



News & Notes

A newsletter from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Charles Galluzzo

End of JUNE/Start of JULY 2020

Our Thanks

The Board of Education and District Office Administrators extend our deep appreciation to all District employees and Personal Touch employees for their hard work and dedication to our students, parents, and school community throughout the 2019-20 school year, and specifically throughout this challenging COVID-19 pandemic.

These have been trying times yet in our District there is normalcy to be found. Because of you, instruction continued, student meals continued, and contact with teachers and teaching assistants and principals continued. The business and functions of the district continued in all departments and buildings.

You brought structure, routine, learning, compassion and reassurance to our students and families. We thank you all!



Hello Everyone,

When you think about all the work our schools just did, taking a 150-year-old model of education and turning it around in a day, I think it was pretty amazing. It wasn't perfect and I'm sure some kids needed more and we want to look at that for when we come back in September.

Some students were OK with technology, some even flourished; it was what they loved. We are looking at how we can best help all kids coming back in September, whether in person, remotely, or a combination thereof, based on guidance from state and health officials. We know how to use technology more effectively now and teachers learned new ways to teach. Now we can spend more time building relationships the first few weeks and make sure kids are in a solid place. That will provide an important bond with teachers and students, which will be particularly helpful if we do need to go back to remote instruction.

Since March, the district administrative team has met every week, sometimes for two or three hours, kicking around different ideas about where we're going, what we're going to do and what school could look like. We continue to look at options for returning to school this Fall, and will put together the best plan possible to keep children and faculty and staff safe.

We've all worked so very hard these past months and the community supported us with a positive vote this past week and that really means a lot to us. We will continue to do the best to earn that support and take us into next year. We're not perfect, but we're trying to be as close to perfect as we can. Thank you for your continued contributions to that effort.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Galluzzo, Superintendent



Highland's Kindergarten (above) and 5th grade celebrations were a bit different this year, but lots of fun!



During the last week of school, AJ Schmidt student Mira Davidson donated 10" of her hair to Locks of Love.

That was ... *QUITE an ACCOMPLISHMENT!*

Recognitions Via ZOOM

Instructional Staff Retirees

244

*years total
experience!*

DOLORES ARMBRUST,
School Psychologist,
35 years.

JEAN BALLOU,
Physical Education,
32 years.

MARCIA BELLIOTTI,
Art, 23 years.

MARK GARDNER,
Technology, 18 years.

GINA HACKBARTH,
Elementary Education,
32 years.

MARY ROSE JOST,
Elementary Education,
17 years.

MARY MORRISON,
Reading, 23 years.

KATHRYN WAGNER,
Occupational
Therapist, 31 years.

CAROL ZEFFIRO,
Elementary Education,
33 years.

In ordinary times,
these accomplish-
ments would be
recognized by the
Board of Education in
person and with

photographs and an ice cream
reception. In these extraordinary
times, the recognitions were made
in a Zoom Board meeting, with
sincere congratulations extended
to all!



Screen shot of June 23rd Board of Education Zoom meeting.

Non-Instructional Staff Retirees

43 *years*
total experience!

LINDA CHOCZYNSKI,
PCA, 23 years.

CELIA FOX,
bus driver, 20 years.

TENURE Appointments

PRICILLA STEINERT,
Teaching Assistant

JULIE AMES,
Teaching Assistant

CHRISTY ELLIS,
Special Education

PAMELA MINAZZI,
Special Education

KATHRYN POPE,
Library Media Specialist

NYSPHSAA 2020 WINTER SCHOLAR ATHLETES

ZACHARY EVANS,
Boys Basketball

MARY KROMER,
Girls Ice Hockey

JADYN JONES,
Girls Basketball

HONORABLE MENTION

CARLENE DILS,
Cheerleading

CAMERON STACEY,
Boys Swimming

SARAH BOVO,
Cheerleading

MAELA Murtha,
Cheerleading

YANENOWI LOGAN,
Girls Basketball

ELIESE MAYBEE,
Girls Basketball

1st PLACE PHYSICS OLYMPICS COMPETITION at Buffalo State College

YANENOWI LOGAN
SOPHIE SNYDER
DAYNA STERNER

These students of Jeff Salerno competed against more
than 20 teams from across the country!

Graduation

Very proud of our
220
graduate Eagles!

'You all have shown the resiliency to stretch your 'fins' and adapt to a different big pond and the determination to make that new bigger pond a much better and improved pond for all of us.'

- excerpt from Dr. Charles Galluzzo's Superintendent's Address to graduates on June 28, 2020.



Baylee Mae Locke proudly displays her diploma.



Young Jackson Cecala shares a proud moment with sister Alexis after she receives her diploma.



Julian Daniel Martinez flashes a smile as he receives his diploma from School Board President Jennifer Michalec.

On their way!

**Many
young eagles are
advancing!**



LEFT: An AJ Schmidt 11-car caravan brought faculty and staff to each student's home to deliver their Moving Up Certificate and personal congratulations on their achievement. This is Khyla J with teachers Tracy Kromer and Matthew Adams.

RIGHT: AJ Schmidt tots were treated to a caravan of faculty and staff delivering Kindergarten Certificates of Completion to each student at their home. Each student was so excited to see their teacher coming up their driveway with a package in hand especially for THEM! This is Alexavira Vega with her teacher, Jessica Dimmer.



JT Waugh's Kindergarten and 5th Grade Parade Celebration featured abundant school spirit from Principal Paula Eastman and our Lake Shore Eagle mascot.



Here comes the Class of 2033!

Jayla Caldwell (shown here with her grandmother) is among the 70 tots who were launched on their Eagle careers at WT Hoag's UPK graduation.



WE MISS YOU!

Just to make sure JT Waugh kids knew it, faculty and staff united to tell them so!

Capital Project Update ...

Capital Project

High School Progress



We've come a long way from the early days of footers and foundation going in for the new High School addition.

Above: Early view of the new entrance.

Top right: Working on what will be the school's wood shop.

Bottom right: Working on the backside of the addition.



Capital Project Update ...

Capital Project

Middle School Progress

Middle School work is moving right along.

Right: Auditorium seats and carpeting have been removed, making way for new seats to replace ones that continually broke and new carpeting to replace what's been there for 45 years.



At left: The new nurse's office is taking shape. This photo shows the new flooring.

Above: Sidewalks are being poured to replace deteriorating walkways around the building.