH	.....	20	+ 1 CONFERENCE
APRIL	.....	17	
MAY	.....	22	
JUNE	.....	18	

**TOTAL** ..... **186** + **4 CONF** = **190**

### MAKE-UP DAYS

Day 1	.....	2/18
Day 2	.....	4/15
Day 3	.....	4/16
Day	.....	4/17

\* if all snow days are used this day will become a student day and not a conference day

### GIVE BACK DAYS

If 1 snow day remains:	.....	5/24
If 2 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28
If 3 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28, 4/22
If 4 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28, 4/22, 4/23
If 5 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24
If 6 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/25
If 7 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/25, 4/12
If 8 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/25, 4/12, 3/8
If 9 remain:	.....	5/24, 5/28, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/25, 4/12, 3/8, 2/15
If 10 remain:	..	5/24, 5/28, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/25, 4/12, 3/8, 2/15, 2/19

# FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

115 Brickman Road • PO Box 124 • Fallsburg, NY 12733-0124

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

- ★ Ms. Debra Barbiani ★ Mr. Joseph Collura ★ Ms. Arlene Hussey ★ Ms. Renee Kates ★ Dr. Stephanie Phillips ★  
 ★ Ms. Katherine Rappaport ★ Ms. Jennifer Reinhardt ★ Dr. Sean Wall-Carty ★ Mr. Michael Weiner ★

*“Fallsburg Central School District is a safe, nurturing environment, where excellence is expected, diversity and individuality are celebrated, and learning prepares students to face the challenges of an ever-changing global society.”*

## CONTACTS

### PHONE NUMBERS...

<b>Dr. Ivan J. Katz, Ed.D.</b>	Superintendent	434-6800 Ext. 1215
<b>Dr. Matthew T. Evans</b>	Assistant Superintendent	434-6800 Ext. 1204
<b>Mr. Daniel Grecco Jr.</b>	Business Manager	434-6800 Ext. 1219
<b>Mr. Keith Edwards</b>	Director of Technology	434-6800 Ext. 1258
<b>Ms. Jane Tingley</b>	Director of Staff Evaluation & Student Data	434-6800 Ext. 1257
<b>Ms. Leighanne Russell</b>	Pupil Personnel Director	434-6800 Ext. 1273
<b>Ms. Dalila Serrano</b>	Interim High School Principal	434-6800 Ext. 2206
<b>Mr. Frank Godlewski</b>	High School Assistant Principal	434-6800 Ext. 2207
<b>Ms. Mary Kate Stinehour</b>	Elementary Principal	434-4110 Ext. 3206
<b>Mr. David Viglione</b>	Elementary Assistant Principal	434-4110 Ext. 3204
<b>Ms. Suzanne Lenzian</b>	Director of Physical Education & Athletics	434-6800 Ext. 2212
<b>Central Registration</b>		434-6800 ext. 1222
<b>Tax Collection</b>		434-6800 Ext. 1219

### FAX NUMBERS...

<b>Superintendent</b>	434-8346
<b>Business Office</b>	434-0418
<b>High School</b>	434-0168
<b>Jr./Sr. HS Nurse</b>	434-3821

### SCHOOL ADDRESSES...

**Fallsburg Central School District Office  
& Fallsburg Jr./Sr. High School**  
 115 Brickman Road ★ PO Box 124 ★ Fallsburg, NY 12733-0124

**Benjamin Cosor Elementary School**  
 15 Old Falls Road ★ PO Box 123 ★ Fallsburg, NY 12733-0123

**WEBSITE:** [www.fallsburgcsd.net](http://www.fallsburgcsd.net)

If you want to notify the tax collector with a change of address, you can now e-mail that information to: [tax@fallsburgcsd.net](mailto:tax@fallsburgcsd.net).

## KEEPING YOU POSTED

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
3/6	Board of Ed Mtg.	7pm	Jr HS Board Rm.
3/12	BCES PTA Mtg.	4pm	
3/13	School Closed – Supt’s Conf. Day		
3/16	Soup & Sandwich	12-2pm	HS Cafet.
3/17	Soup and Sandwich snow date		
3/20	Board of Ed Mtg. Blood Drive	7:15 8am – 2:30pm	Jr HS Board Rm.
3/29-30	“Mama Mia”	7pm	HS Audit
4/3	Board of Ed Mtg.	7pm	Jr HS Board Rm.
4/6	Soup and Sandwich	12-2pm	HS Cafet.
4/7	Soup & Sandwich snow date		

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
4/8-10	SGA Washington DC trip		
4/17	Board of Ed Mtg.	7pm	Jr HS Board Rm.
4/22-25	Spring Book Fair	8:30am – 4pm	
5/1	Board of Ed meeting	7pm	Jr HS Board Rm.
5/4	SGA Cinco de Mayo Festival		
5/14	BCES PTA Mtg.	4pm	
5/16	Jr/Sr HS Spring Concert	7pm	HS Audit
5/17	Junior Prom		
5/21	Budget Vote Multi-Cultural Dinner BCES Spring Concert Board of Ed meeting	8am -8pm 5:30-7pm 7pm 7pm	HS Library HS Cafet HS Audit