



## CONGRATS, CLASS OF 2019!



Central School District • 120 Roberts Street, Canastota, NY 13032 • [www.canastotacsd.org](http://www.canastotacsd.org)

*Striving for Excellence*  
**Canastota**

The Class of 2019 walked across the stage on June 29, officially wrapping up 13 years of schooling. Of this year's 100 graduates, 67 percent are continuing their education, 31 percent are joining the workforce, and 2 percent are entering the military. To see their plans, flip to page 4. A huge thank you to our grads and families who shared so many wonderful commencement photos with us, above and online.

### Students Meet Principals' Reading Challenge

PSES and SSES rose to their Principals' Reading Challenge by logging more than 7,000 books during the six-week event!

This was the 12th year of the event for preK-3 students. The principals set a target of 1,000 books per school and kicked off with a visit in May from children's author Kate Feiffer who talked about some of her books and shared her love of dogs.

Students could read on their own, read aloud or have someone read to them, and they tracked their books on dog-themed logs and charts. Halfway through the challenge, students voted on the schoolwide prize if they met the challenge. PSES chose to watch their principal's dog run an obstacle course, and SSES students chose a meet-and-greet with their principal's dog.



## A Message From The Superintendent

I am thrilled to introduce myself to you as the new Superintendent of Canastota Central Schools, and I am truly honored to become part of this incredible community. I'd like to start by congratulating the Class of 2019 – what an impressive group of young men and women! While I've had the opportunity to know them just a short time, I share in our community's collective pride in their remarkable accomplishments. Best wishes to all of our graduates, and please remember that you will always be a Raider! You will frequently hear me talk about the importance of pride and legacy, and Canastota has an incredible tradition of pride and exceptional achievement among its graduates. My hope is that our graduates will continue to carry the mantle of "Raider Pride" with them as they move forward.



With the 2018-19 year now complete, I'd like to take a glimpse into the future. Even though I did not officially start working in the district until July 1, I frequently visited Canastota since my appointment on April 23. In that time, I have been so impressed with the quality of people who make up this school community and equally impressed with the pride that exists in our school. With great people, a sense of pride and a commitment to excellence, I am confident that we will conquer the challenges that await us in the upcoming year and beyond.

There are several themes that will figure prominently into our mission at the school as we move forward. First and foremost is the theme of opportunity. Our goal is to provide students with every reasonable opportunity to expand upon their learning and to encourage them to take advantage of the wealth of experiences available to them. Opportunity sometimes arrives on our doorstep, but more often than not, it is up to us to create a new and exciting path to success. Our school is fully committed to being a model district in creating opportunities for our students.

In order to maintain and expand opportunities, communication and collaboration (another prominent theme) must be a primary focus of everything we do. Opportunities and innovative ideas are useful only if people are aware that they exist, and we are committed to working with families, regional businesses and educational institutions in order to fully realize our collective potential as a community. In the coming weeks, you will be presented with many opportunities to partner with the school district for the benefit of our students and the larger school community. I hope you take advantage of them!

Finally, the theme of high expectations will be front and center in everything we do. We are committed to fostering a culture in which we expect the very best from ourselves and those around us. These expectations require a strong sense of accountability to one another as well. What is our individual role in making Canastota the premier school community in our region? It is focusing on creating and seizing opportunity, communicating effectively with one another, and accepting the level of individual accountability necessary to maintain a culture of high expectations. If we can do this, we can successfully tackle the many challenges that lie ahead. I am confident that together we are up for the challenge, and I look forward to working with you to ensure that Canastota is THE premier school community in our region. Anything less than being the best does not adequately do justice to the proud legacy of this great community.

Sincerely,

Shawn Bissetta, Superintendent

## Meet Our New Leaders

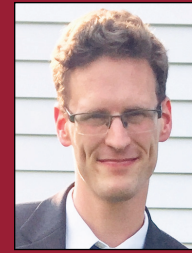
**Robert Taube** is the new principal of South Side Elementary School. He joined Canastota from Liverpool, where he was an elementary music teacher and district wide chorus director. He also served as a teacher leader and completed his administrative internships in Liverpool. Through those two roles, he completed data analyses of state ELA and Math assessments; created and facilitated professional learning communities for music, ELA and math teachers; served on many district wide committees; coordinated PBIS assemblies and a kindergarten night for parents; launched an afterschool reading program with both elementary and high school students; and assisted with literacy professional development for elementary teachers.

This summer, Mr. Taube plans to learn more about the district, including its systems to address school safety, social-emotional support, special education and character education.

“I am extremely excited to be joining the Canastota Central School District community!” he said. “I am thrilled to meet the Canastota school community over the next coming months.”

**Nicholas Panuccio, Jr.** is the new School Business Leader and will oversee the Business Office. He was previously the district treasurer for Rome and also served as treasurer for Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES. Prior to working with schools, he served as a manager at MetLife, a controller at CRM Rental Management and a manager at D’Arcangelo and Company. He also works with the Whitestown Youth Association, Broadway Theater League of Utica, Whitestown Little League, and he is an online tutor through Smarthinking in accounting, auditing and government/nonprofit sector.

And although they are not new to the district, two of our administrators are taking on new roles. **Jason Mitchell** is now the Deputy Superintendent, and **Chris Clancy** is now the Assistant Superintendent for Special Education, RTI and Technology.



Mr. Taube



Mr. Panuccio



Mr. Mitchell



Mr. Clancy

## Elementary Schools Celebrate PBIS Success



The three elementary schools met up on a beautiful Friday morning for their 2nd annual K-6 PBIS Celebration. The year-end event helped students put into action the character education and community-building work they’ve been doing all year – playing cooperative games, demonstrating teamwork and creating posters illustrating citizenship, responsibility and empathy. Teachers and principals set up activity stations around the high school athletic complex, and students from all three schools had a picnic lunch together on the infield. They closed out the celebration in style with an outdoor dance party.



# Congratulations, Seniors!

## Class of 2019 Post-Graduation Plans

Agans, Ethan	Air Force	Lynd, Taylor (Tyler)	MVCC
Appler, Amber	Employment	MacDonald, Trinity (Matt)	Employment
Armstrong, Patrick	West Point Academy	Madonia, Francene	Employment
Bagley, Corey	Employment	Malbouf, Jacob	SUNY Delhi
Barnello, Lucas	Clarkson	Marsala, Deandra (Devin)	MECA
Barrett, Morgan	Cayuga CC	Marshall, Whitney	SUNY Morrisville
Bixby, Colbey	SUNY Delhi	McDermott, Matthew	RIT
Blanchard, Zachary	RIT	McFall, Hannah	Employment
Campbell, Chrissy	Employment	Miller, Alexandria	MVCC
Card, Katelyn	Employment	Miller, Devon	Employment
Carew, Alexis	Thomas Nelson CC	Miller, Dylan	Employment
Case, Alissa	SUNY Morrisville	Milligan, Madalyn	Russell Sage
Cashel, Kacey	Keuka College	Mitchell, MacKenzie	Marist
Cherry, Autumn	OCC	Moody, Olivia	Employment
Clark, Damian	Employment	Musacchio, Blakelyn	MVCC
Clemens, Devin	Employment	Musacchio, JoAnna	SUNY Alfred State
Coe, Kenneth	Clarkson	Notarthomas, Riley	SUNY Potsdam
Cox, Kaylie	Employment	O'Dell, Meghan	OCC
Crandall, Aiden	Employment	Parvese, Anthony	SUNY Morrisville
Crouse, Robert	SUNY Morrisville	Percival, Elaina	SUNY Morrisville
Curtis, Brea	Cazenovia College	Percival, Evelyn	SUNY Morrisville
D'Amico, Sam	Employment	Phillips, Alexandria	MVCC
Debrucque, Sam	Navy	Pistello, Joseph	OCC
Denney, Devin	OCC	Potter, Hannah	SUNY Fredonia
DiGeorge, Sam	LeMoyne	Rapasadi, Anthony	Employment
DiVeronica, Paul	Employment	Robinson, Devin Lee	MVCC
Drummond, Ashley	Employment	Rogers, Jacob	SUNY Morrisville
Drummond, Jacob	MVCC	Rouse, Nicholas	Employment
Dupre, Alex	Employment	Sexton, Arianna	Cazenovia College
Everspaugh, Savanna	Employment	Sharon, Jalen	SUNY Morrisville
Findlay, Ethan	MVCC/SUNY Oneonta	Snow, Sam	Clarkson
Fiore, Jennifer	LeMoyne	Spade, Brianna	SUNY Morrisville
Fox, Raegan	Cazenovia College	Stone, James	SUNY Morrisville
Galavotti, Rosa	OCC	Sykes, Tyler	Employment
George, Caleb	LeMoyne	Thompson, Jace	Alamance CC (NC)
Gilgallon, Noah	OCC	Townsend, Hannah	Cazenovia College
Green, Jaden	Employment	Vaccaro, Julia	OCC
Hannan, Leanne	St. John Fisher	Wagoner, Christina	MVCC
Harosia, Joshua	Employment	Wagoner, Chyann	SUNY Geneseo
Hood, Logan	University of Rochester	Wallis, Hayley	OCC
Howard, Ryan	Employment	Wallis, Wayne	Employment
Hyde, Kara	Keuka College	Whaley, Jillian	SUNY Morrisville
Kelly, Celina	Employment	White, Rielly	SUNY Morrisville
Kirsch, John	Clarkson	Whitmeyer, Garrett	Roberts Wesleyan
Knapp, Joshua	Employment	Whitmeyer, Wyatt	Bryant & Stratton
Kutzuba, Taylor	Cazenovia College	Wilcox, Loryn	Utica College
Leahey, McKenzie	Nazareth	Williams, Kamden	Employment
Leinberger, Nathan	Employment	Wilsey, Raymond	Trade School
Leinberger, Nicholas	Ringling	Wing, Kaitlynn	Nursing School
Lester, Aiden	Employment	Znuj, Hunter	OCC

## 6th Grade



## 3rd Grade



## Kindergarten



## Pre-Kindergarten



## Senior Earns CTE Certification



Chyann Wagoner, a 2019 graduate, was the sole student this year to earn a CTE Certification through the Canastota High School Business Department! She earned a double certification in Accounting and Software Engineering (Computer Programming).

For both programs, Chyann needed to pass Computer Applications I & II and Career and Financial Management. For Accounting, she completed additional courses in Entrepreneurship and Accounting, and a national exam. For Software Engineering, she completed Business Occupations, Web Design & Advanced Web Design, and Computer Programming I & II, and a national exam.

## Yearbook Receives National Honor

The Canastota Yearbook was named a Program of Excellence for its high-quality publication. It is the first time Canastota has been recognized for its yearbook and it is one of only 366 public and private schools in the nation to receive this honor.

Canastota is the only public school in Central New York, and one of only 10 in the state, to be included in this year's National Yearbook Program of Excellence. The National Yearbook Program of Excellence recognizes engaging yearbooks that reflect a broad representation of the student body while helping students develop 21st century skills such as communication, collaboration, and information and communication technologies literacy.

## 31 EARN LIONS SERVICE AWARDS



Thirty-one students earned awards for their community service from the Canastota Lions Club.

Nineteen students earned Silver Awards for 50+ hours of service: Bailey Hollibaugh, Lucianna Muir, Willow Heckerman, Lillian Ward, Alasondra Campanaro, Rossi Brown, Ryan Aumell, Jessica Evans, Xavier Farwell, Alyse Stockbridge, Natalie Freund, Abby O'Connell, Kyle Hale, Christina Wagoner, Madalyn Milligan, Chyann Wagoner, Meghan O'Dell, Lucas Barnello and Caleb Brazeau.

Twelve students earned Gold Awards for 100+ hours of service: Cara Kitchen, Rylan Skinner, Mackenzi Stevens, Emma Wood, Saige Skinner, Rebecca McClure, Richelle Brown, Matthew McDermott, Leanne Hannan, Marycathryn McClure, Celine Brazeau and Jennifer Fiore.

Jennifer Fiore received the Garad Williams Platinum Service Award for completing more than 1,200 hours of service in grades 9-12.

## Kyle Hale Earns FFA Empire Degree



Junior Kyle Hale has earned his FFA Empire Degree, a statewide award recognizing his extensive leadership, service and commitment to FFA and the agriculture field. He will receive his award in May, during the NYS FFA Convention.

He is just the second Canastota student to earn this award since the school's FFA chapter was re-chartered in 2007, FFA advisor Paula Burnor said.

To earn this award, Kyle had to complete a lengthy and rigorous process, including two years of active FFA participation, 360 hours of agriculture education and 25 hours of community service outside of his supervised agricultural experience. He also had to serve as an officer in his local chapter, deliver a six-minute speech on a topic relevant to FFA, plan chapter activities, participate in at least five activities beyond the chapter level, and maintain his grades in all of his classes, among many other requirements.

## FBLA Receives State Recognition

FBLA brought home a number of awards from their state conference this year:

- Canastota was one of the top 5 outstanding chapters in the state.
- Emily Case was elected as a NYS officer for the 2019-2020.
- Our Local Chapter Annual Report earned 1st place recognition.
- Emily Case and Ryan Aumell achieved the first level of the Community Service Awards program by volunteering for more than 50 hours this year.
- Emily also received the NYS Humanitarian Award for Community Service.
- Bryson DeMott and Eden LaRonde finished as top eight finalists in Basic Decision Making and Impromptu Speaking, respectively.
- Program of Work awards for: Power to Present, Most Charitable Chapter – Third Place, Early Bird Recognition, Fueling Your Future, Motivate to Give Back, and Pitching Profit.



In addition, advisor Elizabeth Garofalo, now retired, received the New York State Honorary Life Membership Award and was accepted into the FBLA-PBL National Advisor Wall of Fame.

## Soloists Shine At NYSSMA

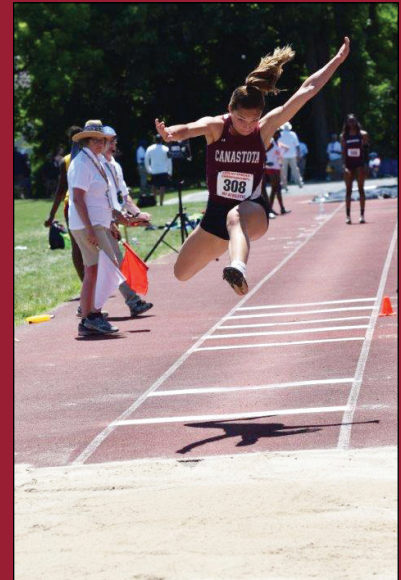
Eleven students competed at the NYSSMA Vocal Solo Festival in May and earned fantastic marks! Great job to: Karlos Santana, Trinity Krom, Kyle Evans, Maya Tucci, Lucas Piatkowski, Judah deMaintenon, Hannah Potter, Emily Snyder, Garrett Whitmeyer, Jenna Hyde and Devin Marsala.



# Track & Field Dominates Section 3

Raiders ran, jumped and threw their way to a stellar spring season, including seven sectional titles in May and a 3rd place finish at the New York State Outdoor Track and Field Championships in June.

- Devin Youker - 100M Section 3 Champion
- Laura Suppa - Pole Vault Section 3 Champion
- Cole DeKing - Pentathlon Section 3 Champion
- Stan Jakubik - Triple Jump Section 3 Champion
- Devin Lee Robinson - 100M Section 3 Champion and Triple Jump Section 3 Champion. She qualified for the NYS Championships and placed 3rd in the Triple Jump.
- Girls 4X100 Team (McKenzie Leahey, Alexandria Phillips, Devin Lee Robinson, Laura Suppa) - Section 3 Champions, qualified for the NYS Championships.



Devin Lee Robinson competing in the Triple Jump at states.

# Seniors Teach Economics At RSES



Senior Economics students tried their hand at teaching for a week this spring by partnering with 6th graders in Family and Consumer Science classes.

Twelve high schoolers prepared financial literacy lessons that included both a presentation and hands-on activities for the RSES students to work on in small groups in the library. Topics included bank accounts, interest, credit, debt, budgeting, writing checks and determining wants versus needs.



Economics teacher Carrie Ann Ronalds, Family and Consumer Science teacher Gabby Freeland

and JSHS Librarian Amanda Sgroi spearheaded the collaboration and hope to do it again next year.

The seniors who led the lessons were: Amber Appler, Colbey Bixby, Devin Denney, Sam DiGeorge, Raegan Fox, Josh Harosia, Jacob Malbouf, Evelyn Percival, Jake Rogers, Arianna Sexton, Chyann Wagoner and Kamden Williams.

# THREE HONORED AS SCHOLAR-ATHLETES



Three Raiders were recognized by Section 3 at this year's Scholar-Athlete Dinner. Logan Hood played field hockey, volleyball and softball; Zack Blanchard played soccer, volleyball and tennis; and Devin Denney played volleyball and baseball. Great work on and off the field!

# Districtwide Art Exhibition

If you missed this year's Districtwide Art Exhibition, or want to revisit the artistic talent in Canastota, check out the gallery on our Facebook page with photos of the award-winning pieces.



# district

## administration

**Mr. Shawn Bissetta**  
Superintendent

**Mr. Jason Mitchell**  
Deputy Superintendent

**Mr. Christopher Clancy**  
Assistant Superintendent for  
Special Education, RTI &  
Technology

**Mr. Nicholas Panuccio Jr.**  
School Business Leader

**Mr. Jay Altobello**  
Jr./Sr. High School Principal

**Mr. Andrew Kennedy**  
Jr./Sr. High School  
Assistant Principal

**Mr. Stanley Congden**  
Athletic Director & Jr./Sr. High  
School Assistant Principal

**Mr. Michael Faustino**  
Roberts Street Elementary  
School Principal

**Ms. Jennifer Carnahan**  
Peterboro Street Elementary  
School Principal

**Mr. Robert Taube**  
South Side Elementary  
School Principal

**Ms. Cynthia Clark**  
Transportation Supervisor

**Mr. Nick Campbell**  
Facilities Leader



## JSHS Named To National Excellence List

Canastota Junior/Senior High School has earned a national ranking on this year's U.S. News and World Report Best High Schools list. It is the 4th consecutive year that Canastota has earned national recognition from U.S. News for its quality programs and student successes.

Factors used to rank schools included college readiness, college curriculum breadth, math and reading proficiency, math and reading performance, performance of underserved students and graduation rate.

The magazine cited the school's 88% math proficiency, 82% reading proficiency and 82% graduation rate among its achievement data. Canastota has an 18% participation rate for Advanced Placement exams and a 58% rate of AP passing scores. The list also noted the school's 16:1 student-teacher ratio and that 53% of students are economically disadvantaged.

"I applaud the hard work of our students and teachers. They are so committed to creating an exceptional and caring learning environment," Junior/Senior High School Principal Jay Altobello said. "Thank you to the Canastota community for its incredible continued support."

## 2nd Graders Sponsor Shelter Dog



SSES 2nd graders raised almost \$300 for Wanderers' Rest Humane Association this spring selling homemade dog biscuits. The money will sponsor a dog named Zeus and pay for all of his shots and other needs! As a thank you, shelter staff brought some of their friends to school for a meet and greet!

# board of

## education

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*President*

**Mr. Loran Crosby**  
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