

FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL COMET NEWS

2019-2020 School Budget review included

MAY 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 finally say goodbye to winter and welcome the spring season with open arms! The 2019-20 budget season is well underway as we head to the May 21, 2019, budget vote and board member election.

Budget Update

The Board of Education and the Central Administration have been working on a budget that continues to balance what school children need with what taxpayers can afford. The District's budget season goal was to create a tax levy with a 0% increase. That goal, I am happy to say, was achieved.

The Board of Education, on April 4, 2019, adopted a budget of \$46,471,065. This is the budget number that the public will get to vote on this coming May 21st. This budget is a **0%** increase from the 2018-19 budget.

To get to a 0% tax levy increase the Board is applying \$3,035,052 from the undesignated fund balance.

Additionally, I want to take this opportunity to update you on the building project because we have had to make some changes due to the building project bids coming in higher than expected. The project bids, overall, came in about 1.5 million dollars higher than we would have liked them to come in.

The high bids are a result of the current market and the overwhelming amount of building projects that are going on in our region.

The District's buildings and grounds committee along with our architects and construction manager met to discuss what our options are relative to the building project plans (given the bid result numbers). At the end of deliberations, it was determined that there were not many large areas to cut out of the project without damaging the integrity of the original project.

Remaining parts of the building project include the heating/boiler replacements at both schools, converting the steam heat to hot water in the high school, the pool renovation, the track renovation and some smaller renovations relative to plumbing, electrical, and bathrooms.

There are, however, some areas that can be reduced, e.g., painting the pool deck rather than installing tile, and reusing suspended ceiling frames and tiles instead of disposing them, etc. Our architect (CSArch) is reviewing the construction values included with the bids, line by line, to compile a list of possible alternatives for the buildings and grounds committee to review. It is estimated that these reductions in scope could yield \$200,000 in reduced costs. The buildings and grounds committee recommended that the board raise the school budget amount for the 2019-20 school year by the 1.5 million dollars that are necessary to complete the building project. This money will come out of our undesignated fund balance. This would provide us with the necessary balance to still be able to put out a school budget with a zero percent increase in the tax levy.

The additional monies that we would be taking out of the undesignated fund balance will be aidable. This means that we would be getting back about 74% of the monies we are using from the undesignated fund balance.

If you have any questions on the budget, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The budget vote and board elections take place on May 21st, 2019 (8:00 AM – 8:00 PM), in the junior-senior high school library. Please come out and vote!

Educationally yours,

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

IN THIS ISSUE...

FCS DISTRICT NEWS	PAGE	2, 3
SCHOOL NEWS	PAGES	4, 5
2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR	PAGE	6
SCHOOL CONTACTS	PAGE	7
KEEPING YOU INFORMED	PAGE	7

Mamma Mia is a Big Hit at Fallsburg

The audience at Fallsburg High School Auditorium on Friday evening, March 29th was delighted by the cast and crew's presentation of *"Mamma Mia."* The music was lively and enhanced by the four-piece band directed by Liz Toleno. All the leads had good voices. The end of the play was a true coming together of the entire cast when they reprised the joyous title song, *"Mamma Mia."*

Kudos to cast and crew on stage, behind the scenes and in the sound and light booth. Teacher Tobi Magnetico brought it all together as Director and Producer. Sarah Ungerleider-Satz held it together as Stage Manager while Jim Schmidt designed and built a magnificent set. FHS Band Director Danna Clear showed her skills with the great choreography that was especially fantastic when Jasmine Johnson, Ava Anderman and Kailie Ruiz were singing and dancing as Donna and the Dynamos. This was but one of the many highlights of an evening filled with pure enjoyment.

Fallsburg Robotics Team Earns Return Trip to World Championship



At the Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD) Board of Education (BOE) meeting on April 3, 2019, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ivan Katz introduced Coach Don Thomas and the Jr/Sr High School Robotics Team of Harris Basic, Kristian Huttenmeyer, Nicholas Muscia, Jaedon Espinoza and Christos

Vernezos. Dr. Katz was very proud of the team in earning a return trip to compete in the VEX Robotics World Championship on April 23-28 in Louisville, Kentucky.

With many family members and members of the several other teams coached by Mr. Thomas present, he explained the challenges of new scoring systems that correlate with recent developments in the technology of the robots. The Fallsburg Team ranks #1 for Skills in NYS and 99th worldwide. Now many schools competing with Fallsburg are Aeronautical High Schools that study advanced engineering and others with strong focuses on science and technology.



BOE Members praised the Robotics Teams and thanked them for the time and energy that they demonstrate in these incredible accomplishments. They offered whatever support they could to make the trip easeful and wished them success.

Over 180 BCES Students are Certified Warrior Kids

On April 10th, after three months of challenging exercising and learning about the importance of keeping the body healthy with movement and good nutrition, more than 180 students at BCES received certification from the Catskill Regional Medical Center for completing the Warrior Kids Program. This once a week after school event was led by CRMC Community Health Director Amanda Langseder ably supported by Damola, who makes the Energizer Bunny look sleepy, and Bee Moser from Cornell Cooperative Extension. The Warrior Kids is a program in conjunction with Eat Smart NY (Bee Moser) and SNAP-Ed and Ayo Fitness. Damola is clearly descended from African



Warriors himself and is able to get students and teachers alike jumping and moving their bodies to his dynamic cadence. To witness all the graduates in the BCES Cafeteria leaping joyously through the exciting routines was thrilling.



BCES PBIS Holds First "On a Roll" Breakfast

The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Program at BCES held its first annual "On A Roll" Breakfast on March 20, 2019 to reward students for making positive changes in behavior towards the school, their fellow students and other people.

Students were nominated by any adult in the building who recognized their positive change. BCES PBIS Director Heather Claussen invited parents of nominees to attend the special pancake breakfast. She explained to parents that their children are expected to follow our 4 fundamental expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, and Be There and Be Ready. She added that these expectations apply throughout all areas of our building, and the staff encourages parents to use this language at home as well.

At the April 3rd Board of Education Meeting, Ms. Claussen praised the award recipients for different reasons: improved attitude towards school work; higher work completion; better social skills; or improved behavior. The PBIS Director repeated to the BOE what she said to the students honored at the breakfast, "No matter what the reason is, you should all be extremely proud of yourselves! You are the true examples that show students in this building it is never too late to turn it around."

The BCES Trail

The BCES Trail has been a three-year project with an enormous amount of combined effort and support from multiple groups, businesses, clubs, staff and students throughout Sullivan County. We are extremely grateful for the support and generosity of the businesses throughout the county. The grants which funded much of the materials and supplies have come



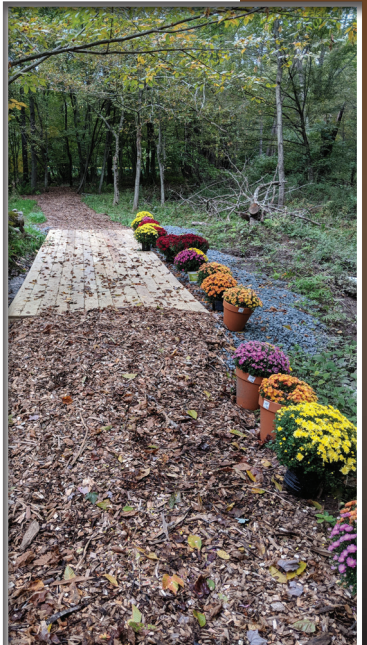
from the local and state levels and we are thankful to those who have guided us through each of the grants.

That being said, one of the strengths of the trail project, aside from the grants and match donations received, is the many businesses and people right here within our very own town of Fallsburg. There are so many who have helped to make this become a reality! We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the following as the wind beneath our wings for discounts, donations, professional advice, and/or volunteer service:

- ★ Town of Fallsburg
- ★ Town of Fallsburg Parks and Recreation
- ★ Woodbourne Lawn and Garden
- ★ Woodbourne Landscape
- ★ Fallsburg Lumber
- ★ Fallsburg Construction
- ★ A. Alport & Sons
- ★ Wizard Electric
- ★ Fallsburg Lions
- ★ Fallsburg Leo's
- ★ Fallsburg PTA
- ★ Steingart Associates
- ★ FCSD Life Skills Class
- ★ FCSD Technology Class
- ★ FCSD Track
- ★ BCES Extended Day Students Sullivan
- ★ Renaissance Center for Discovery
- ★ Cornell Cooperative Extension
- ★ Brandel-Murphy Youth Lions Foundation
- ★ FCSD Wellness & PBIS Committees
- ★ Multiple anonymous donations from Fallsburg Businesses
- ★ Mr. Larry Schafman
- ★ Fallsburg Central School Board
- ★ Fallsburg Central School District Administration, Grounds Department, & Staff

They say that a ripple has an amazing affect in the water and when our town stepped up to show their support for a project for the children, staff, and community, that ripple has continued to grow. Thank you all!!

Respectfully,
Leah Exner



FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

"If you see something, say something!"

In February's edition of the Comet Newsletter, I shared the various programs that we offered to support the safety and well-being of our students. Those programs included our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports), OLWEUS Bullying Prevention Program, Sweethearts and Heroes assemblies and the Child Identification Program sponsored by the Members of the Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons.

Over the past few months we have honored several staff members and students who aided in keeping the students in our building safe. First grade teacher, Mr. Scanna, Mrs. Carter-Harris, an aide in our building and Mr. Blake, our lunch monitor each saved a child from choking. In each of these situations, a student alerted one of these adults to a child in distress. Without thinking twice, the staff members performed the Heimlich maneuver to remove the obstruction from the child's throat. None of these situations were linked to each other. One child began choking on a hard candy that his mother had given him. Another child was choking on a bite of sandwich. The third student began coughing due to allergies

while he was eating an apple and a piece of apple got caught in his throat. What all three situations had in common were students who saw something AND said something, along with fast-acting adults who saved these children from a tragic event.

Please help us in helping your child, grandchild, friends/neighbors' child by sharing some safety tips with the children in our community.

- Encourage kids to sit when eating and to chew thoroughly.
- Remind them to chew and swallow their food before talking or laughing.
- Never let kids run, play sports, or ride in the car or on a bus with gum, candy, or lollipops in their mouths.
- Encourage children to **SAY SOMETHING** when they **SEE SOMETHING!**

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

Mary Kate Stinchour

From the Elementary Assistant Principal

During the 2018-2019 academic year, something new has been happening in the morning. The students are participating in the Benjamin Cosor Elementary School morning announcements!

With new technology, which allows for people to make room-based, school-wide announcements, the students are able to lead the school in the

pledge of allegiance, wish their friends a happy birthday, and help recite the day's lunch menu.

Every day, students from different classrooms "form up" near the telephone and make themselves heard. Students from at least two classrooms have volunteered to read different parts of the announcements. They have recited

the "word of the day," student and staff birthdays, any other announcements, the day's lunch menu choices, as well as the events from "the day in history."

The students and teachers have had a great time participating in the morning announcements, and have expressed a desire to repeat their performance.

David Viglione

Dates to remember:

Testing Dates: May 13-31 NWEA Testing • May 22 Science 8 Performance Test • June 3 Science 8 Written Test

Start Times: 8:00 am or Noon

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
9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	RATING DAY
Global History & Geography II (New Framework)*	U.S. History & Government	English Language Arts	Transition Exam in Global History & Geography	Geometry	* World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint A Exam	Physical Setting/ Chemistry	
	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m.	Uniform Admission Deadlines Morning Examinations: 10:00 a.m. Afternoon Examinations: 2:00 p.m.
	Living Environment	Algebra I	Physical Setting/ Earth Science	Algebra II	* World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint B Exam	Physical Setting/ Physics	

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

FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

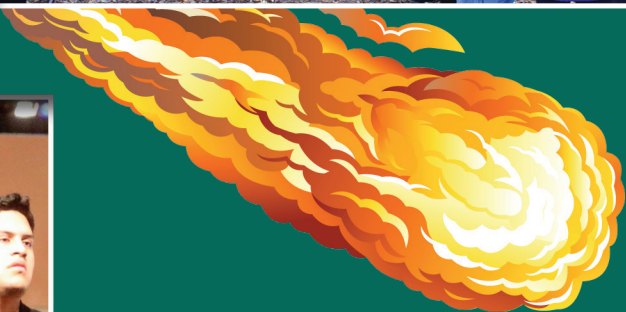
5

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REUNION AND LUNCH BUFFET

Saturday July 20, 2019

11-2pm

**The Woodbourne Firehouse
355 Route 52, Woodbourne**



2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR

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

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

FAX NUMBERS...

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

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

KEEPING YOU POSTED

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION	DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
5/4	SGA Cinco de Mayo Festival			5/23	Blood Drive Induction Ceremony (NJHS/HS/SGA Officers)	8am – 2:30pm 6pm	HS Auditorium
5/8	Board of Education Meeting	7pm	MS Board Room	5/24-28	School Closed		
5/14	BCES PTA Meeting	4pm		5/30	BCES Talent Show	6pm	HS Auditorium
5/16	Jr/Sr HS Spring Concert	7pm	HS Auditorium	6/4	Sports Banquet	6pm	
5/17	Junior Prom BCES Principal's Award Ceremony	9:45am – 10:30am		6/5	Board of Education Meeting	7pm	MS Board Room
5/18	Family & Community Engagement Day	Noon - 4pm	High School	6/11	BCES PTA Meeting	4pm	
5/21	Budget Vote Multi-Cultural Dinner BCES Spring Concert Board of Education Meeting	8am – 8pm 5:30 – 7pm 7pm 7pm	HS Library HS Cafeteria HS Auditorium MS Board Room	6/19	Board of Education Meeting	7pm	MS Board Room
				6/26	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL		
				6/30	GRADUATION	3pm	HS AUDITORIUM