

# **SKANEATELES** Central School District

Fall 2021

### **Athletics Snapshot**

More photos inside







### A Message From the Superintendent

Dear Skaneateles family,

With the first few weeks of school already behind us, it has been such a pleasure to see all of our students back in school full time once again. From opening day, the energy in schools has been palpable and we have seen record student interest and participation in extracurricular activities, sports and student activities. From the beginning of this pandemic, our ability to remain safe and open for business has been dependent on the partnership between school and home. Please accept our sincere thanks and appreciation for your ongoing dedication to student safety and your support of in-person learning at Skaneateles Central Schools.

As our students returned from two disrupted years in their formal public education, we have recommitted ourselves to our shared belief that relationships and connections are essential to learning. While we are still discovering all the ways the past two years have impacted our students, we anticipated and responded to the need for additional supports and services to be deployed K-12 not only in academics, but also in the socialemotional and mental health needs of our returning students. Each and every one of our Skaneateles students deserves to feel safe, supported and cared for at school.

Throughout campus you can see the ongoing progress as we complete our Middle School gymnasium, various instructional spaces throughout the buildings and new performance spaces at both Waterman Elementary and our High School. I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our facilities, maintenance and custodial staff for the

amazing amount of work it took over the summer months to have school ready to open this September.

While we continue to manage all of the complications caused by COVID-19, we remain committed to providing the high quality academic experience our community expects and our children deserve. From our continued work in the science of reading, to the addition of literacy supports and interventionists, deployment of a new K-8 ELA curriculum and the creation of new academic intervention and credit recovery opportunities, we are well equipped to meet our students' needs. As we continue to provide robust professional development opportunities for our faculty and staff, we will also depend on frequent collaboration and communication with our families who know their children best. Please do not hesitate to reach out to teachers, counselors or principals to share any information that helps us better support your child.

On behalf of the faculty, staff and administration, thank you for entrusting us with your children. We will not let you down.

Sincerely,

**Eric Knuth** 

Superintendent of Schools

# Skaneateles Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) Meetings

#### **Elementary PTC**

Meetings are held at 6 p.m. at the State Street Library and over Zoom as necessary.

Wednesday, November 10 Wednesday, December 8 Wednesday, January 12 Wednesday, February 9 Wednesday, March 9 Wednesday, April 6 Wednesday, May 18 Wednesday, June 8

#### Middle School PTC

Meetings are held at 4 p.m. at the Middle School Library and over Zoom as necessary.

Wednesday, December 1 Wednesday, March 2 Wednesday, June 1

### **High School PTC**

Meetings are held at 4 p.m. The location is TBD.

Wednesday, December 8 Wednesday, March 16 Wednesday, June 8

# Welcome to our

### **High School**



Robert Brown, Special Education Teacher (Replacement)



Sharon Forshee Foreign Language LTS (Replacement)



Ann Hughes ENL Teacher Assistant (New Position)



Julie Piascik Teacher Assistant (Replacement)



Kara Strods Teacher Assistant (New Position)



Mary Teixeira Art Teacher (50%) (Replacement)

### **Middle School**



Jordan Bruna Teacher Assistant (New Position)



Rhonda Coyle Teacher Aide (Building Change)



Rebecca Goodell Reading Teacher (Replacement)



Carol Leubner Teacher Aide (Building Change)

### **State Street School**



Thomas Andrews Teacher Assistant (New Position)



Melissa Pavlus Teacher Aide (Building Change)



James Petrello Music Teacher (Replacement)



Carly Smurthwaite Teacher Aide (Replacement)

# **New Staff, and Returning Staff in New Places!**

### **Waterman School**



Cathryn Buck Teacher Assistant (New Position)



Tyler Kawryga Kindergarten Teacher (New Position)



Katherine Lawrence School Nurse (Replacement)



Jane O'Brien Reading Teacher (New Position)



James Petrello Music Teacher (Replacement)



Josephine Schmeling Special Education Teacher (Replacement)



Sarah Sliwka Teacher Aide (Replacement)



Rebekah Springer Kindergarten Teacher (Replacement)



Erin Thompson Second Grade Teacher (Replacement)

### **District Wide**



Joy Bigham Food Service Worker I (New Position)



Heather Buff Coord. of Instructional Technology (Replacement)



Valerie DeDell Custodial Worker I (Replacement)



Carl Foehl LAN Tech (New Position)



Kelly Green Driver Messenger (Replacement)



Jennifer Kuryla School Lunch Director (Replacement)



Kristin Moses Coord. of Student Support Services (New Position)



David Omilanowicz Custodial Worker I (Replacement)



Tami Rigling Technology Integration Specialist (Replacement)



Todd Steinberg District Treasurer (Replacement)

# Middle School Students Conduct Fundraiser for Pet Partners

Middle School students recently conducted a fundraiser for Pet Partners, an organization that makes pets into therapy animals. Students had the option to pay \$1 to wear a hat all day. Many students also enjoyed taking fun photos with Coco, the District's therapy dog, at lunch! After school, there was a treat raffle and a walk around campus.

The day was made possible thanks to the efforts of the Pet Walk Planning Committee. Members of the committee are: Ben Delmonico, M Look, Missy Cundle, Allie Wegbreit, Kristen Combs, Brandon Brooks, Cate Gunderson, Mia Johnson, GiGi Johnson, and Madelynn Schneider.



# District Holds Thank You Picnic

The Skaneateles administrative team recently held a picnic for some of the people who made the start of the school year a success! A huge thank you goes out to our buildings & grounds crew, maintenance and custodial teams, and all of the other staff who work so hard to get our buildings ready for our students and staff!



### Waterman, State Street Students Learn Fire Prevention Tips

Members of the Skaneateles
Fire Department visited State
Street and Waterman the week
of October 4 to teach students
important fire prevention tips.
Some of the things they went over
were the importance of smoke
detectors, blowing out candles
when leaving a room, and avoiding
lighters and matches. Students
also reviewed "stop, drop & roll",
discussed possible safe places and
exit strategies if there was ever a
fire at home, and learned about
the equipment firefighters use!



Athletics Snapshot Go Lakers!





# Thank You, Board of Education!

The week of October 18 was Board of Education Recognition Week. We thank our Board of Education members for all that they do!

## **Capital Project Update**

Project 2021 continues to provide necessary updates to instructional spaces throughout our campus and improved site work outside of our buildings that includes lighting, drainage, paving, etc. We have begun the fourth phase of this authorization and the completion of all work is expected in the Summer of 2022. If you're itching to see the progress of Project 2021, feel free to reach out to the Business Office for a tour! Below is a brief summary of the work happening in each building currently:

#### HS/MS

- A total of 188 windows were replaced over the course of the summer. Currently in the process of adding necessary window soffits and painting in select classrooms. Window shade installation in the MS is near completion and HS window shade installation will start in early November.
- HS Auditorium is scheduled for substantial completion in early November. Due to supply chain issues, miscellaneous theatrical lighting and audio controls have been delayed but we are happy to announce that enough has been completed to hold our Fall Drama play in this space!

- The new MS gymnasium is scheduled for completion in mid to late December. All curtain walls have been installed which has completed the gym dry in. HVAC and electrical components will be completed in early November followed by painting and floor installation. Site work outside of the gym has started for additional walkways and access doors.
- MS Third Space and FACS room is fully functional with flexible seating arrangements that increase instructional capacities. These spaces are equipped with projectors, smart boards, all new appliances and furniture. Our students love the new instructional spaces!
- Site work and paving was completed in the Senior parking lot and the HS bus loop. The MS parking lot and bus loop has been completed enough to allow use throughout the 2021-22 academic year and will be completed Spring / Summer 2022. MS site lighting has begun and will be completed in late November.
- Excavation and demolition of the HS/MS grandstand is underway. Work has paused temporarily after

finding out the structural integrity of the grandstand walls were compromised since initial design layout took place. Work will continue and new grandstand seating is expected to be in place in Spring 2022.

#### STATE STREET

- Curtain wall replacements occurred during the summer of 2021 at the main entrance and over the south entrance.
- Canopy ceiling and lights were replaced at the main entrance.
- Completed HVAC control upgrades throughout the building at various fan coil units, cabinet heaters, AHU's, etc.

#### WATERMAN

- New boilers are in operation and inspections have been made by third party inspectors.
- Reconstruction is taking place on the main entrance canopy to remediate deterioration, rusting and water infiltration.













### Project 2023/2024 Update

In December of 2020, the community voted on a referendum that authorized the school district to expend up to \$21.5 million dollars for capital project improvements throughout all of our buildings. The school district's architects

and construction mangers have completed the schematic design portion of the project and are in the process of finalizing design development through input from employees, students, the community and other stakeholders. Actual

construction for this project is scheduled for early 2023. We encourage continuous feedback from all stakeholders throughout this process and look forward to sharing our progress with everyone as this project evolves!

# Middle School Student Council Holds BBQ Dinner Fundraiser

Skaneateles students, staff, families and community members were well-fed on Wednesday, October 6 at the Middle School Student Council's BBQ Dinner. This year's event was held drive-thru style in front of the Middle School.

As customers waited in their cars, students worked together in the cafeteria and at the drink station to ensure all orders were prepared properly.

Proceeds from the BBQ Dinner will go towards the annual Holiday Shopping Spree that occurs in December and assists local charities and organizations.





### Standing Committees for the 2021-22 School Year

- Audit, Budget, and Finance Committee (required)
- Policy Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Committee

These committees are established to bring district and community stakeholders together to discuss topics and issues that affect the school district. Each committee is compiled of school employees, board members and community members. We encourage increased participation in these committees. If you feel like participating, please reach out to the District Office!

### Community Members Invited to Join Parent Square

As a member of the Skaneateles Community, we welcome you to join our Skaneateles Central Schools Community group on Parent Square. This group will be used to provide information that is of interest to our greater community. If you already have a Parent Square account as a parent of a student in the district, you do not need to sign up for this **group.** This is intended purely for those in our community who have an interest in what is happening in our schools. Topics of information that will be sent out include updates on things happening

around campus, upcoming budget information, capital project updates, dates and times of upcoming events, and more.

Begin by scanning the QR code to the right.

Or you can also access the link on the *skanschools.org* website and the Skaneateles Schools Facebook page. You will then be prompted to enter your name and email address. This will be the first step in creating an account. You will then receive an email from Parent Square to confirm your email and account.





#### **Skaneateles Central School District**

45 East Elizabeth Street Skaneateles, NY 13152

#### **DISTRICT CONTACTS:**

District Office 315.291.2221 Eric Knuth Superintendent eknuth@skanschools.org

Connor Brown
School Business Manager
connorbrown@skanschools.org

#### **SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION:**

High School 315.291.2231 Gregory Santoro, Principal

Counseling Center 315.291.2237

Middle School 315.291.2241 Michael Caraccio, Principal

State Street Elementary 315.291.2261 John Lawrence, Principal

Waterman Elementary 315.291.2351 Patrick J. Brown, Principal

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

Michael Kell, President
Thomas E. Lambdin, Vice President
Kerry Brogan
Gary Campbell
Dan Evans
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# Seniors Recognized for Outstanding Achievements in 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program

Four Skaneateles High School students were recognized for their outstanding achievements in the National Merit Scholarship program.

Owen Gay, Eleanor McSwain, and Jillian Scott were named Commended Students, placing among the top 50,000 students who took the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Additionally, Lili Winkelman was named a Semifinalist of

the National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 16,000 students are recognized as Semifinalists in the program. Lili will continue in the competition and will have the opportunity to advance to the Finalist level.

High School Principal Greg Santoro said that the students will also be recognized at the High School's Academic Awards Night and at Commencement.

