



Bath CSD News

Bath Central School District • 25 Ellas Avenue Bath, New York 14810 • 607.776.3301 • www.bathcsd.org

Home of the Rams

Fall 2024

Ram-Mart School Food Center coming soon

Thanks to a generous grant, the district is thrilled to announce that it will soon open The Ram-Mart, a free School Food Center at Bath CSD. This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment ensuring that every student, every family and every resident of the Bath Central School District has access to food.

The School Food Center will provide many food options, including canned goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, milk, cheese, butter and even meat such as ground beef and chicken – **all completely free of charge**. Our goal is to remove barriers by making sure no student, team member or community member goes hungry. The center also will offer snack options during the school day and after school.

We believe this initiative will not only support the health and well-being of our students and community members, but also create a stronger, more inclusive community. In the coming weeks, we will share more information about the opening date, a list of available items and how students, staff and community members can access these items. **This is for everyone.**

A few important items to note:

- This is not an income-based program. It is open to anyone living in the Bath Central School District. No registration or applications are needed.
- You do not have to work for or have a child attending a school in the district to participate in this program.

- During the school day, the Food Center will be open to students and staff.
- If you are a community member and wish to take advantage of this opportunity, we will provide information soon about how you can contact the district to select food items to be made available for pick-up.



We want to thank the Food Bank of the Southern Tier for making this possible, as well as our dedicated staff, who will be assisting us to ensure the success of the School Food Center. Together, we are taking an important step toward promoting equity and support for all.

Look for more information coming soon about The Ram-Mart, including the officially opening date, location and a list of items available.

Join us for a free concert



Community members are encouraged to attend an upcoming performance by the district's talented student musicians. All concerts are held in the Haverling High School Auditorium and are free to the public.

October 17 _____ Pops Concert, 7:00 p.m.
 November 16 _____ NYSSMA Area All-State Concert, 2:00 p.m.

December 10 _____ VEW Chorus Concert, 6:00 p.m.
 Grades 4-5 Chorus and Grade 5 Band Concert, 7:00 p.m.
 December 12 _____ Grades 6-8 Band and Chorus Concert, 7:00 p.m.
 December 17 _____ HS Band and Chorus Concert, 7:00 p.m.
 January 9 _____ HS Jazz Band and Rock Band Concert, 7:00 p.m.

Every student. Every day.

A message from the superintendent

I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2024-25 school year. For many of you, it is "welcome back." For our new students and families, it is a brand new journey filled with excitement and success. To all of you, welcome!

This year, we started a new Ram tradition: the Back-to-School Bash. Thank you to all of our community partners who participated and thank you to everyone who attended. We look forward to this being an annual event where we can celebrate the start of a new school year, while also offering an evening of fun and family engagement while supplying back-to-school supplies and materials.

Last spring, the district hosted a survey and meetings throughout our community as part of the development of our strategic plan. The information collected at these meetings helped a community group develop a new school mission and vision for Bath CSD:

Bath CSD Mission

We prepare future generations to be successful and contribute positively to their communities by providing a comprehensive, balanced and meaningful educational experience for Every Student, Every Day.

Bath CSD Vision

We aspire to be a leading educational institution in the region, recognized for providing a safe, enriching and high-quality education to all students in a warm, welcoming and challenging environment.

Embracing our mission and vision allows us to provide a safe, engaging learning environment that fosters positive, lifelong learning experiences and respect for individual differences. We have numerous programs in place for our students and team members that are very supportive and always have the needs of our students in mind. As a district, we pride ourselves on assisting each child on an individual basis to reach his or her fullest potential. The strategic plan also encompasses our core values, along with our priority area goals. Our full strategic plan can be found on our website.

There are many expected changes and new requirements that are being placed on all New York State schools during the next several months. These will require us to review our current structures, program offerings and funding mechanism and consider how these might be impacted by the directives and changes that will be forthcoming.

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Bath Central School District

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(607) 776-3301 · (607) 776-5021 (fax) · www.bathcsd.org

Board of Education

Michael Mishook, President · Olivia Krezenski, Vice President
Pamela Cleveland · Bradley Laverty · Theresa McKinley · Amey Rusak · Scott Ward

Superintendent of Schools

Kelly Houck
776-3301, ext. 1107

Dana L. Lyon Middle School

Jennifer D'Abbracci, Principal
776-3301, ext. 1041

Havenling High School

Brett Harrison, Principal
776-3301, ext. 1031

Vernon E. Wightman Primary School

Bret Ryan, Principal
776-3301, ext. 1061

Superintendent's message, continued

What exactly are these?

- **School Foundation Aid**

As shared last year during our budget development process and communications, Governor Hochul changed how school districts have been allocated their Foundation Aid (school aid/funding). These changes – which really were cuts in school funding – to several school districts including Bath CSD, were unexpected and without any prior notice. Some funding was restored in the state's final budget, however, with an announcement that the Governor has established a committee that will review the school funding formula and report back to her by November "ish" with recommendations for the future. This was all with the caveat that the Governor reserves the right to accept or refuse any of the recommendations that will come from this committee. The Governor has made multiple statements that schools have experienced significant decreases in student enrollment, yet the funding formulas have never been recalculated to address the loss of student enrollment, meaning schools were receiving funds based on numbers that do not exist, in a sense inferring that they have been over funded. This, of course, doesn't take into consideration that even if there are slightly fewer students in our districts, the costs associated with school operations have increased astronomically. Health care, utilities, fuel and food, just to name a few operational costs, have doubled if not tripled. The Governor indicated that the recent decrease in funding due to enrollment would continue. It is clear that school funding will change and there will be negative impacts associated with these changes for many schools.

- **Required/Mandated Regionalization Conversations**

The New York State Education Department (SED) has issued a mandate requiring all schools across the state to complete a Needs Assessment and to discuss regionalization. SED has identified the problem; there are growing inequities in educational opportuni-

ties for students in New York State, particularly in under-resourced and rural areas, due to enrollment and fiscal issues. SED has stated they are committed to preparing all students for an increasingly diverse and dynamic workforce and allowing them to build their future in the community of their choosing, however, due to the recent state budget process I described in the previous bullet point, SED is requiring all school districts to work with their BOCES district superintendent to create regionalization plans to address student needs and operational efficiencies. This will result in the development of 37 regionalization plans since there are 37 BOCES regions across the state. SED will provide technical assistance and data throughout the planning process and this process will include a Needs Assessment that each school district must complete. This is what will be used in completing the "plan" for each BOCES. SED will propose regulations to mandate that the regionalization planning process is completed every ten years, developing a regular cycle where the BOCES and districts work together towards continual improvement. Districts must complete their individual Needs Assessments by November 1, 2024, therefore I am sharing this with you now as you should expect additional information, surveys or conversation about this soon. An interim progress report on this work is supposed to be available April 1, 2025 with all regional plans, the 37 mentioned above, being submitted to SED by October 1, 2025.

- **Portrait of a New York State Graduate**

SED will adopt changes that will result in multiple, rigorous pathways to a NYS high school diploma as a way to prepare all students for success in 21st Century life, college, careers, service and citizenry and to bring greater equity to the state's education system. SED created a Blue Ribbon Commission to complete this important work. The Commission's recommendations are intended to ensure that all New York State public school students receive the educational opportunities and support needed to succeed in school and

Continued..

Superintendent's message, continued

beyond. The initiative was developed to create true equity in New York State's public education systems and ensure that all New York students gain the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in school and after they graduate. In November 2023, the Blue Ribbon Commission presented its recommendations for achieving these goals. These recommendations call for transformative actions in four areas:

- **Transformation #1: Adopt the New York State Portrait of a Graduate**

The Portrait of a Graduate is intended to create a shared understanding of the skills and knowledge that New York State public school graduates have mastered. To earn a high school diploma, students will have to demonstrate proficiency in each component of the Portrait, meaning that they must be critical thinkers, innovative problem solvers, literate across all content areas, culturally competent, socially-emotionally competent, effective communicators and global citizens.

- **Transformation #2: Redefine Credits**

SED proposes to redefine credits to focus on proficiency rather than upon the completion of time-based units of study (as is the current practice for most students). The goal is to expand the ways in which students may demonstrate their mastery of the state's rigorous learning standards and attainment of the various components of the Portrait of a Graduate. Students would be permitted to demonstrate proficiency in a number of different ways, including, for example, through approved work- or service-based learning experiences; dual credit programs such as early college high school; earning a New York State seal or credential; traditional high school courses; approved Career and Technical Education programs; participation in the arts; and passing approved assessments, including Regents exams.

- **Transformation #3: Sunset Diploma Assessment Requirements.**

SED recommends decoupling specific assessment requirements from graduation

requirements. Doing so means that students will no longer need to pass the Regents exams or a +1 Pathway Assessment in order to graduate from high school. Regents exams will continue to be available as one of the measures by which students may demonstrate their proficiency in meeting the state's learning standards. Students will continue to be assessed through multiple measures at the local level to demonstrate their learning. They will still take specific state-level assessments required by federal law to track progress across New York.

- **Transformation #4: Move to One Diploma**

The Department recommends moving to a system with only one diploma available to all New York State public school graduates. Under the department's recommendations, districts would be required to confer diplomas to all students who satisfy the state's requirements. This approach would eliminate the local diploma. The "Advanced Designation" diploma would become a seal or endorsement and districts would be authorized to add additional seals and endorsements.

In November 2024, the proposed implementation plan for all of these transformations/changes will be presented to the Board of Regents with projected timelines, affected regulations and other considerations. The Board must approve any changes to the state's graduation requirements; until such time, the existing graduation requirements remain in effect for all public school students in New York.

Once again, many expected changes and new requirements being placed on all New York Schools during the next several months. As we move through these changes as a district and community, there will be a lot of work and resources required to successfully navigate and ultimately succeed in bringing these to fruition. Much more information will be shared as it becomes available. I thank you in advance for your support and assistance with the work that needs to be completed around all of these items.

As shared at the beginning of the article, academic preparation and personal development

Continued...

Superintendent's message, continued

are the two purposes of education. With that being said, school also should be a fun place for children to learn and grow. We want your child to be happy and successful at Bath CSD and believe that you play a key role. That role is to continually show interest in and support for your child. The child who knows that his or her family is interested in and supports the school program will almost always have fewer problems in school and will enjoy greater success. As with any school year, communication is the key to success.

It is our hope to enhance communication between home and school to ensure that we always have a good parent/teacher/school relationship. There are many ways to keep in touch, as well as to keep up to date on all that is going on at Bath CSD in any given day, week or month. Here are a few tools to use to increase your communication with Bath CSD:

- **The Bath CSD App**

The app is your one-stop shop for all school events, important documents, latest news, student stories, emergency notifications. You can download it for free from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store. (For Android: <https://aptg.co/Vyt56t>; for iPhone: <https://aptg.co/c4fLz2>).

- **Website**

We launched a new website this summer where you will find valuable up-to-date information regarding school events, cancellations, useful links, district policies and other information. Visit www.bathcsd.org.

- **Social Media**

You can find a host of information on our Facebook page (Bath Central School District), as well as on X and Instagram. There is a direct link for all of these on our school website.

- **Board of Education Meetings**

Attending a school board meeting is another great way to stay informed. Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise noted) at 6:00 p.m.

- **Phone**

Contact the district by calling 607-776-3301.

- **E-mail**

This is a great way to stay in touch and to receive answers to questions. Contact information can be found on the district website.

- **Other Forms of Communication**

District newsletters, classroom newsletters, progress reports, report cards, parent/teacher conferences and teacher web pages are other examples of how to communicate effectively with our district.

Even though we are just starting a new school year, I'd like to mention how extremely proud I am of all our Bath CSD team members. The facilities and buildings look great, and on the first day of school, you couldn't tell that students just arrived back from summer vacation.

I would like to ask for your help early, by inviting you to become an active member of our district. Your participation will help create special memories for both you and your child. Nothing but success for Bath CSD!

With Ram Pride,
Kelly Houck

Welcome to the Bath CSD Family

Jourdan Machuga

Special Education Teacher at VEW Primary School

Jourdan Machuga, a 2019 Haverling graduate, earned a bachelor's degree in Childhood/Special Education from SUNY Geneseo. She is currently pursuing her master's degree in Educational Administration through Grand Canyon University.

Ms. Machuga previously worked as a middle school Special Education teacher at GST BOCES.

She enjoys spending time with her family at the lake, working out and reading. Her favorite book is *The Silent Patient*.



Emily Wagner

Special Education Teacher at VEW Primary School

Emily Wagner, a Bradford native, graduated from St. Bonaventure University with a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood/Elementary Education/Special Education in 2022.

Ms. Wagner spent two years teaching special education at the GST BOCES Host Site at Dana Lyon Middle School before joining the team at VEW.

She enjoys spending time outdoors and taking walks with her daughter.



Alexandra Ward

Second-Grade Consultant Teacher at VEW Primary School

Alexandra Ward, a 2019 Haverling graduate, earned a bachelor's degree from SUNY Geneseo and a master's degree from Grand Canyon University.

Mrs. Ward also has coached modified volleyball.

She enjoys spending time with her husband, Chris, and their dog, Banks. Her favorite place to be is outdoors, whether it is taking a walk, mowing the lawn or going on an adventure with her family. She is excited to see what adventures the 2024-25 school year will bring.



Keith Banned

Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Consultant Teacher at Dana Lyon Middle School

Keith Banned holds degrees in Music Recording Technology from Finger Lakes Community College; Elementary and Special Education from SUNY Geneseo and Curriculum and Technology from the University of Phoenix.

Mr. Banned has taught in the Bradford and Watkins Glen school districts and Broome-Tioga and DCMO BOCES. He also has coached bowling, trap and Academic All-Stars.

He lives in Bath with his wife and son and their chocolate labs. He enjoys reading, camping, hunting and cruising.

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#RamPride #RamPride #RamPride

Welcome to the Bath CSD Family, continued

Josh Butler

Technology Teacher at Dana Lyon Middle School

Josh Butler holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Mansfield University and CTE Certification in Machining/Tooling Technology. He is currently pursuing his Master's in Education at Elmira College.



This is Mr. Butler's first year as a teacher. He previously worked as a manufacturing training specialist.

He enjoys golfing, working on cars, gardening, spending time with family and watching sports. His favorite book is *Paddle Your Own Canoe*.

Brian Rose

Special Education Teacher at Dana Lyon Middle School

Brian Rose earned his master's degree in Special Education from Grand Canyon University. He has experience working in various youth programs through Family Service Society, Inc.



Mr. Rose spends most of his free time with his sixteen-year-old daughter, Madison. He is a dedicated sports fan and continues a family tradition of rooting for the Washington Commanders. This summer, he spent time at the beach and Keuka Lake.

Kaitlyn White

Special Education Teacher at Dana Lyon Middle School

Kaitlyn White holds degrees in Early Childhood/Childhood Education from SUNY Corning Community College and Alfred University and a master's degree in Special Education and Inclusion from Alfred University.



Ms. White has been a ProAction Headstart Pre-K teacher in Bath and taught fifth-grade math and science at Campbell-Savona.

She enjoys outdoor activities, reading and traveling with her black lab, Rhea.

Hailey Whitney

Physical Education Teacher at Dana Lyon Middle School

Hailey Whitney earned her associate degree at SUNY Corning Community College and her bachelor's degree at SUNY Brockport. She is currently pursuing her master's degree in Health Education at SUNY Brockport.



Mrs. Whitney previously taught elementary Physical Education and coached the girls Varsity basketball at Jasper-Troupsburg for two years.

Recently married, Hailey and her husband, William, have a dog, two cats and a hedgehog.

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#RamPride #RamPride #RamPride

Welcome to the Bath CSD Family, continued

Nickolas Harrian

Math Teacher at Haverling High School

Nickolas Harrian, a Campbell-Savona graduate, earned an associate degree from SUNY Corning Community College, a bachelor's degree from SUNY Cortland and a master's degree from SUNY Albany.

Mr. Harrian taught middle and high school math at Dundee for four years before coming to Bath. He has coached boys basketball at the modified, JV and Varsity levels, as well as modified track and soccer.

He is an avid Buffalo Bills fans who attends multiple games each year and enjoys listening to various sports podcasts.



Courtney Owens

Special Education Teacher at Haverling High School

Courtney Owens holds an Adolescent Generalist Bachelor's Degree and Adolescent Literacy Master's Degree from Keuka College.

Mrs. Owens is returning to Bath CSD after teaching Special Education in Prattsburgh. She previously taught and was the Class of 2022 advisor in Bath.

She and her husband, Andrew, have two daughters, Harper (4) and Ada (2), who they took camping for the first time this summer. The family enjoys spending time on their farm.



Tuesday Mishook

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Tuesday Mishook, a 1998 Haverling graduate, earned a bachelor's degree from Mercyhurst College and a master's degree from Indiana Wesleyan University. She also holds a Certificate of Advance Study in Educational Administration.

Mrs. Mishook taught Special Education and coached soccer, basketball and track in Bath, as well as served as a Special Education trainer and Systems Change Facilitator at the Office of Special Education Southwest Regional Partnership Center.

She cherishes spending time with family and friends, as well as focusing on her fitness, listening to music and playing golf.



Courtney Fuller

Assistant Principal at Dana Lyon Middle School

Courtney Fuller, a 2007 Haverling graduate, earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with Specialization in Curriculum and Instruction from Lock Haven University and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Central Florida.

Ms. Fuller taught first through fifth grades for six years, served as an instructional coach for six and a half years and worked as a school administrator for a year and a half before coming to Dana Lyon Middle School. She says she is "so glad to be back home!"



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#RamPride #RamPride #RamPride

Work-Based Learning program offered

Hello Haverling High School Community, I'm excited to introduce the new Work-Based Learning (WBL) Program at Haverling. My name is Jen Hutches, though most people call me Hutch, and I'll be leading the development and coordination of this program.

With 31 years of experience in education, all at Dundee Central School, I bring a broad range of expertise to this role. My career has been split between teaching Physical Education and coaching, and serving as a school counselor at all grade levels. I am excited to be here at Haverling working as your WBL Coordinator.

Work-Based Learning is an authentic learning experience that allows students to explore their career goals, abilities and interests while applying their academic and technical knowledge and skills in real-world context. This is a combination of classroom education and hands-on work experience that allows students to take part in activities that have true meaning to them. WBL is a continuum of activities that helps students figure out the path they want to pursue after high school and can be as little as completing a career inventory or as involved as going to work every day at an area business in the community. It can include job shadowing, mock interviews, internships, apprenticeships, taking part in CTE classes, going to career fairs – the possibilities are endless.

WBL will look different for each student as it is unique to his or her career goals. Students can take part in WBL activities right here on our Haverling campus by helping out in VEW class-

rooms, mowing the lawn, working in the cafeteria or cleaning. You

may see students out and about working at area businesses. WBL can take place during the school day, after school or on weekends. Again, all the activities are to help students learn about careers and help them find their path to be a productive, working citizen in their community.

The ultimate goal will be to have the program touch all our students through a comprehensive Career and College Readiness Curriculum that culminates with hands-on, authentic career exploration by taking part in job shadowing and WBL job placements while still in high school. Training and educating future workers for the community is what WBL is here to do. For this program to be a success, partnerships will need to be created with area businesses. If you are interested in learning more or partnering with us to be a part of the Haverling WBL program, please get in touch. We look forward to building a bridge from education to the world of work and creating strong employees for our area businesses. Community service also is under the umbrella of WBL, so if your business or agency is in need of volunteers, please send me an email.

How to get in touch:

Jen Hutches, WBL Coordinator

jhutches@bathcsd.org • 607-776-3301, ext. 1047

www.bathcsd.org/page/work-based-learning

www.bathcsd.org/page/community-service



Welcome to the Bath CSD Family, continued

Jennifer Hutches

Work-Based Learning Coordinator

Jennifer Hutches holds bachelor's and master's degrees from SUNY Cortland, a master's degree from Montana State University and Work-Based Learning Certification from SUNY Oswego.

Mrs. Hutches, a Hammondsport native, worked at the Dundee CSD for 31 years in various roles including Physical Education teacher, school counselor, athletic director and CSE chair. She has

coached girls soccer, basketball, track, softball and volleyball at various levels and has been active in youth soccer and basketball programs.

Her sons, Noah and Tucker, are seniors at Haverling.



Indoor track opens to walkers Nov. 4



The Indoor Track at the Haverling Athletic Complex will be open for morning walkers beginning Monday, November 4. Track hours are 6:00-7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday on days school is in session through March 28, 2025. The track will be closed on snow days, as well as on weekends and during school recesses.

Walkers are asked to park in the upper parking lot behind the District Office and enter through the upper doors of the Indoor Track.

Please contact Mike Binkowski, facilities manager, with any questions at 607-776-3301, ext. 3122 or mbinkowski@bathcsd.org.

Notification of safety drills

The safety of our students and school team members is always our top priority. To ensure that our students and staff are as prepared as possible, we routinely practice safety procedures. The New York State Education Department has made some changes in the requirements of the notifications and announcements associated with our safety drills. The hope is to reduce the anxiety and stress that these drills could cause students, faculty and families/caregivers.

As a part of these changes, school districts are required to provide notification of upcoming safety drills to parents or caregivers within one week of the drill taking place. This year, you will receive messages one week prior to a drill multiple times during the school year.

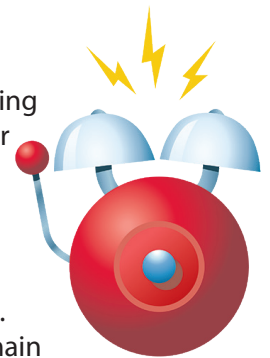
We are required by the New York State Department of Education to practice drills such as:

- Evacuation
- Lockdown
- Early Dismissal

During an "Evacuation Drill," we practice leaving the building. Students will be taken to a safe location outside of the building. After the drill, all students will be taken back into the building. Many people associate evacuation drills with fire drills. These drills are important as they help us practice evacuating the building as efficient and safely as possible.

The purpose of a "Lockdown Drill" is to practice keeping everyone safe from any danger outside

or inside the building. During a lockdown drill, all interior and exterior doors of the school building will be locked and no one will be allowed to enter or leave until the drill is completed. Students and staff will remain inside locked classrooms until released by law enforcement and/or an administrative team member. A lockdown drill will be clearly announced as a drill. Lockdown drills are important because they help students and staff prepare to respond safely and quietly in an emergency.



You can assist with our efforts by discussing the importance of these drills and the meaning behind them with your children. This also is a good time to reinforce the importance of safety and to always say something if you see something. If you or your children see something, please say something by reporting it immediately to a school staff member or submit the online form located on our website at www.bathcsd.org.

The principals or their designee will inform their building's families of these drills. Notification of district-wide drills, such as lockdowns or early dismissal drills, will be provided by the superintendent or her designee.

As always, we thank you in advance for your support. Please reach out with any questions.

Student musicians selected for Area All-State

The Bath CSD Music Department is honored to announce the student selections for the annual New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Jr. High Area All-State and Sr. High Area All-State honor ensembles.

Each of the students prepared and performed a solo adjudication in the spring semester of 2024 and their evaluations were submitted with their Area All-State application. During a weekend in November, the students will have the opportunity to improve their musicianship under the tutelage of renowned guest conductors. They will join forces with students selected from Allegany, Chemung, Schuylar, Steuben and Yates Counties in this special learning experience.

The Jr. High Area All-State concert will be held at Genesee Valley Central School on November 2 at 2:00 p.m.

The Sr. High Area All-State concert will be held at Haverling High School on November 16 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased at the door.

Congratulations to Jr. High Area All-State honorees: Eli Brown, Natalie Chapman, Wendy Love, Owen Ortiz and Leah Zawrotny, Concert Band; Grady Baldwin, Russell Bryson, Griffin Enders, Jack Herrick, Ainsley Krezenski and Claire McKinley, Mixed Chorus.

Congratulations to Sr. High Area All-State honorees: Mason Ryan and Ian Zawrotny, Modern Band; Carter Brown, Allison Elmore and Ava Martin-Putman, Concert Band; Isabelle Anderson, Douglas Bryson, Ronald Clark IV, Dylan Henshaw, Ryleigh Laverty, Brenna Morse, Jadyn Pragle, Donovan Ryan, Caydence Spears, McLane Stermole, Emma Williams and Natalie Williams, Mixed Chorus.



Yearbook order deadline is December 1

The *Haverling* Yearbook staff is gearing up for another creative book for grades 7-12 by remembering what is best for all students: recording the memories that make up this year.

Kambrie Leasure, grade 12, said, "I am here because I want to help record valuable memories for everyone."

Like her staff mates, Kambrie knows that there is much more going on in our school than just the activities in which she is involved.

Senior Muhkaylah Ferguson said she wants to use the yearbook to represent all grade levels and student interests. "I want to be able to get kids who usually are never 'seen' to be seen," she said.

Michael Binkowski, grade 12, said that he can't believe he is already a senior. It won't be long before he is off to college, and he feels "it is necessary to capture the moments when I am still young."

Junior Keyera Arendt sees her role the same

way as the other staff members, and added that she considers the 2024-25 yearbook "different and unique" because of the efforts they will put into designing spreads and writing the crucial stories of middle school and high school.

Be sure to purchase your copy of the *Haverling* or the *Ram Juniors* for grades PreK-6, before December 1. See how these talented and thoughtful staff members put their ideas to paper.

Buy a yearbook by going to www.bathcsdyearbook.org/order.

Senior parents and family can purchase space in the yearbook for special messages before October 15 by going to www.bathcsdyearbook.org/senior-info.

Local businesses are welcome to purchase an advertisement spot in the book, which will help to fund the book for all students. Email Madison Shuart at mshuart@bathcsd.org for more information.

A dynamic start to 2024 -25 at Dana Lyon

As the doors of Dana L. Lyon Middle School swing open for another exciting school year, we couldn't be more thrilled to welcome back students and staff. The energy in the air has been electric, with everyone eager to dive into a year filled with growth, learning and collaboration.

Team-building fun

To kick things off, we engaged in several team-building activities designed to foster collaboration and camaraderie among our students. The Cup Challenge and Spaghetti Tower Challenge put our problem-solving skills to the test! Students quickly learned that effective communication and resilience are key when working together to achieve a common goal. Watching them strategize and support one another was truly inspiring.

Embracing RAMS expectations

With the guidance of our dedicated teachers and staff, we reinforced our RAMS expectations: Responsibility, Positive Attitude, Manners and Safety. These values will serve as the foundation for our school culture, helping us create a respectful and safe environment for all. Throughout the week, students engaged in discussions and activities to internalize these principles in every area of our campus.

Welcoming our newest students

We extended a warm welcome to our newest middle schoolers with a tour of the building. It was heartwarming to see returning students take the initiative to show their new peers around, fostering connections and building a sense of



community from day one.

Kahoot competition: A fun finale

To cap off our first week, we hosted a spirited Kahoot competition for students to

test their knowledge of our RAMS expectations. Laughter and friendly competition filled the room as students showcased their understanding in a fun and engaging way.



As we embark on this new academic year, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we are off to a fantastic start, and we can't wait to see all the wonderful things our students will accomplish. Here's to a year of learning, collaboration and success!

New opportunity for students in grades 7-9

Students in grades 7-9 are gearing up for the start of the district's first-ever drone soccer team. They will be participating in the Greater Southern Tier Drone Soccer League. Students will be exposed to modern aviation careers and technical skills through the benefits of team athletics. Students will start by building their drones, then work through programming the controllers and finally discovering the skills of flying them throughout the arena.



Engaging and illuminating science lessons

At Dana Lyon Middle School, our students are diving into science in ways that are both vibrant and enlightening. In September, fourth-graders and seventh-graders were fully immersed in hands-on activities that not only enhanced their understanding of complex concepts, but also ignited their passion for learning.

Building circuits in fourth grade

Fourth-graders lit up their classrooms with an engaging project on electrical circuits. Students built their own circuits to explore the difference between open and closed circuits. The hands-on activity not only reinforced theoretical knowledge, but also allowed students to see the immediate effects of their creations. As they connected wires and components, the excitement in the room was palpable when a light bulb illuminated, demonstrating a successful closed circuit. Through the project, students gained valuable skills in problem-solving and critical thinking, while grasping fundamental concepts of electricity and energy flow.

Observing milkweed bugs in seventh grade

In an exploration of life cycles, seventh-graders observed milkweed bugs in their natural habitats. These tiny insects serve as a perfect example for students to study and explain their life cycle, from egg to adult. By carefully monitoring the insects' behaviors and developmental stages, students developed critical observation skills and learned about ecosystems, adaptation and the importance of biodiversity. Each observation session was a chance for students to engage with the wonders of nature and foster a deeper appreciation for the biological processes that sustain life.

These interactive lessons at Dana Lyon Middle School make science come alive for students. By engaging in real-world observations and hands-on experiments, they are not just learning about science – they are experiencing it! We can't wait to see how these projects inspire our young scientists to explore even more in the future. Stay tuned for more updates on their exciting journey through the world of science.



Summer Adventure Program enriches students with outdoor learning in NY and PA

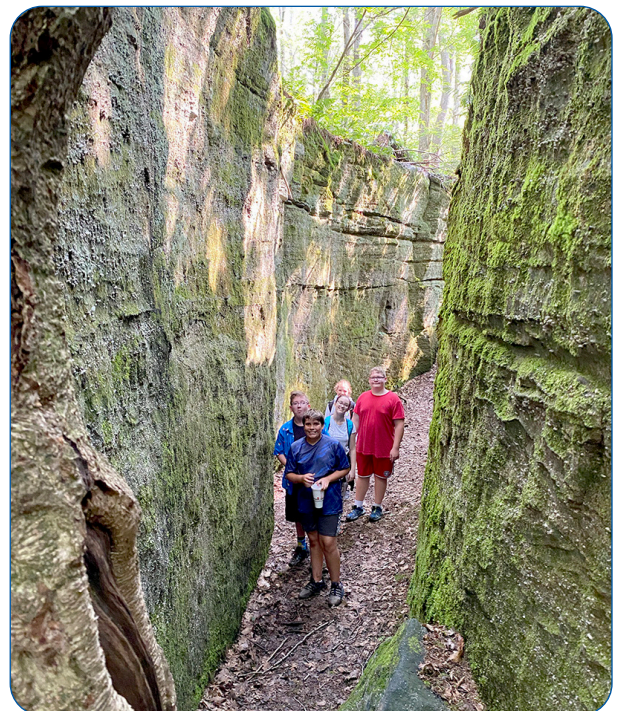
For the 18th consecutive summer since 2006, Science Teacher Greg Longwell and Teacher Aide Geoff Sprague launched their adventure-based learning program for students in sixth through ninth grades. This year, the program took 39 enthusiastic participants on a captivating journey through some of the most stunning landscapes in New York and Pennsylvania.



Kicking off the summer with a scenic hike at Taughannock Falls State Park near Ithaca, the students ventured into the heart of nature before heading to the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon. There, they examined the contrasting geological features between the two states. Their educational exploration continued with a visit to Woodward Cave in Pennsylvania's karst topography, a 400-million-year-old fossilized ocean floor in Lock Haven, and the major fault line separating the Appalachian Mountains from the Allegheny Plateau in Williamsport.

The adventure didn't stop there. Students also had the opportunity to delve into the gorges and waterfalls of Robert Treman and Buttermilk Falls State Parks, view the Newfield covered bridge and challenge themselves with rock climbing at Little Rock City State Forest. This hands-on approach to learning not only deepened their understanding of regional geology and natural history, but also fostered social-emotional growth and personal development.

Reflecting on the summer, Mr. Longwell and Mr. Sprague expressed their enthusiasm by saying, "We had a fantastic summer and look forward to the possibility of doing it all again in 2025!"



Dana Lyon summer camp success

Students who completed grades 4-6 had the opportunity to participate in camp at Dana Lyon Middle School this summer. Activities including reading, math, computer technology and swimming filled the students' days with a balance of fun and learning.

Summer camps are an opportunity to learn about topics that don't always fit into a regular school schedule. This year's weekly themes were Waterways (Finger Lakes, Great Lakes and Oceans), Green Week (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), Road Trip (National Parks) and Summer Olympics. Teachers enjoy the opportunity to connect with students at different grade levels as well.

For our final activity of the summer, we held our own DLL Olympics. Students earned points at six different events and then ended with a water balloon bash. At the end of four weeks, we are sad to see summer camps come to an end!



All families welcome at Resource Center

All families from Steuben County and beyond are welcome at the Bath Area Family Resource Center (BAFRC), located at VEW Primary School at 216 Maple Heights in Bath. The center offers parents, grandparents and caregivers a free, safe place to drop in and play with their children while focusing on school readiness, family engagement and social connections.

Open drop-in times offer a developmentally-rich atmosphere with manipulatives, large motor activities, art experiences, pretend play, sensory play, an infant area, a variety of books and more.

Special events such as Storytime with Ms. Lulu from the Dormann Library, Grooving with Granny, "Krafts" with Ms. Karen, Friendly Fridays with Allison and Baby Doll Circle Time, that focus on fostering family engagement are scheduled regularly.

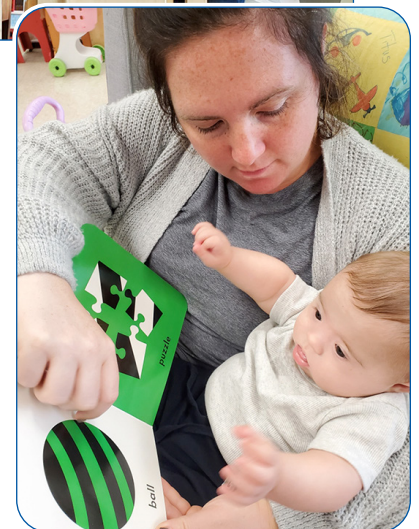
BAFRC hosts a variety of parenting education classes which include, Positive Solutions for

Families, FLIP IT, What You Do Matters, Building Your Bounce, Your Journey Together and Starting Life Together. All classes include free childcare for families.

In addition, BAFRC offers support to families which include a monthly crafting night for adults, and a monthly free diapers and wipes program, depending on availability. Many community resources also are available during open hours.

New this year, the center is offering school readiness grab and go bags for all ages. Families are encouraged to borrow the bags and complete the activities to foster school readiness and family engagement opportunities.

For more information on any of the center's programs, contact BAFRC Coordinator Kerry Stermolek at 607-622-1068 or 607-382-8873, or email stermolek@proactioninc.org. Be sure to like the BAFRC Facebook page for updates, reminders and upcoming events, too!



Building a safe, inclusive bicycle community

Pedal for a Purpose is excited to announce its ongoing commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive biking community while nurturing future leaders through acts of kindness and compassion. Our mission is to create a supportive environment where everyone can thrive; our vision is to provide every child in our community with the opportunity to learn how to ride a bike, receive ongoing support and understand the importance of helping one another.

Join us in our mission to build a better, more inclusive community through the power of bicycling. For more information, please contact Blaine Mays at blaineblm@gmail.com or 585-213-0283.



Carol McGill of the Pulteney Public Library and Haverling High School volunteers Donovan and Mason Ryan are pictured with bikes donated to Pedal for a Purpose.

#RamPride
#RamPride
#RamPride
#RamPride
#RamPride

Join the Bath-Haverling PTA today

The Bath-Haverling Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) supports all students and teachers throughout the district. Meetings are generally held the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in the Bath Area Family Resource Center (BAFRC). Childcare is provided.

New members are welcome at any time. Parents, grandparents and friends are welcome to join the PTA in support of their students in Pre-K through twelfth grade. Students also may join. Membership does not require attendance

at every meeting or event. We simply ask that members help in any way they are able.

Meetings dates for the remainder of the 2024-25 school year are November 6, December 4, January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7 and June 4.

Become a member today by visiting the member hub link at <https://vew.memberhub.com/store>. Connect with us on Facebook at Bath-Haverling PTA or email bathhaverlingpta@gmail.com.

Notes from the school nurses

The district's School Health Services program supports your student's academic success by promoting health in the school setting. One way school nurses provide care for your student is by performing the health screenings mandated by the State of New York.

New York State law requires a health examination for all students entering the school district for the first time and when entering Pre-K or kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. Students wishing to play interscholastic sports or requesting work permits must have an annual health exam. A dental exam form also is requested, but not required at these same times.

Your own health care provider is always the best choice for these exams.

- A copy of the health examination must be provided to the school within 30 days from when your child first starts at the school and when your child starts Pre-K or kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. If a copy is not given to the school within 30 days, the school will contact you.
- If your child has an appointment for an exam during this school year that is after the first 30 days of school, please notify the Health Office with the date.
- If you do not provide an exam form, an exam will be scheduled with our school medical director. Please let your child know that he or she will be examined at school.

- Upon completion of in-school exams, you will be informed of any important findings and if there is a need to follow up with your health care provider.
- Communication between private and school health staff is important for safe and effective care at school. Your healthcare provider may not share health information with school health staff without your signed permission. Please talk to your provider about signing a consent form for the school at the time of your child's appointment for the examination.

During this school year, the nurses also will complete these required screenings at school:

Vision

- Distance and near acuity for all newly-entering students and students in Pre-K or kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11.
- Color perception screening for all newly-entering students.

Hearing

- Hearing screening for all newly-entering students and students in Pre-K or kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11.

Scoliosis

- Scoliosis (spinal curvature) screening for all girls in grades 5 and 7, and boys in grade 9. This screening is done during the physical exam.

Connect with Bath Central School District



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Is my child too ill to attend school?

Parents often wonder: is my child sick enough to stay home from school?

This is not always an easy question to answer. We hope that these tips can help.

A child who is sick will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. We suggest making a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he or she is ill.

Our school policy states that you should not send your child to school if he or she has:

- Fever (100 degrees or higher) in the past 24 hours (must be fever-free without the use of medications for 24 hours).
- Vomiting in the past 24 hours.
- Diarrhea in the past 24 hours.
- Chills.
- Sore throat (In the case of Strep throat, the child must have been taking an antibiotic for

at least 24 hours before returning to school).

- Severe cold, with a very runny nose or bad cough, especially if it has kept the child awake at night.
- Head lice (until your child has been treated according to the nurse's or doctor's instructions).

If your child becomes ill at school and the teacher or school nurse feel the child is too sick to benefit from school or is contagious to other children, you will be called to come and take him or her home from school. It is essential that your child's teacher have a phone number where you can be contacted during the day and an emergency number in the event you cannot be reached. Please be sure that arrangements can be made to transport your child home from school and that childcare is available in case of illness.

Please call the school's Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

High School _____ Dana Dickson, RN
776-3301, ext. 2005 or ddickson3@bathcsd.org

VEV Primary School _____ Reagan Matwiejow, RN
Amanda Thompson, RN

Middle School _____ Stacey Belanger, RN
776-3301, ext. 1046 or sbelanger@bathcsd.org

776-3301, ext. 1066
rmatwiejow@bathcsd.org
athompson@bathcsd.org

Class of 1974 returns to Havenling for tour



Members of the Havenling Class of 1974 recently celebrated their 50th high school reunion with a tour of the district's facilities. Alumni interested in a tour should email Facilities Manager Mike Binkowski at mbinkowski@bathcsd.org.

Resource Center unveils Empowerment Walk

This summer, with the help of the Haverling PTA and the district, parent volunteers Jessica Smith and Colleen Stevens spent countless hours designing and painting the Empowerment Walk on the sidewalk at the entrance of the Bath Area Family Resource Center, located at VEW Primary School.

"Jessica and Colleen created a beautiful and inspirational design that will always be unique to Bath Central School District and our community," said BAFRC Director Kerry Stermole.



Bath Central School District

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607-776-3301
www.bathcsd.org

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