



Striving for Excellence Canastota

Central School District • 120 Roberts Street, Canastota, NY 13032 • www.canastotacsd.org

A message from the Superintendent

Happy Fall! I love this time of year because as an educator it signals new beginnings! Our school year is off to a wonderful start and students and staff have all settled in nicely.

With the completion of Phase II of our Capital Project, we are proud to show off new windows as well as masonry repair at Peterboro Street Elementary School; mechanical upgrades, classroom renovations and new ceilings at the Roberts

Street complex; and science room renovations as well as upgrades and renovations in the art rooms at the Junior Senior High School.

In addition, work on the exterior insulating and finish system at the Roberts Street complex near the gymnasium, weight room and high school cafeteria is now complete. We are moving into Phase III of the project, which entails replacement of the heating system at Peterboro Street School. I am pleased to tell you that this new system will be funded using leftover money from the earlier phases of the project.

I know how lucky I am to work in a district that has such strong community investment. Inside the pages of this newsletter you will see several examples of that support in action. The community turned out for our Homecoming parade and festivities as well as for the Special Olympics. You have been supportive throughout our Capital Project and your involvement is key to ensuring that our students have a safe and productive school year!

I am also happy to report that our very own Sean Dwyer has been named a New York State Master Teacher. Mr. Dwyer serves as the Dean of Students for the junior high school and also teaches science.

Finally, I was pleased to once again participate in the induction ceremonies for the Canastota Wall of Distinction. This year's inductees are wonderful examples of just how far a diploma from Canastota can take you! Head to our web site:

https://www.canastotacsd.org/community/wall_of_distinction/2017_honorees/ to read about all they have accomplished! Congratulations to James E. Caldwell, Janet Carr-Campbell, Father Roderic Petrie, Andrew J. Pino and Joseph Whitmeyer.

June C. Clarke
Superintendent of Schools



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Opening Day 2017



Students and staff were excited to report on the first day of classes of the 2017-18 school year. There were smiles all around throughout the day as new friends were made and old friends reconnected. Many parents were on hand to say goodbye to their children and wish them well as they embarked on exciting new adventures. Fonzie, our therapy dog, was excited to welcome the children back and get some well-deserved pats. As always, our teachers hit the ground running and our buildings were filled with the sounds of classroom instruction!



FBLA Part of Fall Conference

The 2017 New York State FBLA District 7 Fall Conference was held at Herkimer County BOCES in October. Twelve Canastota High School members and two Middle Level members attended the gathering, which included more than 100 other members from Madison, Oneida, and Herkimer counties.

Eight workshops were presented with topics that included “Careers”, “What Employers Look For”, “Professional Image” and “The College Admission Process.”

Canastota members, Emily Case, Matthew McDermott, and Lucas Barnello presented “FBLA 411” and “The New York State Program of Work” to the membership.

The following FBLA members were chosen to serve as FBLA District 7 officers: District Reporter Emily Case, District Historian April Dabrowski, District Secretary Matt McDermott and Madison County District Representative Lucas Barnello.

Five members will be attending the National Fall Leadership Conference in November being held in Buffalo.

Mr. Dwyer Named Master Teacher

A Canastota graduate, Sean Dwyer earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from Hartwick College. He has a master’s degree in Science Education with a physics concentration as well as a Certificate in Advanced Study in Educational Leadership from SUNY Cortland.

For 19 years he has taught AP, Regents and Conceptual Physics classes. He also works as the Dean of Students for grades 4-12. Twice recognized as a Teacher of Distinction, Mr. Dwyer has been honored for Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness and presented for Elevating and Celebrating Effective Teaching and Teachers.

Mr. Dwyer is a volunteer sports coach and has started physics and educational Professional Learning Communities at MOBOCES and in the district. He volunteers for Science Olympiad, advises National Honor Society and Science Club and created the Canastota Honors Program.

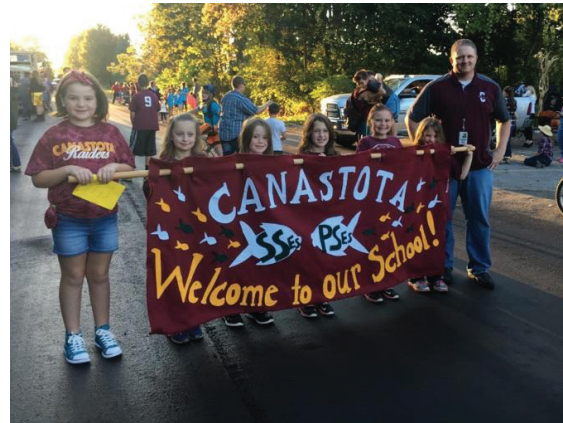
Mr. Dwyer was named a Master Teacher after submitting a number of items including a detailed teaching philosophy. He was also required to teach a collegiate physics lesson to a physics panel and submit an essay on teaching methods. In addition, he had a personal interview with state representatives. Mr. Dwyer must now complete at least 50 hours of advanced training each year and share that with his colleagues.



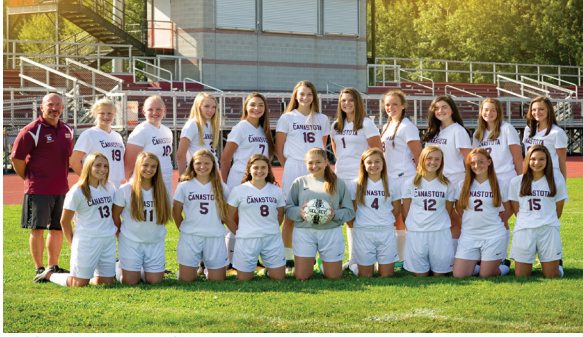
Homecoming 2017

Our 2017 homecoming festivities were a huge success! Community members lined Peterboro Street to watch the parade on Oct. 5. Students, administrators, staff and board of education members participated in the event, which featured a number of floats. Our Raider football team scored a win at the homecoming game against Adirondack on Oct. 6 and the weather was just fabulous for our homecoming dance on Oct. 7. For the first time in school history the semi-formal dance was held outdoors. Our Homecoming King was Doug Simmons and our Homecoming Queen was Crystal Miller. Sam Cesario was crowned Homecoming Prince and Courteney Hess was Homecoming Princess.

Other candidates were: Jacob Barnello, Erick Marsh, Nathan Arria, Benjamin Marshall, Michael Bigos, Brandon Otts, Haley Jones, Julianne McQuaid, Brianna Johnson, Liana Meehan, Haley Morris and Shelby Kilts.



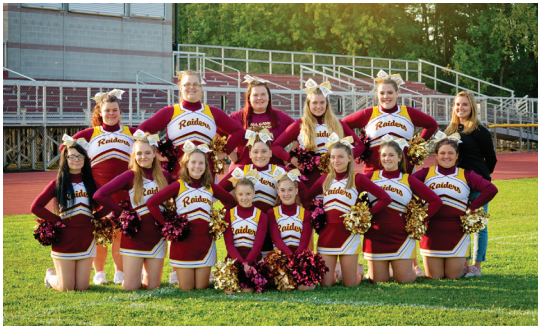
Fall Raider Athletics



Girls Varsity Soccer



Varsity Field Hockey



Cheerleading



Varsity Cross Country



Girls Varsity Tennis



Boys Varsity Soccer



Varsity Football

Special Olympics 2017



Hundreds of student-athletes and volunteers from schools throughout Madison County took part in the 2017 Special Olympics at Canastota High School. The event opened with a parade around the track. Parents, family members and Canastota students were on hand in the stands to offer encouragement and many volunteers attended with the athletes. The Olympics offered activities for students of all abilities with events that included a softball toss, the long jump, the 50, 100, 200 and 400-meter dashes and adaptive bowling. Once they finished competing, student-athletes enjoyed a tasty lunch and had time to play kickball and enjoy other games. Event winners received ribbons for their efforts.

Substitutes Needed

Instructional - Certified and non-certified teachers

Support staff - Bus drivers, bus attendants, food service, nurses, secretaries, cleaners, school monitors, teacher and library aides

Go to our website to find applications.

Mail to:

Canastota School District
Office
120 Roberts St., Canastota, NY
13032

Summer Professional Development

Teachers throughout the Canastota District spent time over the summer working on a number of curricular projects.

K-12 social studies teachers were provided with two to four days of work around curriculum mapping using Rubicon Atlas, our web-based mapping tool. K-12 Science teachers and 7-12 English Language Arts teachers were given three days of work on mapping.

Jonathan Cornue from the Staff and Curriculum Development Team at MOBOCES worked with our K-6 staff to help us better understand the upcoming changes in science standards and instruction. The focus was on “3D learning” and the implementation of phenomena-based exploration. Erin Tucci, Department Chair, led this work for the 7-12 grade levels.

ELA teachers from grades 1, 3 and 5 spent seven days preparing for the implementation of Units of Study, our new writing program, with guidance from Paula Gilroy, Rome’s Literacy Coach, Maria Papa from the Staff and Curriculum Development Team at MOBOCES, and Olivia Wahl, a nationally-renowned provider of professional development on balanced literacy instruction.

New Staff

George Aversano is a fifth grade teacher at Roberts Street. He received his undergraduate degree from the State University College at Oswego and his master's degree from LeMoyne College. George and his wife have two daughters, Sophia and Isabella.

Danielle Birckhead is Canastota's new Occupational Therapist. She received her master's degree in occupational therapy from Utica College. Danielle and her husband, Aaron, live in Canastota with their daughter, Avery, who is 1.

Jessica DiFino is an alumna of Canastota High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the College Saint Rose in Albany. While working toward her master's degree in teaching at LeMoyne College she substitute taught at Canastota and worked at other area high schools. She teaches Living Environment, Chemistry, and Action Chemistry. She and her husband have an 11-month old son.

Molly Ganley is Canastota's new Spanish teacher. A Syracuse native with an undergraduate degree from SUNY Geneseo in Business Administration, she is a recent graduate of LeMoyne College's Masters in Teaching program for adolescent Spanish. Molly's love of the Spanish language started when she studied abroad in Spain and Ecuador during college, but was shaped and impacted most by living in Chile during 2012. In her free time she likes to practice yoga, play recreational basketball and spend time with friends & family.

Caitlin Hauf teaches fourth grade Special Education at Roberts Street Elementary School. She earned her bachelor's degree in Childhood and Special Education and her master's degree in Literacy Education from St. John Fisher College in Rochester. She holds certifications in Early Childhood and Childhood Education, as well as, Special Education and Literacy. She and her husband live in Sylvan Beach with their dog, Mia.

Elizabeth McAndrews is a fourth-sixth grade special education teacher at Roberts Street. She has a bachelor's degree in special education and a master's degree in education from LeMoyne College. Elizabeth lives in Syracuse.

Sarah Obey is the new English as a New Language (ENL) teacher. She works with students in kindergarten, 3rd grade, 5th grade, 8th grade, and 9th grade. Sarah received an associate's degree in Early Childhood/Childhood Education from Mohawk Valley Community College and a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood/Childhood Education from SUNY Cortland. She completed her master's degree in English as a Second Language at SUNY Cortland in 2013. Sarah and her husband, Joe, live in Canastota with their dog, Lily.

Meghan Ryan is the new school nurse at Peterboro Street Elementary School. She graduated from St. Joseph's College of Nursing in 2004. Prior to her nursing career she worked in the food service industry and has degrees in Baking and Pastry Arts and Food Service Management from Johnson and Wales University. Meghan lives in Canastota with her husband and two children who are in kindergarten and fifth grade.

Elizabeth Scheftic teaches first grade at Peterboro Street Elementary School. She received her bachelor's degree in childhood education from the State University College at Cortland, where she is pursuing her master's degree in literacy, birth to sixth grade. She lives in Jamesville.

Tabitha Gaglianese-White is also a Canastota graduate. She received her bachelor's degree in Health Education from the State University College at Brockport and her master's degree from Touro College Manhattan Campus in Students with Disabilities Education 7-12. Tabitha is a special education teacher in the high school and is working with mostly 9th and 10th grade students. She lives in Canastota with her husband, her daughter Winnie, and her dog and cat.



George
Aversano



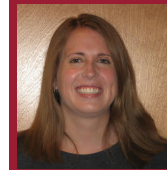
Danielle
Birckhead



Jessica
DiFino



Molly
Ganley



Caitlin
Hauf



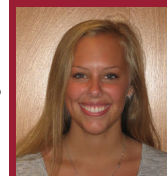
Elizabeth
McAndrews



Sarah
Obey



Meghan
Ryan



Elizabeth
Scheftic



Tabitha
Gaglianese-
White

district

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Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Ms. Cara Stevens
Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations

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Mr. Stanley Congden
Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal

Ms. Melissa Stanek
Roberts St. Elementary School Principal

Ms. Jennifer Carnahan
Peterboro St. and South Side Elementary School Principal

Mr. Jason Stefanski
K-3 Assistant Principal

Ms. Carolyn Ortolano
Director of Special Programs

Ms. Cynthia Clark
Transportation Supervisor

Mr. Christopher Clancy
Director of Instructional Technology

Freshmen Participate in Workshop

In late September, more than 100 Canastota High School freshmen boys and girls attended the second annual "Empowering Freshmen Workshop" at the Rusty Rail in Canastota. Spearheaded by Canastota High School teachers Kelley Brenon and Lisa Visalli, the workshop is a powerful forum that allows for



discussion of the relevant issues facing our students today. The workshop provided a safe place for open discussion. Topics for the freshmen girls included self-confidence, self-respect and self-esteem. The freshmen boys spoke about respect, teamwork, leadership and integrity. Guest speakers from the community, including Marcia Laidlaw, Deb New, Don New and Martha Berry, were on hand to discuss a number of issues pertaining to young students today. Current seniors, Crystal Miller, Amber Northup and David Drummond also spoke candidly about their experiences to the group.

The New York State Police ended the day with a powerful presentation about social media to each group of students. Throughout the workshop, the students participated in team building activities. The day was both motivational and inspirational and a follow-up meeting is planned for November.

The plan for this workshop was developed two years ago after teachers reviewed a survey that was given to previous 9th graders. In the survey, the 9th graders were asked a series of questions ranging from "What they would change during their freshmen year?" to "What advice would they give to the incoming freshmen?" Assisting with the girls' portion of the workshop were high school teachers, Dee Brennen and Elizabeth Garofalo along with Guidance Counselor Brandi Bostic. Facilitating the male portion were Principal Jay Altobello, Assistant Principal Stan Congden and teachers Josh Chenel, Sean Dwyer, John Slater and Guidance Counselor, Dylan Gifford.

FBLA members also helped at the event by preparing invitations, certificates and thank you notes. They also assembled the folders that were given to each student in attendance.

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Ms. June C. Clarke

Canastota CSD

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