



THE COMET'S TALE

Sandy Creek Central School

Board of Education:

President: Creg Ivison
Vice President: Brian MacVean
Jean Bonhotal
John Clark
Michael Hovey
Lynn Miller
Deanna Soule

District Office:

Superintendent:
Mr. Stewart R. Amell

Business Office:

Business Administrator/
District Clerk:
Shelley H. Fitzpatrick
Assistant: Vicky Stoker
Treasurer: Mike Cambareri
Sr. Account Clerk: Lori Krebs
Sr. Account Clerk: Holly Kelly

Principals:

Elementary: Sue Ann Archibee
Middle School:
Joanne Shelmidine
High School: Maureen Shiel

Dean of Students:

Michael Stevens

Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds:

Chris Ouderkirk

Cafeteria:

Cook Manager: Debbie Archibee

Transportation:

Interim/Acting Transportation
Supervisor: Robin Cashel

Technology:

Coordinator: Paul Goulet

Athletics:

Coordinator: Mike Stevens

Testing:

Coordinator: Amy McCormack

Special Education:

Coordinator: Janice Burns



Stewart R. Amell
Superintendent of Schools

March 18, 2008

District-Wide Vote for Capital Improvements Covered by EXCEL AID

At its January 10, 2008 regular Board of Education meeting, the Sandy Creek Central School District Board of Education approved a resolution for a \$3,150,000 Capital Improvement Project. . . .

. . . . in which the local share will be totally covered by EXCEL AID given to the School District by the State of New York. NYS is providing capital monies to School Districts across the state for the purpose of maintaining and/or renovating their school buildings. This AID is intended to supplement and/or totally fund the taxpayer share of the project. In our case, *there will be no increase in taxes for School District taxpayers.*

As I discuss the project with parents and community members, I've been asked some very good questions. I would like to share some of them with you:

"Didn't we just complete a Capital Improvement Project in 2003?" Yes, and our campus is beautiful and up to date. The proposed project will only enhance the existing campus with improvements that will Save Energy, address some Safety Issues, and improve our Instructional Technology Program.

"Will there be additional maintenance costs with this proposed project?" We are not adding square footage to the present campus other than some additional parking space. The School District employs an excellent buildings and grounds staff that perform many of our maintenance projects. Several of our proposed items will save energy, thus reducing the rising costs of energy.

"If the state is covering all the costs for the project, why do we have to vote?" This is the law, no matter how a School Project is funded, the public must vote for its approval or disapproval.

"Why are we replacing the Playground?" Over the past several years, many sections of the playground have created safety concerns for our children. Many students have experienced severe slivers and cuts. The playground is mostly made from pressure treated lumber. Concerns relating to the chemicals used in this material have been expressed by many. Also, we want to make the playground more accessible to students with disabilities.

Lastly and probably the most frequent question that I have been asked is: **"Wasn't the present Playground built in memory of a SCCSD student who passed away in the early nineties?"** Yes. The present playground was built in memory of Sean Thompson, a past student of our School District. I recently had a personal conversation with Sean's mother and the new playground will continue to be in the memory of Sean and a ceremony will take place when the construction is finished.

All of these above-mentioned questions are excellent ones. I have enjoyed discussing the proposed project with our community.

IVISON'S INSIGHTS



It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year.



Creg Ivison, President,
Board of Education

The Class of 2008 will be graduating before we know it. I'm sure many (seniors and/or parents) are counting the days – seniors for freedom; parents – worries as to whether they have properly prepared their child for life.

As winter sports teams head into playoff and sectionals and spring sports start to gear up, on behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to thank all of the coaches, volunteers, medical providers, bus drivers, custodians, SCCS Sports Boosters, and Comet Café workers who make our athletic program safe and successful for our kids and their families.

As you should be aware on March 18th the Sandy Creek School District will be holding a Capital Project vote. It is very important that every District resident remember this important day and vote. The Administration's primary objective with this Capital Project is to maximize Excel and State aid, and minimize (if not eliminate) direct cost to local tax payers. Fortunately for SCCS, the previous building renovation provided an excellent foundation and significant improvements are not needed. So I'm sure some are wondering...why do we need an additional Capital Project when we recently finished one? Review the information that has been provided and come to the Public Meeting on February 28 to ask more questions. There are basically three reasons, technology has changed, 20/20 hindsight, and state aid.

- ◆ Technology - Some of the items are upgrades (lighting, energy monitoring controls, etc) and will save the District annual operating costs.
- ◆ 20/20 hindsight - As in most households when we are designing an addition or considering a large purchase we have to settle on some components to reduce costs. This was the case when the major renovations were completed. We now have an opportunity to make some modifications that will improve student logistics and make our student's and staff's daily lives much nicer.
- ◆ State Aid - We are maximizing state aid with no additional direct cost to the taxpayers of the District. New York state lawmakers made this additional aid available a few years ago, with restrictions on the use of the funds. Yes, State Aid is our tax money being returned to us, but if we don't use it, we will eventually lose it. The aid is like an inheritance - something bad had to happen (NYS taxes) and if we don't want it, someone else in the family will surely find a way to spend it.

I would just like to remind residents that it will soon be time to pick up petitions to be elected to the Board of Education. If anyone is interested I would encourage you to talk to existing Board Members or the Administration. The position does not pay well (absolutely nothing!) but the benefits are good (serving can be a very rewarding experience)! If you would like to do some research before volunteering, the Oswego County School Board Association is sponsoring a workshop in March for prospective BOE members. Also www.nyssba.org & <http://usny.nysed.gov> may provide some additional information about the role of a school board member. The state does require that newly elected BOE members complete a Fiscal Accountability workshop and the District will cover the cost of the workshop and some/most travel expense.

Lastly, I would like to encourage everyone to become more involved in community organizations. There is an old saying "many hands makes light work." There are many organizations in our community such as local government, local committees, clubs, churches, citizen action groups, Emergency Medical Services, and school organizations that are in dire need of additional volunteers to help in their individual endeavors. Please donate your time to a worthy cause and help make a difference.

Amell cont. from pg. 1

Some of our proposed improvements include:

- Sound Deadening Barriers for the Elementary Cafeteria.
- A New Bathroom in the Elementary Cafeteria.
- Expansion of the Elementary Parking Lot.
- Dry Stand Pipes for the 2nd floor (Fire Department recommendation).
- Renovate the Kitchen Temperature Control/Ventilation System.
- Card Security System for the main exterior doors.
- Additional bank of Security Cameras, update Technology, including Infrared capability.
- Lightening Protection System.
- Elementary Gym Renovations.
- Elementary Playscape (Playground).
- Replace one Boiler.
- Upgrade Energy Management System.
- T5 Lighting for Elementary Gym, MS/HS Gym and Media Center.
- Computer Room Cooling System.
- A New Grade 6 Science Lab.
- Various Technology Upgrades to Improve Instruction.

A complete list of improvements will be presented at a Special Hearing on February 28, 2008 at 6:30pm in the District Office Board Room. This hearing will allow taxpayers the opportunity to learn more about the project and ask questions.).

ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Live animals will not be allowed in School District facilities or on school grounds except under special circumstances and only for an educational purpose. Prior permission from the Principal will be required of anyone wishing to bring an animal into school district facilities. Appropriate supervision of animals is required when animals are brought into the school district facilities. In granting permission, the Principal must consider the relevant medical condition of any students or staff within the classroom.

The person bringing the animal must furnish transportation for the animal brought to school. Animals will not be allowed to travel to and from the student's attendance center on the school bus without prior approval from the Principal. Animals brought into the school may not be left on school property over the weekend or any holiday without prior approval from the principal.

It is the responsibility of the Principal to determine appropriate supervision of animals in the classroom.

Animals are not permitted on school property any time. Service animals are exempt from this policy. Any exception to this will require the approval of the Superintendent.

Adoption date: January 10, 2008

PRE K AND KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AT SANDY CREEK CENTRAL SCHOOL

We will hold PreK and Kindergarten registration (for the 2008—2009 classes) on Wednesday, March 26, 2008. You must be a resident of the Sandy Creek Central School District and on or before December 1, 2008, your child must be 4 years old for PreK and 5 years old for Kindergarten to be eligible to start in September.

Registration hours are as follows:

12:30 - 2:00 P. M. at the Sandy Creek Elementary
6:00 - 7:30 P. M. School, in the Elementary Lobby.

Registration will be held at Sandy Creek Elementary School Lobby. You may come in to register at the time convenient for you. Your child does not need to attend registration with you. PreK information will be available regarding August health screening and September visitations. There will be visitation and testing dates for the incoming Kindergartners later in the spring.

Please bring your youngsters' birth certificate and immunization records to registration. Questions about immunization requirements may be directed to the school nurse. Other papers such as proof of residency or custody papers may be required at a future date. Be ready to sign up for a testing date in May if you are registering for Kindergarten. If you are unable to join us on March 26, you may call the elementary office to make other arrangements [387-3445 Ext. 1110].

For all PreK registrants: Please understand that this is the first step in the application process. Space is limited, and you must have completed information returned by **the end of the day March 26th** to move ahead in this process. It is important to fill out all the information, especially the transportation form. This information is needed to determine the A. M. and P. M. classes and the timing for the bus routes. If more than 40 students are signed up on March 26th, students will be picked from a lottery. If less than 40 students are signed up on March 26th, they will all be included at that time.

If you are new to the area and/or feel we may not have your child on our census list, please call the elementary office now [387-3445 Ext. 1110]. It is important that we have an accurate projection of Kindergarten size for staffing and facility planning. Also, there are materials we would like to send you.

* * * *

Middle School Musings —Joanne Shelmidine, Middle School Principal

We have just finished our New York State English Language Arts Assessments and I can not even begin to share with all of you how proud I am of our students and teachers. We had near perfect attendance during the ELA assessments! Students commented on how well prepared they felt going into the assessments. It is wonderful when students openly express how much they appreciate the job our teachers do every day. Our teachers were equally appreciative of the hard work from our students. I saw students using the strategies they were taught, with many of them taking great pride in their performance. Each grade level had their own way of remembering to use the strategies that would help them be successful as they took their assessments.

I can hardly believe that the second semester has begun. Teachers have been encouraging students to revisit the goals that they had at the start of the year and refocus efforts to succeed. We encourage everyone to get involved with activities outside the academic day. Clubs and sports are an important part of the school program and teach students valuable lessons about working together with a shared vision.

The middle school will be taking the NYS Mathematics assessments on March 6 and 7th. Again, all of the students have been using many strategies in their classes to help them successfully display their understanding of the material being taught. I am also hopeful for the same near perfect attendance for the testing period. Please try not to schedule appointments during that time.

**NOTICE TO PARENTS OF INCOMING
PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND
KINDERGARTNERS**

New York State has requested that schools gather documentation of a dental exam for each student enrolling this fall in PreK, Kindergarten or First Grade. They have not yet determined the exact requirements, but we ask that parents keep this in mind and be prepared to bring such documentation to school by September 1st. We will share information regarding this request as it becomes available. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

News from the High School

Sandy Creek Graduation Requirements

The January Regents Exam week has just passed. Thanks to the hard work of the students and staff, several seniors are one step closer to graduation in June. I thought this would be a good time to review the graduation requirements for our high school students. There are three different diplomas that the State Education Department recognizes: Local, Regents, and Advanced Regents Diplomas.

ONLY students that are identified with a learning disability are eligible for a Local Diploma. To earn a local diploma, identified students are still required to sit for Regents Exams but have the option of taking Regents Competency Tests (RCT's) if the student fails the Regents Exam. Students must still pass all required courses with a total of twenty four credits, and the Math, Science, Global Studies, English, and US History and Government Regents or RCT exams in order to be eligible for this diploma.

Students that earn a Regents Diploma have to pass all required courses, earn 24 credit hours, and pass five Regents exams. Those exams are Math A, Biology or Earth Science, Global Studies, English, and US History and Government. Students need to have at least three Math credits, three Science credits, four English and four Social Studies credits, one language credit, two credits of art and/or music, a half credit of health, two credits of PE, plus four and a half credits of electives.

We strongly suggest and encourage all students to try to earn an Advanced Regents Diploma, especially those students looking to attend a four year college right out of high school. The Advanced Regents Diploma has the same credit requirements as the Regents Diploma except students are required to take three credits of language or five credits of Technology courses. These students must also take and pass the Math A and B regents, two Science regents, Global Studies, English, US History and Government, and a Foreign Language Regent Exam.

Parents that have questions regarding these diplomas are encouraged to call school and set up an appointment with your child's guidance counselor.

Sandy Creek Central School Will Open a Chapter of National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor society was founded in 1929 to create an organization that would recognize and encourage academic achievement among middle level students while also developing other characteristics essential to citizens in a democracy. These ideals of scholarship, character, service, citizenship, and leadership remain as relevant today as they were in 1929.

The National Junior Honor society has become a prestigious organization. Its reputation for excellence is the result of years of commitment on the part of everyone involved. Through NJHS chapter service activities, members maintain and extend the qualities that won them selection. Membership is both an honor and a commitment.

Sandy Creek Central School has initiated an affiliation with the National Junior Honor Society and will be inducting students in grades 7 and 8. Our first initiation is planned for Spring of 2008. Membership in the Sandy Creek Central School National Junior Honor Society will be based upon a student's outstanding performance in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. Candidates eligible for membership will receive applications in late February or early March. Each student who meets the criteria for membership will be invited to join this group of excellent students. This group will play a strong, leadership role in the school and community at large.

Using the Internet for Educational Purposes

The primary reason for supplying access to the internet at all school districts is for educational purposes. We may use our computers for increased communication, access to various reference databases or virtual field trips but all of these uses should help us to expand and enhance our student's educational opportunities. At SCCS, one of the resources we subscribe to is a website called Schoolisland www.schoolisland.com.

Schoolisland is a website that offers tutorial help in a wide range of subjects and has material that is suitable for grades 4 through 12. All of our students in these grade levels have a school island account and can log into the website from any computer that has web access. Once students log in they can choose the grade level and subject they wish to review. Reviews can include reading passages, vocabulary review, math problems or actual questions from state exams. Teachers can also create assignments for students and use them as review, homework or extra credit.

The website can be used as a grading tool or a self tutorial. Students can answer questions and if the answer is incorrect the site will respond with extra help prompts or suggestions for the student. We are encouraging our teachers to utilize the full capacity of the site and encourage parents to visit the website too. Your child can log into the site using their SCCS login with sccs appended. For example if their school login name is JDOE the Schoolisland login will be JDOESCCS. If the student has logged in previously they created a password. If they have never logged in, then the site will prompt them to create a password the first time they log in.

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 following pesticide applications took place in the Sandy Creek Central School from September 1, 2007 to February 18, 2008:

There have been no pesticide applications during the above stated period.

As a reminder, 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-hours 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, PO Box 248, Sandy Creek, NY 13145, Phone: 315-387-3445 x1510, Fax: 315-387-2196.

Sandy Creek Central School District

REQUEST FOR PESTICIDE APPLICATION NOTIFICATION
(Please Print)

_____ School Building

Name: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Please feel free to contact Chris Ouder Kirk, 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

"Caroling and Sharing" at SCCS

By: Miss Rhonda Olin

The Kindergarten Teachers and staff held their annual Parent Night on December 4. The children and their families came back to school at 6:30 to enjoy some Christmas songs and learn more about Reading and what is expected of their Kindergarteners.

Our event began with an introduction from Mrs. Archibee. Next, Mrs. Darou asked the parents to join in as the children began the five carols they had learned in preparation for the evening. The song list included: "We Wish You a Merry Christmas", "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer", "Joy to the World", "Up on the Housetop", and we finished with "Jingle Bells".

Then the children were led away to have some fun with their favorite Teacher's Aides (Mrs. Glazier, Mrs. Hilliker, and Mrs. Peter). While the kids enjoyed more singing, stories and coloring their parents stayed and listened to the teachers as they participated in Centers. Mrs. Ferguson grouped the parents and family members into five groups that rotated to learn all about Making Words, Phonemic Awareness, Letter Naming Fluency, Rhyming and DIBELS, and Sight Words to build reading fluency. Miss Ziegler was the official time keeper.



Parents were given many ideas of how reading skills are taught to the children at school and how they can practice and play at home to strengthen their child's skills and interest. The kids were tickled to see their Moms and Dads working at school in Centers like they do each day!



To conclude the evening everyone sampled a variety of cookies that each family brought to share. Children and adults alike enjoyed their treats and juice while they soaked up the holiday spirit and chatted with friends. Miss Olin and the rest of the Kindergarten Team would like to thank all of staff and parents that participated.

The weather could have cooperated a little better, but the teachers felt the night was a success. Families that couldn't attend received the handouts from teachers. Caroling and sharing together was a joy and hopefully worthwhile for all those took part. The next day, Mrs. Vaadi invited all of the Kindergarten children to her classroom to sing the carols together as a class and to finish off the leftover cookies!

REMINDER
SCCS BOOSTER CLUB MEETINGS
4TH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
6:30 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM

NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES

WINTER 2008

HEALTH FAIR! -We will be hosting the 2nd annual Health Fair for **grades 6-12** on **March 18th**. It will be held from 10 a.m. -1 p.m. outside the cafeteria for students to attend during lunch. This year we are contacting some outside agencies to have information available to the students. We will again focus on nutrition, drug abuse, character education, safety and much more.

SPORTS FORMS- The form for sports called the “**30 day form**” is required by New York State Law for **every sport**. It’s called a “*30 day form*” because it is required to be submitted within 30 days prior to practice or play of any sport. The reason for this is to alert us to any injuries or changes in your athlete’s medical status since the last sport or physical. The importance of the form is let the coach know of issues but also, if your child needed to be transported to a medical facility and were not able to speak for themselves, this form can be used to alert someone in an emergency. So remember when you’re wondering “Didn’t I fill this form out before?” Yes, you did but keeping up-to-date information is very important for all of our student athletes.

BMI- WHAT IS IT?- “**Body Mass Index**” (BMI) is a different way of calculating your child’s risk of unhealthy body weight. It is a screening tool that tells if a person is overweight or underweight. **Starting in September 2008, New York State will require all physician’s to record BMI on all physicals done on your child.** We have developed a new form which incorporates this information onto the school physical. We will post the new form onto the school website soon.

DENTAL HEALTH CERTIFICATES REQUESTED- Also starting in September of 2008, students entering Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade are requested to submit proof of a “**Comprehensive Dental Examination**”. Details on this new law are still sketchy, and as we know more, we will pass information along to parents.

E-MAIL US! You are always welcome to call the Nurses Office anytime, but if you would prefer to drop us and e-mail, please know that we do check our e-mail frequently throughout the day. Our addresses are: lacrast@sccs.cnyric.org for Laurie Crast, RN, Middle/High School and churne@sccs.cnyric.org for Claudia Hurne, RN, Elementary School.



STAR Program May Lower Property Taxes: Have you filed your application?

Lower school taxes result from the homeowners who participate in the state's School Tax Relief (STAR) Program. STAR provides primary residence homeowners with a reduced assessment.

There are two STAR programs, as follows:

BASIC:

All eligible homeowners

Exempts first \$32,000 approximately [07-08 ranges of \$24,910 - \$47,150 specific by town] (full value) of assessment for school tax purposes

ENHANCED:

For homeowners 65+ years of age

2006 Income for STAR purposes less than \$70,650

Exempts first \$60,000 approximately [07-08 ranges of \$47,160 - \$89,280 specific by town] (full value) of assessment for school tax purposes

Must be renewed annually by MARCH 1ST

Cannot be combined with Basic STAR

Q. How do I get my Basic STAR tax cut?

A. You must file an application with your town assessor. The application has been made as simple as possible. Property owners who are granted the Basic STAR exemption generally will not need to reapply in subsequent years because the Basic STAR exemption is granted regardless of income. However, Basic STAR recipients will need to notify their assessor if their primary residence changes.

Q. Where do I get the STAR application?

A. Star applications are available from your town assessor, your county real property tax office, or on the internet: <http://www.orps.state.ny.us/ref/forms/pdf/rp425.pdf>. The Enhanced/Renewal Form: <http://www.orps.state.ny.us/ref/forms/pdf/rp425rnw.pdf>.

Q. Is there a deadline by which I must file the application form?

A. Yes. The deadline for applications is March 1st.

Q. Where do I file the STAR application form?

A. With your town assessor. The application is processed locally, not by the State. Do not file the application with the State Office of Real Property Services, the Governor's Office, your school district, or any other State agency.

Additional information on the STAR program can be obtained from your town assessor, county tax office, or on the internet at www.orps.state.ny.us/star.



School-to-Work Program

A partnership between the Pulaski & Sandy Creek School Districts

Teresa Crast, Coordinator

tcrast@sccs.cnyric.org

The School-to-Work program has had a great start this year. After completing the mandatory classroom component, students went out to “test drive” their chosen career. We were fortunate again this year to have so many employers agree to be host supervisors for our students. This is a true indication that employers are concerned about the workers of the future and are willing to make an investment in our student’s education and training.



MacKenzie—Teaching—South Jefferson MS



Marissa—Zookeeper—Watertown Zoo

Career areas that seem to be the focus of this year’s program participants include: Early Childhood Education, Elementary and Secondary Teaching, Social Work, Broadcasting, Radiology, Animal Management (including zoo keeper, vet tech, and veterinarian), Psychology, Dietician/Nutritionist, Computer Repair, Physical Therapy, Pharmacist, Law Enforcement and Environmental Engineering. The following were employers that hosted our students for their first rotation: Watertown Area - North Country Animal Health Center, The Animal Doctors, Thompson Park Zoo, Samaritan Hospital, The Department of Environmental Conservation, Pulaski Area - Pulaski Elementary School, Pulaski Day Care Center, Sports PT, Pulaski Police Department, also, Sandy Creek Elementary School and the South Jefferson Middle School.

Students have returned to the classroom for a few weeks before beginning their second rotation. During this time, they will be required to write a letter of thanks to their host supervisor, prepare a 2-3 page paper summarizing their internship experience, update their portfolio and prepare for their next employment. We have



Melissa—Veterinarian—NCAHC



Ed—Teaching—SC Elementary

added a few new learning modules this year for students to complete between rotations. During this first break, students will complete college applications (if they have not already), learn about the different sources of financial aid, apply for their PIN numbers through the Federal government to be used to fill out financial aid forms, receive resources which will help them find grants and scholarships to help fund their education.

Congratulations to our teams!!



VARSIITY CHEERLEADING

Frontier League C Division Champions

Caitlin Clark—Senior All-Star

2d Place Section III Class C Championship

Caitlin Clark—Senior All-Star

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Frontier League C Division Champions

Frontier League Playoff Champions



VARSIITY WRESTLING

Frontier League C Division Champions



Physical Education

Please have your children bring their gym clothes home regularly for cleaning.

Spring Sports—FYI

New School Board Policy... No animals on school property. Please do not bring your animals to games.

A group of students currently enrolled in the program will be speaking with the junior class sometime in the next few weeks. They will be sharing their experiences, both in the classroom and at work, as well as answer any questions students interested in the program may have. We are also working on developing a video to market the School-to-Work program. As soon as it is finished, we will inform students, parents and community members where they can find it on the school's website.

As soon as it is finished, we will inform students, parents and community members where they can find it on the school's website.



Tessa—Vet Tech—Animal Doctors Clinic



Samantha—Pulaski Day Care Center

Anyone with questions regarding the School-to-Work program is encouraged to call Mrs. Teresa Crast, STW Coordinator at 387-3465 ext. 1934 or email her at tcrast@sccs.cnyric.org. Students who would like to participate in the program next year should contact their Guidance Counselor and ask for it to be added to their course requests.

WALL OF DISTINCTION

The Sandy Creek Central School District, will again be accepting nominees for the "Wall of Distinction". Graduates of distinction are those who have achieved a high level of prominence in their personal and professional lives and who represent a positive role model to our youth.

- Candidates for the Wall of Distinction must be recommended by a resident of the Sandy Creek Central School District. Candidates must meet the following criteria:
- Must have achieved a high level of professionalism and distinction.
- Must be of sufficient moral character as to represent a positive role model to students in the school district.
- Candidates must be graduates of the Sandy Creek Central School District.

An Advisory Committee will coordinate the program. The members of the Advisory Committee are non-graduates of Sandy Creek. Please complete the nomination form located on the opposite page and return it to Stewart R. Amell, Superintendent of Schools, Sandy Creek Central School District, PO Box 248, Sandy Creek, NY 13145. The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2008.

Energy Management at "The Creek"

The Sandy Creek mechanical maintenance staff have long been concerned about energy conservation. However, with the increased costs associated with energy usage and the global focus on the environmental impact of pursuing energy needs, we and school districts everywhere are placing even more of our attention toward dealing with the challenges related to meeting our energy needs.

A short time ago, Chris Ouderkirk, Dan Scheppard and Andy Ridgeway obtained their building operator certifications (BOC), as granted by the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP). These three gentlemen attended eight day long class sessions, took exams and completed numerous projects which were based on our very own Sandy Creek School site footprint and systems design. The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) sponsored this five month program which provided Ouderkirk, Scheppard and Ridgeway with direct access to energy engineers and other professionals dealing with energy related issues across the country.

Our Board of Education has proclaimed "Research and Implement More Energy Efficiency Strategies" as one of its 2007-2008 goals. They have authorized an upcoming full energy study by NYSERDA. However, our BOC qualified staff have already been at work. We have all but eliminated incandescent lamps, replacing them with the more efficient compact fluorescents. We have added some occupancy sensors and are looking to install even more. Finally, as we lose motors within our building systems, we only replace them with high efficiency models. These are but a few of the process changes which our mechanical maintenance staff have made in the name of energy efficiency. In fact, after his initial review of energy saving opportunities at Sandy Creek, Mr. Dean Mason, P.E. made the following comment about our upcoming energy study: "I can see that there is no low hanging fruit here at Sandy Creek." His statement is to a large part due to the efforts of Dan Scheppard and Andy Ridgeway.

Mr. Mason's Sandy Creek study will look at some large projects like replacing the lighting in large activity areas (gyms, media center & bus garage) to evaluate the potential for occupancy activated fluorescent lighting. He will also look at smaller scale items like the plug loads of individual classrooms. However, whether large project or small project, successful energy management to a very large part is reliant on the actions of building occupants. Just like at home, keep outside doors closed, and turn off all equipment and lighting which is not being used.

We will provide future updates as our energy efficiency efforts evolve.

SANDY CREEK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT WALL OF DISTINCTION RECOGNITION PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM

Date: _____

Nominee to the Wall of Distinction: _____

Present Address: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Reasons for Nomination: _____

Nominated by: _____

Daytime Phone Number: (_____) _____

Mail to: Stewart R. Amell, Superintendent of Schools
 Sandy Creek Central School District
 PO Box 248
 Sandy Creek, NY 13145

Deadline: March 31, 2008

Sandy Creek Central
School District

PO 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 Office—
Elem: Ext. 1503; HS: Ext. 1505
Transportation: Ext. 3330

COMMUNITY TRACK/WEIGHT ROOM INFORMATION



The Sandy Creek Central School District Weight Room and Track are open for the community's use every evening that school is in session from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. They will not be open on snow days, holidays, vacations, weekends or any day that after school activities are cancelled. If you have any questions, please call the District Office at 387-3445.

We're on the Web!
www.sccs.cnyric.org

The Comet's Tale Newsletter
Sandy Creek Central School
PO Box 248
Sandy Creek, NY 13145