

FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL COMET NEWS

June 2021

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER



Dear School Community Member:

I hope this issue of the Comet newsletter finds you in the best of health and spirit as the summer season is finally arriving. The 2021-22 budget season resulted in a budget and building proposition that passed on May 18th. On behalf of the Fallsburg Central School District, I would like to thank the school community for continuing to support us!

The Board of Education

Congratulations to Jennifer Reinhardt, Michael Weiner and Dr. Sean Wall-Carty for winning their board seats! We wish all our board members success in their future endeavors.

Budget Update

The approved budget for the 2021-22 school year is \$47,994,681. This is the budget number that the public voted on and approved on May 18th. The tax levy that goes along with this budget number is a 0% increase over the previous tax levy

Building Project Update

The final leg of our current building project will take place this summer. Security upgrades will take place in both of our buildings. Among other things, we will be adding security vestibules at the entrances of both school buildings and most of our doors will be replaced. This will make the building more secure and safer for students, staff and our school community.

The Class of 2021

Finally, I would like to take a moment to congratulate the graduating class of 2021. Graduation day will be their special time to step over the threshold of high school and walk into a new world of wonder and opportunities. This graduating class has endured a pandemic and survived it with flying colors. This was no small achievement. On behalf of the Fallsburg Central School District, I wish the graduating class of 2021 the very best of everything in the years to come.

Thank you.

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

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FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL

From the Jr./Sr. High Principal

Dear Fallsburg Community,

This year has been one of the most difficult in the history of education. Out of our biggest challenges, however, arise some incredible stories of strength, perseverance, and success. Over the course of this year, I have seen:

- Students successfully logging in to virtual classes and achieving excellent grades
- Athletes excelling and playing at their highest levels
- Clubs and extracurricular activities doing whatever it takes to continue to serve their communities and help others in need
- Teachers and other staff members going above and beyond to help students continue to learn and grow despite the limitations of technology
- Parents pulling double duty as online learning tutors and mentors

- Students helping other students combat feelings of isolation
- Central administration providing consistent leadership, guidance, and positivity
- Incredible classroom projects and other innovative lessons

I want to give a special shout out to the Fallsburg Class of 2021! We are so proud of our seniors who graduated this year, and we can't wait to watch your success! You are truly an inspiration and I know that you will go on to new adventures and you will change the world.

I would never pretend that this year has been all good - many struggled, that is clear. But what is also clear is that the Fallsburg Family is unbeatable. This year, despite these challenges, we had drive-thru BBQ's, virtual assemblies, parades, and even in-person graduation ceremonies. We held virtual celebrations for scholarships, honor roll, and the National Honor Society. PBIS also held "on-a-roll" celebrations and honored staff members of the month. We were

virtually visited by professional athletes, actors, musicians, motivational speakers, and even a NASA Scientist.

As the world continues to reopen and begin a return to normalcy, I look forward to working with each one of you. Parents, students, faculty, staff, and administrators, all play a key role. We will continue to support each other and work together to support our students' academic growth, mental health, and social development.

On a personal level, I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome you have provided me. Joining a new school during a pandemic will naturally be challenging, but the kindness this community has shown me has helped me feel "at home" here since day one. I love being part of the Fallsburg Family, and I can't wait for September!

Yours truly,

Kyle Roddey

Jr./Sr. High School Principal

From the Jr./Sr. HS Assistant Principal

Dear Fallsburg Community,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the Fallsburg community who has helped to make my first year here as Assistant Principal such an enjoyable and rewarding experience. While this year has been quite unique in its particular challenges, what I have discovered is that our school community of students, staff, and families have risen to the occasion time and time again. Our challenges have been numerous, but so have our successes and for that we should be proud. From holding virtual class meetings, to saying good morning at arrival, to fielding questions about going outside for recess, I have come to appreciate all the small moments that make up our day to day here at Fallsburg Junior Senior High School.

To the graduating Class of 2021, I wish you all the best and much success as you enter the next chapter of your lives - you have finished your high school career amidst a worldwide pandemic and the stories you will have to share years from now will be shaped by your experiences here. To our families and students, I wish you a safe, happy, and healthy summer. I am looking forward to all that the 2021-22 school year will bring. Take some time to rest, relax, read a great book, and enjoy the small moments of summer, as when you look back, they are often the most enjoyable ones.

See you in September!

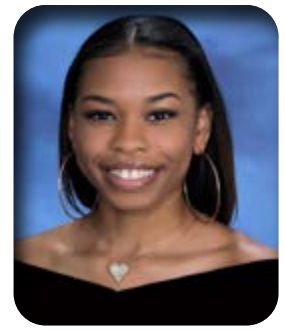
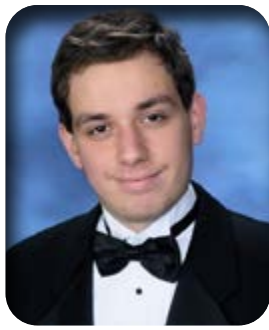
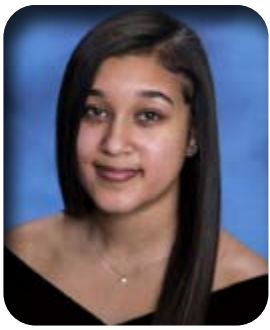
Shana Bruestle

Fallsburg Announces Scholarship Recipients

For the past seventy years, Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD) has honored academic and community service achievement with the award of Samuel Beytin Community Scholarships and several other awards named in honor and memory of former FCSD staff members.



On May 13th, Mrs. Sonja Ferreira, Faculty Guidance Counselor for the Class of 2021, announced the recipients. The Community Scholarship Awards go to Neema Darboe, Haddy Gai, Cody Harvey, Dolce McPherson, Jamie Rein, and Nevaeh Valree. The Blossom Cohen Award recipient is Enni Li. Gianna Matthews earned the Candy Gold Memorial Scholarship. The Esthyr Mintz Flanagan Award winner is Janelly Santos Lopez. Daniel



Milov received the Edward Bryan Award. Cody Harvey and Enni Li were recognized as Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Class of 2021.

Congratulations to these fine scholars that excelled in the classroom, in extra-curricular activities and in service to the school and greater Fallsburg community. Thanks to the Scholarship Fund committee for their time and effort in selecting these worthy

students. If you would like to make a donation in support of these scholarships, checks made payable to SBFCCSF should be mailed to Renee Kates, SBFCCSF Treasurer, PO Box 372, Woodridge, NY 12789.

Athletes Shine

Here is the athletic awards and photo slideshow for 2020-2021. Please join me in congratulating all the award winners! Special thanks to Ms. Baum and the SGA and Ms. Smith. https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vShcxC_CfB3zZc-9g_Q_61AQK6k0dPU1mIHC8FFfGKrb3lFtajC0aFlQfqlHk_EwV6_u3XrApjnkqS/pub?start=true&loop=true&delayms=3000&slide=id.g85b84ace31_0_30

FCSD Selects Esther Grossman for Hall of Fame



Esther Lelah Grossman was selected for FCSD Hall of Fame (HOF) by the HOF Committee on March 15, 2021. Mrs Grossman taught Physical Education at Fallsburg High School for more than 35 years. During that time, she was the Athletic Director and coach. Mrs. Grossman was a role model to her students and helped many of them obtain college degrees. She coached championship teams in field hockey and volleyball.

Mrs. Grossman was very active in the Fallsburg community. She owned and operated Pleasant Valley Day Camp, where many children spent happy summers. Her love of athletics was a life-long commitment. She trained and took under her wing many other teachers and coaches. She was a mentor to them and to hundreds of students and campers.

The letters in support of her nomination were unanimous in the gratitude for transforming shy young girls with low self-esteem and no sense of any athletic ability into strong young women. In and outside of class, she was always encouraging people, and she did it all with a great sense of humor.

After retiring from FCSD, Mrs. Grossman continued with the day camp. Indicative of her joy of life and physical exercise, she remained active after moving to Florida. She courageously

battled with ALS over the last year of her life. She raised over \$8000 for the ALS Walk in her local community just before she died in 2010.

Her close friend and protégé as a P.E. teacher and coach at FCSD, Ms. Donna Rae Robitaille, nominated Esther for the HOF. Years earlier Ms. Robitaille established the Esther Grossman Scholarship at Fallsburg High School.

Hopefully, there will be a ceremony to present the HOF plaque to Esther Grossman's family in July.

English for New Learners' Annual Expo

On June 11, 2021, the English as a New Language (ENL) teachers at Fallsburg Central School District (FCSD) showcased the creative work performed by students throughout the district with an event for parents and families. This is a special opportunity for the families to speak with school staff and to receive information on the importance of literacy in English and Spanish.



Under the entrance alcove to Benjamin Cosor Elementary School, the entire ENL staff, Migrant Education support services staff and Pupil Personnel services staff from both school buildings showered the children with refreshments, prizes and gifts. In the past events, the children's art work and special projects were displayed on the walls and tables in the school Cafeteria. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, the festivities were held in the open air. Organizers from ENL created a wonderful slide show to present students' work for families to feel their pride and to congratulate their children. Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Ivan Katz, interviewed individual parents, families and staff with his new hand-held mini video camera.

Families enjoyed pizza, soft drinks, and other snacks provided by the hosts. A special thank you to Stewart's Shops for their generous donations of ice cream cone certificates to each of the children. The organizers also provided Fallsburg t-shirts and face masks. Prize bags were raffled off to families.

These families place a high value on education and on learning English as a new language. This event allowed them to acknowledge the teachers at FCSD and the Migrant Education Program for the great work they do and for the love they have for their children.

Celebrating Academic Excellence in Fallsburg

On May 10, 2021, Principal Kyle Roddey and Assistant Principal Shana Bruestle, paid a special visit to the homes



of graduating seniors, Ennie Li and Cody Harvey. They were carrying large signs with Cody's photo identifying him as Class of 2021 Valedictorian and Ennie as Class Salutatorian. Principal Roddey congratulated them for the amazing scholastic achievement and the hard work they and their families put forth. The signs were placed on the front lawns of their houses and be visible for neighbors and passersby to see.

Accompanying the administrators were FCSD Director of Physical Education and Athletics, Suzanne Lenzian and Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services Michele McCoy. Mr. Roddey and Ms. Lenzian asked each student if they were okay to give their speeches twice on graduation day, June 26th.

Cody and Ennie are good friends, and they both will be attending SUNY Binghamton in the fall. He will be studying computer science, and she will be studying Biology, with an interest in Physical Therapy.

FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The students and staff of BCES would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the graduating class of 2021! We wish you the very best that life has to offer. With hard work and determination, you can accomplish anything!

To our students and their families, we wish you a safe, healthy and relaxing summer. We hope your days are filled with love, laughter and adventure! Please take some time to read a good book and write us a letter. We would love to hear from you!

Mary Kate Stinehour

BCES Principal
mstinehour@fallsburgcsd.net

From the Elementary Assistant Principal

Creetings and Happy June to One and All!!

As I type this article, it occurs to me that even with, or perhaps because of, everything that we have experienced during the 2020-2021 academic year, time has flown by. I wish the departing grade six students nothing but the best as they head to the junior-senior high school, and I look forward to seeing the rest of the student body, along with the "new faces" of our kindergarten and pre-K students in September.

Have a fun and restful summer!!

Dave Vigilione

BCES K Kids Lead the Way in Beautifying Our World

On May 22nd, a group of K Kids from Fallsburg's Benjamin Cosor Elementary School (BCES) gathered along the Woodridge Rails to Trails to plant several brightly colored annual plants in the replica of miniature railroad cars. K-Kids are part of the Ecology Club and a branch of the Woodridge Kiwanis Club. Supervising the activity were Kiwanis Vice President and staff member of BCES, Debbie Jacobsen and her daughter, Kirsten Cerrone, who is a landscaper. The Ecology Club Co-advisors, Dawn McCarthy and Lori Lindridge, welcomed the students and their parents. They immediately took up trowels to plant the petunias, marigolds, spike, and other annuals.

The members of the Club are third graders Addison Eckerson, Ariel Payne, Kimberly Duncan and Zhara Snead; and fifth grader Zayd Snead. Attending the planting was Woodridge Mayor Joan Collins, who first asked Debbie and Kirsten to organize the project. The Village paid for the plants and will water

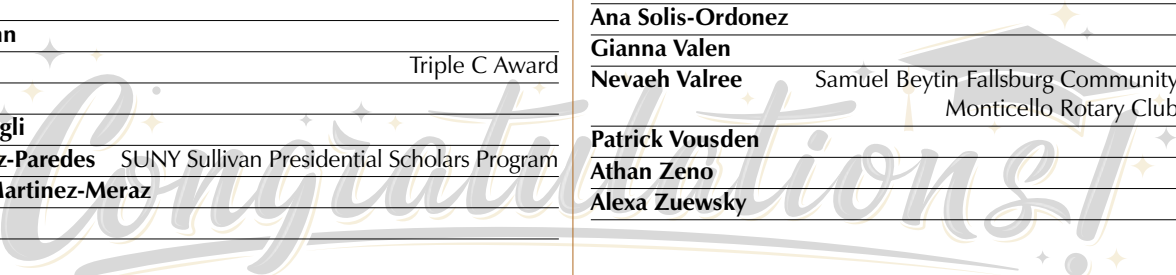
and maintain them. Woodridge is applying for a Sullivan Renaissance Grant to beautify various locations with flowers.

BCES staff member Amanda O'Neill joined in the planting. Debbie's three-year old great niece, Ruzzi, was clearly one of the stars of the morning along with the K-Kids. The club has been selling dog bone cut-outs for \$5.⁰⁰ (large bone) and \$1.⁰⁰ (small), and they will continue through the end of the school year. All proceeds will benefit the Rock Hill SPCA and Rocky's Rescue in Liberty, which is a local spay/neuter clinic. These young people are dedicated to taking care of the planet and keeping it healthy and beautiful.



Name	Awards
Cody Harvey	Valedictorian
Arthur Townsend - Abe Wasserman Award for Excellence in Mathematics, Eugene Feldman - Sandra Williams Award for Excellence in English, Jack Leshner - Trudy Kapito Award for Excellence in Social Studies, Samuel Beytin Award for Excellence in Science Spanish Award	
Ennie Li	Salutatorian
The New York State Award for Academic Excellence Blossom Cohen Memorial Scholarship Salon Memorial Scholarship	
Lindita Ahmetaj	
Ava Anderman	Vocal Musicianship Award Hertz-LaRuffa Scholarship Fallsburg Alumni Award 2021 Athletic Community Scholarship Citizenship Award
Gabriella Aragon	
Mindy Asitimbay	
Matthew Bassett	
Lyana Nayely Bonilla-Hernandez	
Kiona Bou	
Jaiden Brenner	Art Award
Dicziana Campos-Fuentes	
Velkys Canales-Mendoza	NYS Award for Academic Excellence
Gloriana Capicchioni	
Tamia Caston	Hertz-LaRuffa Scholarship
Angelina Colletti	Mel Mednick Memorial Scholarship
Bianca Cruceta	SUNY Sullivan Presidential Scholars Program
Kelsie Curry	
Fatoumatta Darboe	
Neema Darboe	Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship
Joshua DelaRosa	
Areli Diaz	
Thomas Doolittle Jr.	
Shayla Dunston	
Steve Duroseau II	
Joshua Espinoza	
Nicholas Fraser	2021 Athletic Community Scholarship
Haddy Gai	Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship Fallsburg Alumni Award Timothy Hill Memorial Scholarship The Jocelyn Levner-Nissenbaum Memorial Scholarship Brian Ingber Memorial Foundation, Inc. Achievement Award
Joseph Garcia	
Enjelay George	
Alexandra Gabriela Gonzalez-Caballero	
Jonathan Granados	
Elmin Edgardo Granados-Gomez	2021 Athletic Community Scholarship
Christian Granados-Sandoval	
Jacob Hannold	Citizenship Award
Cristhofer Hernandez-Moreno	
Shane Houghtaling	
Logan Huebsch	
Essence Jackson	
Kostantinos Karamitos	
David Lee	
Taylor Lehmann	
Madison Lent	Triple C Award
Peter Lutman	
Andrea Maccagli	
Amy Manjarrez-Paredes	SUNY Sullivan Presidential Scholars Program
Olvin David Martinez-Meraz	
Isiah Mathews	

Name	Awards
Gianna Matthews	Candy Gold Memorial Scholarship
Dolce McPherson	Girl's Physical Education Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship The Fallsburg Alumni Award in Honor of Jack Leshner Fallsburg Lions Annual Achievement Award The Coach Mike Weiner Scholarship Monticello Rotary Club Scholarship
Emily Mead	SUNY Sullivan Presidential Scholars Program
Kevin Medina-Garzon	
Karen Magaly Melara-Reyes	
Gabriel Mendoza	
Kasandra Mendoza	
Kayla Millas	Hertz-LaRuffa Scholarship
Daniel Milov	Edward Bryan Memorial Scholarship Seymour and Minnie Feldman Scholarship Fallsburg Alumni Award Sheryl Kalter Memorial Scholarship The Celia M. and Harry A. Dill Memorial Scholarship Christian Children Workshop Tyreek Robinson Never Give Up Scholarship
Carlos Adrian Molina-Morales	
Noah Moody	
Brayan Morales-Torres	
Madelin Moran-Lemus	SUNY Sullivan Presidential Scholars Program Hertz-LaRuffa Scholarship
Siomarelix Ocasio-Ortiz	
Juan Ortiz Jr.	
Genesis Nallely Osorio-Gutierrez	
Gabrielle Pantel	Hertz-LaRuffa Scholarship New York State Award for Academic Excellence Fallsburg Lions Annual Achievement Award Haddon C. Pantel Memorial Scholarship Sheryl Kalter Memorial Scholarship Sunna Rasch Memorial Scholarship For Excellence in the Performing Arts
Om Patel	
Jeremiah Peace	
Rachael Pena	
Areli Perez Grande	
Arne Peterson-Langeland	
Crystal Pinder	
Cristian Ramirez	
Jamie Rein	Instrumental Music Award Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship Fallsburg Alumni Award Fallsburg Lions Annual Achievement Award SUNY Sullivan Presidential Scholars Program 2021 Athletic Community Scholarship
Steven Rodriguez	
Mark Rodriguez Tellez	
Katya Rosales Reymundo	
Jonathan Rose	
Kailie Ruiz	Drama Award Vocal Musicianship Award
Janelly Santos Lopez	Esthyr Mintz-Flanagan Scholarship Fallsburg Alumni Award SUNY Sullivan Presidential Scholars Program
Betim Selimaj	
Madison Shene	
Ana Solis-Ordones	
Gianna Valen	
Nevaeh Valree	Samuel Beytin Fallsburg Community Scholarship Monticello Rotary Club Scholarship
Patrick Vousden	
Athan Zeno	
Alexa Zuewsky	



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

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

SCHOOL CLOSED

SEPTEMBER	7, 28
OCTOBER	12
NOVEMBER	11, 25 - 27
DECEMBER	23-31
JANUARY	1, 4, 18
FEBRUARY	12, 15
MARCH	12, 26, 29-31
APRIL	1, 2, 5
MAY	31

MAKE-UP DAYS

Day 1	5/21
Day 2	5/28

SCHOOL DAYS

SEPTEMBER	15
OCTOBER	20
NOVEMBER	17
DECEMBER	17
JANUARY	19
FEBRUARY	16
MARCH	20
APRIL	20
MAY	20
JUNE	19

TOTAL 185 + 4 CONF = 189

Amended: 4/30/21

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. Sally M. Sharkey Ed.D.	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. Michele McCoy	Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services	434-6800 Ext. 1276
Mr. Kyle Roddey	High School Principal	434-6800 Ext. 2206
Mrs. Shana Bruestle	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
Dr. Aleta Lymon	Family & Community Liaison	434-6800 Ext. 1223
Central Registration		434-6800 Ext. 1222
Tax Collection		434-6800 Ext. 1219

FAX NUMBERS...

Superintendent	434-8346
Business Office	434-0418
Fallsburg Jr./Sr. High School	434-0168
Benjamin Coser Elementary School.	434-0871

SCHOOL ADDRESSES...

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

Benjamin Coser 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.

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

July 8

Here is the link to join a Board of Education meeting: meet.google.com/ams-jbov-grd

Phone number to call in: 1-575-459-0023 (PIN: 343634508)