

The Comet's Tale

Fall 2022

Students Return for a New Year of Learning

We eagerly awaited the return of students in September. This year promises to be one full of learning and new opportunities.



New Social Media Endeavor Aims to Highlight Special Moments Throughout the District

Sandy Creek Central School District is full of unique opportunities, classes and activities. Throughout the school year, you will see #UniqueInTheCreek being tagged in our social media posts, alongside images and/or videos of students and staff showcasing the wonderful things happening inside the walls of our buildings.

We would also like to encourage parents, guardians and community members to use the hashtag #UniqueInTheCreek if they post school-related images. These could be images of your child showing off a piece of artwork that they're proud of, a fun activity or craft they completed, or anything else related to the wonderful things they do in school.



Sandy Creek Students Become Teachers for a Day



Roles were reversed recently when fifth-grade students at Sandy Creek Elementary took on the role of teacher and taught their peers about science.

As part of a recent science assignment, fifth-grade students were tasked with teaching their peers. Students were responsible for creating their own lesson plans, assignments

and presentations, and had to dress appropriately for the role.

Sandy Creek fifth-grade teacher Patti King said this assignment was designed to be fun and thought-provoking, while also teaching her students responsibility and time management skills.

"Students really had to think outside the box for this," King said. "I wanted to have as much of a hands-off approach as possible, and really leave this to the kids to problem solve, plan, and just enjoy the experience of being able to teach for a day."





Comet Pride On Full Display During Pep Rally

Middle school and high school students poured into the gymnasium to show their Comet pride during the annual pep fest!



ANNUAL NOTIFICATION REGARDING DIRECTORY INFORMATION

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.



Sandy Creek Students Elected to Student Council



Election season recently wrapped up at Sandy Creek Elementary, with four students earning seats on the school council.

Candidates in grades three through five recently gave speeches to their peers in the hopes of earning enough votes to get elected into office. When all the votes were tallied, the winners were Averie T.

(president), Helen H. (vice president), Gabe W. (secretary), and Griffin F. (treasurer).

"Student council is a great way for our students to learn responsibility, honesty and leadership," said school social worker Buffy Peterson. "We also give students the opportunity to become ambassadors to their younger peers. This is a role in which students can go into kindergarten, first, or second grade classrooms and meet with the younger students to inform them about upcoming school events."

Sandy Creek Holds Annual Fall Open House



Parents and students at Sandy Creek Central School were recently treated to an evening of fun events and activities at the district's annual fall open house.

Students were able to showcase art and projects that they've completed, and parents had the opportunity to see their child's classrooms, as well as meet with teachers and staff. Community groups also set up booths in the gymnasium to showcase opportunities for students and their families.

"This is a great event for the school and community," said Elementary Principal Tim Filiatrault. "We enjoy welcoming families and letting them walk through the building in which their child learns each day."

Fire Prevention Week in Sandy Creek



Elementary students at Sandy Creek Central School recently learned the importance of fire safety during National Fire Prevention Week.

Local firefighters visited the district's elementary school to teach students about fire safety and prevention. There were hands-on demonstrations of equipment, along with instructional videos. Students even got to go inside firetrucks and see firefighters in their full gear.

All the fire departments in the district participated in one way or another, with some departments hosting students in their stations, and others volunteering to visit the district. Younger students learned things such as stop, drop and roll, while older students were able to see and hold some of the equipment used by the local fire departments.

"This is always an important week," said Principal Tim Filiatrault. "Some of our older students were able to go visit the fire stations in person, and I know that that was a great experience for them. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped teach our students the importance of fire safety."



Comet Pride is Community Wide

**Sandy Creek Central
School District**
P.O. Box 248
124 Salisbury St.
Sandy Creek, NY 13145

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Permit No. 7
Zip Code 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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Conservation Field Day Teaches Local Students About the Environment



Fifth-grade students at Sandy Creek Elementary were recently treated to a fun day of learning at Selkirk Shores State Park during the 34th annual Conservation Field Day.

Hosted by the Oswego County Soil and Water Conservation District, students rotated through several conservation-themed stations, led by various volunteers. Some of the topics included trapping, fishing, and learning about local wildlife.

"This is such a wonderful program," said Sandy Creek teacher Patti King. "The kids learn so much from the volunteers and their presentations. It's a joy to be here, and we're so grateful to the volunteers who take the time to teach our kids."

Jared Campbell Performs at Sandy Creek Elementary



Students at Sandy Creek Elementary recently welcomed singer/songwriter and Upstate New York native Jared Campbell to their school for a morning of music and inspiring conversation.

Campbell, who has recorded several albums and toured across the country, performed songs and spoke with students from the school. He shared his experiences in life and how he uses music to positively impact people.

"It was so wonderful to have Jared here," said Jackie Hobbs, a teacher at Sandy Creek. "His message really resonated with the kids, and they loved his performance. There was just a great feeling in the air during all of it."