

**FALL  
2017**

# Skaneateles High School NEWSLETTER



Senior mentors spent time painting pumpkins with their Freshman links (above)



Students took part in the annual Powder Puff Game on November 1st (above)

## **No Homework Over Thanksgiving Break**

It is Skaneateles High School's policy to not assign projects or homework over Thanksgiving break and no work will be due until the following Wednesday upon returning to school. We hope that students will enjoy time spent relaxing over the holiday and return to school feeling refreshed and ready to learn.



Sophia  
Wingfield



A stop at one of Ithaca's gorges during an Art Class field trip to the Johnson Museum at Cornell (above)

## **Important Dates**

### **November**

Project 2021 Vote.....14  
Sr. High All-County Auditions.....17, 18  
Thanksgiving Recess.....22-24

### **December**

SAT & Subject Tests.....2  
Choral Concert.....10  
PTC Spirit Wear Pickup.....12  
Instrumental Concert.....14  
Holiday Recess.....22 - Jan. 1

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## Counseling Center

Greetings from the Counseling Center! We would like to send a few reminders to each class.

**Seniors:** If you haven't touched base with your counselor yet to discuss post-graduation plans, please make an appointment as soon as possible. We want to make sure we don't miss any important deadlines! To those students who have already sent applications out to colleges, make sure you fill out an Application Processing Form in the Counseling Center, and also have your SAT and/or ACT scores sent directly from sat.org or actstudent.org.

**Juniors:** The Juniors have been busy with our Job Shadow Kickoff, which took place in the beginning of October. Students had the opportunity to hear from seniors who have participated in our job shadowing program in the past. We highly encourage students to take advantage of this resource by contacting Mrs. Ruhlman, the Job Shadow Coordinator, to discuss career interests for possible placement. Students also researched career options on Naviance, which is a program they were first introduced to during their freshman year and will be using a great deal during the college admissions process. Please take the time to have a conversation with your student about his or her research. This can be the start of an open dialogue regarding future plans as you and your child begin the college search process. The PSAT was taken by all students in the junior class

this year in an effort to provide access to a valuable predictor tool for the college process. PSAT scores will be available for students in the Counseling Center sometime in December. After the holidays, students will engage in post-secondary planning with a kickoff in February to the college process. Counselors will be in the classroom, and will be conducting one-on-one meetings with all juniors and parents. Details will follow. In the new year, we will also be sending information regarding College Night for Juniors and parents which will be held in early February.

**Sophomores:** Last year, all students were trained on Naviance, which is a computer program that allows parents and students to explore colleges and careers. This year, we will continue this work with sophomores as we further explore Naviance. This program has wonderful college and career search engines, a resume and activity sheet builder, and the capability to gather statistics regarding trends in college acceptance data from our students. Naviance will also allow the tracking of information by parents and the high school counselors during the college process. Counselors will be going into sophomore classes in the middle of January to talk more about this program as well as course selection. For any tenth graders who took the PSAT, scores will be available for students in the Counseling Center sometime in December. The PreACT was taken on Saturday, October

28th. Students will receive their scores sometime in January. Please take note that on December 21st, the BOCES Road Show is coming to the high school, where the principal of BOCES will present about the different programs they have to offer for Junior and Senior year, as well as hear from current students in the programs.

**Freshmen:** The Freshmen seem to be off to a great start this year! As a reminder, if you have any concerns, academic or otherwise, please don't hesitate to call your counselor for assistance. In early January counselors will be going into freshman classrooms to talk about course selection and Naviance, which is our online college and career exploration program. January 22<sup>nd</sup> we are holding an evening event for parents where we will discuss Naviance, grade requirements, course selection, and more.

**All Parents/Students:**

In early February there will be an evening event consisting of a college admission panel, more details to follow. Also, make sure to check out our counseling website for "Breaking News" highlighted in red at the top of the webpage. There you will find some of the latest information.



## All-American High School Film Festival trip to NYC



# New York State Seal of Biliteracy

Skaneateles Central School District is proud to pilot The New York State Seal of Biliteracy, a new program this year for our junior and senior level students. The Seal of Biliteracy is a formal recognition of a student's high level of proficiency (reading, writing, listening and speaking) in English and in a second language. The Seal of Biliteracy distinction on a student's high school transcript specifically:

- shows the student's commitment to world languages and cultural awareness;
- provides universities with a method to recognize and give the student credit for attainment of high level skills in multiple languages;
- demonstrates to colleges and future employers that the student is proficient in English and another world language;
- prepares students with 21st century skills that will set them apart in the labor market and the global society;
- recognizes the value of language diversity and honors the multiple cultures, heritages, and languages in our community and in other communities.

If you would like more information, please contact your student's junior and/or senior world language or English teacher for more details. Teachers will be discussing the program and criteria in their classes. There is additional work that students must engage in to earn this distinction. Students will be advised by English and world language teachers during the process.

## Fall Musical



Earlier this month, the Skaneateles High School Drama club presented "Musical Comedy Murders of 1940", by John Bishop.

The play takes place in a mansion in Chappaqua, New York in December 1940. The mansion is owned by the wealthy socialite ELSA VON GROSSENKNUETEN (Greta Weiss). The creative team responsible for a recent Broadway flop (in which three chorus girls were murdered by the mysterious 'Stage Door Slasher') are assembled for a supposed 'backer's audition' of their new show. However, Miss Grossenknueten is actually in league with SERGEANT MICHAEL KELLY (Parker Lardeo) of the NYPD to hopefully discover who the 'Slasher' is. After a series of dizzy conversations, multiple trips through secret doorways leading to a labyrinth of hidden passageways, a power outage in the mansion, multiple crimes, and criminals are revealed. The house is replete with sliding panels, secret passageways and a German maid, HELSA WENZEL (McKinley Aber-

nethy), who is apparently four different people- when the infamous "slasher" makes his reappearance and strikes again.

Other characters in the show included: RADIO PERSONALITY (Dan Klosowski); PATRICK O'REILLY (Tyler Atwater), an Irish tenor...or is he?; KEN DE LA MAIZE (Tommy Norris), the archetypal egotistical 'Director'; NIKKI CRANDALL (Maddie Anna), a typical chorus girl...but she is eventually revealed to be much more; EDDIE MCCUEN (Ben Kringer), the cowardly but likable out of work comedian; MARJORIE BAVESTOCK (Hope Glowacki), the incredibly obsequious Broadway producer; ROGER HOPEWELL (Nolan Meier), the irritatingly flamboyant and multi-talented composer; and BERNICE ROTH (Mary

Teixeira), the extremely odd and overly emotional librettist.

The show opened with a free Senior Citizen performance on Thursday, Nov. 2, followed by two evening performances on Friday and Saturday Nov. 3rd & 4th and ended with a 2:00 matinee on Sunday, the 5th.

The Drama Club's Spring performance (TBD) will take place March 1st - 4th. Stay tuned for upcoming details and announcements!



# High School Parent-Teacher Committee

The HS PTC is committed to promoting, facilitating and strengthening communications between parents, guardians, teachers and administrators in the high school. It also provides funds, resources, and support to programs, classrooms, clubs and events in order to provide enrichment and the best overall learning environment for all students.

President: Kristi Krieger  
Vice President/ President Elect: We are in need of a volunteer  
Treasurer: Betsy Carter  
Secretary: Julie Legg

School Improvement Team Members: Christine Burgher and Lisa Byrne

Thanks to your support, the PTC has funded over \$16,000 to the high school over the last three years! We have supported many guest speakers, Mock DWI, NYC trip, New Families Welcome, PTC Scholarship, and Technology and Art class equipment. This is just a small sampling of all the wonderful things the PTC supports.

Thank you for supporting the PTC by purchasing Spirit Wear items. The

sale ended November 13th and pick up will take place on December 13th. Donations are also accepted any time through the year through the "Unfundraiser" as well.

Please come to our meetings in the HS Library! Learn information and get your voice heard as well!  
Monday, January 8th - 4:00pm  
Monday, March 12th - 7:00pm  
Monday, June 4th - 4:00pm

We are always looking for ways to improve, so your comments and ideas are always welcome!

## ATHLETICS



Congratulations and Good Luck to the following Sports Teams for their accomplishments:

**Boys' Soccer** wrapped up the season with a 10-6 record. They were 5<sup>th</sup> seed in sectional playoffs.

**Girls' Volleyball** team started off the year 6-0 which included thrilling wins against Marcellus and Solvay. Karah Blair was a section 3 leader in the digs stat category!

**Girls' Tennis** team finished out the season 10-4 overall. First, Second and Third Singles and Doubles teams qualified for individual sectionals. The #1 Doubles team (Rachael Feeney and Lily Datz) made it to the state qualifier at Drumlins.

**The Lakers Varsity Football Team** achieved great success this season finishing the regular season 6-1 and undefeated in their league. They also took a day out of practice to work at the Samaritan Center! Kudos! They won the Class C Sectional title and are

headed to the State Championship Semi-Finals against Cleveland Hill! Pat Hackler broke the state single-season record for TD passes! Go Lakers!!

**Boys' Cross Country** came in 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Tully Invite and 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the EJ Hermann Invite in Utica. Senior Luke Rathgeb (1<sup>st</sup> year on X-country) is ranked top 5 in section 3-class C and top 15 in NY state! They finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the Class C Sectional Championships.

**Girls' Cross Country** finished the dual meet season with an overall record of 4-3 and league 3-3. They tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their division. They finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the Class C Sectional Championships.

**Girls' Soccer** had a season record of 9-5-2 and were OHSL Liberty National Conference Champions! Nine players were named

All-League. They attended Orenda Springs early in the season for team building.

**Boys' Golf** were league champs! Tynan Jones qualified to continue playing at State Qualifier which is held in the spring. They loved the intra-squad competitions including the Ryder Cup and the Pan African Challenge.

**Girls' Swimming & Diving** team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> at the OHSL. 13 out of 21 athletes have made the sectional cut. Lily Buchholz broke a school 500 free record with a time of 25.13 seconds, breaking the 10





year old record set in 2007! They finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in Sectionals as the 200 Freestyle relay team were sectional champs. Lily set a section record in both the 100 Free and 100 Backstroke. She qualified for States on Nov 18<sup>th</sup>! Congrats!!



## Prevention Counselor

Recently our principal shared concerns regarding vaping and our students. Many teens believe vaping to be a safe alternative to smoking and are drawn to it by the fruit and candy flavors that are added. Typically, the vaping liquid is nicotine which is known to be addictive. Some teens have also begun vaping liquid THC – the active ingredient from marijuana. Nicotine and THC have a direct effect on a teen’s developing brain that can increase the potential for addiction to these and other substances. The research is just starting to be done and already shows the dangers associated with this habit.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding vaping or any teen substance use, please contact Marcy Weed at [mweed@skanschools.org](mailto:mweed@skanschools.org) Here are some facts from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

### Points to Remember

1. Electronic cigarettes are battery-operated devices that people use to inhale an aerosol, which typically

contains nicotine (though not always), flavorings, and other chemicals. In many e-cigarettes, puffing activates the battery-powered heating device, which vaporizes the liquid in the cartridge or reservoir. The person then inhales the resulting aerosol or vapor (called *vaping*).

2. E-cigarettes are popular among teens. Under U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations designed to protect the health of young Americans, minors can no longer buy e-cigarettes in stores or online.
3. Nicotine stimulates the adrenal glands to release the hormone epinephrine (adrenaline) and increases the levels of a chemical messenger in the brain called *dopamine*. The activity of *dopamine* in the brain’s reward system motivates some people to use nicotine again and again, despite possible risks to their health and well-being.
4. Research so far suggests that e-cigarettes are less harmful than cigarettes when people who regularly smoke switch to them as a complete replacement. But e-cigarettes can still damage a person’s health.
5. E-cigarettes can lead to nicotine addiction and increased risk for addiction to other drugs.
6. E-cigarette use also exposes the lungs to a variety of chemicals, including those added to e-liquids, and other chemicals produced during the heating/vaporizing process.
7. More research is needed to determine if e-cigarettes may be as effective as smoking cessation aids already approved by the FDA.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/electronic-cigarettes-e-cigarettes>

## Virtual Reality

Feel like an underwater dive with sea turtles? Or perhaps you’d like to have fun on a death-defying rollercoaster or you’d like to try space travel....

With the new Virtual Reality goggles in the library, students have been experiencing all kinds of new virtual adventures.



# From the STEM and Humanities Office

Pat Brown, Humanities Coordinator and Brian Cohen, STEM Coordinator

Congratulations to all of the Skaneateles students (and their teachers) who took AP exams in the 2016-17 school year! Once again, our students performed incredibly well on these exams, far outperforming the national results.

	Level 5	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	Avg. Score
<b>AP Biology</b>						
National	6.3%	20.8%	36.7%	27.7%	8.6%	2.9
Skaneateles (19 stdt)	10.5%	57.9%	26.3%	5.3%	0.0%	3.7
<b>AP Calculus</b>						
National	18.2%	17.9%	20.9%	22.2%	20.8%	2.9
Skaneateles (23 stdt)	30.4%	26.1%	26.1%	17.4%	0.0%	3.7
<b>*AP Calculus BC (Independent Study)</b>						
National	42.3%	18.3%	20.0%	14.3%	5.1%	3.8
*Skan. Ind. St.	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0
<b>AP English Language Composition</b>						
National	9.0%	18.2%	27.7%	30.8%	14.4%	2.8
Skaneateles (48 stdt)	22.9%	33.3%	31.3%	12.5%	0.0%	3.7
<b>AP English Language Literature</b>						
National	6.7%	16.0%	29.7%	34.0%	13.6%	2.7
Skaneateles (12 stdt)	16.7%	41.7%	41.7%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7
<b>AP Environmental Science</b>						
National	9.4%	24.4%	15.4%	24.5%	26.3%	2.7
Skaneateles (11 stdt)	0.0%	45.5%	27.3%	27.3%	0.0%	3.1
<b>AP European History</b>						
National	9.2%	18.6%	28.0%	32.0%	12.2%	2.8
Skaneateles (60 stdt)	18.3%	20.0%	33.3%	23.3%	5.0%	3.2
<b>AP Latin</b>						
National	12.5%	19.4%	31.5%	23.1%	13.6%	2.9
Skaneateles (8 stdt)	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%	87.5%	0.0%	2.3
<b>*AP Music Theory (Independent Study)</b>						
National	18.8%	17.1%	24.6%	24.6%	14.9%	3.0
*Skan. Ind. St. (2 stdt)	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	3.5
<b>AP Physics</b>						
National	4.9%	15.5%	20.1%	29.5%	30.0%	2.4
Skaneateles (20 stdt)	15.0%	45.0%	30.0%	10.0%	0.0%	3.7
<b>*AP Psychology (Online)</b>						
National	18.7%	25.1%	20.1%	14.8%	21.4%	3.1
*Skan. Online (3 stdt)	33.3%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	3.3
<b>AP Spanish Language</b>						
National	18.9%	34.5%	34.4%	10.5%	1.7%	3.6
Skaneateles (17 stdt)	11.8%	64.7%	11.8%	11.8%	0.0%	3.8
<b>AP Statistics</b>						
National	13.1%	15.6%	24.8%	20.3%	26.1%	2.7
Skaneateles (23 stdt)	34.8%	30.4%	26.1%	4.3%	4.3%	3.9
*Skan. Online (1 stdt)	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.0
<b>AP US History</b>						
National	10.7%	17.7%	22.3%	23.5%	25.7%	2.6
Skaneateles (28 stdt)	21.4%	39.3%	32.1%	7.1%	0.0%	3.6
*Skan. Online (2 stdt)	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	2.0
<b>AP World History</b>						
National	8.4%	19.8%	26.7%	29.7%	15.5%	2.8
Skaneateles (52 stdt)	7.7%	36.5%	32.7%	21.2%	1.9%	3.3

## Student Clubs & Activities

**Glamour Gals** is a community service-oriented club that allows our students to provide ongoing companionship and complimentary beauty makeovers to women living in senior homes. After hearing the founder of the national Glamour Gals foundation speak at a leadership conference, Brady Iles recruited some of her peers and decided to start a chapter in our high school. The club started up last Spring when we gave our first makeover, and we are hoping to give monthly makeovers for the remainder of the year! The makeovers have been a great experience for the women (and men) receiving them, as well as for our students, as they learn from each other and engage in enriching conversations.

### Chess Club

Due to significant student interest, a Skaneateles HS Chess Club has recently been created. All students, regardless of their experience or skill playing chess are welcome. Meetings are on Thursdays during activity period in Mr. Kurzen's room. Instruction and advice are

typically provided for the first 5-10 minutes of a meeting. The remainder of the meeting consists of playing games of chess with other members. In the future, chess competitions may be organized. Interested students may join at any time and do not have to attend every week.

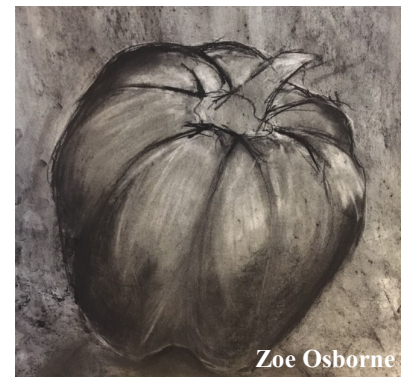
### DECA Club

The 2017-2018 Skaneateles DECA chapter is shaping up to be the biggest one yet. With 37 members, the chapter size has nearly doubled since it first began two years ago. Skaneateles High School business teacher Dan Mulroy first started DECA during the 2015-2016 school year.

DECA is an international club for high school and college business and marketing students that has existed for over 50 years and has close to 250,000 student members. DECA is a very prestigious group of students, schools and business leaders that is organized around an ambitious goal: to improve education and career opportunities in marketing, management, and en-

trepreneurship for both secondary and post-secondary students.

The DECA chapter this school year is made up of a diverse group of students. Out of the 37 members, there are 22 males and 15 females. The grade levels of the members is also very spread out with 10 sophomores, 11 juniors, and 14 seniors. Many students are also new to DECA this year with 26 new first-year members, 10 that are in their second year, and one (Aidan Bennett) that is returning for her third year. Aidan Bennett is serving as the chapter's president this year and is looking to build on her impressive first place finish in the category of Sports and Entertainment Marketing last year at the Region 9 Conference at LeMoyne College.



## Photography Finalist

Out of 220 entries, Rachael Feeney's image was a finalist in this year's Bousquet Holstein 2017 Photography Contest "Seen & Heard". This year's show was inspired by an exhibition earlier this year, "Seen & Heard: an Active Commemoration of Women's Suffrage" at the Everson Museum. Students were challenged to capture images that engage in a conversation around equal rights, civic engagement, and social change. 22 of the finalists were displayed and acknowledged for their work at a reception at the Everson Museum earlier this month. Congratulations Rachael!





# Job Shadowing continues to be a great experience for students

**Tyler Atwater** - Shadowing landed him a job as a voice actor, one of his top two dream jobs - *"If there's anything I can tell you, it's that you aren't gonna make your dreams come true by just sitting around and expecting people to notice that you're great. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication, and sometimes you'll want to give up. You have to be prepared to fail in order to succeed."* --Tyler Atwater

**Liz Williams** - Shadowed in health care; wants to be a Physician Assistant - Williams found that shadowing showed her what she does want to do, AND what she DOESN'T want to do. She shadowed an integrative medicine practitioner, an anesthesiologist and a physician's assistant in the ER. *"The shadowing experiences you think aren't helpful, are the most helpful. The best thing to do at this point in your life is to explore what you want to do."* --Liz Williams

If you would be interested in coming in to talk to a student(s) with interest in your career or you would be willing to be in our data base, please email Lori Ruhlman, at [lruhlman@skanschools.org](mailto:lruhlman@skanschools.org) or [gmicheel@skanschools.org](mailto:gmicheel@skanschools.org), or call 291-2216.

## How do you give your extra ten percent?

Giving an extra ten percent may not seem like a lot, but it is a major part of Skaneateles High School and "The Laker Way," which celebrates its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary this school year. And it doesn't just apply to our students. Staff and faculty regularly take notice of one another giving their extra ten percent in all sorts of ways. Each month is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate a colleague by nominating them for The Laker Way award. Below are just a few of the many staff nominated over the years along with some direct quotes from their colleagues.

**"Her** students are a big part of her already huge heart. Her positive attitude, willingness to help and compassion make her an excellent addition to our staff."

**"He** makes sure that his students feel cared about; whether this is by bringing in rewards that are tailored to individuals or making fun and engaging lessons."

**"Her** overall fantastic attitude have simplified our lives tremendously in the high school. Plus she always has a jar of candy containing Werther's Originals and sometimes Hershey Kisses."

**"He** is constantly giving up time before home-room and during his planning periods to work with kids who are struggling."

**"She** has a really unique way of treating everyone as a human being, rather than as a particular age or in a particular role in life."

**"When** something needs to be done, she is the first person people turn to and she'll often drop what she's working on to provide assistance where needed."

**"She** sees the potential in everyone and sincerely wants to help all students find the right path."

**"He** has created a nurturing, supportive, empowering environment for all students in his care."

**"She** has given up her free periods, and at times, her lunch period, for students to come in and get extra help."

**"She** truly cares about our students and knows just about every one of them by their first names – did I mention there are 490 of them?"

**"He** often sacrifices personally in order to advantage students or help out a colleague."

**"When** she sees a student struggling, she doesn't wait for them to ask for help, she just goes to them and gives it."

