

# The Comet's Tale

September 2021

**First Day of School**  
September 7, 2021

**First Day of Pre-K**  
September 13, 2021

**Homecoming Week**  
September 27  
through  
October 1

## Capital project update: About 65% of Phase II complete over the summer

Work is progressing as construction continues on Sandy Creek's capital project campaign.

In the April report to the Board of Education, the School District's Construction Manager, Todd LaBarr of Watchdog Building Partners, said there has been solid progress on the new bus maintenance facility and the new gymnasium entrance. About 32 percent of the construction work for Phase II of the project, approved in 2018 by voters, is complete.

The store front system and Terrazzo flooring have been installed for the gymnasium entrance.

In addition, all of the necessary classroom heating units have been replaced and the electrician has finished upgrading the high school and middle school fire alarm systems.

The high school's front entrance door hardware replacement has also been completed.

The structural steel for the new bus maintenance facility has been erected, and the roofing contractor is preparing to install the new roof system. The other trades are also installing all of the new building's underground utilities in preparation to pour the concrete floor slab.

Other projected work for the bus maintenance facility includes plumbing and electric work, an installation for the primary power feed cable, the installation of the roof system and bus lift and sealing the building's exterior masonry units.

For the main building, work will continue on upgrading classroom and office climate controls in addition to refurbishing existing stonework and air handling units.

The Board of Education receives a monthly update on the capital project at its public meetings.

## 'Comet Crushers' mixes learning and social skills for Sandy Creek 5th grader



Ultimately, students created a business plan, a logo, slogan, draw an illustration, develop the product, make an advertisement and create a commercial to showcase the idea.

Sandy Creek Elementary Principal Tim Filiatrault said he could not be more proud of the entire grade for their months of hard work and applauded Christie Quenville, the fifth-grade teacher who came up with the idea and guided the process, along with the fifth-grade team for their implementation.

"What a wonderful idea," said Filiatrault, who also served as one of the judges. "You can see the students took away a lot in terms of math, English, science, business but also their talking skills have come a long way and you can see many with more self-confidence. We can't wait for next year."

The top three as judged by a panel of SCCS staff, community members and small business owners

received a cash prize, and all the finalists received various prizes and gifts for their participation. Dani Connors finished first with an idea for a device she named Wrist-It that would help people with ALS which features various personal care attachments.

In second was Erick Garno, who created the BricVac which is a vacuum that would collect legos and other small toys. Third place was Peyton Clark whose Hair Tribid is an all-in-one comb, brush and hair spray.

"Comet Crushers Day was amazing!" said Quenville after the finalists presented. "I couldn't be more proud of the kids, their hard work and dedication was incredible. They came up with some amazing ideas and learned a ton about themselves and life skills along the way."

Each student presented in front of their class which included a memorized pitch, a display or PowerPoint and a model of or a working product.

When a teacher challenged the fifth graders at Sandy Creek Elementary to creatively solve a problem or need in the community through a new program called Comet Crushers, the kids responded with a bang.

Throughout the course of several months during the school year, all students developed a product for the project that utilized a number of different subject areas and social skill building opportunities and 10 finalists were chosen to present to judges in a style similar to TV show Shark Tank.



## Pesticide notice from Sandy Creek schools

*Dear Parent, Guardian, and School Staff:*

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Sandy Creek Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hour following an application,
- Anti-microbial products;
- Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you have not yet registered to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete the form below and return it to Shelley H. Fitzpatrick, Sandy Creek Central School District Business Administrator at:

PO Box 248  
Sandy Creek, NY 13145  
Phone: 315-387-3445 x1510  
Fax: 315-387-2196

Please feel free to contact Andy Ridgeway, the Sandy Creek Central School District pesticide representative at: PO Box 248, Sandy Creek, NY 13145, Phone: 315-387-3445 x1510, Fax: 315-387-2196 for further information on these requirements, including information on the products that have been applied in this school.

Sincerely,

Shelley H. Fitzpatrick  
Business Administrator

Sandy Creek Central School District  
Request for Pesticide Application Notification  
(Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ School Building

Name:

Address:

Day  
Phone:

Evening  
Phone:

Email  
Address:





## Sandy Creek Central School District Annual Notification Notice to Parents and Eligible Students of Rights Under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

To: Parents and Eligible Students  
Of Sandy Creek Central School District

You are notified that you have the following rights in relation to student records:

1. The right to inspect and review a student's education records.
2. The right of a student's parents or an eligible student to seek to correct parts of the student's education records which he or she believes to be inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's rights. These rights include the right to a hearing to present evidence that the records should be changed if the district decides not to alter it according to the parents' or an eligible student's request.
3. The right to report or file a complaint with the Department of Education if the school district violates FERPA.
4. The right to exercise a limited control over other people's access to the student's education records.
5. The right to seek and correct the student's education records, in a hearing if necessary.
6. The right to be informed about FERPA rights.

You are further advised:

- a. The school district shall limit the disclosure of information contained in the student's education records except: (a) by prior written consent of the student's parents or an eligible student, (b) directory information or (c) under certain limited circumstances, as permitted by FERPA.
- b. If either a student's parents or an eligible student desires to obtain copies of a policy pertaining to student records, notification should be presented to: Kyle L. Faulkner, Superintendent, Sandy Creek Central School District, PO Box 248, Sandy Creek, NY 13145.

All rights and protections given to parents under the FERPA and this policy transfer to the student when the student reaches age 18 or enrolls in a post-secondary school. The student then becomes an "eligible student."

### Directory Information

The school district proposes to designate the following personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records as directory information, and it will disclose that information without prior written consent:

1. The student's name;
2. The student's address;
3. The student's telephone listing;
4. The student's date and place of birth;
5. The student's class designation (e.g., first grade, tenth grade, and the like);
6. The student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
7. The student's achievement awards or honors;
8. The student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team;
9. Dates of attendance;
10. The student's photograph; and
11. The most recent educational institution attended before the student enrolled in the school district.

You have two weeks to advise the school district in writing, directed to the office of the school superintendent, of any and all items which you refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information about the student. The district may disclose directory information about former students without following the procedure specified for directory information.



The Sandy Creek Central School District recently distributed school supplies to students in all grade levels through its annual United Way Stuff-A-Bus campaign. Volunteers, including teachers and staff, handed out the supplies at the Oswego County Fairgrounds during a drive-thru event the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 24.

*Comet Pride is Community Wide*

**Sandy Creek Central  
School District**

P.O. Box 248  
124 Salisbury St.  
Sandy Creek, NY 13145

**Phone:** 315-387-3445

**Fax:** 315-387-2196

**District Office:** Ext. 1510

**Business Office:** Ext. 1510

**Elementary:** Ext. 1110

**Middle School/High School:** Ext. 1910

**Nurses' Offices:** Ext. 1501

**Elementary -** Ext. 1503; **HS -** Ext. 1505

**Transportation:** Ext. 3330

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**Postal Patron**

**Sandy Creek Central  
School District**

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Kevin Halsey  
Andrea Harris  
John Macklen  
Heidi Metott  
Michele Warner

**Superintendent:**

Mr. Kyle L. Faulkner

**Business Administrator/  
District Clerk:**

Shelley H. Fitzpatrick

**Dir. of Curriculum & Inst.:**

Amy Howard-McCormack

**Principals:**

**Elementary:** Timothy Filiatrault

**Middle School/High School:**

Kevin Seymour



**Congratulations to the Class of 2021!**

