

HARPURSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HORNETS NEWS



HIGH ACHIEVEMENT • HIGH EXPECTATIONS

January 2024

SUPER FREAKS



more photos on page 10

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P.O. Box 147 | 54 Main Street | Harpursville, NY 13787



Letter from the superintendent

Dear Harpursville Community Members,

I hope this message finds you well and that your new year is off to a fantastic start filled with joy and positivity. As we settle into 2024, I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude and share some exciting updates.

First and foremost, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to making the holiday season at our school truly special. Your efforts and enthusiasm did not go unnoticed, and it's great to see the sense of community that exists at Harpursville.

We have welcomed Mr. Jim Mullins to our administrative team as the interim principal at W.A. Olmsted Elementary. He has had a great start meeting the staff, students, and parents. Mullins has a wealth of knowledge and experience as an educational leader. Along with recently retiring from Broome Tioga BOCES as the Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, he has performed successful elementary interim principalships at Chenango Valley and Chenango Forks. In addition to placing Mr. Mullins in WAO as the interim principal, the long-term principal position has been posted, and we look forward to reviewing applications as we work towards selecting the best candidate for this important role.

Throughout the holiday season, our schools were buzzing with talent, showcased through outstanding performances by our chorus and instrumental bands. The support from our community during these events is truly appreciated. Your presence makes a significant impact, and we are grateful for the encouragement provided not only during the holiday

season but throughout the entire year.

On a more practical note, we are actively working to improve school attendance across all levels. It's important to note that the New York State Education Department considers students with two or more absences per month as chronically absent. If you have a student struggling with attendance, please don't hesitate to reach out to our dedicated school counselors, social workers, or principals for support.

To the entire school community, thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to the success of our students and staff. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out. Let's make 2024 a year of continued growth, achievement, and positive experiences.

I wish you a prosperous and fulfilling New Year!

Warm regards,

Heath Georgia
Superintendent of Schools



Heath Georgia,
Superintendent



On Monday, Dec. 18, 10 seniors were welcomed by the Broome County Sheriff's Office to take a tour of both the Law Enforcement and Corrections divisions, as well as learn more about the work done by law enforcement every day to help keep our community safe.

Thank you, Broome County Sheriff's Office, for this great opportunity for some of our seniors!



District communication guidelines

Frequently, parents and other community members request help in knowing the best way to communicate with the school. The chart below will serve as a helpful resource. By contacting the following people in the prescribed order, you can be assured that your questions will be answered.

For questions about	1 st contact	2 nd contact	3 rd contact	4 th contact	5 th contact
Academics	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Director	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent
Behavior	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	Principal	Superintendent	
BOE Policies	District Clerk	Superintendent	Board of Education		
Budget	Business Admin	Superintendent			
Building Use	Admin Assistant	Principal	Superintendent		
Cafeteria	Director of Food Services	Business Admin	Superintendent		
Classroom Procedures	Teacher	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent	
Bus Behavior	Bus Driver	Head Bus Driver	Principal	Superintendent	
Co-Curricular	Advisor	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent	
Facilities	Director of Facilities	Business Admin	Superintendent		
Health Office	Nurse	Principal	Superintendent		
Scheduling	Guidance Office	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent	
Special Education	Teacher	CSE/CPSE Chairperson	Principal	Assistant Superintendent	Superintendent
Transportation	Head Bus Driver	Business Admin	Superintendent		

Fast Forward Business Law class

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, the Fast Forward Business Law class had the opportunity to visit the Broome County Courthouse to see our criminal justice system in action. While there, Ms. Judy Osburn, the Chief Clerk, spoke to the students about the procedures of the hearings and trials that were to take place.

Students witnessed a sentencing in one case and a hearing in another, with a sentencing date scheduled for March 2024. After the cases, Judge Cocchiola, the Assistant District Attorney, and the Defense Attorney spent extra time in the courtroom answering questions about the cases.

Students are looking forward to their two upcoming field trips to the Broome County Jail and 911 Center in mid-December and the Elmira Correctional Facility in January 2024.





A visit to the North Pole

Since the beginning of November, all the high school art classes have been busy working on a collaborative immersive art experience. The goals of the project are to design a work that will be an active experience for the viewers; to develop the students' ability to work as artists within a community of artists; and to have an artwork that will bring the broader community together. This project was developed following the recent tragic loss of Harpursville senior Makai Wilkinson. Through the students' processing of their grief, a vital concept emerged: art could help people come together and feel comforted by community. The theme of re-creating what a visit to the North Pole may feel like through the eyes of a child was decided upon.

Each student was able to contribute to the entire project by playing to their strengths, choosing segments to work on of interest and ability, and maintaining an overall shared group vision for the finished product. This process reflects the real-life work experience of being a part of a design team. Because the project started with group brainstorming and collecting ideas that met the theme, every student was able to contribute their own voice of what is special about the holiday season for them.

Students got eager to work once we decided on the key components. The Studio Art and Drawing and Painting classes would handle the details for the project, like making wreaths and portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Claus, sewing elf hats and ears, painting a winter scene on the doors, and developing an impressive entrance way for "Santa's" house. The photography class would develop elf portraits, using one another as models, stop-motion animations with a holiday theme, and address the technology components. The sculpture class would take care of the tree, which proved to be particularly challenging using cardboard! Luckily, we were able to receive a generous donation from nearby High Meadow Tree Farm of a live tree as well!

The project will culminate with the high school students dressing as Santa, Mrs. Claus, and elf helpers while the elementary classes come and hear a story and have a treat. The Foods class, with Judith Salton, will be baking the cookies that the students will be decorating and enjoying with their cup of cocoa before heading back to the elementary building. The visits will take place in the last week of school before the break.

The photos featured show some in-process images. The final unveiling of the finished project will be featured in next month's newsletter, so be on the lookout!





College Acceptances:

Congratulations to **Gracie Bomboy** on her acceptance to Wells College.

Congratulations to **Emily Higgins** on her acceptance to SUNY Broome in the Human Recourses Program.

Congratulations to **Ryan Kane** on his acceptance to SUNY Broome.

Congratulations to **Aubree Eberly-Robinson** on her acceptances to Russell Sage, Wells College, Keuka College, University of Hartford, and Houghton University

Congratulations to **Ashely VanHouten** on her acceptances to SUNY Delhi, SUNY Cobleskill, and Alfred State

District Directory

District Office(607) 693-8112

Board of Education

Heath Georgia, Superintendent

Tabaita Rhodes, Exec. Asst./District Clerk

Assistant Superintendent(607) 693-5713

Sarah Miller, Asst. Supt. of Instruction, Curriculum & Accountability

Melanie Allen, Admin. Assistant

Business Office(607) 693-8120

Joseph McLaughlin, Business Official

Amanda Loihle, Personnel Clerk(607) 693-8124

Special Education(607) 693-8104

Joshua Quick, CSE/CPSE Chairperson

Jennifer DeCamp, Admin. Assistant

Jr/Sr High School(607) 693-8105

Kristine Conrow, Principal

Amy Walker, Admin. Assistant

Guidance Office.....(607) 693-5734

Karen Slesinsky, Jr/Sr HS Counselor

Megan Harrington, Jr/Sr HS Counselor

Cassandra Bakley, Admin. Assist.

Attendance/Registration(607) 693-8108

Jill Andrews, Student Records

W.A. Olmsted Elementary(607) 693-8115

Jim Mullins, Interim Principal

Jessica Moore-Hovancik, Admin. Assistant

Health Offices

Rebecca Adolf, RN, Jr/Sr High Nurse(607) 693-8118

Julia Peets, RN, WAO Elem. Nurse.....(607) 693-8119

Athletics(607) 693-8133

Joshua Quick, Athletic Director

Social workers:

Julianna Cox (607) 693-8105 ext. 3315

Food Services(607) 693-8127

Norene Tasber, Director of Food Services

Transportation(607) 693-8100

Dennis Symons, Head Bus Driver

Facilities.....(607) 765-4145

Ed Livermore

Family & Children's(607) 693-8123

Fabienne Lescouffair, Clinician

Class of 2030's Service Project

The class of 2030 collected donations for the Broome County Humane Society, such as pet food, treats, and toys, and even received a generous donation of \$65 as well as a \$25 PetSmart gift card. All donations were dropped off at the Humane Society, and they were very appreciative of all donations that would help many different animals. Thank you to all who helped donate to the class of 2030's service project!



HARPURVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS HIRING WE ARE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR

- Elementary principal (Pk-6)
- School Psychologist
- School Counselor (WAO Elementary)
- Substitute Teachers





Fun with science

Students in Deidra Bigelow's eighth grade science class learned about solutions recently. They made a supersaturated solution of Borax & water, then left pipe cleaners in it overnight to make some ornaments. Students enjoyed the project and think their ornaments are super neat!



Sharing the gift of reading

Kindergarteners have recently finished a reading unit all about "sharing the gift of reading" with others. They learned how to point to words as they read and to read snap words in pattern sentences throughout a book.

As a conclusion to the unit, kindergarteners in Victoria Grassi's class partnered up with kindergarteners in Grace Wahlberg's class to "give the gift of reading away" by sharing books with each other.





STEAM Challenge

Students in Deidra Bigelow's Real-World Science class were given a STEAM challenge to see how many books they could stack on only four sheets of printer paper. Students talked about bridges and the different shapes that are used to construct them and make them strong. Through many trials, they found the best shape and configuration—making the paper into a cylinder to distribute the weight and placing them just shy of the measurement of the book. Our winners were able to stack a total of 28 textbooks. The winners were Dan Clapper and Lukas McKnight.





200 chicken dinners

On Saturday, Dec. 9, Harpursville senior students helped prepare over 200 chicken dinners for community members to support Colesville Dollars for Scholars. Funds raised from the

dinner will go towards scholarships for graduating seniors. Thank you to all who helped prepare the event and to community members who supported our seniors!



Woman in Engineering' day

At the end of November, Megan Harrington and Paige LaVine took 15 sixth and seventh grade girls on a field trip to Lockheed Martin in Owego, NY. Every year, Lockheed Martin hosts a 'Woman in Engineering' day. The students were introduced to many women in different STEM careers and were given the opportunity to see what STEM professions are available in Broome County. The girls were also given the opportunity to play with different STEM activities, such as 3D printers, electronic circuits, robotics, plane simulators, and more! They all ended their day with pizza and cookies, and each student had a great day!





Doraville Schoolhouse Celebration

Back at the end of October, Colesville History students helped the Old Ononquaga Historical Society and the history clubs of both Harpursville and Windsor celebrate the 30th anniversary of the move of the Doraville Schoolhouse to its present location.

The celebration included open access to St. Luke's Museum, the Doraville Schoolhouse, and a wonderful display of memorabilia from the area's schoolhouses in the Town Hall. The many attendees enjoyed homemade cookies from the era as they shared stories of their own or family members' experiences in the one room schools. Several Harpursville teachers, such as Leslie Whaley and Nicole Cole, treated the public to story time in the schoolhouse. Yorkers Advisor and Social Studies teacher, Melissa Fye, was also an integral part of the program along with Kim Rusnak, who enjoyed dressing up as an 1860s schoolteacher.

Harpursville students ran a corn husk making station inside the Town Hall and an 1800s game station outside. It was a wonderful experience for all and there are hopes of making it a more regular event!





On December 1 and 2, the In-Motion Arts Guild of Harpursville presented this year's school play, "Super Freaks." This year's play was a lot of fun, and the students learned how to put on a play that not only can make people laugh but also reminds us all that it's okay to be a little bit crazy sometimes. A special thank you goes out to Anastasia Korenka-Robinson for all her work with the costumes and the makeup. The In-Motion Arts Guild of Harpursville would also like to extend a speedy 'thank you' to the community and all supporters of "Super Freaks." and congratulate all participating students on a job well done!





VOICES IN THE AUDITORIUM

Town of Colesville historians and members of the Colesville History class joined forces to bring the stories of local residents in the past to light. They each told the life story of a past resident of Harpursville, providing timelines and perspectives of the inhabitants of Colesville. Due to inclement weather, the event was moved to the high school auditorium. Together, even under different circumstances, the students and all the town historians involved, such as Beth Klutts (Secretary of the Old Ononquaga Historical Association),

Sam Conrad (Town of Colesville Historian), Christopher Lake (Harpursville class of 2006), and MaryKate DeVito (Vice President of the Old Ononquaga Historical Association), put on a fun and entertaining presentation for all who came.





Bowling Beasts

Congratulations to the Afton Harpursville girls bowling team who are the 2023 tipoff tournament champions!

Amber Kolb had a 228-handicap game for third highest. Jaelin Brown finished the day with 691 for second highest handicap series. Another strong day for having 3 first year bowlers who are starting to click and improving every day. Great job, girls!

Another congratulations to the Afton Harpursville boys bowling team who placed second in the 2023 tipoff tournament with a team score of 3550, losing by 5 pins. Aiden Smith had second high-handicap game of 286. The boys all bowled well over there average. Coach Robert Bronson said he is so proud of the improvements they are making!

*We have 3 players on this team: Nick Farnham, Easton Bagg, Brayden Barton from left to right on the bottom row.



Melissa Fye's Civic Participation class

Eighth grade students in Melissa Fye's Civic Participation class have spent the last several weeks spreading kindness and positivity around the Jr./Sr. High School and collecting donations for several area organizations, such as the Humane Society and the Colesville Food Pantry.





The National Honor Society and the National Junior Honor Society

On Tuesday, Dec. 19, Harpursville students in the National Honor Society and the National Junior Honor Society visited classrooms at W.A. Olmsted Elementary School.

NHS and NJHS students read books, sang sing-a-longs, played

Santa Says, shared what they wanted for Christmas, and got to color snowmen with students in elementary classes.

Everyone had a great time and enjoyed this little holiday treat!



Outstanding!

January 2024 menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		3 Mini Bagels WAO Frudel HS Boneless Chicken Wings Cornbread Poppers Veggie Cup Orange/Milk (Popcorn Chicken Salad)	4 Fr. Toast Sticks Fruit NY THURSDAY NY Yogurt Parfait w/NY BB & NY Granola WAO Carrots & Celery NY Juice NY Apple/Milk HS Chicken Wing Dip	5 Breakfast Breaks WAO Hornet Muffin HS Wild Mike's Pizza Garden Salad w/ chickpeas Asst. Fruit Milk
8 Breakfast Breaks WAO Hornet Muffin HS Wild Mike's Pizza Garden Salad w/ chickpeas Asst. Fruit Milk	9 Cinnamon Roll Fruit Ham & Cheese Melt on a Pretzel Roll Fries Peas Juice Asst. Fruit/ Milk	10 Breakfast Pizza Juice Fr. Toast Sticks Sausage Patty Potato Tots Veggie Cup Orange/ Milk (Chef Salad)	11 Fr. Toast Sticks Fruit NY THURDAY Chicken & Veggie Lo Mein Garlic Breadstick Broccoli NY Juice/ NY Apple Milk	12 Hornet Muffin All Stuffed Crust Pizza Garden Salad w/chickpeas Asst. Fruit/Milk
15  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. *** DAY ***	16 Breakfast Bread Fruit Cheeseburger on a roll w/ lettuce & tomato Sw. Potato Fries Green Beans Juice/ NY Apple/Milk	17 Bagel Brk. Pizza Juice Chicken Spiedie Sub Salt Potatoes Veggie Cup Banana/ Milk (Southwest Chicken Salad)	18 Snack 'n Waffle Fruit Breaded Mozzarella Sticks w/side of Pasta Cucumbers Asst. Fruit NY Juice/ Milk	19 Breakfast Breaks WAO Hornet Muffin HS Homemade Pizza Garden Salad w/chickpeas Asst. Fruit/ Milk
22 Mini Pancakes Juice Chicken Nuggets w/roll Mashed Potatoes Gl. Carrots NY Apple/ Milk	23 Cinnamon Roll Fruit NY Meatball Sub Fries Mixed Vegetables Asst. Fruit/ Juice/ Milk	24 Mini Waffle WAO Brk. Pizza HS Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Veggie Cup Banana/Milk (Popcorn Chicken Salad)	25 Mini Fr. Toast WAO Fr. Toast Sticks HS NY THURSDAY Pasta w/NY Meat Sauce Breadstick Peas NY Juice/NY Apple/Milk	26 Breakfast Breaks WAO Hornet Muffin HS Nardone Pizza Wedge Garden Salad w/chickpeas Asst. Fruit/ Milk
29 NY Apple Mini Bagels Juice Chicken Patty on a roll/ Sw. Potato Fries Mixed Vegetables Milk	30 Breakfast Bread Fruit NY Taco Salad w/toppings Seasoned Rice Corn Asst. Fruit/Juice/Milk	31 Frudel Juice Mini Corn Dogs w/side of mac & cheese Veggie Cup Orange/Milk (Chef Salad)		

Milk Choices:
 Unflavored—1% & Fat Free
 Menu subject to change

Chocolate— Fat Free

Served daily:
 PB & J Sandwich Yogurt Meal w/Cheese Stick
 4 oz Yogurt, String Cheese served w/Homemade Granola



An 1840s Makerspace for 21st Century Students

The U.S. History and Government students took a trip "back in time" to 1840s Upstate NY when they visited the Cooperstown Farmers' Museum on Nov. 14. Once there, they each took part in a workshop of their choice, including the offerings of Life on the Farm,

blacksmithing, pharmacy, textiles, and reverse glass painting. Students were all able to engage in hands-on activities to produce items ranging from fritters to lip balm to hooks. After lunch in the barn, students were then taken on a tour that covered an overview of small

town and rural life from the 1840s and were then treated to a carousel ride on carved wooden animals indigenous to New York State. Many thanks to the chaperones and museum staff who make this trip a success year after year!





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P.O. Box 147
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On Dec. 5, the seventh-grade class went on a field trip to the Cidermill Playhouse to see their rendition of A Christmas Carol. Students were able to see a live performance of the classic tale after reading the story in class. This was a wonderful opportunity, especially with this being the first time many of the students were able to see a live play!

