Back to School Medical Reminders!

THE COMET'S TALE

Sandy Creek Central School Board of Education:

President: Brian MacVean

Vice President: Shannon Akey

Amy Guarasce

Steven Haskins

Creg Ivison

Tammy Miller

John Shelmidine

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

High School: Maureen Shiel

Dean of Students:

Michael Stevens

Middle School Coordinator:

Carolyn Shirley

Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds:

Chris Ouderkirk

Cafeteria:

Cook Manager: Debbie Archibee

Transportation Supervisor:

Robin Cashel

Technology:

Coordinator: Paul Goulet

Athletics:

Coordinator: Mike Stevens

Testina:

Coordinator: Amy McCormack

Special Education:

Coordinator: Janice Burns



Stewart R. Amell Superintendent of Schools

Changes in Teacher and Principal Evaluations Begin This Year

This past spring, the New York State Board of Regents adopted new regulations that will implement a statewide teacher and principal evaluation system that includes multiple measures of educator effectiveness. The regulations, which take effect this school year, are required by legislation enacted last year.

What's behind this? Our political leaders in Albany believe that this new system will hold educators more accountable, guarantee a great teacher in every classroom, and a great leader in every school, therefore improving student learning.

This new annual evaluation system is based on a 100 point scale. It is broken down into three (3) main areas depending on whether you are a teacher or principal:

For Teachers:

- 20% is based on results of state assessments
- 20% is based on locally developed assessments
- 60% is based on classroom observations and other multiple measures such as portfolios, attendance, and goals.

For Principals:

- 20% is based on school results on state assessments
- 20% is based on school wide achievement or other test data
- 60% is based on supervisor assessment in multiple forms

Once the evaluation is complete, the educator will be rated into four (4) categories: ineffective, developing, effective, and highly effective. If a teacher or principal is rated "ineffective" or "developing", the school district is required to implement improvement plans. Tenured teachers and principals with a pattern of ineffective performance, defined as two consecutive annual "ineffective" ratings, may be charged with incompetence and considered for termination through an expedited hearing process.

In order to effectively implement this new system, evaluators must be trained. Training has begun throughout New York State this summer.

This new system will affect all teachers in grades 3 through 8 in the academic areas of English and Math and principals who supervise these teachers.

I will keep you updated as this new system develops.

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Changes at SCCS Elementary

We have many changes happening in the Elementary this summer, which have made it a busy but exciting time! One of the biggest adjustments is the reassignment of several teachers to new grade levels. Beginning this year, we will have three sections at each grade level from Kindergarten through third grade. This is a process we began last year with kindergarten, but due to continued decreasing enrollment, we expanded the change to three more grade levels for 2011-12. New grade level teams are as follows:

Kindergarten: Janet Darou, Rhonda Olin and Gail Vaadi

First Grade: Deb Klotz, Leslie Langenegger, and Heather Wallace Second Grade: Roxanne Ferguson, Tammie Halsey and Liz Schickling

Third Grade: Cheryl Cheney, Patti King and Julie Ramus

Fourth Grade: Val Fowler, Nancy Liszewski, Scott Parish, and Cindi Rudd Fifth Grade: Sue Bartlett, Sara McNitt, Brandie Norton and Christie White

We are very excited to be working with updated reading materials this year. Our new materials continue to be published by Houghton Mifflin, but the new Journey series incorporates much more technology pieces, such as the availability of many stories online. This means that anyone with internet access will have access to components of their child's reading program, a great resource for parents when working with your child. The staff has received training and will continue to do so throughout the coming year. Our Reading Coach, Joan Royle, is heading this training, and you may call her with questions.

Another exciting change is the move of Ann Robbins into our Math Coach/Interventionist position. Ann has been very active in the development of our AIS math program, and began in the spring of last year to plan for her move to this role. She will be working with Mike Dingman and Sarah Orr to provide increased math supports in the classroom and to small groups of struggling students. You will hear more about this program in the months to come.

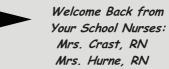
As I write this we are concluding another successful year of Summer Camp. Students and staff in five grade levels have had a great time despite the heat, practicing strategies and skills in both reading and math, to help make our student's entrance to their new grade levels go smoothly. We thank parents for committing to this program and are thrilled to see the progress our students have made.

There is much in store for the year ahead, and we are anxious to get it underway. As I watch the cleaning staff put a shiny new polish on the hallway floors and I see teachers settling their new classrooms, I realize it will not be long until we are all together again. Enjoy the end of the summer and we welcome you to the 2011-2012 school year.



Back to School Medical Reminders!

- Don't forget to get necessary immunizations if they have been requested for your child entering Pre-K, Kindergarten, or 6th Grade!
 If you forget or are unsure what shots are yet needed, contact us.
- If your child will be taking any medications at school, please bring them in on the first day in the original labeled container, along with a note from the Dr. and parent requesting it be given at school.
- Remember healthy habits like plenty of sleep, hand washing, not coming to school sick, and drinking lots of water will help get everyone off to a great start for the new year ahead!



Phone: 387-3445

Extension 1502

churne@sccs.cnyric.org

lacrast@sccs.cnyric.org

Opportunities for Success Carolyn Shirley Middle School Coordinator

Welcome back to the new school year. I trust that your summer break has been restful, joyful, and full of adventures with your children, extended families and friends. I am excited to be welcoming back all of our students and teachers. It also gives me great pleasure to introduce two new additions to our staff this year. Mr. Galen Fellows will be teaching 7^{th} grade science as well as physics. Ms. Hillary Puckett will be joining the special education department in the middle school.

A new school year brings new and countless opportunities. The Sandy Creek Middle School staff looks forward to working with students and their parents in providing another year of quality education, as well as supporting other educational opportunities for students, such as participation in sports, clubs, music, art, and other areas of interest. We challenge our students this year to take advantage of every opportunity for success by having the courage and commitment to complete the hard work that it takes to achieve their goals and that every student realizes that they have the ability to become anything they dream of.

For students to be successful in middle school, it is critical that parents continue to be involved in their child's school and extra curricular activities. Please make every effort to ensure your child's academic and social success by making school attendance a priority. Help your child manage homework time, listen to their concerns, and take every opportunity to acknowledge their efforts and celebrate their achievements.

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

Technology Updates

As the summer progresses there are a number of new developments involving technology at SCCS. Our technology staff has been very busy configuring and installing new appliances and getting the network ready for the coming school year. We have been very busy with everything from server virtualization to the expansion of the wireless network.

More smartboards have been installed in the classrooms and a dozen teachers participated in a two day workshop to develop and enhance their lesson development skills using smartboard technology. New computers have also been installed at the elementary school. These new devices are much smaller than the old desktop computers and combining them with LCD monitors (which replaced the old CRT units) will result in significant energy savings.

One of the newest additions to our technology inventory is the iPad. A core group of teachers and the administrative staff are piloting the iPads. The current uses include student assessment and teacher evaluation. We are also investigating their use with students in the classroom. Their use and popularity are expanding nationwide, especially at the elementary level where a number of apps have been developed to assist students with language arts and math skills.

We are continuing the expansion of our wireless network and hope to have the entire district "connected" by next summer. The use of wireless devices continues to increase and this expansion will promote the use of e-readers, in iPads and other devices which have a variety of educational uses.

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Elementary Reminders

A few reminders for parents of elementary students as we prepare for the new school year ahead:

• Students are allowed in the building at 7:55 AM. There is no supervision before this time, so please be mindful of this when dropping your child of at school.

- Students are tardy if they arrive after 8:30 AM. They must be signed in by an adult and they must get a pass from the office before going to class. This includes students coming from the Health Center. If you have your child go to the nurse or Health Center before going to class, they must come to the office before going to their classroom, as attendance may already have been taken.
- Dismissal is at 3 PM. Parents picking up their child may wait in the lobby or by the Pick-up doors. Please DO NOT go to your child's classroom, as it disrupts the end of the day for the whole class.
- Bus changes must be in the office by 10 AM. This is a serious safety issue. We cannot assure the best safety for your child if we do not all have accurate and timely information.
- Please put your child's name or initials and grade in their belongings, as many items are easily misplaced in the course of the day. We do our best to return lost items, but sometimes cannot identify the owners. Please check the lost and found outside the office if you are missing an item.
- Mrs. Waggoner is at the side door each morning and night, from 8 until 8:30 AM and 2:55 until 3:15 PM to help your child move safely to and from the building.
- Carefully check the monthly calendars we send home with students. The district calendar is printed in August and we have many changes that occur during the year. Each month's calendar is much more accurate and detailed. Additional copies can be obtained in the Elementary Office or from your child's teacher.
- Read with your child for 20 minutes every day. Research proves that consistent practice in reading develops life long skills that lead to success!

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT SPRING 2011 POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

"I See The Driver, The Driver Sees Me" was the theme of this poster contest sponsored by the Transportation

Department. Here are some of the winners:



Matthew Snyder, 7th Grade



Dorothy Searles. 1st Grade with Melissa Goodsell



Summer Brockway, 5th Grade

ELEMENTARY

K-5 ALTERNATE MEAL

PBJ or Bologna and cheese sandwich in place of main Entrée 3-5 have a choice of a chef salad or chicken Caesar in place of the menu item. Salad comes with crackers or bread.

Choose sensibly snacks range in price from \$.25 to \$.50

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

ALTERNATE MEAL FOR 6-12

Harvest salad

Chef salad or chicken Caesar w/ crackers or bread Fruit plate, (cottage cheese, tuna

or turkey and 2 fruits)

Tuna or Turkey pita pocket or
wrap

Tuna, Turkey, egg, PBJ, bologna and cheese sandwich with soup of the day .

Soups are

Veggie, minestrone, chicken noodle, tomato, or homemade. For snacks we offer choose sensibly ice cream, chips and Little Debbie treats.

BREAKFAST

Instant oatmeal
Hot breakfast available
Everyday
Cold breakfast consists of

cereal, milk, juice, donut or pop-tart

PRICES

BREAKFAST

K-12 \$.90 REDUCED \$.25

LUNCH

K-3 \$1.20 4-12 \$1.35

REDUCED \$.25

Pay by the day, week or month SIGN UP FOR

Www.mylunchmoney.com

September menu 2011

SOUP OF THE DAY

TOMATO	CHICKEN NOODLE	TOMATO	CHICKEN NOODLE	MINESTRONE	
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
SIGN UP FOR WWW.MY LUNCH MONEY. COM	GET FREE AND REDUCED APPICATIONS IN AS SOON AS POSSI- BLE		1 TEACHER ORIENTATION Day (No Students)	2	
5 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL	6 Welcome Back Students CHICKEN PATTY ON A BUN Seasoned potatoes Peas Pudding	7 HAM OR TURKEY SUB w/ cheese Lettuce & tomato Potato chips Fresh fruit	8 SPAGHETTI w/ meat sauce Italian bread Green beans Applesauce	9 STUFFED CRUST PIZZA Garden salad Chilled fruit	
12 CHEESEBURGER ON A BUN French fries Pickle chips Peaches	13 GOULASH Italian bread Green beans Fresh fruit	14 CHICKEN TENDERS Buttered seasoned noodles California mix Cheesecake w/ strawberry topping	15 HONEY RIB ON A BUN Salt potatoes Corn Chilled fruit	16 CHEESY BREAD STIX w/ dipping sauce Carrots Mandarin oranges	
19 PORK CHOPLET Potato or rice Gravy Broccoli Dinner roll pudding	TACO SALAD Taco meat on nacho chips Lettuce & tomato Cheese, salsa Corn	21 GRILLED CHICKEN PATTY ON A BUN Buttered seasoned noodles Lettuce & tomato Fresh fruit	DELI WORKS Cheese, ham and turkey on a bun Lettuce & tomato Potato chips Apple crisp	24 HOMEMADE PIZZA Green beans Chilled fruit	
26 WING DINGS Blue cheese dressing w/ celery sticks Buttered seasoned noodles Mandarin oranges	27 HOT DOG ON A BUN Baked beans Tater tots brownies	28 TOASTED CHEESE SANDWICH Tomato soup or chili Crackers Fresh fruit	29 STUFFED CRUST PIZZA Garden salad peaches	30 MAC & CHEESE Dinner roll Carrots Chilled fruit	

Applications for free or reduced meals are available in the cafeteria or the main offices. Please have new application in before the end of the month.

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

View our menu on our web sight at www.sccs.cnyric.org

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SEPTEMBER BREAKFAST

Did you know that breakfast is the most important meal of your child's day? It provides the nutrients and energy he needs to concentrate in school. Research shows that kids who eat breakfast get better grades, pay more attention in class, and behave better. Help your youngster begin his day on the right foot.

We have a hot breakfast available everyday.

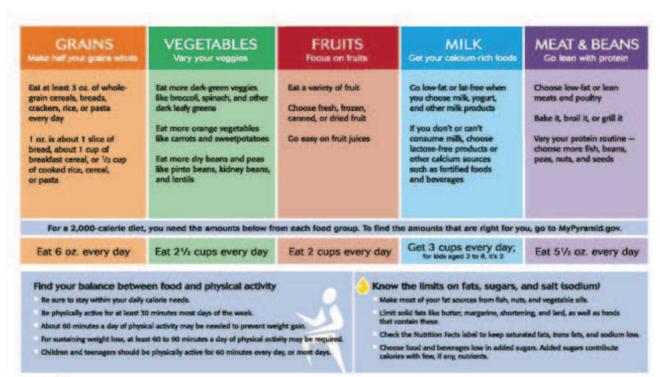
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
PANCAKE ON A STICK	BREAKFAST PIZZA	COMET MUFFINS	WAFFLE or PANCAKE	COOKS CHOICE
			AND SAUSAGE	

COLD BREAKFAST ITEMS AVAILABLE EVERYDAY

JUICE	GRAHAM CRACKERS	YOGURT	MILK
CEREAL	POP-TART	DONUT	

\$.90

REDUCED \$.25





BREAKFAST PRICE K-12



MILK ONLY

\$.40

New Online Credit Recovery Program for High School Students

The goal at SCCS is for all of our students to graduate with a high school diploma. This fall we will be introducing an online credit recovery program that will take place after school on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

This program will allow a select group of students that are behind in credits and have failed courses repeatedly, a chance to catch up. These students have already satisfied seat time requirements for a course in which they were unsuccessful — and may have learned a significant amount of what was expected of them. The challenge of making up the required credits is daunting. Until now, the only option has been to repeat the course, in the same traditional format as the first time. With online courses, students can progress at their own pace, taking as much — or as little — time as necessary to master the material.

The online courses that will initially be offered are Biology, Earth Science, Global Studies 10, U. S. History, English 10 and 11, and Geometry, with each curriculum correlated to NYS standards.

There will be a limited number of available seats and students will be selected based on credit deficiency.

We look forward to helping some of our at-risk students get back on track and be successful in high school.

- Maureen Shiel, Principal



PICTURE TAKING DAYS AT SCCS

High School / Middle School — September 29 (High School Auditorium)

Elementary — September 30 (Commons Area)



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WELCOME BACK FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES

"READY, SET. . .STOP?" That's right! Before your child runs out the door for school each day, do a "quick check" to make sure they are not sick. Ask yourself this quick checklist: "Coughing constantly? Vomiting or Diarrhea? Fever over 100.5? Sore throat for more than 2 days?" If any of these are "yes", make arrangements to keep your child home. Even though the "H1N1 Flu pandemic" is officially over (hooray!), all the healthy habits your child has developed still apply. Not coming to school sick, a good night's rest, hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, and not placing fingers in mouths (or noses) go a long way in preventing all illnesses from spreading at school and at home!

SPORTS FORMS- The form for sports called the "30 day form" is required by New York State Law for every sport (grades 7-12). 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 to let the coach know of issues but also to alert medical personnel in the event of injury or other emergency. So if you are asking yourself: "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.

DENTAL HEALTH CERTIFICATES REQUESTED- Students entering Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten, 2nd, 4th, 7th, and 10th Grades are requested to submit proof of a Comprehensive Dental Examination. You have all school year to submit the Dental Health Certificate. Remember, if your child is enrolled in the School Based Health Center's Dental Program, they can fill out the form for you, but you must first sign the top portion before you send it in to the Health Center.

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS - Thank You Parents for your continued understanding of the policy in the elementary school requesting that only store-bought treats be sent in to school for special occasions. This policy is in place to protect any student with a food allergy, such as peanut/tree nut allergies. (A list of suggested peanut/tree nut-free treats will be sent home for your convenience if your child's classroom is designated as such.)

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



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Tracy Sullivan, Bethel Mothersell and Melissa Goodsell

Congratulations SCCS Bus Drivers!

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On Saturday, July 16th, three SCCS drivers competed at the state bus rodeo competition in Saratoga Springs. Bethel Mothersell finished 8th out of 21 contestants in the transit division while Tracy Sullivan and Melissa Goodsell finished 3rd out of ten teams in the special needs division. Great job ladies!!

Summer Reading Camp 2011

Using a combination of district and Title I funds, the Sandy Creek Elementary staff was able to offer many K-4 students the opportunity to attend a four week long summer reading program. The summer reading camp started on July 11th and was offered weekly, Monday-Thursday, and ended on August 4th. At the end of the previous school year, classroom teachers recommended students who they felt would benefit by additional practice in the areas of reading and math over the summer months. During the camp, students received 120 minutes of targeted reading instruction, along with 30 minutes of math daily.

Both staff and students worked hard to take advantage of every instructional minute, ending the camp with a fun day celebration and award ceremony to recognize the hard work put forth by all of the students. Thanks to the generosity of the school district and climate committee, all students received tokens of appreciation for attending. A few of the students even won tents, sleeping bags, and an assortment of other items to take home and continue the camping experience. Thank you to everyone who made summer reading camp 2011 a success!



Sarah Orr, summer camp interventionist, works with a fourth grade student on reading skills.



Candice Clark, summer camp kindergarten teacher, makes learning fun for her students.



Deb Klotz, first grade summer camp teacher, works with one of her many students on decoding skills.



Candice Clark, summer camp program coordinator, hands out one of the many prizes on fun day to a student.

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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: Stewart R. Amell, 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.

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 <u>not</u> 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 would like 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 the Sandy Creek Central School District Business Administrator at: 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:

Evening Phone:

E-Mail Address:

Please feel free to contact Chris Ouderkirk, 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.

Back to School Medical Reminders!

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 will be open for the community's use every evening that school is in session from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. 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.

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

