



theHive

Build • Educate • Empower

BALDWINSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024 - ISSUE 187

WWW.BVILLE.ORG

Superintendent's Message



Looking back on the first half of the 2023-2024 school year, I'm full of pride for our students' achievements and accomplishments. This is the time of year when their hard work shines bright in the classrooms, on stage and on the field. I know teachers, staff and parents/guardians share this feeling of pride with me!

It's been a privilege to witness the growth in our students as they master new skills and reach new academic milestones. From UPK students who are learning the alphabet to seniors who are challenging themselves in advance placement courses at our high school, the growth of knowledge is exceptional.

I continue to be impressed by our students' creativity and talent. Inside this edition of the Hive, you'll find information on the 2024 CNY Scholastic Art Awards, photos from our spring musical, and highlights from our music

department.

I'm also proud of our athletic teams who had fantastic winter seasons, including our Boys Swimming & Diving Team who made history with our first ever Section III championship title and our Boys Indoor Track and Field Team who won the Section III championship for the third consecutive year. I'm also proud of our first-ever girls varsity wrestling team who has an exciting future! Inside this Hive, you'll find more highlights from our winter sports season.

Please make sure to check out the back page of this Hive for important school calendar reminders and dates for special events this spring.

Happy spring! Go Bees!

Sincerely,

Dr. Joseph M. DeBarbieri
Superintendent of Schools



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District News

Capital Improvement Projects Update

Phase 1 work at Durgee Junior High School that was approved by the voters in May 2022 is currently being reviewed by contractors and bids were provided to the District in early March. Work is planned to begin this month.

The initial work will include preparing for the new gymnasium. District administrators have been working closely with the capital project team to ensure student learning will be impacted the least amount as possible as construction will continue into the 2024-25 school year. The project also includes the reconstruction and reconfiguration of the existing technology, music and art space, kitchen, cafeteria and creating STEAM space. The main office will be housed near the nurses office and guidance to create a safe and secure main entrance off the current bus loop. Upgrades to the building's infrastructure are also included in the project.

Phase 2 work that was approved by the voters in May of 2023 is currently being reviewed by

the NYS Facilities planning office. The majority of work will be at Ray Middle School, C.W. Baker High School and the athletic complex located on the District's main campus. The project proposal also includes site work and parking improvements, and drinking fountain

and plumbing fixture upgrades at Durgee Junior High School and Elden Elementary School. We anticipate the new turf field to be under construction by June 2024. The remaining work is still in the design phase.

The Facilities Committee continues to work on a long-range infrastructure plan with a focus on maximizing the District's state aid and

optimizing opportunities for students. The District hired an educational consultant to work with a community group to review infrastructure and educational needs over the last year. This work has been completed and recommendations are currently being reviewed with the focus on determining how we best utilize our buildings into the future.



District Announces Administrative Changes to its Business Office

Baldwinsville Central School District is pleased to announce that Business Official Tiffany Turner was appointed by the Board of Education to serve as our Assistant Superintendent for Management Services effective May 1, 2024.

Kim Vile, our current Assistant Superintendent for Management Services, has accepted a position with the Utica City School District effective May 1, 2024. We are grateful for Ms. Vile's service to our district. She has assisted Superintendent Dr. Joseph M. DeBarbieri, and

the rest of the administrative cabinet, through numerous changes and challenges, including COVID, over the last few years.

We are excited for Mrs. Turner to be promoted from her current School Business Official position to Assistant Superintendent and we know the transition will be seamless given her experience and understanding of our district's operations.



District News

District Hires Additional Special Patrol Officer to Serve on Main Campus

The Baldwinsville Central School District hired a new officer to serve on its main campus.

Special Patrol Resource Officer Michael Johnson started in January and is assigned to assist School Resource Officer Jenna Quattrini at C.W. Baker High School and School Resource Officer Jared Zeppetello at Durgee Junior High School.

“Officer Johnson is an excellent addition to our District,” said Superintendent Dr. Joseph M. DeBarbieri. “Safety and security are extremely important to our district and increasing the number of officers on our main campus is a proactive measure to help keep our students, staff and families safe.”

Officer Johnson served 20 years in the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office before retiring in November 2023. Prior to his retirement he was the training coordinator for the Central New York Regional Law Enforcement Academy

where he was responsible for training new recruits in the field of Correction and Police. Johnson is now employed by the Baldwinsville Police Department.

With the hiring of Officer Johnson, the district now has a total of nine officers serving its schools.

Baldwinsville Board of Education President Victor Jenkins said the school board supported the hiring of an additional officer because initiatives that keep students safe are what the community wants.

“We listen to the concerns of the public and we continue to enhance our security and safety measures,” Jenkins said. “This district has always been a leader in safety and security and we will continue to do whatever it takes to keep our community safe.”



SAVE THE DATE

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING & MEET THE BOE CANDIDATES

Monday, May 13, 2024 -- 6:00 p.m.
District Transportation Center
2810 West Entry Road, Baldwinsville



PUBLIC BUDGET VOTE

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 -- 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
District Operations Building
29 East Oneida Street, Baldwinsville

Visit our Website for
Absentee Ballot and
Early Voting
Applications, and
more information.



Community Café



Wednesday, May 8, 2024

6 to 8 p.m.

C.W. Baker High School
Cafeteria

Topic: Wellness

SHARING IDEAS &
PERSPECTIVES ON IMPORTANT
TOPICS IMPACTING OUR
SCHOOL COMMUNITY

JOIN US

Registration Required

Link will be available on www.bville.org



Office of Curriculum & Instruction



From the Desk of Renee M. Burnett, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

In 2019, the Board of Regents created a Blue Ribbon Commission to review New York's graduation requirements. Finally, in November 2023, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) presented the recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures to the Board of Regents.

Since the release of the report in November, NYSED has been preparing guidance and possible programmatic and regulatory changes to address the twelve recommendations shown below:

- Replace the three diploma types with one diploma, with the option to add seals and endorsements.
- Include civic responsibility (ethics); cultural competence; financial literacy education; fine and performing arts; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) credit(s); and writing, including writing skills for real-world scenarios in diploma credit requirements.
- Ensure access to career and technical education (CTE), including internships and work-based learning opportunities for all students.
- Move to a model that organizes credit requirements— including content area credit requirements— into larger categories (e.g., mathematics and science courses could be included in the “STEM” category).
- Reduce and/or modify diploma assessment requirements to allow more assessment options.
- Create state-developed rubric(s) for any performance-based assessments allowed as an option to satisfy the diploma assessment requirements.
- Create more specific, tailored graduation requirements to address the unique circumstances of certain groups of students (e.g., non-compulsory age students, newcomer students, refugee students).
- Provide exemptions from diploma assessment requirements for students with significant cognitive disabilities and major life events

- and extenuating circumstances (e.g., medical conditions, death of a family member, trauma prior to sitting for a required exam).
- Pursue regulatory changes to allow the discretion to confer high school degrees posthumously.
- Require all New York State teacher preparation programs to provide instruction in culturally responsive-sustaining education (CRSE) practices and pedagogy.
- Require that professional development plans include culturally responsive-sustaining education practices and pedagogy.
- Review and revise the New York State learning standards.
- Districts across the state, including Baldwinsville, are awaiting the scheduled release of this guidance sometime during April 2024. The district, upon receiving updated guidance, will begin the process of examining our current curriculum, instructional and assessment practices to make any necessary changes.

In the meantime, please check out some of the exciting things currently happening in our departments across the district.



From the Desk of Tony Cardamone, Director of Elementary Education

NEW SCIENCE EXAMS: In May 2024, students in Grades 5 and 8 will be taking new science exams aligned to the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards (NYS SLS). Districts are required to administer these exams on computers. Previously, students took the NYS science assessments in Grades 4 and 8; these exams were paper-based and included a performance-based portion.

In preparation for the new exams, teachers have been hard at work implementing the newly required Science Investigations for students in grades 3-8. Released by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) in October 2022, these hands-on activities are designed to assess students' understanding of the NYS SLS. The Science Investigations are similar to a lab in that students hypothesize, investigate concepts, make observations, collect data, and summarize their

Office of Curriculum & Instruction

learning. Because the Science Investigations are embedded into regular classroom instruction, students will no longer engage in a performance-based assessment as a part of the NYS Grades 5 and 8 exams.



From the Desk of Christina Morgan, Director of Secondary Education

An important part of a well-rounded curriculum is providing experiential learning opportunities for students at all levels. Field trips play a vital role in enhancing the educational experience of students by providing practical and tangible learning opportunities beyond the confines of the classroom. Below are some highlights of both recent and upcoming field trips offered to students at the secondary level.

On February 15th, six Baker High School students attended the 1st Amendment-1st Vote Regional Seminar Day where students collaborated with peers from Auburn, Corcoran, Henninger, and Nottingham Schools. The highlight of the field trip was roundtable chats with local female leaders such as Rachel May, NYS Senator 48th District, Pamela J Hunter, NYS Assembly 128th District, and many more.

During February break, five Durgee students attended a Micron Careers in a High Tech World event at OCM BOCES. During the event, students were able to meet Micron engineers and OCC professors who provided insight to the various jobs available in the technology industry/field. Students were also able to participate in several hands-on activities related to technology and engineering.

In March, 8th grade students taking Journalism (ELA 8) attended the Syracuse Stage production of Murder on the Orient Express which is the core text used for this class. Students will sharpen their language skills by comparing and contrasting the novel with the production.

In April, five Ray students will attend a Chip Camp hosted by Liverpool CSD in conjunction with Micron. Over the course of three days, students will engage in hands-on STEM activities and take field trips to both Cornell University and Elite Gaming!

Also in April, Baker students enrolled in Project

Lead the Way courses for Human Body Systems and Biomedical Innovation will travel to Upstate Medical University to experience an Anatomage Table, an interactive 3D anatomy and physiology table. Students will also have the opportunity to tour the different programs housed at Upstate Medical and learn about potential careers in the medical field.

Field trips contribute to an enriched learning experience by promoting real-world learning, cultural understanding, social development, and inspiration, ultimately preparing students for success in both academic and real-life settings. The district is proud to offer these educational outings to our students and appreciates the support of the community in these endeavors.



From the Desk of RJ DeLisle, Director of Technology

In the ever-evolving digital landscape, where communication is predominantly conducted through electronic means, the importance of email security cannot be overstated, especially in the context of school districts. Educational institutions handle vast amounts of sensitive information, ranging from student records and financial data to internal communications. Ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of this information is paramount to the smooth functioning of a school district and the safety of its stakeholders.

To keep ahead of burgeoning cyber threats, the district recently launched email protection software that will help reduce the chances of cybercriminals from accessing internal resources and information. With this new program, all emails are scanned for signs of fraud, malicious URLs or attachments that are meant to cause harm. If a threat is identified, the email is blocked and prevented from reaching the user's inbox.

For complete updates and more news from the Director of Technology RJ DeLisle and Director of Academic Services & Accountability Danielle Nahorney, please scan the QR code to view on our website.



Fine Arts

Baker, Durgee Students Earn 62 CNY Scholastic Art Awards in 2024 Contest

Thirty-three C.W. Baker High School and Durgee Junior High School students earned CNY Scholastic Art Awards.

Combined the students earned 62 Gold Key, Silver Key and Honorable Mentions in various categories, including photography, sculpture, digital art, drawing and painting, and more.

The CNY Scholastic Art Awards, sponsored by the M&T Charitable Foundation, has conducted an annual Scholastic Art Awards program for more than 70 years. The CNY region covers a very large geographic area – 13 counties and almost 400 eligible schools.

Each year thousands of pieces of art are submitted for judging. Professional artists, educators and photographers select award winners during the judging process.



The winning pieces and portfolios were on display throughout the Whitney Applied Technology Center at Onondaga Community College in February. Visit our website to see the list of winners and watch a video of their artwork. Congratulations, Bees!



Fine Arts



The Marching Bees took part in the Syracuse St. Patrick's Day Parade for the tenth year in a row. The Bees were also awarded the prestigious "Stan Colella" first place/best high school band award for the tenth consecutive year. Go Bees!

Marching Band Director Casey Vanderstouw wins Music Educator Award



WCNY Classic FM honored C.W. Baker High School Music Teacher and Marching Band Director Casey Vanderstouw with the Music Educator Award.

The award spotlights local music educators in the community who are dedicated to sustaining the performing arts and have had a strong positive influence on their students. Winners are nominated by members of the community.

"We are so grateful that WCNY recognizes and honors the great work that teachers like Mr. Vanderstouw do with students each and every day," said Baker Principal Kris Denton. "Mr. Vanderstouw goes above and beyond to provide special opportunities and experiences for our music students at C.W. Baker High and we thank WCNY for recognizing his outstanding efforts!"



Superintendent Dr. Joseph M. DeBarbieri was honored recently by the National Band Association with the Outstanding Administrator Award. Awards were also given to other district administrators and members of our Board of Education for their support of instrumental music education!

Concerts held in the auditorium at C.W. Baker High School are livestreamed on the Baldwinville Music and Theater Department's YouTube channel. Watch live or view recordings anytime!

SCAN ME!

www.youtube.com/@baldwinsvillemusicandtheat9107

Baldwinsville Community Hall of Fame for the Visual and Performing Arts

Please join us...

Induction Ceremony

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 7 p.m.
C.W. Baker High School Auditorium**



Jon Barden

Jon taught Drama & Public Speaking at Baker High School for 30 years and helped to launch musicals at the school. He acted and directed in productions at Theatre Guild for 40 years!

Cathy Strong

Cathy was a Rockette, a USO performer, choreographer and actor. She choreographed shows for Baker musicals for 11 years and helped students with college auditions.

Jennifer Scott Miceli

Jennifer, a Baker grad, is a Long Island University Professor of Music, Administrator and Chairman of Music Education, clinician, adjudicator, director, singer, lecturer, and flutist.

Richard Simiele (posthumously)

Richard taught at Ray Middle School for 26 years and started the middle school music program. He developed 26 one-act musicals, unique to the Baldwinsville community.

Michael Conway

Mike was an art teacher at Reynolds Elementary for 40 years. Since his retirement in 2016, he has continued an artistic presence in the area through volunteer projects.

Garrett Heater

Garrett, a Baker grad, is an award-winning playwright who teaches visual Arts and Music in Oswego and in Harlem. He is co-founder and artistic director of both the Covey Theatre Company and the Chelsea Opera of New York.

Phill Sterling

Phill taught music in all of BCSD's school buildings for over 34 years. He served as Administrator of the High School Marching Band for 8 of those years before retiring in 2010.



Athletics



Go Bees: Winter 2024 Champions

Boys Swimming & Diving – Section III Class A Champions

- **Matt Lange, Lucas Clay, Mikey White, Alex Nicita**** – 200 Medley Relay Champions & 400 Free Relay Champions
- **Lucas Clay**** – 200 Individual Medley Champion & 100 Breast Champion. Named “Co-Swimmer of the Meet”
- **Mikey White**** – 100 Free Champion
- **Nicolas Pompo**** – Named “Diver of the Meet” at the Section 3 Class A Diving Championships
- **Coach Chris Ludden** – Awarded the Section III Boys Swimming Mike Farrell Award -- Class A Coach of the Year

Boys Indoor Track & Field – Section III Class AA Championship

- **Ryan Wilson** – 3200 Run Champion
- **Paul Clark, Ryan Wilson, Zachary Arria and Noah Covert**** – 3,200 Relay Champion
- **Douglas Clark** – Pole Vault Champion
- **Camden Davis** – Weight Throw Champion
- **Kelsey Dwyer**** (Girls Indoor Track & Field) – Pole Vault Champion
- **Julianna Gingrich** (Girls Indoor Track & Field) – Shot Put Champion
- **Kamryn Barton** (Girls Indoor Track & Field) Intersectional Relay at Indoor Track & Field Championship
- **Elizabeth Hildreth and Samantha Hass** (Girls Bowling) – Earned a spot on the Section III team to participate in the Girls Bowling State Tournament
- **Judson Ferris** (Boys Wrestling) – Competed in the Boys Wrestling State Championship

**Section Champions who also competed in state competition

Around our Schools

District awarded Planet Stewards Grant from NOAA to create butterfly garden on main campus

A district-wide science project is taking place on the main campus where more than 40 teachers and hundreds of students from all over our school buildings are busy working on the creation of a butterfly garden.

The B'ville Butterfly Garden, which will be located between the athletic stadium and Albert Palmer Lane near our outdoor classroom, will focus on restoring native habitat while also creating an educational site that will be used to inspire future stewards. Durgee Science Teacher Kyle O'Sullivan, with support of Durgee Administrative Intern Eric Ziegler and many others, is leading the project, after being awarded the Planet Stewards Grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The \$5,000 grant is being used to develop a native pollinator garden. Native plants will be used to restore 0.4 acres of habitat while mitigating runoff to a neighboring stream.

"This educational garden will create a sense of connection and empower through knowledge and learning," Mrs. O'Sullivan said. "Students throughout the district are playing different roles to help with design, research, habitat creation, cultivation and maintenance of the garden."

Here are some highlights of the progress:

- Carla Senecal at Durgee and her graphics design class hosted an Environmental Educator from the Rosamond Gifford Zoo, Mary Hillebrand, whose speciality is in interpretive signage. They designed interpretive signage to educate garden visitors about the different types of plants

in the garden and ways we can support pollinators.

- Joanna McCaffrey at Durgee and her ceramics class is currently making pollinator watering bowls to add to the garden.
 - Katie Corbishly and the entire 3rd grade class at McNamara Elementary School received a program from Environmental Educators at Beaver Lake to learn more about the butterfly life cycle and gardening for pollinators
 - Dan Hyland and the entire 3rd grade class at Elden Elementary School received a program from Environmental Educators at Beaver Lake to learn more about the butterfly life cycle and gardening for pollinators
- The Growing Green Club at Durgee Junior High School met with Stephanie Reeves, a gardener who owns Wild Meadow Greenhouses. Ms. Reeves is supplying the district with 2,000 plugs of native wildflowers to plant in the garden.



Around our Schools



Palmer Elementary School participated in the PARP (Pick A Reading Partner) program and the Palmer PTA purchased nearly 500 copies of "Wishtree" by Kathrine Applegate for every student and staff member. At the end of PARP, Palmer created its own "wish tree" where students and staff members could express their own wishes.

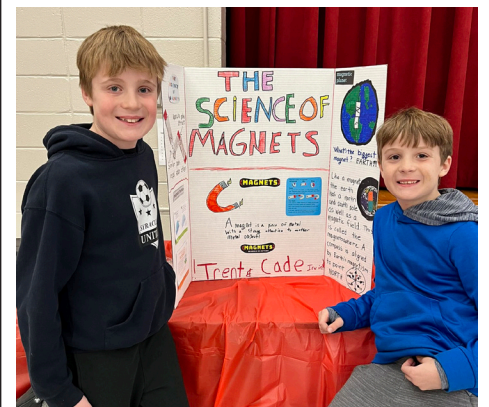


Reynold Elementary honors a bus each month to be "Bus of the Month." The driver gets VIP parking and students get to wear pajamas on Fridays.



Reese Fadden Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser

A total of \$5,156 was raised for the Reese Fadden Memorial Scholarship in February. All elementary schools participated in a "Pajama Day for Reese" and a donation was made from Durgee's school store.



Van Buren Elementary School student scientists presented, explored and experimented at the annual PTA STEM Night on March 22nd.

SAVE THE DATES!



**Culture Fest
May 7th**



**Special Champions
May 20th**



**Graduation
June 22nd**

School News For
POSTAL PATRON
(dated material)

April Calendar Reminders

- April 8th:** Early Release - Solar Eclipse -- See bville.org for details
- April 9th:** Marking Period Ends
- April 10th:** No School Superintendent's Conference Day
- April 15th:** Board of Education Work Session
- April 19th:** Spring Break Week Starts (April 19th to April 26th)
- April 29th:** Students Return to School from Spring Break
- April 30th:** Grades 3-8 Assessments (ELA/Math/Science)



Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week
May 6th-10th



Please Note:
All Events are
subject to
change.

The Hive Baldwinsville Central School District

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(315) 638-6043

- Dr. Joseph M. DeBarbieri**
Superintendent of Schools
- Ms. Renee M. Burnett**
*Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum, Instruction &
Assessment*
- Mr. David H. Kilcourse**
*Assistant Superintendent for
Human Resources*
- Ms. Karrie L. LaMacchia**
*Assistant Superintendent for
Student Services*
- Ms. Kimberly A. Vile**
*Assistant Superintendent for
Management Services*
- Mrs. Tiffany E. Turner**
Business Official

School Board Members

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President
- Mr. Andrew Henty**
Vice President
- Mr. Wayne Davison Jr.**
- Mr. Luke Gasowski**
- Mr. Donald R. Miller**
- Ms. Christy Pavetto**
- Mrs. Sam (Sherry) Schraven**
Ms. Mya Pangaro
Ex-Officio Student Member

Sarah Buckshot
Hive Editor
sbuckshot@bville.org

Open Positions

- Food Service Helpers
- Bus Drivers
- Bus Attendants
- Substitute positions available
- New and anticipated positions added often

Questions?

Food Service: 315-638-6063
Transportation: 315-638-6097

How to Apply

Visit www.bville.org/hr or
scan the QR code below



We're Hiring

- ✓ Flexible Hours
- ✓ No Weekends
- ✓ No Holidays
- ✓ Paid Time Off
- ✓ Eligible for NYS Retirement System