CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER Hamilton Central School * A Professional Learning Community

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All-Class Reunion

Gass of 2019 congratulations

Candelaria Barrera-Mejia

Brynn Bikowsky

Samuel Butterfield

Tarik Cigeroglu

Christopher Eiholzer

Colin Fadale

Joseua Figueroa

Erik Geier

Mercedes Hayes

Lin Henke

Rvan Hunt

Daniel Jerome

Sara Joerger

Acadia Klepeis

Thomas Larson

Alyssa MacKinnon

Katherine MacPherson

Emily McCann

Jessica Nicholas

Derek Philhower

Rose Porta

Sophie Shiner

Dominic Stith

Nicholas Swensen

Cayla VanCourt

Jade Wilcox

Samuel Williams

Aidan Woods

Special congratulations to our Class of 2019 Valedictorian Rose Porta & Salutatorian Aidan Woods.



Hamilton Central School will celebrate its 121st commencement exercises at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 29, 2019.

The members of the class, 28 in number, have distinguished themselves in academics, athletics, and extra-curricular activities throughout their high school experience.

HAMILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents and Community Members:

his is not only the Superintendent's end-of-year newsletter article, it is this Interim Superintendent's end-of-his-service newsletter. As I reviewed last June's article, I realized that the adage, "the more things change, the more they stay the same," speaks volumes about my time at Hamilton.

As it was last June, it now remains. It has been an honor and a privilege for me to serve as your Interim Superintendent for the past 15 months. I continue to feel welcome and included in the Hamilton Community. I continue to marvel at the unbridled joy and love for school in our younger students. I continue to witness the wonderful achievements of our middle-level students, academically, artistically and scientifically. I remain in awe over the accomplishments of our older students, athletically, talent-wise and academically. I remain hopeful that each and every one of our seniors graduate this June.

Finally, and in no small measure, I am so grateful to you, as parents and community members, for the support that you provide to your children and our district. Your presence at school, involvement with the PTO, Friends of Music, Masquers, and Booster Clubs, as well as your voting support for school budgets, propositions and our capital project are unrivaled in my experience. What a place is Hamilton!! What a district is HCS! I will remember both with great fondness. I will miss both dearly.

Peter Punzo

Peter Punzo * Interim Superintendent of Schools

Tennis Champions

Varsity tennis had three (3) section champions: **Aidan Helfant** at second singles and **Brice Sharp-Ballinger** and **Henry Crespi** at first doubles. Brice and Henry advanced to the state qualifier match where they lost in the quarter finals to Jamesville-Dewitt.

Notifications of Policies that are available via our website

A new requirement of the District is to provide parents with the following policies. At your convenience, please visit our website (www.hamiltoncentral.org) to view the policies listed below.

#0031 - Tobacco, Nicotine and E-Cigarette Use Prohibited

#1014 - Code of Conduct

#1040 - Parent and Family Engagement in Title I Programs

#5320 - Short-Term Work Asbestos Notification

#7365, #7365.2, #7365.3, #7365.4 - Education Records/FERPA

If you are unable to access and would like a copy, call the District Office at 315-824-6310.

Title IX

Hamilton Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education programs or activities which it operates and it is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 not to discriminate in such a manner. This policy of non-discrimination includes the following areas: recruitment and appointment of employees, employment pay and benefits, counseling services for students, access by students to educational programs, course offerings and student activities.

Dignity For All Students Act (DASA)

The Dignity Act impacts the following SAVE requirements:

- ★ Code of Conduct
- **★** Harassment
- * Discrimination
- **★** Civility
- **★** Citizenship
- ★ Character Education
- **★** Reporting

Mr. Matthew Crumb and Mr. William Dowsland are the DASA Coordinators. Please feel free to contact them with concerns that you may have.

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

CALENDAR CHANGE

PLEASE NOTE THAT WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26TH WILL BE A HALF-DAY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISMISSAL AT 11:30 A.M.

Home of the Emerald Knights

MATTER OF PRINCIPAL

Throughout the school year we have the opportunity to recognize academic, athletic and artistic accomplishments and this is one of those special occasions. I am truly honored to be able to recognize the high school careers of two individuals who have dedicated themselves to hard work, perseverance and academic success. These two have been guided and taught by an outstanding faculty, staff and supportive parents. Please join me in recognizing the Class of 2019 Valedictorian Rose Porta and Salutatorian Aidan Woods.

The Valedictorian of the H.C.S. Class of 2019 is *Rose Porta*, daughter of Regina Conti and William Porta and sister to Max Porta. Rose is a 2018 National Merit Scholarship Finalist, an AP Scholar with Honors, and a 2018 recipient of both the Cornell Book Award and the Furman Scholar Award. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has completed over 200 hours of community service, earning a Diploma of Distinction, and has been volunteering in the HCS Elementary weekly for three years. Rose has also participated in dance

throughout high school as a member of The United Academy of the Performing Arts Competition Team. She will graduate in June with a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Honors. In the fall, Rose will attend Smith College as a STRIDE Scholar. She is entering as an undecided major, but currently plans to pursue a major in the STEM field, possibly in Statistical and Data Sciences, as well as a minor in dance.

The Salutatorian of the H.C.S. Class of 2019 is Aidan Ephraim Woods, son of Kerri Leigh Pruitt Woods and Ephraim Woods III and brother to Lillian Leigh Woods. Aidan is a recipient of the University of Rochester Bausch + Lomb Honorary Science Award and the New York State Scholar Athlete Award. He has been a member and captain of the varsity cross country and tennis teams. In tennis, he has been named a Center State Conference and All-Mohawk Valley All-Star. He is the 2017 Section III Class C Tennis Champion at third singles and the 2018 sectional runner-up at first singles. He has played in the orchestra for eleven years, the band for nine years,

and has participated in several NYSSMA Solo, All-County, and Area All-State Festivals. Aidan has also volunteered as part of multiple small ensembles to perform for local meetings and events. He has been a member of the Amnesty International and National Honor Society chapters at H.C.S. as well as Language Club, and he is a Senior Class Representative to Student Council. He is also the Optimist Student of the Month for September 2018 and an Advanced Placement Scholar with Honors. Outside of school, he participates in the Hamilton Ecumenical Youth group and the Bell Choir at First Baptist Church. He is also the church's webmaster. In June, he will graduate with a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation, and in the fall, he will attend Colgate University to study a natural science and foreign language or linguistics.

Thank you Rose and Aidan for your dedication to academic excellence and your contributions to the HCS community. You embody everything that an Emerald Knight should be. We are extremely proud of you!





HAMILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Skype in the Classroom with The National World War II Museum

On February 1, 2019, Ms. Victoria Seager's tenth grade Global History II classes participated in a Skype session with The National World War II Museum in New Orleans,

Louisiana. The Skype session with museum historian Kate Fitzgerald, was the culminating activity in the class's study of the World War II Era.

The lesson was based on a poem written by Martin Niemöller, entitled "Then They Came for Me" emphasizing the idea of the collective responsibility of nations and citizens of the larger global community to each other. Mr. Niemöller's poem, which has many versions, shares his evolving thoughts as a German citizen during the Holocaust and his eventual inclusion among those captured. Throughout the unit, students studied the origins of rise of totalitarianism, events of World War II, and the atrocities of the Holocaust, as well as how the events have impacted future decisions and worldviews. Students formulated questions to ask Ms.

Fitzgerald during the question and answer session that deepened their understanding of the time period, as well as exploring topics that were of personal interest. Students had the opportunity to make individual connections to the content by asking questions of their interest. Ms. Fitzgerald shared her expertise on topics such as, global awareness of the Holocaust during the time, how the atrocities were ended, and the short and long term impact of

the Holocaust. Students also learned about the role of animals in World War II, the geographic scope of events, and information from oral histories recorded by the museum.



The 2019 Global History and Geography Regents Exam has been redesigned with greater emphasis on enduring issues, such as human rights violations, cultural diffusion, and our impact on the environment. Students are learning about the importance of building their understanding of challenges faced by societies throughout time and across the globe.

In the Elementary Art Room

by Ms. Kowalski

We are finishing the year with an explosion of **COLOR!** Students in Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade were each assigned one color to create a monochromatic self-portrait. We learned how to use different shades and pencil pressure to give color value, as well as practiced drawing the features of the face. Once students complete their drawings, we will create one giant rainbow of all the colors to display our students' self portraits. It will be a wonderful way to see the growth and talents of our kids as they finish out the school year!

Pesticide Notification

New York State law requires that schools and BOCES maintain a list of staff and parents who wish to receive written notice 48 hours prior to a pesticide application at our facility. If you wish to be included on the School District Notification List, please contact the District Office at 824-6310. You will then receive advance notification of an application of a pesticide product covered by notification requirements, except in the event of an emergency application in response to a threat to public health.

Hamilton FFA Leaves a Mark at the NY State Convention

By: Taylor Taiwo • Hamilton FFA Reporter 2018-2019

On May 2nd, 2019, several eager Hamilton FFA members traveled to Syracuse, NY to attend the New York FFA Association State competition. Those members were **Heather Foster**, Colby Campbell, Taylor Taiwo, Emily Neuenschwander, Morgan Craven, McKinley Craven, Breanna Craven, Carter Perry, Ginny Dionne, Eli Goldstein, Peyton Werner, Aidan Gibbons, Jon Lough, Katie Ballard, and Sadie Johnson.

The convention lasted three days and was packed with fun. For example, throughout the convention, sessions would take place. This is where 2018-2019 state officers would give their retiring address, results for competitions were given, and speakers would come in to talk to over 1,000 FFA members. There was more to do at the convention than just sessions. There was a dance and a concert by Chris Lane. Not to mention, you could go on tours, attend workshops, and do days of service. Lastly, you had the opportunity to compete in separate competitions even if you did not advance from the "Sub-State" competition.

The following members from the Hamilton FFA Chapter competed in the following competitions and received awards that are only available during State Convention:

- Ir Quiz Bowl: Eli Goldstein, Katie Ballard, Carter Perry, and Breanna Craven
- Sr Quiz Bowl: Aidan Gibbons, Jon Lough, Ginny Dionne
- Ir Tool ID: Peyton Werner, Katie Ballard, Carter Perry
- NYS FFA Jacket Award: Ginny Dionn

The Hamilton FFA is also happy to announce that the following members competed in competitions that they were qualified for in the previous "Sub-State" competition:

- Colby Campbell placed 2nd in Jr. Prepared Public Speaking
- Taylor Taiwo placed 2nd in Jr. Extemporaneous Speaking
- Heather Foster placed 1st in the Jr. People in Agriculture Contest
- Sadie Johnson placed 3rd in Sr. People in Agriculture Contest

The Hamilton FFA had a great time over the course of three days and made a lot of new memories. This year's NY FFA State Convention was one that nobody would ever forget!







HAMILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



ELEMENTARY NEWS

Dear Hamilton Famililes,

As I conclude my 12th year as Principal of Hamilton Elementary School, I'm once again reminded of what makes Hamilton a special place to live and to learn in.

This year included many events in which the entire community volunteered to support our students. The year began with The Hamilton Coalition providing our students with an Open House experience they will never forget. Students and families were treated to a pre-open house carnival. This was followed up with our first annual Pumpkin Walk. The Hamilton Coalition again helped to organize our student's participation in the Holiday Tree lighting ceremony. The PTO was stronger than ever, with Book Swaps, Book Fairs, and support for the "One School, One Book" month long literacy celebration. This year's literacy fair, renamed "Family Fun Night," featured scores of volunteers from all over our community coming together to produce an evening of literacy events and fun activities. The Colgate Women's basketball team treated our students to an amazing day of sports, food and fun. I would like to personally thank all of the volunteers that worked to provide these opportunities and the many other events supported by our Hamilton community. These events were amazing experiences for our students and helped to promote a culture of support and relationship building.

This year also included a strong Character Education program that gave students an opportunity to practice the important skills of gratitude, kindness, joy, self-control, hope, optimism, and the mindset of positive thinking. Staff members organized to create assemblies that introduced these traits, developed classroom curriculum, and designed at-home activities. Exemplars of these skills were highlighted through announcements, bulletin boards and celebrated at assemblies. We believe that it is our responsibility to not only educate our students in academics but to also teach our students how to be responsible citizens.

Many of this year's graduating seniors were first graders when I began here as the elementary principal. At HCS, we have the gift of educating and nurturing our students from PreK through graduation. In PreK students are provided with many experiences to grow executive functioning skills and build background knowledge. This continues in Kindergarten and First Grade as we begin to introduce children to reading, writing, and understanding how numbers work. We explicitly teach our students how to think and to be seekers of knowledge. As students progress through second and third grades, they are introduced to deeper understanding skills and the processes of multi-step problem solving. In the upper elementary grades, students express thoughts and opinions using evidence to support their conclusions. Throughout their elementary experience students are provided the pathways to become metacognitive and independent learners.

As we prepare for the 2019-20 school year, we have already begun the process of adding more positive learning experiences for our students. In July, teachers will participate in professional development in Project Based Learning. Magnify Learning will be here to help us teach content and skills in a way that engages and enables our students to solve real world problems. This PD will continue throughout the year with staff developers working with our teachers to create inspiring classrooms with highly engaged learners. Additionally, we will continue to grow our programs to support social and emotional learning through a newly adopted program called "The Positivity Project." Relationships are the cornerstone of health, happiness, and resilience. This initiative will equip our teachers with the training, strategy, and resources to inspire students to build positive relationships. I encourage you to research Magnify Learning, Project Based Learning, and The Positivity Project on-line to learn more.

I want to thank the entire Hamilton community for supporting our students throughout the year. It is our mission to provide the best experiences that will prepare our students for the future. This can only be done with you as our partners. I wish you a safe and relaxing summer with your families.



Kevin Ellis ♥ Elementary Principal

TITLE I PROGRAM

NOTICE TO PARENTS OF RIGHT TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF TITLE I TEACHERS

Per Title I parental notification requirements, parents have the right to receive, upon request to the District, certain information as authorized by federal law regarding the professional qualifications of the child's classroom teachers. Upon the District's receipt of the request, in a timely manner, the following information will be provided.

- 1) Whether the teacher has met New York State Education Department qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas he/she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which New York State Education Department qualifications or licensing critera have been waived due to special circumstances.
- 3) The teacher's college major (undergraduate level); whether the teacher has any graduate certifications or degrees and, if so, the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- 4) Whether your child is provided services by any teaching assistants and, if so, their qualifications.

Home of the Emerald Knights

NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS

Pursant to the federal No Child Left Behind Act, the school district must disclose to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon request, the names, addresses and telphone numbers of our high school students. However, the district must also notify parents of their rights and the rights of their children to request, in writing, that the district **NOT** release such information if it is requested.

For the 2019-20 school year, parents, or students who are at least 18 years old, wishing to exercise their option to withhold their consent to the release of the above information to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, must sign and return the form attached below to the High School office. *Please return by July 1, 2019*.

NOTIFICATION TO SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: Hamilton Central School Main Office

Re: Reservation of Consent for the Release of Certain Student Information under the No Child Left Behind Act

Please **DO NOT** release the name, address or telephone number of

to military recruiters or institutions of higher learning.

Date		

Parent Signature

ALL CLASS REUNION

NOTE NEW LUNCH OPTIONS THIS YEAR

FOR ALL CLASSES FROM 1900 TO 2019
WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019 11:30 - 1:30

IN THE HAMILTON SCHOOL CAFETERIA
No reservations required, just drop in.

ALL ARE INVITED
TO ATTEND THE
HALL OF HONOR PROGRAM IN
THE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
AT 2 P.M.

ALL CLASSES ARE ENCOURAGED
TO HOLD A MAJOR REUNION
EVERY 5 YEARS

AND MAKE THE ANNUAL ALL CLASS REUNION A PART OF YOUR PLANS.

Art Zimmer, Class of '56, Chairperson, <u>zimmer123@twcny.rr.com</u> Suzanne Morton Collins, Class of '79, Co-chair

NEW THIS YEAR

MANY LUNCH CHOICES

Hamburgers, Hot dogs, Oscar sandwich (shaved rib eye), Crab cake, Cheese steak, Ratatouille sandwich - vegan, Chicken cheese steak, Chili – vegan, chicken or steak, assorted sides and Assorted soft drinks and bottled water

Catered by Doug Kane, HCS Class of 1997

http://oscarsfoodtruck.com

BUILDING TOURS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

Sorry that we can't give tours of the Broad Street School.

The original 119 year old clock from the Broad Street School tower is now
Mounted and working in the auditorium, compliments of the class of 1956.

For more information about the reunion, Hall of Honor and school, please visit:

https://www.alumniclass.com/hamiltonseniorhighschool/reunion-events?r=68371

https://www.facebook.com/groups/44451428948/

www.hamiltoncentral.org

www.thisishamiltonry.com







Hamilton Central School

47 West Kendrick Avenue Hamilton, NY 13346

"A Professional Learning Community"

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HCS 2019-20 CALENDAR

September M T W T F 2 (3) (4) 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30	M T W T F M T W T F 1 2 3 4 1 7 8 9 10 11 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 21 22 23 24 (25) 18 19 20 21 22 28 29 30 31 31 31 31 32 33 34 32 34 34 34 35 36 37 36 36 36 36 36	December M T W T F 2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 18 19 20 23 24 25 26 27 30 31
M T W T F 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 10 13 14 15 16 17 20 21 22 23 24 27 28 29 30 31	February March M T W T F 3 4 5 6 7 9 10 11 12 13 10 11 12 13 14 16 17 18 19 (20) 24 25 26 27 28 30 31	April M T W T F 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 10 13 14 15 16 17 20 21 22 23 24 27 28 29 30
	First Day of School for Students - Sept. 5	

М	Т	May W	Т	F 1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
_ 18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

		June			
M	Τ	W	Τ	F	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	
29	30				

2019 Final

First Day of School	for Students - Sept. 5
Last Day of School	for Students - June 2

Student Days

Sept.	18	Feb.	15	Jan. 21 - 24
Oct.	21	Mar.	21	June 17-25
Nov.	17	Apr.	16	
Dec.	15	May	20	
Jan.	19	June	19	
Total St	udent Da	ys: 181		
Staff Day	<u>vs</u>			Supt. Conf. Day = Yellow ()
Sept.	20	Feb.	15	Vacation Day = Purple -Boxed
Oct.	22	Mar.	22	PK-12 Half Days = Blue
Nov.	17	Apr.	16	PK-5 Half Days=Green
Dec.	15	May	20	Regents Test Day = Orange
Jan.	19	June	20	Rating Day = Pink
				•

Total Staff Days: 186

. Conf. Day = Yellow ()
ation Day = Purple -Boxed
OLL ICD DI

Regents Test Days

Take Back Days 4/13, 4/6 Give Back Days - TBD

Student Vacation Davs

Otadent Vacation Days		
Sept.	2	Labor Day
Sept.	3-4	Supt's Conf. Days
Oct.	14	Columbus Day
Oct.	25	Supt's Conf. Day
Nov.	11	Veterans' Day
Nov.	27-:	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec	23-31	Winter Recess
Jan.	1-3	Winter Recess
Jan.	20	ML King Day
Feb	17-21	Mid-Winter Recess
Mar	20	Supt's Conf. Day
Apr	6-1:	Spring Recess
Apr	10	Good Friday
May	25	Memorial Day
Jun	27	Commencement