



# Tiger TRADITIONS

**BUDGET EDITION**

*Inspiring Excellence and Leadership in All!*

2022-2023 Budget Edition - Volume 27 • Issue 7

## Districtwide Grades 3/4 Battle of the Books Champion Crowned

In another thrilling edition of the district-wide Battle of the Books competition for MACS third- and fourth-graders, a Mexico Elementary School team walked away winners in what was a highly competitive match.

The trio of Lillian Smith, John DeStevens and Aria Pultorak, known by their team name "The 3 Rockin' Racers" won the six-team competition that included two teams from each of the district's three elementary schools.

"The 3 Rockin' Racers are all about synergy," said Mexico Elementary librarian and team mentor Meg Cernaro. "They put first things first and have practiced very proactively for these battles. We are all proud of their hard work and determination!"

The six teams gave their all during the competition during a recent evening in front of a crowd of family and friends in the Mexico Middle School Auditorium. All teams had qualified for the contest by earning a top two finish in their own school-wide Battle of the Books.

As part of the Battle of the Books competition, student book enthusiasts form teams, read a selection of chapter books and then answer questions to test their reading comprehension and knowledge. The teams faced off in two rounds of eight questions each, with a tiebreaker required to determine second place.

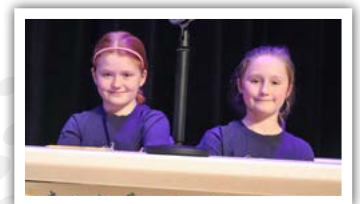
Ultimately, The 3 Rockin' Racers won the competition with Palermo Elementary's Team Puppy in second followed by Mexico Elementary's Book Rockets in third. Other teams that qualified and took part in the district

Battle of the Books included Palermo's The Super Kittens and New Haven's The Book Bosses and The Readers.

The winning trio advanced to take on other districts' champions in the regional Battle of the Books.



Winners! The 3 Rockin' Racers



Book Rockets



Team Puppy



The Book Bosses

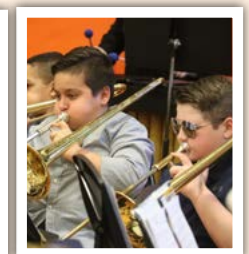
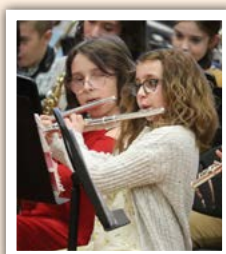


The Readers



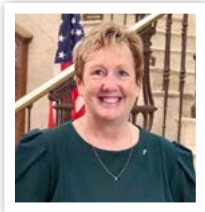
The Super Kittens

## Music in Our Schools Month **rocks!**



MACS celebrated Music in Our Schools month with three concerts during the month of March featuring all its music and band programs. Pictured are photos from the second concert held March 22.

## A Message from the Superintendent



*Dear MACS Family and Community,*

This newsletter submits the proposed budget for Mexico Academy and Central School District for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Our goal is to partner with you to develop a budget that aligns resources that support our mission to educate and motivate our students to be successful, responsible citizens. We surveyed multiple stakeholders to determine priorities for our district. We were diligent in keeping those priorities in mind as the budget was created and presented to the Board of Education for approval.

This past year, we opened a ConnexCare Student-Based Health Center at the Middle School. This center services students from the Middle School as well as Palermo and New Haven Elementary Schools. This health center is a wonderful resource for primary, dental and mental health care for our families.

Additionally, we partnered with Liberty Resources to expand services from the high school to the middle school. Liberty Resources supports our families in basic needs, health care services, income and employment, community engagement, and legal and government services. In 2021, our scholars passed 450 college courses, earning 1,260 college credits! We have a graduation rate of 92% for the four-year cohort. Our middle school and high school bands were also finally able to go on their long-planned trip to perform at Disney World, where they received ratings of excellent and Kinzy Laffan was selected as Outstanding Soloist! In athletics, our cheerleaders, wrestling, girls' swim and boys' swim teams all qualified for state competition. Our boys' swim team won the Falwell Cup and Alexa von Holtz took third in the 200 individual medley and sixth in the butterfly.

I am immensely proud that we can offer full-day pre-kindergarten classes at each of our elementary schools with this budget. Full-day pre-K has long been a need in our community and a dream for our district as studies have shown the benefit of added classroom time. Offering this opportunity will allow our youngest scholars to obtain a solid foundation to build their academic careers in Mexico.

With a 0% tax levy increase, this budget allows us to be fiscally responsible to our community while offering robust programming for our students. We have maintained a level tax levy through the years, and you may also note that we have funds left over from the previous year. With voter approval, we would like to use some of those funds to offset taxpayer contributions to future projects such as replacing the turf in the stadium complex and for needed capital projects such as building roof repairs and window replacement.

Polls are open for the annual budget vote and Board of Education election from noon to 9 p.m. at the district elementary schools May 17. If you are unsure where to vote, there is a link on our homepage, MexicoCSD.org. We hope to see you come out and take part in the vote.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Donna Runner*

**Donna Runner, Ed.D.**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

## Planting trees during Earth Week

Fifth-grade students at Mexico Middle School each took home a Norway spruce seedling as part of the 2022 Oswego County 31st Annual Plant-a-Tree Program, sponsored by the Oswego County

Soil and Water Conservation District, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oswego County 4-H Program, Constellation and the Oswego County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.



## A Message from the Board President



At our April 7, 2022, business meeting, the MACS Board of Education approved a \$61,381,000 budget for the 2022-2023 school year.

The budget represents a 2.94% increase in appropriations from the 2021-2022 school budget.

Mindful of the current economic conditions facing our District residents, the Board made a decision not to raise the tax levy, that is, the amount of the budget raised from our local tax bills that fills the gap between anticipated revenues and expenditures.

Because there will be no tax levy increase, our tax cap limit, which this year was allowed to be 5.33%, will not be reached. Therefore, a simple majority vote is only required to pass this budget.

Highlights of the 2022-2023 budget include offering full day pre-K to our youngest scholars, contractual raises for our staff, a slight hiring of recommended staff, equipment for our Buildings and Grounds Department, and a service vehicle for our Transportation Department to assist during unexpected breakdowns or emergencies.

In addition to the budget, several propositions will appear on the ballot.

Besides the familiar proposition for Student Transport Vehicles (recommended replacement of buses, etc.) there will be propositions to start a Capital Reserve Fund (for safety and Building Survey required projects) and a Turf Capital Reserve Fund (replacement of the turf field at the Mexico High School Athletic Stadium) as well as a proposition for Mexico Public Library Funding.

Regarding the proposed Capital Reserve and the Turf Capital Reserve, the rationale is to appropriate money now for these projects of the future, so less money will have to be borrowed to meet those needs. Borrowing always incurs more expenses than using savings. These reserves would act as a type of savings account for the District.

Of course, with every budget, there may be questions, so I extend an invitation for you to join us for the annual budget presentation and meet the candidates night on Thursday, May 5, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Mexico Middle School Auditorium.

Should anyone have any questions or concerns regarding this budget and the propositions prior to or following the budget presentation, please feel free to contact the MACS District Office.

To conclude, I urge all of you to exercise your right to vote Tuesday, May 17, from noon to 9 p.m. at your designated polling site at the Mexico, New Haven or Palermo Elementary Schools. As a reminder, you will be voting via paper ballots as use of voting machines was decided to be cost prohibitive.

Thank you for your consideration,

*James F. Emery*

**James F. Emery**  
**President**

*Mexico Academy and Central School Board of Education*



# 2022 - 2023 SCHOOL BUDGET SPECIAL SECTION

## BUDGET VOTE and SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Tuesday, May 17 • Noon - 9 p.m.

Mexico, New Haven and Palermo Elementary Schools

Voters will be asked to decide upon five (5) propositions, which includes the adoption of the proposed budget for the school year commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023, and to elect two (2) Board of Education members.

### PROPOSITION I – THE BUDGET

Shall the proposed budget for the Mexico Central School District as recommended by the Board of Education for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, in the amount of \$61,381,000 be adopted and shall the Board of Education be authorized to levy the necessary taxes, therefor?

### PROPOSITION II - STUDENT TRANSPORT VEHICLES

Shall the Board of Education purchase and finance seven (7) student transportation vehicles at an estimated cost not to exceed \$700,000.00 including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$700,000.00 which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and levy a tax for the foregoing in the amount of \$700,000.00 which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$700,000.00 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

### PROPOSITION III - 2022 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Shall the following proposition be adopted, to wit?:  
RESOLVED, that in accordance with Education Law section 3651, the Board of Education of the Mexico Academy and Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund, to be designated "2022 Capital Reserve Fund," to defray the cost of construction and reconstruction of School District buildings, facilities and grounds, including original equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, furnishings, and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, in an ultimate amount not to exceed Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) plus accrued interest and other investment earnings. The 2022 Capital Reserve Fund shall have a probable term of ten (10) years. The Board of Education is further authorized to pay into the 2022 Capital Reserve Fund in the 2021-2022 school year and annually thereafter funds from the School District's available funds balance, State aid reimbursement to the School District on account of capital projects, such other monies as the voters may direct, and other legally available funds of the School District in an amount determined by the Board of Education up to the maximum authorized amount.

### PROPOSITION IV- 2022 TURF CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Shall the following proposition be adopted, to wit?:  
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Mexico Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law, to be designated "2022 Turf Capital Reserve Fund," to defray the cost to, in whole or in part, finance renovation of the School District's athletic turf field including all costs incidental thereof, and in order to accomplish the same, in an amount not to exceed Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000.00) plus accrued interest and other investment earnings. The 2022 Turf Capital Reserve Fund shall have a probable term of ten (10) years. The Board of Education is hereby authorized to pay into the 2022 Turf Capital Reserve Fund in the 2021-22 school year and annually thereafter funds from the School District's available funds balance, State aid reimbursement to the School District, such other monies as the voters may direct, and other legally available funds of the School District, including funds generated by field use fees, in an amount determined by the Board of Education up to the maximum authorized amount.

### PROPOSITION V- MEXICO PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING

Shall the sum of Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$85,000), which is an increase of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) over the existing levy of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000), be raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable real property within the Mexico Academy & Central School District for the purpose of funding the Mexico Public Library?

### SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES:

TWO (2) THREE-YEAR VACANCIES (VOTE FOR TWO)

DENNIS BROOKS

SOBRINA VAZQUEZ

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

## WHAT IS A CAPITAL RESERVE FUND AND WHY DOES MACS NEED THEM?

General Municipal Law allows school districts to set aside certain monies in a Reserve Fund to be used for a particular purpose in the future. Voter approval is needed to both establish the reserve and spend from it. By setting aside funds that may not be used in a particular year, the

taxpayer impact for future capital projects can be reduced. For instance, voter approval of a Capital and Turf Reserves would allow the District to set aside funds to reduce the amount of taxes that need to be raised to pay for safety, security, and infrastructure repairs in the future.

# 2022-2023 School Budget Vote and School Board Election

## PROPOSED BUDGET

	2021-22 ADOPTED BUDGET	2022-23 PROPOSED BUDGET
<b>General Support</b>		
Board of Education	\$40,750	\$41,020
Central Admin	\$247,274	\$254,380
Finance	\$535,280	\$537,280
Staff (inc. Legal)	\$592,677	\$619,055
Central Services	\$5,039,497	\$5,067,630
Special Items	\$1,238,385	\$1,266,572
Total General Support	\$7,693,863	\$7,785,937
<b>Instruction</b>		
Administration & Improvement	\$1,838,876	\$1,854,910
Teaching	\$22,565,446	\$23,374,690
Instructional Media	\$2,613,020	\$2,597,635
Pupil Services	\$2,713,821	\$2,755,680
Total Instruction	\$29,731,163	\$30,582,915
<b>Pupil Transportation</b>		
Total Pupil Transportation	\$3,249,551	\$3,528,127
<b>Community Service</b>		
Total Community Service	\$148,150	\$155,750
<b>Undistributed</b>		
Employee Benefits	\$13,596,258	\$14,019,595
Debt Service	\$5,208,215	\$5,308,676
Total Undistributed	\$18,804,473	\$19,328,271
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$59,627,200</b>	<b>\$61,381,000</b>

## REVENUE

	2021-2022 REVENUE	2022-2023 REVENUE
State Aid	\$33,404,560	\$34,627,595
PILOT/Reserves/Other	\$11,415,010	\$10,102,737
Taxes	\$12,807,630	\$12,694,435
Fund Balance	\$2,000,000	\$3,956,233
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$59,627,200</b>	<b>\$61,381,000</b>

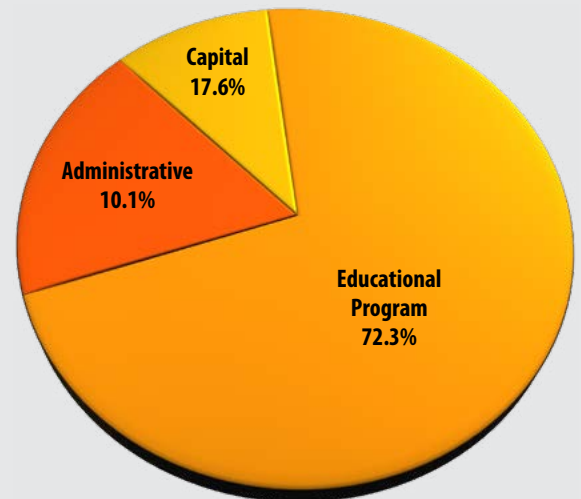
## The Three-Component Budget

The state legislation which requires the state's school districts to have a public budget vote, includes the requirement that the budget be divided up into three components: program, capital, and administration. (see chart below)

**Administration Budget:** This section includes central administration and school offices, along with clerical support, salaries and benefits and related expenses of all school administrators, board of education expenses for planning, legal expenses and other administrative activities.

**Educational Program Budget:** This portion covers teacher salaries, school supplies and all related educational costs.

**Capital Budget:** Refers to all facilities costs such as leases, annual debt service, custodial salaries and benefits, service contracts, custodial supplies, maintenance and repair of facilities and utilities.



## BUDGET HEARING

**Thursday, May 5 at 6 p.m.  
in the MS Auditorium**

VISIT [www.mexicocsd.org](http://www.mexicocsd.org) for meeting details

# BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2021-22 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2022-23 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 59,627,200	\$ 61,381,000	\$ 60,973,560
Increase/Decrease for the 2022-23 School Year		\$ 1,753,800	\$ 1,346,360
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.94 %	2.26%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		4.7%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 12,807,631	\$ 12,694,435	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$	\$	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$	\$	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$	\$	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 12,807,631	\$ 12,694,435	\$ 12,694,435
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 904,406	\$ 1,037,834	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 11,903,225	\$ 12,333,362	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 11,903,225	\$ 11,656,601	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 0	\$ 676,761	
Administrative Component	\$ 6,266,483	\$6,174,220	\$ 6,151,056
Program Component	\$42,618,732	\$44,377,877	\$44,072,094
Capital Component	\$10,741,985	\$10,828,903	\$10,750,410

\* Should the proposed budget be defeated twice, pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law, the Board of Education must adopt a contingent budget. The following items are excluded from a contingent budget: most equipment purchases, certain student supplies, non-essential maintenance, transportation of students under mileage limits set by state law, and public use of school building and grounds, except where there is no cost to the District. In light of the Property Tax Cap, under contingency the school district can levy no more taxes than the amount of taxes levied in the prior school year by the district.

\*\* List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
Bus Proposition – Seven (7) Vehicles	\$700,000
Turf Replacement Reserve	\$900,000
Capital Project Reserve	\$10,000,000

\*NOTE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUSINESS OFFICIALS: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: [emscmgts@nysed.gov](mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2022-23 School Year
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Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$ 504
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The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2022-23 by the qualified voters of the Mexico Academy & Central school district, Oswego County, New York, will be held at District Elementary school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at between the hours of noon and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the District Elementary school(s), at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

## TAX LEVY AND CAP

Real Property Tax Levy 2021-2022		\$12,694,435
Tax Base Growth Factor		1.0097
PILOTs Receivable FYE 2022	+	\$9,041,193
Capital Tax Levy Exclusion FYE 2022 (Includes BOCES Capital Exemptions)	-	\$904,406
Allowable Levy Growth Factor		1.0200
PILOTs Receivable FYE 2023	-	\$9,040,083
Available Carryover from FYE 2022	+	\$0
Tax Levy Limit Before Adjustments/Exclusions		\$12,333,362
Capital Tax Levy Exclusion FYE 2022 (Includes BOCES Capital Exemptions)	+	\$1,037,834
Teachers' Retirement System Exclusion		\$0
Employees' Retirement System Exclusion		\$0
Total Exclusions		\$1,037,834
MACS 2022-2023 Tax Levy Limit, With Exclusions		\$13,371,196
		5.33%

**Note: 2022-2023 Budgeted Tax Levy is \$12,694,435 or 0% increase from 2021-2022 Actual Levy.**

## MACS TAX BILL EXAMPLE FOR PROPOSED TAX LEVY

### EXAMPLE OF AVERAGE TAX BILL AT FULL VALUE

	2021-22	2022-23	Average Increase
<b>Average Assessment</b>	\$111,000	\$111,000	
<b>Rate per thousand</b>	\$18.46	\$18.46	\$0.00
<b>Total Tax Bill</b>	\$2,049	\$2,049	\$0

*\*This example shows the levy impact only and does not adjust for equalization rates less than 100%.*

### BUDGET VOTE & SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

**WHEN:** May 17, 2022

**HOW:** Noon to 9 p.m. at district elementary schools

### VOTERS FOR DISTRICT VOTES MUST POSSESS THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER:

- Be a citizen of the United States
- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age
- Be a resident of the District for a period of at least 30 days prior to the day of the vote
- Who is not otherwise ineligible to vote under the provisions of section 5-106 of the Election Law

Voters can vote in-person or request an absentee ballot application (COVID-19 is a valid reason to request an absentee ballot).

If there is a qualified voter who is not registered with Oswego County Board of Elections or has not voted in an annual or special school election in the last four years, contact the District Clerk Harmony M. Rice by email at HRice@mexicocsd.org or call 315-963-8400 ext. 5401.

**To be counted, completed absentee ballots must be received in the Office of the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on May 17, 2022.**



## Proud to be MACS



**Robbie Teifke, March 2022**

The Board of Education celebrated first-grade teacher and MACS alumn Robbie Teifke as its Proud to be MACS recipient for March 2022.

Robbie grew up in New Haven as the son of Barb and Bob Teifke, attending New Haven Elementary, Mexico Middle School and Mexico High School before graduating with the large and very competitive Class of 2011. He

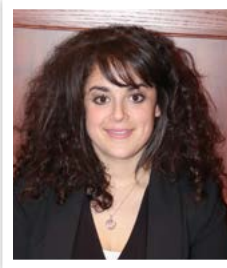
continued his education at SUNY Oswego, majoring in childhood education.

When asked why he chose education, he stated that his daily volunteering in the first-grade classrooms of his Aunt Lisa and later his sister Sarah at New Haven Elementary while he was still a student at Mexico inspired him to pursue a career as a teacher. It is the great examples set by Lisa and Sarah that Robbie tries to emulate.

After graduating from Oswego and while working for Kinney's pharmacy, Robbie started subbing for MACS. In 2017, he followed in his aunt and sister's footsteps by becoming a full-time teacher of first grade at Palermo Elementary.

When asked about the favorite part of his job, Robbie stated that, despite the tough and challenging aspects of teaching, the reward comes when he makes a difference with one of his students, something that he feels he has accomplished more often than not.

Besides teaching, Robbie undertook the challenge of serving as coordinator of "The Leader in Me" program at Palermo. Nominator Kaitlin Baker said she appreciates Robbie's efforts: "He heads our 'Leader in Me' leadership team, always planning, organizing and executing whatever needs to be done to keep our lighthouse status. Everyone in our building benefits from his 'green light' attitude."



**Ashley Cobb, April 2022**

New Haven educator Ashley Cobb, who teaches third grade, was honored at April's Board of Education as the monthly Proud to be MACS recipient.

Ashley was born in New Jersey but moved to nearby Orwell, as her dad was an avid fisherman. She graduated from Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District in 2005 and then attended Utica College to earn a criminal justice degree. While in college, she became the youngest employee in the New York State Attorney General's office.

Ultimately, the 2008 recession caused her position to be cut due to seniority. However, by turning lemons into lemonade, Ashley decided to become a substitute locally at the suggestion of her husband, Ryan, who at the time was dean of students at APW.

Between substitute teaching and recognizing a passion for nurturing and protecting children, Ashley returned to college in 2013 and obtained her master's degree at SUNY Oswego in childhood education for grades one through six. During this time, Ashley worked full time with a mental health and substance abuse clinic. She said that she gained valuable training and experience that has been most useful, especially over the past couple of years.

Also, Ashley could not say enough about her field placement and student teaching experience with Kathy Fischer at Mexico Elementary during her master's program. She spent some 15 weeks with Kathy and believed that she learned from the best.

After serving as a long-term sub at Mexico Middle School and a teaching assistant with a BOCES, Ashley joined MACS as a teaching assistant in fourth grade at Mexico Elementary. In 2016, Ashley came to New Haven as a full-time third-grade teacher where she remains today.

When asked about her favorite part of the job, Ashley emphatically stated it was her students, as she feels she retains a little piece of each of her students even as they move on to the higher grades.

Outside of work, Ashley enjoys spending time with her family. She and Ryan have a daughter, Harper, and son, Declan.

## Youth Art Month celebrated at MHS

Mexico High School students took part in various experiences and activities throughout the month of March in celebration of Youth Art Month (YAM).

YAM is a celebration of the visual arts that emphasizes the value of art education for all children and encourages support for quality school art programs. YAM focuses on recognizing skills developed through visual arts experiences unlike any other curriculum subjects, including problem solving, creativity, observation and communication.

On March 2, Advanced Art students visited the "Beyond Van Gogh Immersive Experience" in Rochester at the Dome Arena and students were thrilled by the experience.

"I have never experienced anything like that before and it was inspiring," said student Amy Gilbert.

"I can't put into words how incredible this experience was; from the moment I walked in I was in awe. Not a second were my eyes dry

as his entire life spiraled around me. Thank you so much Mrs. Malone for giving us this opportunity, truly life-changing!" student RaShaun Adams said.

In addition to the Van Gogh exhibit, visual and performing arts paired together at the Music in our Schools Month concert series. Art from kindergarten through 12th-grade students was on display for families and community members to view. Art students also volunteered their time at the second annual Community Connection Event to offer face painting.

To wrap up YAM, art students traveled to the Everson Museum in Syracuse for a docent guided tour to explore the architecture of the museum, the permanent collection and the "Forever is composed of Nows" exhibit. Also, the Art Honor Society inducted several new members March 29 and honored seniors with graduation cords to highlight student dedication in the arts.



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

James Emery - *President*  
Darlene Upcraft - *Vice President*  
Chad Bigelow  
Dennis Brooks Jr.  
Connie Douglas  
Amy Shaw  
Susan Teifke  
Kendall Cuyler - *Student Representative*

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Donna Runner  
16 Fravor Road • Mexico, NY 13114  
963-8400 Ext. 5401 • [www.mexicocsd.org](http://www.mexicocsd.org)

f MACSPride

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The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Elizabeth DiCosimo, 16 Fravor Road, Suite A, Mexico, NY 13114, 315-963-8400 x5413 or 315-402-8068. Inquiries concerning the application of the Mexico Academy & Central Schools non-discrimination policies may also be referred to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, telephone (646) 428-3800 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (TTY).

## HS Battle of the Books team finishes 3rd at regional

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR COMPETITORS WHO PUT IN HOURS OF HARD WORK! #MACSPride

Mexico High School's Tenacious Tigers, Riley Gagnier and Mallory Mills, placed third out of eight teams in the O2CM BOCES School Library System Super Regional Battle of the Books on Friday, March 25th. Mexico High School's library media specialist, Ms. Nicosia organizes the Battle of the Books annually.

Any student who is interested in joining the team for next year should see her in the Pierce Library. Students must read 8 books, and study them in detail to compete in this quiz competition.



## Iditarod racer stops at New Haven Elementary

Karen Land, a sled dog racer who has competed in the Iditarod, and a couple of her sled dogs stopped in to New Haven Elementary recently to share stories and teach about the dogs, racing and the challenges of the Alaskan winter. During the presentation, Mrs. Patterson donned Karen's sled gear for a demonstration and the students got to meet two of her actual sled dogs, Chloe and Noggin.



# BUDGET VOTE

**WHEN:**  
Tuesday, May 17, 2022

**HOW:**  
Noon to 9 p.m. at the three elementary school polling sites for MACS

Look up your poll site under resources on our home page, [MexicoCSD.org](http://MexicoCSD.org).