

# FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL COMET NEWS

JAN/FEB 2020

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## SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Dear School Community Member:

I hope this issue of the Comet Newsletter finds you in the very best of health and spirit as we prepare to welcome the winter holidays. The District has already begun preparing for a new budget season. As a result, I wanted to take a moment to give you a skating tour of what the budget calendar looks like as we prepare for the 2020-21 school budget.

During the months of October through January, school administrators work with staff to analyze building needs in terms of various resources (future staffing needs, programs and materials). Preliminary budget requests are due to the business office by January 10, 2020.

In the weeks following budget request submissions, central administration (the business office, superintendent and assistant superintendent) reviews each request. This preparation leads to budget workshop #1 which will take place on January 22, 2020. At this workshop the board is presented with a "Rollover Budget."

What is a Rollover Budget? A rollover budget is the budgetary starting point. It answers this question: Based on contractual obligations and other known increases, what will it cost to operate the school district next year (2020-21) with the current staff and program offerings?

With this starting point in place we can begin to build a budget that adds budget requests from the District to the rollover budget. Please keep in mind that the Board of Education's budget committee meets throughout this process and makes recommendations to the whole Board of Education.

Budget workshop #2 is scheduled to take place on February 5, 2020. The purpose of this workshop is to look at what changes have been added to the rollover budget that was previously presented. The district's budget requests have been added to this new version of the budget. Additionally, by this time, we will know

what the Governor has allocated to our district in terms of a financial aid package. The budget starts to come together at this point.

Budget workshop #3 will take place on February 19, 2020. This will be a budget update. The update will include any changes that have been made to modify the budget presented at the previous workshop. This same format holds true for Budget Workshop #4 which takes place on March 4, 2020.

Budget workshop #5 takes place on March 18, 2020. The purpose of this workshop is to put together all of the necessary budget information in preparation for the proposed budget approval by the board at the beginning of April. This workshop will look at budget changes, revenue changes and estimated tax information. This is where all of the information gathered throughout the budget season comes together.

Following the Board of Education's April budget approval, there will be a budget hearing that takes place on May 6, 2020. This will be a formal presentation of the budget that will go before the voters on May 19, 2020.

The budget vote and board elections will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 2020. On behalf of the Board of Education I invite you to attend our budget workshops and to share any questions, concerns or ideas you have with us. You can email me directly at [ikatz@fallsburgcsd.net](mailto:ikatz@fallsburgcsd.net) or you can email the Board of Education at [boe@fallsburgcsd.net](mailto:boe@fallsburgcsd.net).

I would like to take a moment to wish our school community the very best of everything this holiday season! Happy holidays and Happy New Year!

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

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# FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Fallsburg Junior Senior High School closed out 2019 in the spirit of giving and kindness. Staff kicked off the PBIS kindness week by placing post-it notes with positive affirmations on the lockers of all the students. Students all had a chance to complete kindness snowflakes with positive affirmations, words of gratitude or wishes for the New Year. Students who were witnessed displaying kindness to others were entered into a drawing to receive prizes from PBIS. The four winners are pictured here with Mrs. Adams (Principal) and Mr. Trombetta (Assistant Principal). Tamia Caston, Arsllyn Catave, Angie Canales, Haddy Gai



*Dawne Adams*

## The Fallsburg Robotics Team Continues to Grow and Expand.



With the addition of two VEX IQ competition teams, Fallsburg now has two levels of competition robotics teams. Team 84501A is comprised of six BCES sixth grade students, Saladin Basic, Justin Nicolai, Joslyn Odel Schreier, Madeline Pantel, and Austin Olmstead. team 84501B is made up of the following junior high students: Haris Basic, Aianna Saunders, Kristian Huttenmeyer, and Ariana Wall-Carty. Both teams have been working hard after school to prepare for their first competition on January 25th in Liverpool, NY.

The middle and high school level VEX EDR teams have grown from six to seven teams. With only three members graduating last year, there are nineteen returning team members who have been joined by nine new team members. New team members include: Bella Muscia, Daniel Olsen, Savana Hoag, Adam Mednick, Luke Esposito, James Ordway, Hanna Odell, Kayla Peace, and Bella McDevitt.



Both teams would like to thank everyone who supported them during the HEXBUG fundraiser. The response was a little overwhelming, and we did not anticipate such a great demand for the AquaBot Wahoos. We promise to double our order to 800 next year.

The VEX EDR team hosted a scrimmage on November 23th, and attended their first full competition on December 14 at our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie. The team will also be hosting a home competition on January 18th in the Fallsburg Jr./Sr. High School gym. Admission is free and competition will begin around 10:00 a.m. and end between 4-5 p.m. Individuals interested in volunteering to help run this event should contact Coach Thomas ([dthomas@fallsburgcsd.net](mailto:dthomas@fallsburgcsd.net)) or Coach Lundgren ([blundgren@fallsburgcsd.net](mailto:blundgren@fallsburgcsd.net)).



*Don Thomas*, Advisor





### The interact Club helped to fill a coat closet

The interact Club helped to fill a coat closet at Fallsburg JSHS with 40 coats and 40 sets of hats and gloves donated by Monticello's Elk Lodge #1544. This is in addition to donations from Aileen Gunther to the Fallsburg CSD.



### Annual SGA Food Drive Garners a Bounty for Local Food Banks

The Annual FJSHS SGA Food Drive collected dozens of packages and cans of non-perishable food plus frozen turkeys over several weeks prior to Thanksgiving. Faculty advisors Ms. Elisa Baum and Ms. Isabel Mejia arranged for distribution of all the food to the two local food banks in Hurleyville and South Fallsburg just in time for the holiday.



### Fallsburg 7<sup>th</sup> Graders Enjoy Trip to Albany

On November 7, 2019 nearly 100 7th grade students and their teachers had the opportunity to travel to the NYS Capitol in Albany. Students visited the NYS Museum before meeting with NYS Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther and NYS Senator Jen Metzger and touring the Capitol building including the floors of both the Assembly and the Senate.

This was a great opportunity for students to learn more about our governmental process and recognize that there are real people in Albany who want to hear from students. Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School Principal Dawne Adams hopes to bring more students for a visit when the legislature is in session.

### The Sound of Music Fills Fallsburg at Start of Holidays

The night before winter break at Fallsburg Central School District, the High School Auditorium was filled with the sound of music. Choral Director Ms. Colleen O'Toole-Barber, accompanied by Leon Hilfstein, and Band Director Ms. Danna Clear led dozens of accomplished musicians in a variety of traditional holiday favorites to the delight of parents, siblings, grandparents, friends and staff.

Two songs sung by the Chamber Chorus leading off the evening were Paul Simon's "The Sound of Silence" and "Sleigh Ride". The renditions were beautiful, filling the auditorium with reverence and joy. The Junior Chorus, with many soloists, performed A La Nanita Nana, a traditional Christmas carol that is a popular lullaby in the Hispanic world. Another selection with a familiar melody was the reggae song "One Love" by Bob Marley.



The Junior Band took the stage and played three traditional pieces, "Canterbury Overture," "Canon of Peace" and "Joy!" The Senior Chorus songs were highlighted by excellent solos. The Senior Band completed the evening with "The 3-Minute Nutcracker," the perfect number to leave everyone with the spirit of the holidays!



# FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

## It's that time of year again!

As we enter into the cold months, please be sure that your child dresses in layers. If your child is in need of a coat, hat or gloves, please contact our school nurse, Ms. Jean Norton at extension 3263 for assistance. As the cold and flu season is upon us, please continue to encourage your child to wash his/her hands. If they are coughing or sneezing, please remind your child to "cover up" with their elbow to contain the spread of germs. If your child is running a fever or vomiting, please keep your child home for at least 24 hours or until he/she is "fever-free." As always, when absent, please contact your child's teacher and the school nurse, as well as send an absent note the day your child returns to school.

We have many exciting events scheduled throughout the

year. Please check your child's bookbag on a daily basis so you are aware of communication from school to home. We also send home a bi-monthly calendar of events that includes two months of upcoming activities. In addition, please "like" and "follow" us on Facebook @Benjamin Cosor Elementary School. Here, you will find weekly updates on the "letter" day of the week and any new or upcoming events. This is a quick and convenient way to keep up on our daily happenings!

On behalf of the students and staff of BCES, we wish you and your family a happy, healthy and safe holiday season!

*Mary Kate Stinehour*

# FROM THE ELEMENTARY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

As another year began at BCES, people noticed several new faces among our faculty and staff. This month, we are going to meet three of our new teachers. Their names are Ms. Kleinman, Ms. Ramos and Ms. Strassburg.

Ms. Kleinman is our new music teacher. She is an alumna of SUNY Fredonia. She comes to us from the Roscoe Central School District, where she taught for ten years. Ms. Kleinman loves teaching at Benjamin Cosor. She feels that she has made a smooth transition into our school community, and that the staff here has been very helpful and welcoming.

Ms. Ramos teaches fifth grade. She attended Dominican College. This is her first full-time teaching job. She loves the students, and really appreciates all of the help provided to her by her fellow teachers.

Ms. Strassburg teaches in the kindergarten, first and second grade inclusion room. Previously, she taught at Sullivan County BOCES. Prior to that, she taught in Alaska. Ms. Strassburg also loves it here at Benjamin Cosor. She says that the teachers, staff and students have combined to make a very positive environment, and that she appreciates the energy level of the students.

*Dave Vigliano*



## BCES PBIS Honors Superheroes with Special Breakfast

The October Superheroes at BCES received their honors in the School Cafeteria on the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month with a special pancake breakfast. The special breakfast was awarding students from all grade levels certificates of outstanding behavior during the second month of school. The group earned "Superheroes" Identity Cards with their photos and expandable bracelets that say, "Stand Up, Speak Out Against Bullying." The theme for the month was Anti-Bullying. Special thanks go out to the PBIS Team Coordinators, Nicole Cortes and Brittany Davis, and the cafeteria staff for decorating, preparing and serving the delicious food.

## BCES SGA Collects Food for Donation to Fallsburg Community

SGA Faculty Advisor Peter Dworetzky was pleased with the effort put forth by students from the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade SGA. The students collected throughout BCES during the two weeks before Thanksgiving. Mr. Dworetzky delivered all the food collected to the Fallsburg High School, where it was added to the food collected at that building. All the food was then distributed to the local food banks in Hurleyville and South Fallsburg. Mr. Dworetzky told all the kids who participated that 60 families would benefit from the food they collected in order to have a special Thanksgiving. The students were happy that they could bring joy to other children and families in the town of Fallsburg.







FALLSBURG SPORTS NEWS



JV Girls Basketball



Modified Girls Basketball



Varsity Girls Basketball



Varsity Boys Indoor Track



Modified Wrestling



Modified Indoor Track



Varsity Ski Team



Varsity Girls Indoor Track



Varsity Wrestling







# 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 ★ Ms. Fiorella Muscia ★
- ★ 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</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>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. Michele McCoy</b>	Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services	434-6800 Ext. 1276
<b>Ms. Dawne Adams</b>	High School Principal	434-6800 Ext. 2206
<b>Mr. Louis Trombetta</b>	Interim 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>Dr. Aleta Lymon</b>	Family & Community Liaison	434-6800 Ext. 1223
<b>Central Registration</b>		434-6800 Ext. 1222
<b>Tax Collection</b>		434-6800 Ext. 1219

### FAX NUMBERS...

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

### 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	Date	Event	Time	Location
1/2/20	School resumes			2/19/20	Board of Ed. Mtg.	6:15	MS Board Rm.
1/8/20	Board of Ed. Mtg.	6:15	MS Board Rm.		Budget Workshop #3		
2/19/20	Budget Workshop #3			2/20/20	HS Pops Concert	7pm	HS Audit.
<b>1/20/20</b>	<b>School Closed</b>			2/25/20	HS Pops Concert snow date		
1/22/20	Board of Ed. Mtg.	6:15	MS Board Rm.	3/4/20	Board of Ed. Mtg.	6:15	MS Board Rm.
	Budget Workshop #1				Budget Workshop #4		
1/29/20	BCES Winter Concert #2	7pm	BCES Cafet.	3/18/20	Blood Drive	8am - 3pm	HS Gym
1/30/20	BCES Winter Concert #2 snow date				Board of Ed. Mtg.	6:15	MS Board Rm.
2/5/20	Board of Ed. Mtg.	6:15	MS Board Rm.		Budget Workshop #5		
	Budget Workshop #2			3/27-28	Addams Family	7pm	HS Audit.
2/7/20	Early Dismissal			4/1/20	The Board of Ed. Mtg.	6:15	MS Board Rm.
<b>2/17/20</b>	<b>School Closed</b>						