

FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL COMET NEWS

BACK-TO-SCHOOL 2019

EDITOR - SHELLEY MARCUS ★ ASSOCIATE EDITOR - SARAH SATZ ★ CONTRIBUTING EDITOR - LARRY SCHAFMAN

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Dear School Community Member:

Happy late summer! I realize that we are still enjoying the remaining weeks of summer as I welcome you back to a brand new school year. I hope that the summer break has given you special moments filled with rest, relaxation and a bit of adventure. Below are a few updates that I would like you to be aware of as we prepare to begin the 2019-20 school year.

Building Project Update

As you may know, building project work continued this summer at the Jr/Sr HS and at BCES. Because the majority of the work has to take place over the summer months, there will be several areas that will not be completed until next summer. Many of our ceilings will not have tiles replaced until the project work is completed next summer. There may be other unfinished areas as well. We are making sure that all of those areas are safe and functional while we wait for the project to get completed. Please excuse our appearance in the interim. I would like to thank you in advance for bearing with us as we move through the various project phases. Building project work is, unfortunately, not a perfect science, but, in the end, we will have much improved facilities that will serve our school community well for the years to come.

School Improvement Update

We will be implementing several initiatives in 2019-20 designed to continue improvements in curriculum and instruction, and, ultimately, student achievement. Consistent with our district comprehensive improvement plan (DCIP), and Jr/Sr High School's school comprehensive education plan (SCEP), we will require teachers to develop and post high-quality, standards-aligned learning objectives daily, in their classes. Teachers and instructional leaders will develop these standards-aligned objectives during conference day activities, with follow-up support from administration. Later in the fall we will introduce a gradual release model (GRM) of instruction. This will be a systems approach to what many teachers do already, in their classrooms: i.e., transferring the responsibility in the learning process from the teacher to the student. The goal of this model is to provide appropriate instruction, moving students towards greater independence.

Additional improvements are in our continued expansion in bilingual education. The Benjamin Cosor Elementary School's dual language program will extend into third grade. The Jr/Sr HS will begin a transitional bilingual education program in grades 9-10 social studies in 2019-20.

Also, at BCES, teachers will implement new core programs in K-3 science (Science 21) and K-6 social studies (Pearson's myWorld).

Please enjoy the remaining days of summer as we prepare to meet and greet the 2019-20 school year!

I wish us all a fulfilling and successful school year!

Educationally yours,

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

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Fifteen Annual FAA Reunion Honors Graduates Past and Present

Dozens of Fallsburg community celebrants came to the Woodbourne Firehouse on July 20, 2019 for the Fifteenth Annual Fallsburg Alumni Association (FAA) Reunion. FAA Treasurer Eileen Kalter acknowledged Mona Bogan for her service as a Retired FCSD Staff person. Vice President Renee Kates awarded Albee Bockman as the Alumnus Honoree. President McKenny-Snead introduced FAA Scholarship winners Jennifer Chavez, Jahaira Cordero, Edita Lulanaj, Jessica Martinez Cadena, and Dawn Ruhren.

This year's *Sheryl Kalter Memorial Award* recipient was Bayleigh Dinkel. The *Robynne Anderman Memorial Award* was presented to Samantha Perna by BOE Member and mother of Robynne Anderman, Mrs. Arlene Hussey.

Special new awards were given to Shawn Leszczynski and Hayley Weiner in the name of retired and long beloved teacher in FCSD, Jack Leshner. Mr. Leshner, along with many members of his close-knit family, was so pleased to be there to present the initial awards. He spoke eloquently about success and what fine citizens and students Shawn and Hayley are. He had no doubt that they will bring great pride to their wonderful families and to Fallsburg.

Next, FCSD Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Ivan Katz introduced Lester Cohen as newest member of the Fallsburg Hall of Fame. A 1968 Fallsburg Central High School graduate, Mr. Cohen became a highly recognized Opto-Mechanical Engi-



neer. He has enjoyed a forty-plus year career at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, MA. His work includes support for all aspects of the latest space telescopes. One of his projects is The James Webb Space Telescope that is scheduled for launch late Spring 2021.



Mr. Cohen reminded everyone of the auspicious anniversary the nation is celebrating now, the fiftieth anniversary of the moon landing on July 20, 1969. Quite a day to join the Fallsburg Hall of Fame.

Update: Mr. Jack Leshner, unfortunately, passed away on August 27th. Mr. Leshner's presence will be missed in our community.



Migrant Education Salutes Parents in Fallsburg

After a full month of activities and learning, the Mid-Hudson Migrant Tutorial and Support Services (Migrant Ed) celebrated with Noche de Padres - Night of the Parents, on July 26, 2019 in the auditorium and cafeteria at Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School. Migrant Ed conducts programs throughout the school year in several school districts in Sullivan County, including Fallsburg, Liberty and Monticello. They held a special summer program in the FHS that had the theme of Water.



The evening program consisted of greetings and introductions in the Auditorium; Yoga for everybody; presentations by the students of their projects on Water; and refreshments in the Cafeteria.

Different classes of students focused on such topics as fresh water versus salt water; the water cycle; fish and animals that live under the sea; and the Hudson River. To learn more about these environments and concepts, students enjoyed field trips to nearby Lake Superior, Coney Island and the New



York Aquarium and crossing the mighty Hudson River on the way back and forth to New York City.

Children like Dave Kaleta and Maria Romero studied fresh vs. salt water and learned why they can float more easily at the ocean than at a lake because of the greater density of the salt water. Coney Island and the Aquarium were especially great learning experiences and lots of fun.

The dozens of proud parents and siblings of the students loved all the exhibits and the presentations as they listened attentively to their children share their knowledge and experience. Great thanks go out to all the teachers and tutors from Mid-Hudson Migrant Ed for their inspiration and support of this special community in Sullivan County.

People with Special Abilities Help Bring Nature to Life in Fallsburg

Many Sullivan County hands have worked diligently to complete the hiking trail surrounding Fallsburg's Benjamin Cosor Elementary School for the past three years.

During the summer of 2019 work was focused on the Trail Head, the actual beginning section of the path. On Saturday, June 15th, a large group of workers were busy.

Kiwanis of Woodridge, New York Foundation, Inc. has adopted this section. With a donation of funding,

people power, other grant funding, and gifts of materials from various sources, the work is well underway. The goal is to have this section and the remaining items done by September for the opening of school.

Woodridge Kiwanis has been devoted to FCSD for many years. K-Kids have been active in the Elementary School, Builders Club in the Junior High, and Key Club in the High School. Now Kiwanis International has a local *Aktion Club* composed of individuals with special abilities from The Center for Discovery, Sullivan ARC and New Hope Community.

Ms. Kim Loucks, Program Director at ARC, is the Coordinator for the *Aktion Club*. It is the only community-service club

for adults living with disabilities. It allows members to develop initiative and leadership skills in serving their communities while enabling their integration into society.

Kiwanians *Sue Kasofsky*, *Diane Garritt*, and *Sean Wall-Carty* were helping. Sean is President this year and serves on the FCSD Board of Education. He brought his daughter *Jordyn*, who is graduating sixth grade at BCES and his son *Avery*, a third grader. BOE Member *Jennifer Reinhardt* brought four strong young men from her work at Fallsburg's Dynamite Youth Center (DYC). BOE Member *Mike Weiner* was there helping do some of the work on behalf of his wife and Kiwanian *Jill*, who was unable to attend. Overseeing the entire project was *Ms. Leah Exner*, first grade teacher at BCES.

My Brother's Keeper Program Meets with the Fallsburg Community

FCSD Family Liaison and Community Coordinator Dr. Aleta Lymon coordinated four events this summer at some of the larger resident community housing areas in the Town of Fallsburg. The events were to share information on My Brother's Keeper Program (MBK) for the coming school year about graduation requirements, what's new, and to build relationships with the community.

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FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

It is my honor to introduce myself as the new principal of the Fallsburg Junior Senior High School. I am excited to be joining the Fallsburg family and look forward to this new school year. I can tell already that this is a special place.

I come to Fallsburg with over 20 years of experience in both rural and urban school districts. I have lived all my life in New York State and am a graduate of SUNY Oneonta and SUNY Brockport. My career began as a teacher in Delaware County. I worked with NYC Department of Education developing internship opportunities for students and teaching students in all five boroughs. Most recently I was the Associate Principal and Coordinator of the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (PTECH) program at Binghamton City Schools. During my time at Binghamton I was able to increase opportunities for students to earn college credit while in high school

and provide pathways for students' future success by developing work based learning and internship opportunities. I also developed several summer enrichment experiences for students.

I have been lucky enough to work with excellent teachers, staff and communities throughout my career and I am sure Fallsburg will be no exception. I pride myself on my ability to build relationships with staff, students, community and families with whom I work. I look forward to being a champion for all the dedicated people at Fallsburg who help to prepare our students for success now and in the future.

As we prepare for the school year, we will welcome several other new faces in addition to myself. Mr. Lou Trombetta comes to us as the interim assistant principal. Mr. Trombetta recently served as interim Principal at Liberty and we are very fortunate to have him with us this year. Officer Phil Brooks will be the new School Resource Officer (SRO) at

the JSHS. Officer Brooks has been with Fallsburg PD for 14 years and has been a substitute resource officer in both Fallsburg schools. He is looking forward to seeing some familiar faces and joining our staff. We also welcome Ms. Antoinette Sorrentino as our school nurse. Ms. Sorrentino started at the JSHS in April of last year and we welcome her back to the building. Additionally, we will have Ms. Irina Lames joining as the bilingual social studies teacher, Ms. Billie Hanlon and Mr. Tyler Herman will be substitute teachers in the Special Education department and Mr. Irvin Lemus as a Teacher Aide this year.

Please feel free to stop in to introduce yourself or to contact me with questions or concerns at dadams@fallsburgcsd.net or (845) 434-6800 ext. 2206.

Dawne Adams

FROM THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

On behalf of the staff at BCES, we would like to welcome our students, families and friends back to another great year! If you are joining us for the first time, or have been with us through the years, welcome!

Over the summer, our custodians have been busy preparing our building for the start of the school year. Our teachers have been preparing their classrooms and spent the last week of August in professional development workshops to better support our students both socially and academically. We are very excited to offer new learning opportunities for our students and hone in on specific skills to support their learning needs.

During the 2019-20 school year, students will participate in:

Science 21 (Grades K-3) is an inquiry-based elementary school science program, developed "by teachers for teachers," that includes comprehensive curriculum guides, materials kits, and staff development services. As an inquiry-based program, students study the natural world and construct meaning and explanations based upon evidence that they derive from their activities.

Pearson myWorld is an Interactive Social Studies Program (Grades K-6) that encourages students to explore their world, expand their thinking, and engage with social studies content and the C3 Framework (College, Career and Civics Life Frameworks).

MAP Reading Fluency is an online adaptive reading assessment for Kindergarten through 3rd grade students. It

measures foundational reading skills, with an emphasis on oral fluency. This program will replace DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) which was used for over ten years as our early reading fluency measure.

B.R.A.V.E.S. program sponsored by Sweethearts and Heroes will train 6th graders to support our younger students to empower them as bystanders. Two teachers will be trained to work with groups of 6th graders who will provide mini-lessons to our students in grades 1-3 during the school year. The goal of BRAVES is to create a self-directed culture that empowers bystanders to 'Jump into Action' and to support peers in the "ABC's" of anti-bullying.

We would like to invite our parents/guardians to attend our Open House event on Thursday, September 19th to learn more about our programs. The event will begin in the BCES Cafeteria at 6:00 pm.

For up-to-date information about school events, please follow us on Facebook @Benjamin Cosor Elementary School!

We look forward to working with you and your child this year. If you have any questions at any time, please reach out to your child's teacher or me.

Respectfully yours,

Mary Kate Stinehour and the BCES staff

FROM THE ELEMENTARY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Welcome back! It seems every year the summer vacation goes by faster and faster! It is difficult to believe that September is almost here. We hope that everyone had a restful and relaxing vacation, and is ready to tackle the challenges of the new school year.

Children face many challenges during the academic year. There are times when a student's parent or guardian may feel that s/he needs help to resolve those problems. In some instances, both the child and the parent do not know who to turn to for help.

The use of the Fallsburg Central School District website is a good place for a parent to get the help that s/he needs. When a person goes to the District's website, s/he will find, at the top, a list of subjects that begins, on the left, with "District," and ends, on the right, with "Contact Us." If the user clicks on the "Contact Us" tab, and then, on "Whom to Contact," s/he will see a chart whose title is, **"WHO DO I CALL/EMAIL WITH A QUESTION OR SUGGESTION?"** This chart provides for the step-by-step problem-solving process.

Dave Viglione

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My Brother's Keeper Program Meets with the Fallsburg Community

At each event, there was either a barbecue or sandwiches and fried chicken with different choices of salads. Chips and snacks were also served as well as ice cream for dessert.

A special treat occurred in the 90-degree heat on August 17th, when the Woodridge Fire Department brought a pumper truck and sprayed the children and others with a cooling water spray. The kids squealed with delight. At Main Street Houses, Chef Lymon changed the menu and grilled fresh chicken cutlets. They were a big hit along with the hamburgers and hot dogs.

The children and parents had a great time with Dr. Lymon, who was assisted by Debra Castillo of FCSD Food Services and bilingual teachers Victoria Alzate and Veronica Serrano. It was a special way to update the community and reach new members for the MBK Program.



Children played lawn games, colored special cloth backpacks from MBK, and enjoyed donations of crayons and vinyl back packs offered by New Hope Community.

The events occurred on Saturday, August 10th at Lake View Apartments in Loch Sheldrake from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm; Monday, August 12th at Beverly Garden Apartments in South Fallsburg from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm; Saturday, August 17th at Woodridge Housing Authority, Woodridge from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm; and Monday, August 19th at Main Street Houses, South Fallsburg from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.



2019-2020 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	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5																	1	2					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14															
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21															
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28															
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	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	3	4							1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31					26	27	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	2			1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29				
31																					30	31								

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

SCHOOL CLOSED

SEPTEMBER	.....	30
OCTOBER	.....	9, 14
NOVEMBER	.....	11, 20-22
DECEMBER	.....	23-31
JANUARY	.....	1, 20
FEBRUARY	.....	17
MARCH	.....	0
APRIL	.....	20-27
MAY	.....	25

SCHOOL DAYS

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

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

MAKE-UP DAYS

Day 1	.....	2/17
Day 2	.....	4/13
Day 3	.....	4/6
Day	.....	4/7

* 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:	.....	5/22
If 2 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/14
If 3 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/14, 4/15
If 4 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/14, 4/15, 4/3
If 5 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/3, 4/14, 4/15, 3/3
If 6 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/2, 4/3, 4/14, 4/15, 3/13
If 7 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/2, 4/3, 4/14, 4/15, 3/13, 2/14
If 8 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/2, 4/3, 4/14, 4/15, 3/13, 2/14, 2/18
If 9 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/2, 4/3, 4/14, 4/15, 3/13, 2/14, 2/18, 5/26
If 10 remain:	.....	5/22, 4/2, 4/3, 4/14, 4/15, 3/13, 2/14, 2/18, 5/26, 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 ★ 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...

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
Ms. Jane Tingley	Director of Staff Evaluation & Student Data	434-6800 Ext. 1257
Ms. Leighanne Russell	Pupil Personnel Director	434-6800 Ext. 1273
Ms. Dawne Adams	High School Principal	434-6800 Ext. 2206
Mr. Louis Trombetta	Interim 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
9/4	First Day of School		
	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
9/12	Jr/Sr HS Picture Day		
9/18	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
9/30	School Closed		
10/2	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
10/9	School Closed		
10/11	Emergency Go Home Drill		
10/14	School Closed		
10/16	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
10/25	Half Day – Early Dismissal		

Date	Event	Time	Location
11/1	School Closed – Conference Day		
11/5	Election Day – Don't Forget to Vote		
11/6	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
11/11	School Closed		
11/20	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
11/27-29	School Closed		
12/4	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
12/11	School Closed – Conference Day		
12/18	BOE Mtg.	6:15pm	Middle School Bd. Rm.
12/23-1/20	School Closed		
1/2/20	School resumes		