Sandy Creek Team to Compete in the VEX World Robotics Competition For Fourth Straight Year

Hundreds of teams from six continents around the world, 49 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will all converge on Louisville, KY from April 24-27 for the VEX World Robotics Competition, including our own team from Sandy Creek High School. Teams qualified to compete in the world showcase through state and regional competitions in this year’s event entitled Turning Point.

The object of this year’s competition is to score the most points by stacking colored hubs in building zones, removing hubs from the structure and by parking or hanging on the hanging bar. In the teamwork challenge, two teams work together in an alliance to score points while also working to stop their opponents from scoring.

The Sandy Creek Co.R.E. team earned their place through the Northern New York State Championship competition in early March where they earned the Excellence Award. The Excellence Award is the highest award presented in the VEX Robotics Competition and is presented to a team that exemplifies overall excellence in creating a high quality VEX Robotics program. These winners must have a high-quality design notebook and interview in front of a panel of engineering judges. The NNY competition was the largest VEX Robotics state championship in the United States with over 70 teams competing. In addition to the Excellence Award, the Y-team placed 6th in their division and 17th in robot skills; the E-team placed 10th in their division and 12th in robot skills rankings, and the R-team ranked 2nd in their division and 4th in robot skills and earned the prestigious Excellence Award.

“This team is a strong contender in numerous award categories,” said John DeGone, Sandy Creek’s Robotics Coach. “They excel in many areas and are a shining example of dedication, devotion, hard work and teamwork.”

R-team members include Sadie Lurcock, Margery Yousey and Hailey McNitt.

The program at Sandy Creek is in its fourth year and each year they have been successful in earning a ticket to the World Competition.

Watch for updates on the district facebook page for competition results.

Wall of Excellence Gets Two New Inductees

Two new names and photos have been added to the District’s Wall of Excellence honoring past or present faculty and staff members who have exhibited unforgettable commitment and service to the children of the Sandy Creek Central School District.

Wayne McDougal, above left, and Dan Scheppard, above right, were inducted in a ceremony held at the school on April 11 where they were presented with a special plaque to display at home and are pictured above with the plaques that will be displayed at the school.

Scheppard was maintenance coordinator for the district and McDougal was an elementary teacher and coach.

Math and Movement Night A Huge Success

The Sandy Creek Elementary School Math and Movement Family Fun Night was a huge success. The event, which combines math and ELA concepts with bright, colorful activity mats where students incorporate movement with learning, was well attended. Volunteers manned each station and assisted the students and their parents with the activity and helped them record their progress in a Math and Movement activity.

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In a case involving rent-controlled housing in fictitious Gotham City, teams of students from Central Square, Mexico and Sandy Creek began arguments in the 2019 Oswego County Mock Trial competition held at the Public Safety Center in Oswego. Volunteer judges, Judge Spencer Luddington and Judge Walter Hafner heard the case presented for the first time by the student teams.

Mock Trial is co-sponsored by the New York State Bar Association and provides students with hands-on exposure to criminal and civil law and courtroom practices.

In the 2019 case, Harley Davison claims to have moved in with his/her aunt, Barbra Stone, when she was a resident in a rent-controlled apartment. The aunt was 95 years old and needed care and assistance. Following her death, Davison filed to continue to remain in the apartment at the rent-controlled rate but his/her case was denied. The resulting trial centers around the Department of Housing Preservation and Development’s belief that Harley failed to provide documentation to prove his/her residency prior to the aunt’s death and therefore is not eligible for succession rights to the apartment.

The teams are provided with evidence and witness statements to work with and build their case for the prosecution or the defense and are prepared to represent either side in the mock trials. The students portray all parties in the case including witnesses and attorneys.

The student attorneys begin with opening statements and proceed through calling witnesses to substantiate their case. They end with closing remarks and summation. Following the completion of the case, the guest judge makes a ruling on the case and that team advances in the competition to face another opponent. For the opening mock trials, a fourth team was unable to attend so the judge decided to make the first competition a learning opportunity for the teams and provided feedback and suggestions on how to proceed when they meet again.

Winning teams will advance through various levels of the competition before moving to a state-wide final in May held in Albany. The team from Sandy Creek High School, coached by Kari Elderbroom, includes: Kennedy Sullivan, Gavin Babcock, Madison Brown, Sydney Cook, Annie Chen, Deanna Hathway, Ashleigh Rosenbaum, Kendall Darling, Emma Halsey and Dorothy Searles. Oswego County Coordinator for the Mock Trial is Tina Bennett. The team from Mexico won the county level competition.

As teams competed, students sat in the audience observing. Younger students in lower grade levels beamed with anticipation of one day getting to participate in the competition when they get older.

The following students were winners of the schools district-wide competition that also occurred recently: third/fourth grade (Zeydan Johnson, Levi McNitt and Nicholas Anderson), fifth grade (Lola Tessier, Maggie Wallace and Alina Khan), sixth through eighth grade (Elizabeth Hobbs, Sophie Harris and Dominic Thurston) and ninth through 12th grade (Ashleigh Rosenbaum, Annie Chen and Elsa Graf). These students represented Sandy Creek at the county competition on March 12.

Battle of the Books is a reading incentive program for students, where teams come together in groups to demonstrate their knowledge of books they have read.

Sandy Creek Battle of the Books participants smile before the district-wide competition.

Battle of the Books Teams Also Compete Against Teachers

Level IV competitors from the Sandy Creek District took the top award in the Grade 9-12 age group. Pictured following the county-wide competition, left to right are: Ashleigh Rosenbaum, Annie Chen, Elsa Graf and Jackie Gregg, who coached the team to victory.

Teams Face Off in Oswego County Mock Trial Competition
Students Celebrate 100th Day of School

Students at Sandy Creek Elementary School marked the 100th day of school in a variety of ways. The kindergarten class above dressed as a 100-year-old person, in another class, students collected 100 items on posters that they displayed in the hallway. Mrs. Halstead’s class used 100 Legos to create unique shapes and structures. However they chose to celebrate it, one thing was sure, the students are 100 days smarter!

Pesticide Notice

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, 2018 to March 31, 2019:

◊ 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 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:________________
E-Mail Address: ___________________________________

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

Like and follow the Sandy Creek District on their Facebook page @SandyCreekComets
Students Learn About Science Explorations in Antarctica

A special guest speaker recently visited the Sandy Creek Central School District and shared his personal accounts of working in Antarctica. SMS William Gizara, the 109 Airlift Wing Public Affairs Superintendent visited science classes in the high school and also spoke to all middle school students in the school about his experiences as a photographer working with the team that flies supplies and scientists to Antarctica for scientific study. Sargent Willie, as he likes to be called, shared photos and stories about the conditions and challenges faced by scientists at the southernmost tip of the world. He explained about the importance of the area and the unique idea of studying weather history by examining core samples of ice that have trapped atmospheric conditions within the ice layers. Much like soil core samples, the ice cores give scientists a way to examine many aspects of weather sealed within the ice.

Sgt. Willie also shared some interesting facts about the race with Russia to the north pole under the ice and the experience with polar bears as the submarine emerged from the ice. The captain of the submarine asked the naval officers to open the hatch, but they refused to until the captain could look through the periscope to see the group of bears who were investigating the sub from atop the ice.
I Need A Vacation! Performed by the SC 5th Grade Classes

“'I need a vacation!' boomed from the rafters, as our fifth grade chorus performed a delightful rendition of the same-titled musical to a packed gymnasium.

As students imagined different versions of what a dream vacation would be, audience members were transported through a harmonious journey of family road trips, trips to the famous landmarks in the Midwest, fishing at their favorite fishing hole, surfing at the beach, summer camp and winning a baseball game.

The show was directed by Jackie Hobbs, elementary school chorus teacher.

Building on the chilly winter season, the theme of this year's event was 'There's Snow-body Like Me,' and differentiated learning opportunities were woven throughout various guest speakers, ice-breaker activities, collaborative forums and workshop sessions.

Students and staff from 17 different schools spanning the region attended the conference, including various school districts from Oswego County, including the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown, Central Square, Hannibal, Mexico, Oswego Pulaski and Sandy Creek.

Keynote speaker Kate Garnes also emphasized the theme of the conference, reminding each attendee that, 'There is nobody on earth like you. Nobody has your story.' Throughout her presentation, she encouraged the growing leaders to 'Think It. Speak it. Live it' and urged them to ask themselves every day, 'Are you living the legacy you want to be remembered by?'

While workshops included sessions on teamwork, public speaking, group skills, time management, school spirit and the importance of working together, the conference's overall mission was to help participants gain the foundational tools of leadership, and then to encourage each to cultivate these tools in their own communities.

Over 200 Central New York middle and high school students enjoyed a full day of activities aimed to empower them to be great leaders, at the 19th Annual Student Leadership Conference, sponsored by the Central Square Student Leadership Task Force.

Math and Movement Night At Elementary School A Success

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booklet. The concepts provide students with a unique way to learn and studies show that learning accompanied by physical activity increases cognitive learning and memory. For the students participating, it was just lots of fun!

In addition to the activity mats, families were treated to a dinner of pizza to fuel up beforehand.
Principal Awards at Sandy Creek Elementary School

Sandy Creek Elementary School recently held their second quarter Character Awards ceremony where students were honored for exhibiting the character traits promoted by the Leader in Me. The students were recognized by Principal Tim Filiatrault in two separate ceremonies, those in Kindergarten to grade two and grades three through five. Parents and family members were invited to attend and celebrate the students’ achievements.

The following students were honored for habit #1: Be proactive – Anna Thomas, Alayna Rupert, Brooke Cacciatori, Dakota Balcom, Alden McGrath, Even Haynes, Owen LaBozzetta, Brynn Dreibellis, Khloe LeFevere, Madasyn Martin, Joshua Herse, Kaityn Perkins and Kinley Wielt.

Habit #2: Begin with the end in mind – Christian Kennedy, Simon Preston, Maggie Wallace, Emily Walke, Amelia Crast, Anderson Stanton and Nathan Hartranft.

Habit #3: Put first things first – Krislyn Harlow, Cordelia Crast, Chase Smith, Dalton Mackey, Ana Potter, Gavin Vincent, Maddie Norton, Alexander Baker, Caleb Peck, Oliver Stanard, Matthew Davis, Cheyanne Fox, Paxton Roberts, Quinn Conners, Juliana Curry, Mary Tibbles and Carl Cranker.


Habit #5: Seek first to be understand, then to be understood – Danielle Lewis, Moxon Soluri, Henry Zimmermann, Elliott Price, Addalynn Snyder, Noela Foster, Elijah Sanderlin-White, Orrin Mautz-Burnett, Rowan McCarthy, Patience Oregon, Zoey Bermond and Celillia Holmes.


Habit #7: Sharpen the saw – Claire Willson, Trevor Bort, Brodi Martin and Eivan Bell.

In addition to the character awards, a special leadership award was presented to three fifth graders who were nominated by their peers for showing leadership skills and the seven habits. Nominations were read by students who had previously received the recognition during the last awards ceremony following the first quarter. Leadership awards were given to Haidyn Soluri, Simon Preston and Brody Pecha.

Also recognized were the grade levels with the highest attendance during the months of November, December, January and February. For grades K-2, the first grade classes earned the highest attendance for November (96.27%), second grade for December (96.76%), Kindergarten for January (93.58%), and first grade for February (95.16%). The grades 3-5 best attendance went to the fifth grade for all months with November (97.68%), December (97.33%), January (94.52%) and February (94.87%). The grades will display their certificate outside of their rooms to advertise the outstanding attendance percentage.

Fifth grade leadership awards were presented to Simon Preston, Haidyn Soluri and Brody Pecha for the second quarter of the year. The leaders are nominated and voted on by their peers for emulating the character traits of Leader in Me and being a good leader and a friend to all.

Sandy Creek Students Recognized for Top 3 Spots in their Classes at CiTi

Academic success was celebrated at the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation (CiTi) during a recognition ceremony for Career and Technical Education (CTE) Top 3 students in every program.

‘I want to thank you students for putting your best foot forward, working hard to excel day in and day out,’ said CiTis CTE Principal Michael Thurlow.

All the students recognized earned a grade-point average of at least 85 or higher in their respective classes.

The following Sandy Creek students were recognized during the morning ceremony: Advanced Metal Manufacturing second year #2 - Timothy Snell (SCK), Auto Technology first year #1 - Kolby Banach (SCK), second year #1 - Andrew Bartlett (SCK), Culinary first year #1 - Jesse Quintana (SCK), second year #2 - Courtney Burns (SCK), Heavy Equipment Repair & Operation second year #3 - Caleb Miller (SCK), New Vision Allied Health #2 - Abigail Fitzpatrick (SCK), Public Safety & Justice second year #3 - Nathan Grinnell (SCK), and Welding first year #1 - Levi Darling (SCK).
Sandy Creek Central School District

**Pi Day Celebrated at Third OCAY League Competition**

March 14th, or 3/14 is known as Pi Day for the mathematical function that coincides with the date and was the focus of the third OCAY League competition. The Sandy Creek team included: Sydney Cook, Madison Brown, Margery Yousey, Caleigh Rosenbaum, Kennedy Sullivan, Emily Ward, Bailey Fahnestock, Emma McDougal and Alexis Wolfe. The team is coached by Caitlyn White.

**Middle School 2nd Quarter Academic Honor Awards**

The Sandy Creek Middle School Academic Awards included: High Honor – Abagail Balcom, Natalie Bauer, Marissa Brennan, Manarah Brown, Kenneth Burd Jr., Alexander Caufield, Abby Chen, Skylar Clark, Perle Convey, Jaeden Darling, Madison Darling, John Darou, Kierra Davis, Marisa Filiatrault, Elizabeth Glazier, Mikayla Glazier, Hannah Hackett, Sophie Harris, Cameron Hathaway, Maiya Hathaway, Elizabeth Hobbs, Julia Hollister, Rylee Katsoris, Charles Killam, Natalie LaCelle, Tate Lallier, Daltyn Landas, Cyprus Liszewski, Trevor McDougal, Allyson Mulpagano, Maddox Palmer, Piper Phillips, Noah Reff, Kelsie Ridgeway, Nikolai Rosenbaum, Cody Walke, and Hannah White.


**High School Announces 2nd Quarter Honor Roll**

The Sandy Creek Middle and Senior High School Honor Rolls have been announced for the second marking period.


Honor Roll recognition was awarded to Sarah Balcom, Madison Benedict, Evelyn Bice, Cat-ann Blodgett, Alayna Blount, Sydney Burgly, Courtney Burns, Kayla Carnes, Kendall Darling, Colbyn Dinehart, Kaleigh Doyle, Claire Dreibeilb, Terry Eggleston, Nathan Grinnell, Alaina Hathaway, Logan Haynes, Sean Hennigan, Sidney Jenkins, McKenzi Kwaik, Dakota Loomis, Sadie Lucock, Shantel Massia, Tirone McBroom, UnaRose McNitt, Caleb Miller, Hailey Miller, Shelby Miller, Jady Mullin, Lucas Myers, Olivia Pappa, Emily Paternoster, Robert Patterson, Alexia Phillips, Kendra Poyneer, Caleb Robbins, Ashleigh Rosenbaum, Olivia Rudd, Dorothy Searles, Brian Sickler, David Snell, Timothy Snell, Krystal Snyder, Margaret Steele, Tyler Stone, Kennedy Sullivan, Robbie Tibbles, David Worden and Luke Yerdon.

Students Connect with Author Mikaelson via Distance Learning

English students in Susan Gafner’s middle school class at Sandy Creek are reading a book entitled “Touching Spirit Bear” by Ben Mikaelson. Through the school's distance learning lab, they were able to meet with Mr. Mikaelson and learn about his process in writing, what inspired him to write his books and about the bear, Buffy, that Mikaelson raised from a cub in his home in the state of Washington for 27 years.

Congratulations Winter Scholar Athletes!

To the following Winter Sports Athletes who have earned Scholar Athlete Designation with a 90 or above average for second quarter:

**Volleyball:** Sarah Balcom, Maddie Bauer, Kayla Carnes, Bailey Fahnestock, Kayla Filiatrault, Alaina Hathway, Deanna Hathway, Alison Lantry, Carly Lyndaker, and Hailey Miller.

**Individuals:**
- Cheerleading - Madison Benedict, Olivia Pappa, Emily Paternoster, and Samantha Walter
- Swimming - Abigail Fitzpatrick and Courtney Burns
- Girls Basketball - Cati-ann Blodgett, Riley Dowlearn and Abigail Lantry
- Boys Basketball - Dakota Loomis and Logan Haynes
- Wrestling - Caleb Miller