CANDOR CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS

November 2026
www.candorcs.org

CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mission Statement

The mission of the Candor Central School District is to empower students to be lifelong learners who are caring, capable, responsible citizens who value differences and have a meaningful, positive impact in their community.

Vision Statement

Candor Central School District will set the standard for small, rural, public school districts. Our students will be effective communicators, critical thinkers and collaborative problem solvers who excel on their path to being caring and contributing citizens.

Respectful - Responsible - Safe - Caring

The High School Staff participated in the Halloween activities as Felonius Gru & his Minions.



More Halloween festivities pictures inside!

A message from the Superintendent...

Dear Candor Families, Staff, and Community Members,

As we move into the holiday season, I want to take a moment to reflect on a fantastic start to the 2026-2027 school year. It is a true privilege to serve our school community as Superintendent of Schools, and I am continually inspired by the enthusiasm, dedication, and school spirit demonstrated by our students, staff, and families every single day.

2023 CAPITAL BUILDING PROJECT DETAILS

Approved by voters in December 2023, the $9.9 million Capital Improvement Project was designed to enhance student safety, upgrade athletic facilities, and modernize infrastructure across our district. Thanks to careful financial management, the project was successfully completed under budget.

Phase One Scope of Work

Phase One focused on essential building infrastructure, safety upgrades, and elementary school enhancements:

- **District-Wide Security Updates:** Upgraded door access controls, security cameras, and emergency alert systems.
- **Roofing Replacement:** Critical roof repairs and replacements over portions of both the Elementary and High School buildings.
- **HVAC & Mechanical Improvements:** Installation of modern climate control units to improve indoor air quality and energy efficiency.
- **Elementary Classrooms:** Flooring updates and enhanced instructional technology integration.

Phase Two Scope of Work

Phase Two concentrated on site improvements, athletic facilities, and exterior upgrades:

- **Parking & Traffic Flow:** Resurfacing and repaving of parking facilities to improve safety during pickup and drop-off.
- **Jr-Sr High School Courtyard:** Full reconstruction creating a modern outdoor learning and social space.
- **Athletic Facilities:** Upgraded discus and shot put platforms, alongside new recess pickleball and basketball courts.
- **Building Interior & Exterior:** Installation of new elementary student lockers and extensive concrete repairs across the grounds.

Project Financial Overview

The total expenditure for the project totaled approximately $9.4 million out of the authorized $9.9 million budget, resulting in significant savings that were returned to the district's capital reserves.

Thank you for your support of our Capital Improvement Project. We are deeply grateful for your investment in safe, modern facilities for our students.

I would also like to extend a special note of thanks to our faculty, staff, coaches, advisors, students, and families. Thank you for your hard work and support, which made our fall athletic season and extracurricular events such a success. Your commitment inside and outside the classroom truly shines across our entire district.

As we navigate the winter months ahead, please mark your calendars with these key district dates and upcoming events from Thanksgiving Break through February Winter Break:

- **November 25 – 27, 2026:** Thanksgiving Recess (District Closed)
- **December 2, 2026:** Early Release Day for Students
- **December 17, 2026:** Board of Education Regular Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- **December 24, 2026 – January 1, 2027:** Holiday Recess (District Closed)
- **January 6, 2027:** Early Release Day for Students
- **January 14 & 15, 2027:** Elementary Parent / Teacher Conferences
- **January 18, 2027:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (District Closed)
- **January 21, 2027:** Board of Education Regular Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- **January 26 – 29, 2027:** High School Regents Examinations
- **February 3, 2027:** Early Release Day for Students
- **February 15 – 19, 2027:** Winter Recess / Presidents' Week (District Closed)
- **February 18, 2027:** Board of Education Regular Meeting (6:30 p.m.)

Thank you once again for your partnership, dedication, and community support. Together, we will continue to make this school year a remarkable success for every Candor student!

Be well,

Kimberleigh Nichols
Superintendent of Schools
Candor Central School District

2023 Capital Project Photos



Auditorium hallway



Discus and shot put



Concrete repairs

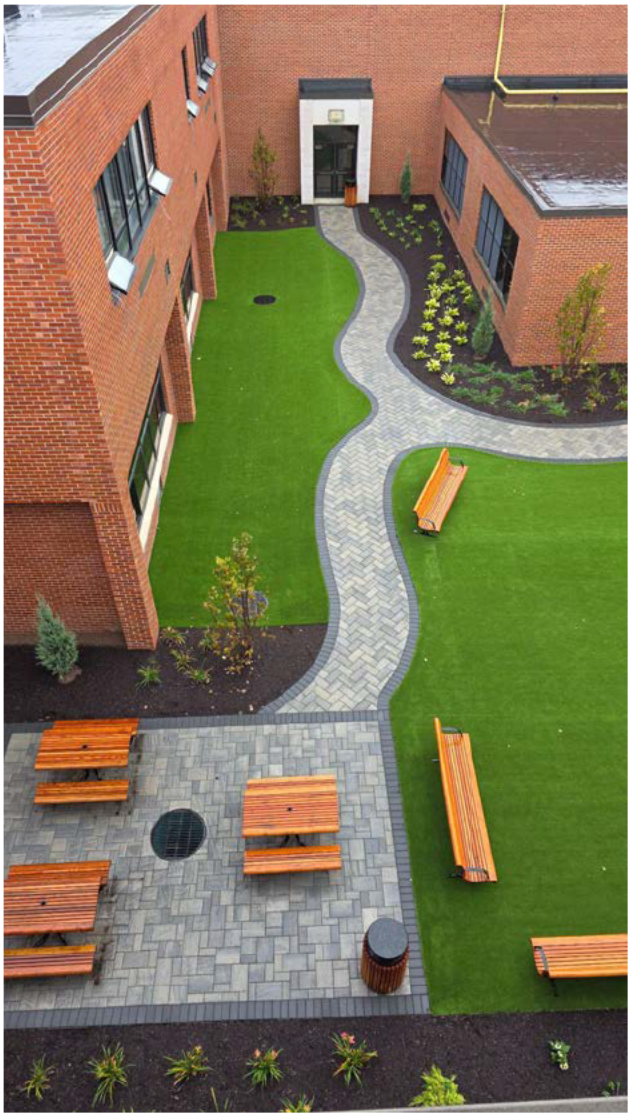


Concrete repairs



Pickleball court

2023 Capital Project Photos



High School Courtyard



High School Courtyard



Concrete repairs



New student lockers

A message from the Elementary School Principal...

Our students and staff have been working extremely hard and have accomplished so much throughout the first 10 weeks of school. December 3rd marks the end of the first trimester, with report cards going home on December 7th. We will also be hosting parent-teacher conferences later this year. Our teachers will continue their consistent, direct communication with families through Rooms and phone calls to keep you updated on your child's progress. You should expect to hear from your child's teacher at least once a week.

Last year at this time, building-wide behavior referrals had increased by 30% compared to the previous year. In response, we implemented Trauma-Informed Care strategies, maintained consistent expectations and consequences, provided mental health support, and emphasized our Coyote Code expectations (Respectful, Responsible, Safe, Caring). Thanks to our staff's diligent work and our students' great response, referral rates are currently down by 50%.

For the safety and success of our elementary students, children attending after-school events, including volleyball, basketball, and soccer games (just to name a few), **should be accompanied by a supervising adult.** Elementary students should not be dropped off at these events and left unsupervised. Elementary-aged students are still learning appropriate expectations and behaviors in different settings. They need adult guidance, support, and direction to help them be successful participants and respectful spectators at school events. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us provide a safe, positive, and enjoyable environment for all students and families. Thank you for your continued support!

Additionally, to foster a productive home-school partnership, all communication between parents and Candor staff will remain **respectful, responsible, safe, and caring** . Any communication deemed unprofessional or disrespectful will be routed through the main office or restricted altogether. We encourage open advocacy for our students while maintaining mutual civility and professionalism.

Each month, we celebrate the grade levels with the highest attendance. Our building-wide attendance rate currently stands at 96.1% - higher than last year at this time and well above the New York State average of roughly 91%. Thank you to our students and families for prioritizing attendance!

Thank you all for your support!

Sincerely,
Pete Ahart
Elementary School Principal



A message from the High School Principal...

I am pleased to report that the school year is off to a great start. Our teachers are delivering engaging lessons, and students are successfully balancing their academics with extracurricular activities. Thank you to everyone for your dedication to making this school year successful.

Following a meeting with the 7th-grade teaching team, we have updated the 7th-grade Academic Accountability Plan (AAP) to be fairer and more equitable. Students will no longer be placed on the AAP for receiving two scores of 2 (developing), as this indicates growth. ***The new criteria will place a student on AAP if they receive one or more ones in three separate classes on the learner behavior rubric*** , indicating consistent below-grade-level behaviors that require targeted intervention and improvement.

Please remember that after-school academic support is available. Students can meet with teachers for individualized instruction from 2:27 PM to 3:00 PM, Tuesday through Thursday. If your child needs extra help with their coursework, please encourage them to coordinate with their teachers to stay after school.

Consistent attendance remains a critical factor in student success. Unexcused or frequent absences can lead to frustration and academic difficulties. If you encounter challenges ensuring your child attends school regularly, please contact us so we can collaborate on a plan to support consistent attendance.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Wishing you and your family a safe and wonderful holiday season!

Sincerely,

Wayne Aman

Candor Jr/Sr High School Principal



A message from the Transportation Supervisor...

As we head into the colder months, the Candor Transportation Department would like to share a few important reminders to help keep our students safe and our buses running smoothly. We also want to highlight some exciting employment opportunities for those interested in joining our transportation team!

We're Hiring Bus Drivers – Flexible Schedules & Paid Training!

Have you ever thought about becoming a school bus driver? Candor Transportation is hiring, and we offer paid CDL training! No previous bus driving experience is necessary. One of the great things about working in school transportation is the flexibility! Whether you're looking for a regular morning and afternoon route, part-time work, or just a little extra income, we may have an opportunity that fits your schedule.

Only available nights or weekends? That's okay, too! We have transportation needs for athletic events, field trips, and other school activities that extend beyond the regular school day. You don't have to commit to a traditional daily bus route to be a valuable part of our team. If you're retired, looking for a second job, or simply interested in making a difference in the lives of students, we'd love to talk with you!

Interested in learning more? Email transportation@candorcs.org or call 607-659-3115. We'd be happy to answer your questions!

Buckle Up! Seat Belts Are Expected

As we continue updating our bus fleet, more of our buses are now equipped with 3-point seat belt harnesses, providing an additional layer of protection for our students. We want to remind all families that students riding buses equipped with seat belts are expected to wear them throughout the entire ride.

Just like in a personal vehicle, buckling up is an important part of staying safe. We ask parents and guardians to reinforce this expectation at home and remind their children to buckle up as soon as they are seated and remain buckled until it is time to exit the bus. Our drivers work hard to provide a safe ride each day, and we appreciate your help in encouraging safe riding habits!

Winter weather can also impact road conditions and bus arrival times. Our drivers take extra precautions when roads are snowy or icy, which may occasionally result in delays. Safety will always come before the schedule. We appreciate your patience and understanding as our drivers navigate winter conditions and work to get everyone to and from school safely.

Student Absences – Please Let Us Know!

If your child will not be riding the bus due to an absence, please notify the Transportation Department as early as possible by emailing **transportation@candorcs.org** . When we know a student will not be riding, we can avoid making an unnecessary stop. This helps keep our routes running efficiently, reduces delays, and allows us to make the best use of our drivers' time.

Even a quick email makes a difference! We appreciate families taking a moment to keep us informed.

Thank You for Supporting Our Transportation Team!

Every school day, our drivers and transportation staff work hard to safely transport students to school, home, athletic events, and other activities. We take great pride in the important role we play in our students' educational experience. Thank you for your continued cooperation, patience, and support. By working together, we can make this a safe and successful school year for everyone!

Warmly,

Katie Anderson
Transportation Supervisor
Candor Central School District
kanderson@candorcs.org



A message from the Athletics Department...

Winter Season Reminders & Important Information

As we prepare for the upcoming winter sports season, we are excited to welcome our students, families, and community members back to the gym to cheer on our teams. To help ensure a safe, positive, and enjoyable environment for everyone, please take a moment to review the following important reminders.

Gym Admission & Supervision

All students in **Grade 8 or below must be accompanied by a responsible adult** in order to be admitted into the gym for athletic events.

Students arriving without an adult will **not be permitted to enter the facility** . We appreciate your cooperation in helping us provide appropriate supervision and maintain a safe environment for all students.

Hallway Expectations

Loitering or playing in the hallways during athletic events is strictly prohibited.

Any student found loitering in the hallways will be directed back into the gym and expected to remain seated for the duration of the event.

We ask that all students remain in the gym and demonstrate respectful behavior throughout the event. These expectations are in place to ensure the safety of our spectators, athletes, and staff.

Team Schedules – Schedule Galaxy

Looking for game dates, times, and team schedules? Stay up to date throughout the winter season by visiting **Schedule Galaxy** .

Please check schedules regularly for updates, changes, and cancellations.

View Team Schedules:
https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/117

Watch Live – Hudl Streaming

Can't make it to the game? You can still cheer on our teams from wherever you are!

Games will be available to stream through **Hudl** . Follow the link below to watch and support our athletes throughout the winter season.

Watch Live on Hudl:
https://fan.hudl.com/usa/ny/candor/organization/91564/candor-high-school

Thank You for Your Support!

We appreciate the continued support and cooperation of our students, families, and community. Your help in reinforcing these expectations allows us to provide a safe, welcoming, and enjoyable atmosphere for everyone.

Let's make it a great winter season.

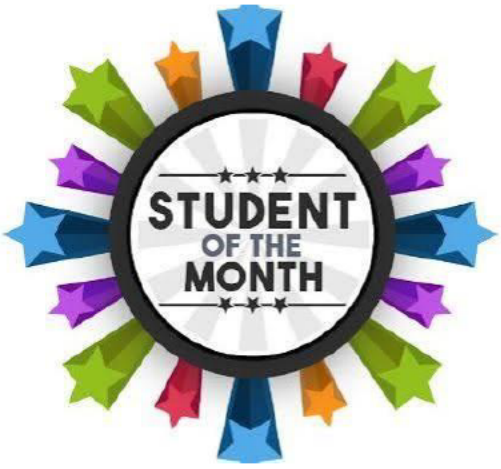
Thank you,

Michael Swartz

Michael Swartz
Athletic Director

TST BOCES
TOMPKINS • SENECA • TIOGA

CAREER&TECH CENTER



September 2026

Jacob Smith - Heavy Equipment

Caylene Collins - Animal Science

Aliyah Shaver - Nursing Assistant

October 2026

Kollen Westbrook - Construction

Zoe Travis - Machining and Manufacturing

Connor Hunt - Machining and Manufacturing

Anthony Ludlam - Career Explorations

Criteria for Student of the Month:

*Exemplary behavior resulting in a flawless behavior record for the month.
*Present and on time and prepared for class every day of the month.
*Respectful, kind, generous, and cooperative with peers and adults.
*Eager and motivated to learn.
*Exhibits exceptional contribution to class or academic improvement in class.
*Demonstrates a positive and helpful attitude towards fellow students.
*All assigned work is complete for the month.



Student Services Information

SAT Test Date:	Registration Deadline
December 5, 2026	November 20, 2026
March 6, 2027	February 23, 2027
May 1, 2027	April 20, 2027
June 5, 2027	May 21, 2027

Students are encouraged to register online at **www.collegeboard.org** . College Board also offers helpful study tips, practice tests, and more! They will even send you a daily practice question. Students may also register in Student Services. The SAT can be taken as many times as it is offered. Check the website of the college you are interested in to see their minimum score requirement. **All SAT exams will be digital.**

PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test)
On October 21st, the junior class had the opportunity to take the PSAT. Results can soon be reviewed on the College Board website at **www.collegeboard.org** . Mr. Banks will be reviewing the score report in class and helping students understand their scores. They will have the opportunity to log on to the College Board website and create an account, if they haven't already done so. They will review their score and have the opportunity to receive free study guides from the College Board specifically tailored to their needs.

Financial Aid News

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The form is being modified this year to make it more user friendly and will be released sometime in December.

Senior Meetings

Mr. Banks began senior meetings in September. Transcripts and credits are being reviewed, and post-graduation plans are being discussed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Banks at the Student Services office.



Student Services Office: (607)659-3195
Mrs. Leslie Thomas: Department Secretary
Mr. Andrew Davenport: 5th-8th Counselor
Mr. Jason Banks: 9th-12th Counselor

National Honor Society

Students in grades 10 – 12 are scholastically eligible to apply to the National Honor Society if their overall GPA is at least 87%. Eligible students will receive a letter and application from Ms. Westervelt prior to the December holiday break in their respective advisories. If a student thinks they are scholastically eligible, but does not receive an application, they should ask for clarification from either Ms. Westervelt or Mr. Banks in the guidance office. Then, if the student chooses to do so, they will submit their application to be further evaluated on the three additional criteria of leadership, character, and service. The Selection Process for future members will begin in January and will be completed by the end of February 2027. It will culminate with the Induction Ceremony on March 4, 2027, at 6:30 pm in the high school auditorium. The selection process uses a uniform point system, guided by a very specific rubric. The use of an objective and fair system for selection is our highest priority. All students who are selected for induction will be notified through a letter sent to them via USPS mail in late February 2027. Any questions about selection or induction should be directed to either Ms. Westervelt, advisor, or Mr. Aman, High School principal.

Members of the local NHS chapter participated in a roadside clean-up in October. Members also had a meet-and-greet with 6th grade students to mingle and enjoy a snack before they start their enrichment lessons. NHS members participate in groups, having selected an activity that they are interested in and knowledgeable about, that they can teach. Students are very excited about the opportunity to teach things like cooking safety and basics, as well as making no-bake cookies, friendship bracelets, making slime, learning about science facts, the egg drop challenge, and lastly making air-dry clay sculptures. Lastly, one of our members reached out to a local church that hosts dinners for the community twice monthly. Each current NHS member will volunteer at least once each school year. The year is off to a great start, full of volunteer activities for the community!

Character
Scholarship
Leadership
Services



Student Council News...

HOMECOMING 2026

Spirit Week and Homecoming were early this fall but were still extremely fun and successful. Our pep rally featured multiple games and participants, including faculty, and was exciting and full of surprises!

The nominees for the homecoming court were:

For Queen:
Malley Heidl
Emmi Makie
Valeria Polanco Gil
Claire Rollins
Megan Williamson

For King:
Carter Edwards
Donnie Makie
Ben Sheridan
Flint Wilson
Stanley Winnick, IV.





King & Queen
Ben Sheridan & Valeria Polanco Gil

Candor Singers Participate in Binghamton University Choral Festival

On Saturday, September 26, Candor High School chorus students traveled to Binghamton University to participate in the High School Choral Festival, under the direction of Dr. William Culverhouse.

Throughout the day, Candor students joined high school singers from across the region and members of Binghamton University Harpur Chorale to rehearse and perform as one large ensemble. Students spent the day learning challenging repertoire, working with college-level musicians, and experiencing the excitement of making music with a choir much larger than their everyday school ensemble.

The festival also gave students the opportunity to meet singers from other schools and experience a different kind of honor-choir event in a fun, collaborative environment. Along the way, they were able to get a glimpse of collegiate music-making and the many opportunities available to students at Binghamton University.

The day concluded with a concert at the Anderson Center for the Performing Arts, where the combined choir shared the music they had prepared throughout the festival.

We are incredibly proud of our Candor singers for representing our school with enthusiasm, musicianship, and a willingness to challenge themselves. Congratulations to all of our students who participated in this wonderful musical experience!





Key Club 2026

At the end of October, Key Club painted pumpkins to donate to local nursing homes for their
November decorations! This year's theme was "Harvest", and we hope residents will enjoy the festive decorations leading up to Thanksgiving. Key Club would like to thank Iron Kettle Farm and Mr. Jensen for supporting our community service efforts by generously donating 30 pumpkins for us to paint!









KEY CLUB INTERNATIONAL Key Club

HALLOWEEN 2026

















HALLOWEEN 2026















HALLOWEEN 2026

















HALLOWEEN 2026











HALLOWEEN 2026





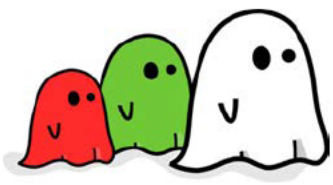




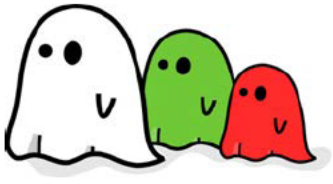








TRICK OR TREAT









The 6th grade class is excited to announce that we will be offering our Elementary School students a holiday "shopping" experience at the Jingle Bell Boutique again this year! Starting soon, students will have the chance to earn tickets in their classrooms that they can use to "purchase" gifts for family members. This year, we'd like to open this up to community members who want to participate in this service project as well. If you are interested in donating new, unused items (preferably gifts for adults) for the boutique, we will be collecting gifts throughout the month of November. Donations can be dropped off at the Elementary School office between 8 am and 3:30 pm daily. We would love to have all donations in **by Friday, December 4th**.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Parillo at 659-3935 or aparillo@candorcs.org. Thank you in advance for helping to make the holiday season a little more special for our kids!











Candor Elementary School

In School Student Preview Days
December 2nd & 3rd



Movie and snacks

Candor PTSA
everychild. onevoice.®



Free crafts

Family Shopping and PTSA Holiday Event
December 4th, 5pm-8pm

In School Student Shopping
December 7th

Book gift ideas and stocking stuffers!



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:



- **Scholastic Book Fair: December 4th, 5:00pm**



- **Jr High Band & Chorus Concert: December 16th 6:30pm**
- **Sr High Band & Chorus Concert: December 16th 7:30pm**
- **5th & 6th Grade Band & Chorus Concert: December 17th 7:00pm**



- **PreK - 4th Grade Holiday Program: December 18th**
  - **Kindergarten & 1st Grade - 9:45am**
  - **2nd Grade - 10:30am**
  - **3rd & 4th Grade - 11:15am**
  - **PreK - 12:30pm**
- **Holiday Recess: December 24th - January 1st**









UPCOMING PTSA EVENTS



DEC 04

Book Fair Family Shopping and PTSA Holiday Event

Elementary Main Entrance
5:00 - 8:00pm

DEC 5

High School Snow Ball

High School Gymnasium
7:00 - 10:00pm





DEC 12

Holiday Party - Parents Day Out

High School Cafeteria
12:00 - 4:00pm

DEC 15

PTSA Monthly Meeting

High School Library
6:00pm



DEC 30

Winter Break Movie Night

High School Auditorium
Food at 6:00pm
Movie at 6:30pm

NOW!

Festival of Lights Tickets

Order your paper ticket from us!

Candor PTSA
verychild.onevoice

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY

High School

$50

Must order by 12/31/26 to receive this price!

Order Online At:
https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A05367500

Elementary School

$18

Must order by 3/31/27 to guarantee a copy!

Order Online At:
https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09874825

Online Orders Incur Additional Fees

Paper Order Forms Available Upon Request

Have questions? Contact us at - yearbook@candorcs.org





NEW YEAR, NEW MEMORIES, NEW PAGES IN THE YEARBOOK

CONTRIBUTE YOUR PHOTOS TODAY!





High School
Share QR Code

Elementary School
Share QR Code

photos.jostens.com



The information below lists the television and radio stations that will announce emergency school-closing information for the community and students in the Candor School District.

Please do not call school offices or the bus garage to check the day's status. Telephone lines are needed to make outgoing calls and to handle emergencies. School decisions will be made by 6:15 a.m., whenever possible.

TV Stations:
WBNG - Channel 12
WICZ TV - Fox-Binghamton
Spectrum News
WSYR-TV (ABC-Syracuse)

Radio Stations:
WYXL-97.3
WHCU-870 AM/95.9 FM
WIII - 99.9/100.3
The VINE 96.7
WFIZ-HD2-107.7
B107.5
MIX 103.3
WQNY-103.7/98.7
WNYY-1470 AM/97.7 FM (Ithaca)
HITS 103.3
WFIZ-95.5/94.9
WYXL-HD3 96
NOW105.7

School closings will be listed on our school website and Facebook as well:

www.candorcs.org

Download the app.

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

The district's automated call system will also be utilized for inclement weather days/school closings.

Please be sure the school has your current contact information in order to receive automated phone calls, text messages, or emails.

CANDOR CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION 2026-2027

Greggory Houck, President
Kate Davenport
Rebecca Aman
Kylie Holochak
Jessica Spaccio, Vice-President
Craig Nevins
Jason Anderson
Trinity Magyar, Ex-Officio Student Member

To reach the Board of Education by email, please send to BOE@candorcs.org

Meetings:
Regular board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month, with special or workshop meetings held as needed.

Candor School District Phone Numbers

District Office	607-659-5010
High School Office	607-659-5020
Elementary School Office	607-659-3935
Attendance Office (HS)	607-659-5873
Attendance Office (Elem)	607-659-3935
Nurse's Office - Elementary	607-659-4965

Nurse's Office - High School	607-659-5225
Special Education Office	607-659-7727
Student Services	607-659-3195
Food Services Office	607-659-7227
Transportation Office	607-659-3115

