



A MESSAGE FROM THE FCS BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT

SPEAK TRUTH TO POWER WITH ONE VOICE

No matter how bleak things may appear to be in life, there are always opportunities to better our situations if we just look for them, recognize them when they present themselves, and put effort into developing those opportunities as strengths that will alternately enhance our lives and the people around us.

Currently, one of those opportunities exists in the form of a digital petition to stop the Gap Elimination Adjustment, (GEA). The GEA was created as an "ADJUSTMENT" to state aid for schools in order to "ELIMINATE" the state's budget gap. In the past four years, the GEA has reduced state aid to area school districts by more than 8.9 BILLION DOLLARS.

New York State is now projecting a combined 4 BILLION DOLLAR surplus over the next three years. We are calling on the state to eliminate the GEA and restore state aid levels so that our students will have the same opportunities as others.

Even though some state aid has been restored, the hidden truth for Forestville is that continued state aid loss due to GEA reductions will continue to erode the quality of education our district can provide.

As President of the Forestville School Board and a taxpayer, I am asking everyone to join with me in speaking truth to power by going to the following website:

legislativeadvocacygroup.weebly.com Click on change.org and sign the digital petition to "STOP THE GEA." You may also access this website from our school website: www.forestville.com It is located on the left side of our home page under Legislative Advocacy Focus Group. The petition is programmed to send an email to all New York State House and Senate Members.

This statewide petition is a great opportunity for us all to stand up with one voice and participate in our Democracy.

- Sylvester Cleary

FCSD BOE President

FROM THE DESK OF DR. VANTINE

Dear Forestville School Community Residents:

Since arriving August 1, 2014 to serve as your Interim School Superintendent, I can with all honesty say that I've completely enjoyed my short stay here with you. It was a pleasure to watch and participate in the traditional bell ringing to signify the start of another school year. Things such as this demonstrate the connection between the school and the community, which is so important for our children!

As the Holiday seasons draw closer, I would encourage our families to participate in the multitude of school activities. There is so much joy and excitement to be found in the schools all year round, but most especially during these festive occasions.

The District is making steady progress in moving forward on full implementation of the required Common Core academic transition. That speaks volumes to the quality of the teaching staff and building administrators. They work diligently to meet the needs of your students, while dealing with the ever increasing number of reports and mandates required from either the State Education Department or Department of Education in D.C.

The Board of Education is actively working to provide the most fiscally prudent, but academically challenging learning environment possible for your child. Our collective discussions have centered specifically on what needs to happen in order for the students of Forestville to achieve and compete successfully as adults upon graduating. It is both refreshing and exciting to witness this Board take such a pro-active stance towards achieving quality education for everyone associated with the school system here in Forestville.

Finally, as an educator and a parent, I cannot state enough how important it is for parents and/or guardians to focus as much time and attention as possible on assisting our children in school - whether it is with homework, attending school activities, parent meetings, etc. - as the old saying goes "parents are the first teachers."

From what I've been able to see and witness thus far, our parents and guardians are doing a nice job as "First Teachers!"

Sincerely,

Dr. Whitney Keith Vantine

Interim Superintendent of Schools



FROM THE DESK OF MR. MOSES

The 2014-2015 school year is off to a great start- although it is hard to believe that we are already through the first quarter! Through those 10 weeks, there has been a tremendous amount of work done by our students, teachers, staff members and certainly by you as the family and school community.

The school year was kicked-off in tremendous fashion with our annual bell-ringing ceremony. This year's ceremony was extra-special as the entire Middle-High School, Administration, Teachers, Staff members, Board of Education Members, Chautauqua County Legislator George Borrello, friends, and family of the late Agnes Howard honored her memory for the years of dedication that she provided to our school community.

The seventh-grade class members embarked on the annual overnight trip to the Houghton College September 5th-6th. During the no-electronic trip, the students were engaged in several different activities aimed at teaching the students about teamwork, setting goals and working hard to achieve them, as well as the power of positive peer influence. Many of the students learned an equal amount about themselves as they worked to overcome several different obstacles and their fears. The group was fortunate enough to climb a 70 foot tree, to be suspended 30-50 feet off the ground while attempting to maneuver through different obstacles, and to try their hand at rock-climbing on the Houghton College campus.

The Middle-High School teachers, counselors and I have been working hard to bring bigger and better programming to our students here at Forestville. We have taken notice of the State, our Board of Education, and community desires to help ensure that our students are graduating truly college and career ready. A small piece of this push to provide equitable opportunities for our students includes the access to multiple classes, including electives. We have been fortunate enough to add nine (9) new courses to be offered by Forestville teachers during the 2014-2015 school year. Course titles include: Advanced Studies of the American Civil War, Humanities, Principles of Engineering, Personal Accounting & Finance, Fisheries, ESL, Middle School Seminar, Anatomy & Physiology and Non-Regents Geometry. These newly added courses will work in conjunction with five (5) courses that our students have opportunities to enroll in via our Distance Learning Lab: The Holocaust, Sports Management, AP World History, Psychology, Biology and Anatomy.

Although we are very grateful for the additional opportunities, we also recognize that this is only the tip of the iceberg. We continue to work together to become more efficient, more effective in our practice, and to help ensure that we are meeting the needs of all of our students on a daily basis. We will continue to look to new ways of doing business, new or additional possibilities to offer advanced coursework to our students, and to assist all of our young men and women to push themselves academically so that they will have the best opportunities to compete in today's global market, regardless of their next step beyond High School.

FROM THE DESK OF MR. GRANDE

Welcome back to a new school year! I can hardly believe that this is the start of my 11th year as elementary principal. The first 10 years were amazing! Our students, parents, families, teachers and staff are some of the most supportive and caring people I have ever met. It gives me great pleasure to say that I serve the Forestville community and its children. I look forward to the next 10 years!

Before I share some information on the direction our school is heading in with the Common Core State Standards, I would like to encourage you to take advantage of some of the additional opportunities offered to your children at the elementary school.

In the fall and spring, the elementary school partners with Fredonia State College to provide additional assistance to struggling students in the core subject areas of Reading and Math. Students are given the opportunity to participate due to low standardized testing scores and teacher recommendations. It is an extremely unique program in that the 60 minutes of instruction are filled with educational games and fun activities. Most of the time, students forget that they are participating in an educational program! When they go home and their parents ask them what they did in the after-school program, the most common answer is “We played math games and read cool stories!” What the students don’t know is that each game or activity attacks specific weaknesses in their learning.

For students who want to get “active” after school, Mrs. VanSlycke and Mrs. Scott have organized a Marathon Club. The club meets twice each week and covers about 1 mile each time. After students have amassed 13 miles, over several weeks, they participate in a finish line post race party! For those students who participate in the program twice a year, they will complete a full marathon! Yes, that’s 26 miles! The program started last spring and continues to be a very popular after school activity.

Other programs your children might want to participate in are:

Forestville sponsored groups include:

The Enrichment Program in Miss Raichel’s room.

The Knitting Club for boys and girls organized by Mrs. Papia,

Outside organizations held in the elementary school:

Girl Scouts

Boy Scouts

Sparks Program

Let’s work together to make the 2014-15 school year the best ever!

FROM THE DESK OF MR. GRANDE CONT'D

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

In 2010, the State adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English language arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Over the last two years, our teachers have been involved in numerous activities through BO-CES and at regional venues to learn the best ways to roll out the new standards to our students. These standards are more rigorous than previous ones and there are some noticeable changes (shifts) in each subject area.

The CCSS ask teachers to make 12 major “shifts” in their classrooms – six shifts in ELA and six shifts in Math. These changes may be tough at first as students and teachers adjust to higher expectations. However, with careful planning and an efficient rollout, students have an opportunity to excel to higher levels than ever before!

Here are what the “shifts” look like:

English Language Arts	Mathematics
Read as much non-fiction as fiction	Build skills across grade levels
Learn about the world by reading	Learn more about less
Read more challenging material	Use math facts easily
Talk about reading using "evidence"	Think fast AND solve problems
Write about texts using "evidence"	Really know it, really do it
Know more vocabulary words	Use math in the real world

As a parent, you can help and learn more by talking with your child about what they are learning in school. It is also very important that you demonstrate to them that you value their learning and support the direction their education is taking them.

Here are a few ways that you can help your child adjust to the new shifts:

ELA Shift #1 Read as much non-fiction as fiction.

Parents can help by: Supply more non-fiction books at home. Read aloud with your child and demonstrate excitement around the material for your child.

ELA Shift #2 Learn about the world by reading.

Parents can help by: Supply books on topics that interest your child. Find books that explain how things work and why they work the way they do. Engage in conversations around what they are learning from these books.

ELA Shift #3 Read more challenging material.

Parents can help by: Understanding what is grade-level appropriate material. If you need help determining which books are best for your child’s abilities, contact your child’s teacher for help. In addition to supplying books at grade-level, you may want to select a book or two that will challenge your child. Be sure to read the more challenging ones with your child and assist as needed.

ELA Shift #4 Talk about reading using "evidence".

Parents can help by: Be sure to read the books your child is reading at home. This way, you can ask specific questions that you can insist that they answer using facts drawn from the book.

FROM THE DESK OF MR. GRANDE CONT'D

Demand that they respond to your questions with evidence from the book. You might say, “Ok, that sounds like a good answer, but show me exactly where it says that in the book.”

ELA Shift #5 Write about texts using "evidence".

Parents can help by: Encourage your child to write at home. You can suggest to your child that s/he write a story with some factual details. Children have exceptional minds and are very creative writers. Because of this, they may wish to write using their imagination. Assist your child in gathering facts and adding them to their story.

ELA Shift #6 Know more vocabulary words.

Parents can help by: Exposure to non-fiction and literature will help expand your child’s vocabulary. Be sure to read often and consistently! Put some time aside each day to read with your child. Children’s vocabulary will also be expanded through conversation, singing, silly rhymes, word games, etc.

Math Shift #1 Build skills across grade levels.

Parents can help by: Be aware of what your child struggled with last year and how that will affect ongoing learning. Listen to your child’s teacher for ways in which you can help your child at home with areas s/he is struggling with. When “extra” programs are available at school, sign your child up!

Math Shift #2 Learn more about less.

Parents can help by: Understanding that in the past, the State curriculum focused on a vast amount of skills your child was expected to learn at each grade level. This allowed teachers to only scratch the surface on a variety of topics, not allowing children to master certain skills. Now, the new focus is centered on a smaller amount of critical skills that teachers will be able to spend more time on, thus ensuring students’ deeper understanding and driving closer to mastery before moving on to the next topics.

Math Shift #3 Use math facts easily.

Parents can help by: Spend time with your child on priority work. Ask your child’s teacher for some specific areas to focus on at home.

Math Shift #4 Think fast AND solve problems.

Parents can help by: There was an old TV show called Dragnet in which detective Joe Friday was well known for his line, “Just the facts, ma’am, just the facts.” Well, this shift is all about the facts! Push your child to know, understand, and memorize basic math facts. Your child needs to be fluent with his/her math facts.

Math Shift #5 Really know it, really do it.

Parents can help by: Ask questions and review homework to see whether your child understands how they arrived at an answer. It’s not enough for a child to get it correct; they need to understand why their response is correct.

Math Shift #6 Use math in the real world.

Parents can help by: This one can be the most fun of all! Ask your child to do the math that comes up in daily life. For instance, when you’re at the supermarket, have your child add up items, apply discounts and or sales tax, etc. It’s so easy to turn these activities into fun family games!



GUIDANCE NEWS



* Further information/assistance will be available in the High School Guidance office if needed.

SAT REGISTRATION DEADLINES ACT REGISTRATION DEADLINES

November 6, 2014

November 7, 2014

ASVAB DATE

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

November 17, 2014

December 10, 2014

College Action Plan

Senior Fall Checklist

- *Visit several colleges...or attend an Open House. Develop a list of 5 to 10 colleges that interest you.
- *Research the colleges on your list. A great resource is www.collegeboard.org.
- *Re-take the SAT (sat.org/register) or ACT (www.actstudent.org/start).
- *Challenge yourself with college-preparatory classes.
- *Begin filling out college applications. Check important dates -- some universities have early deadlines.
- *Search for scholarships on www.fastweb.com or www.schoolsoup.com.
- *Check with the guidance office about what type of diploma you are on track to receive.

Junior Fall Checklist

- *Start your college search!! Research the major you may want to study in college and make a list of 10-15 colleges that offer your major. A helpful resource is www.collegeboard.org.
- *Plan on taking the PSAT in October and ASVAB in November.
- *Meet with college admissions representatives or military recruiters that visit our school.



A Flu Clinic will be held in the HS Library for our community members on November 8th from 9:00am until 12:00pm. There are no out of pocket expenses for individuals having insurance. The cost is \$32.00 for those without insurance. Participants must be 18 years of age. For questions related to the vaccination, health concerns, and insurance questions should be directed to Rite Aid of Silver Creek, contact Nadia or Amy at (716) 934-3980, EXT. 3.

GUIDANCE NEWS

Bullying Prevention - Tips For Parents

What is bullying?

Bullying is intentional, usually repeated acts of verbal, physical, or written aggression by a peer (or group of peers) operating from a position of strength or power with the goal of hurting the victim physically or damaging status and/or social reputation.

What are the consequences of bullying?

Bullying affects both the targets and the students who bully. Targets of bullying are more likely to grow up depressed and anxious (unless the bullying is stopped). Youth who bully are much more likely to become adult criminals.

How can I talk with my child if he or she bullies someone else?

Help your child tell you exactly what he or she did, without excuses or blaming others. Remember that even if the other student involved did something, your child made a choice to do what he or she did. Encourage your child to behave better next time.

How can I support my child if he or she is bullied at school?

Avoid blaming your child for what others have done to him or her. Get as much information as you can. Talk with your child's principal, counselor, or teacher and ask them to help your child be safe.

How can I encourage my child to speak up about bullying that he or she sees?

Encourage your child to join with others in telling adults when they see bullying and in reaching out in friendship to isolated youth. Praise your children when they do these things. Remind them that they have the power to help.

What is the one most important thing for parents to do?

Spend time with your children! The more time you spend with your children, the closer you will be to them and the happier they will be. Schedule special times for each child and stick to the schedule.

What can I do to keep my child safe online?

Keep the computer in a public place in the house. Periodically check on what your child is doing and find out who your child's online friends are. Watch out for secretive behavior. It is a red flag if your child rapidly switches screens as you approach the computer or attempts to hide online behavior by emptying the history file. Tell your child that you may review his or her private communication activities if you have reason to believe that you will find evidence of unsafe or irresponsible behavior.



FCS MUSIC NOTES



Music Students Receive Top Honors

Three of our Music Department seniors have received top individual honors this fall. Jade Ferneza was selected as an Alternate to play Timpani in the prestigious Conference All-State Symphonic Band. This is a band made up of the top students in all of New York State. She is only the fifth student from Forestville ever selected for this honor. Mateo Mendez and Fabi Logan were selected to perform in the All-National Honor Band and Choir respectively. This is the top honor a high school music student can achieve in the United States. Fabi and Mateo will be traveling to Nashville, Tennessee in late October to perform with top students from the other 50 states in concert at the Grand Ole Opry. No one from Forestville has ever earned such national recognition. We are very proud of all three of these students, they were chosen to be among the best from all schools regardless of size or location!

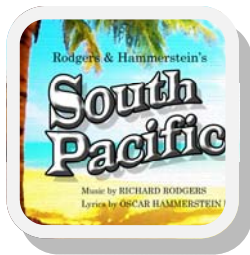
Marching Band Beat

The Hornet Marching Band had a very busy and successful fall season. They began with a lightning cancelled show at the first football game. This was followed up with performances at the other two games featuring their *PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN* show. The High School Marching Band also performed for the Seneca Nation Fall Festival and Grape Festival parades. Both Middle School and High School Bands performed at the Fall Festival Parade here in Forestville. The Marching Band will now break until their spring parade season.



Upcoming Music Performances

The MS/HS Music Department will present their Annual Fall Music Concert on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23RD at 7:00 PM in the district auditorium. This concert will feature the Intermediate Band, Middle School Chorus, Middle School Band, High School Chorus and Concert Band.



Rodgers and Hammerstein's *SOUTH PACIFIC* will come to life in the district auditorium on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH at 7:00PM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH at 7:00PM, and SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH at 8:00PM. Ticket information will be available on the school website: www.forestville.com. Mr. Keddie has been working diligently with cast members and we expect this to be an awesome show. Over 60 students will combine efforts with faculty, alumni, and community members to put on this production. We urge everyone to make it a point to come out and support their efforts and talents.

Area All-State Honors

Six of our Music Department students were selected to participate in the Area All-State Music Festival at Fredonia State, November 21 and 22. Area All-State is made up of the best students from all of Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties. This is another great honor for our students. Josh Ellis, Sarah Pleva and Fabi Logan were selected to sing in the Choir. Paul O'Brocta was selected to play Trombone in the Band and Mateo Mendez and Jade Ferneza were selected to perform in the Symphony Orchestra. Congratulations to these students on their achievements.



START YOUR DAY RIGHT!



Join us for a healthy breakfast every morning at school

For just \$1.00 you can start your day with a healthy well-balanced meal.

Hang out with your friends in the cafeteria or do some reading or homework.

Breakfast includes a main item like cereal or breakfast pizza, a piece of fresh fruit, a cup of fruit or a 100% fruit juice and skim or 1% milk.

We offer 4 items every day and you must choose 3 items to make a meal.

Elementary school breakfast hours: 7:20am to 7:50am

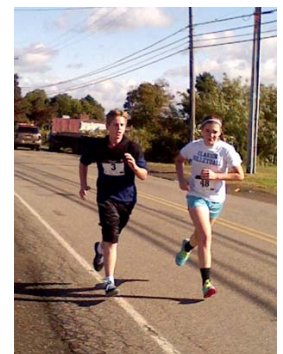
MS/HS breakfast hours: 7:30am to 9:12am



HALF MARATHON CLUB HITS THE ROAD RUNNING

In the spring of 2014 the Forestville Elementary Half Marathon Club was created. Students in grades 3-6 ran one mile twice per week, for a total of 13.1 miles. They chose an actual half marathon course map and tracked their miles each time they ran. We had an amazing amount of interest in the club, with nearly 70 participants. At the completion of their final mile there was a “post-race party” which their families were invited to attend. Students were each presented with a certificate and bracelet.

This fall there are 55 students in grades 4-6 participating. Students will be finishing their half marathon in early November with another “post-race party.” The club will resume in the spring and will be open to grades 3-6 at that time. In addition, the Half Marathon Club hosted a 5k fun run/2 mile walk on October 4th. The top overall finisher was Gabriel Rhodes and our first elementary girl finisher was Makayla Press, both 5th grade students. Nathaniel Bock (7th grade) was our top Middle School finisher and our top High School boy and girl finishers were Marshall Hallowell and Makenzie Press, both in 9th grade. We hope to do a timed 5k run/2 mile walk this spring.



SCIENCE CLASS VISITS LOCAL FISH HATCHERY



Students in the Fish and Wildlife and Environmental Science classes attended a field trip on September 23 to the NYS DEC Fish Hatchery in Randolph, New York. Students participated in spawning brown trout, thereby experiencing some of the actual duties performed by fisheries, biologists, and technicians.

Students were encouraged to

ask questions relating to hatchery operations, fish stocking, and careers with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Prior to the trip, students were required to complete species accounts and descriptions of the trout raised at the Randolph Hatchery, write a research paper on the importance of fish hatcheries in New York State, and complete a field trip report at the conclusion of the trip.



SCIENCE CLUB



Members of the FCS Science Club have spent the last weeks of summer and first weeks of autumn participating in the Citizen Science project, Monarch Watch, through the University of Kansas. Students have learned about insect life cycles by raising Monarch butterfly caterpillars to tag and release. Members of the Science Club have also gone afield to capture and tag migrating wild butterflies, collected and recorded data, and have participated in a study that monitors Monarch butterfly populations across the continent. Students



have learned how the effects of habitat destruction, the introduction of GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms) crops, and the use of pesticides can affect native populations of insects across the country.

Students come away from this experience with a better appreciation of nature and the outdoors, a realization that they can contribute meaningful information to scientific studies, and that what we do as humans can affect the environment and the organisms that we share it with.

FIRE PREVENTION ASSEMBLY

A Fire Prevention assembly was held in the Elementary Gym on Tuesday, October 07, 2014. The Forestville Fire Department consisted of Firefighters, Fire Police & EMT personnel. The firefighters wore their gear to show the students how a firefighter looks. The students cheered when a 5th grade student was chosen to demonstrate a firefighter searching for a child in a house. Everyone knew the answer to the question “what number do you call in an emergency?” 9-1-1.

After the informative assembly, the Department set up their Ambulance, Engine, Rescue Truck & Trailer, and ATV with rescue sled. Homeroom classes rotated to get a close look and hear about the equipment. The Fire Department generously donated a Fire Prevention Packet to each student in grades Pre-K through Grade 6. **Thank You to the Forestville Fire Department.**



YEARBOOK NEWS

Parents can pay less! Students can earn money off their Yearbook by selling Sponsor Ads to local businesses. You can buy down the cost of a Yearbook to ZERO dollars by selling ads! Look on the reverse side of the yearbook order form for details.

The 2014-15 FCS Yearbook is currently offered for sale at a discounted price of \$59.00. This price is good through December 19th, after this date the actual cost of \$65 will be charged for remaining yearbooks. Usually we order 180 copies, this year we have only 125 copies for sale. We also offer a layaway plan. \$20 cash or check will reserve a yearbook and the remaining balance can be paid any time before the yearbooks are distributed in the spring.

Please reserve your copy ASAP!



HOMECOMING 2014 FESTIVITIES



Our annual powder puff football game was held on Thursday, September 18th. The Junior class girls took on the Seniors in a flag football game. Juniors, Bradley Dillenburg and Jackson Egan, announced the game while Senior, Logan Youngberg, officiated the game. Thank you to all that came out to watch, to the girls for putting on such a great performance, and to Bradley, Jackson and Logan for their half time performance and assistance with the game! Thank you to Sport's Boosters for opening the concession stand, taking the time to sell snacks/drinks and making individual s'mores bags for the students. Due to the fact that it was too dark to continue the rest of the game.....we will play the 2nd half of the powder puff football game in the spring. It's not over yet.....so stay tuned to hear an official date to finish this game!

Junior Players- Dakota Espersen, Lydia Burger, Katelynn Thompson, Melissa Fiebelkorn, Julia Szoszorek, Mackenzie VanZile, Emily Narraway, Emily Nasal, Mikayla Seeley, Olivia Markham, Christina Dean, and Emily Verrett.

Senior Players- Miranda Brennan, Lacey Ostrye, Mikala Lugen, Shawntai LeBarron, Jessica Smith, Sam Jackson, Ashley VanBuskirk, Jade Ferneza, Sarah Pleva, Sam Beaver, Faith Mierzwa, Alyssa Kordon, Katie Schoendorfer, Ashley Ball, Jaime Miller, and Angel Voigt.

On Thursday, September 18th after the powder puff football game, with the help of the Forestville volunteer fire fighters and the organizational efforts of Mr. Moses, students were able to continue the Homecoming celebrations and attend a bonfire. Students gathered around the fire, listened to music, and made s'mores (compliments of the FCS Sports Boosters). The bonfire was a great way for students to show their school spirit and get pumped for the Homecoming football game against JFK. We hope to continue to make this an annual tradition here at Forestville.

This year, Student Council hosted our annual Homecoming Dance on Saturday, September 20th. This year's theme was "Light up the Night." To kick off Homecoming week, students in grades 7-12 and teachers participated in a "School Spirit Week." Students were able to accumulate points for their grade by participating in each day's theme. Spirit Week included Neon Day, Holiday Day, Disney Day, Class Color Day and Black, Gold and White Day. To wrap up our school spirit competition, grades then competed against each other in fun games during our school's pep rally. Games included a tug of war contest between grades, a dance contest and a relay race. The SENIORS won this contest and they were awarded the opportunity to have their senior class officers dump a bucket of ice water on Mr. Moses' head in front of the entire school. The seniors also won a pizza party for their entire grade that student council will host for them in the spring. Thank you to Mr. Moses for being such a great sport!

HOMECOMING 2014 FESTIVITIES

Homecoming Court 2014

Congratulations to the following students who were voted to represent their grades in the Homecoming Court.

9th grade- Cecelia Egan & Evan Weaver; **10th grade-** Emily Gizowski & Patrick Parker; **11th grade-** Dakota Espersen & Bradley Dillenburg; **12th grade-** Jessica Smith & Logan Youngberg and Katie Schoendorfer & Caleb Makuch.

2014 Homecoming King and Queen..... Dylan Robinson and Ashley Ball !!!



TRUE OR FALSE WITH TITLE 1 TEACHERS

1. Parents should read to their children each day starting at eighteen months of age.
2. Background television noise helps young children learn to speak and to understand the meaning of words.
3. Students should focus on mastering one type of book before moving on to another.
4. Undertaking a few simple reading strategies can make a significant difference in helping children develop into good readers and writers.



1. **FALSE:** Read to your baby every day starting at six months of age. Reading and playing with books is a wonderful way to spend special time with her/him. Hearing words over and over helps her/him become familiar with them. Reading to your baby is one of the best ways to help her/him learn.
2. **FALSE:** Babies need to hear language from a human being. Television is just noise to a baby.
3. **TRUE:** Make sure that your home has lots of reading materials that are appropriate for your child. Keep books, magazines and newspapers in the house.
4. **TRUE:** Putting a few simple strategies into action will make a significant difference in helping children develop into good readers and writers. Through reading aloud, providing print materials, and promoting positive attitudes about reading and writing, you can have a powerful impact on children's literacy and learning.

Taken from: http://nyspta.org/pdf/Advocacy/NYSPTA_NYSUT_Common_Core_Brochure_8.13.pdf

-Mrs. Dunn & Mr. Worosz



Blood Drive!!

Community Blood Bank held a blood drive in Forestville High School's auditorium on Monday, October 6th. This was our first of the three blood drives that student council helps to sponsor yearly. The blood drive was a huge success and we reached our goal of having over 30 donors. Thank you to all that donated!

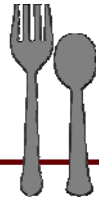
Did you know that every three seconds, someone needs a blood transfusion!?! 20 percent of recipients are children – many are cancer patients! One pint of blood from one donor can save up to three lives. Here is your chance to help!!!!

Forestville High school will be hosting their second blood drive January, 13th from 8:00am-1:00 pm in the high school auditorium. Walk ins are welcome....so please tell family and friends.

In order to donate, you must be 16 years or older, weigh over 110 pounds and have had no tattoos or body piercings within the past year. All donors need a valid photo ID.



CAFETERIA NEWS NUGGETS



HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS

Under the National School Lunch Program, school lunches must include a choice of milk, fruits and vegetables, grains and proteins, and these meals are required to meet federal nutrition standards limiting fat and portion size.

In Forestville Schools, we are meeting all these requirements and going the extra mile to make school meals healthy and enticing for students by trying new menu items such as turkey cheesesteak subs at the Middle & High School and Meatball dippers at the Elementary School. We also use locally grown apples so we have the freshest fruit available.

We're even making kid favorites more nutritious. Our Taco Tuesdays feature tacos made with ground turkey mixed with refried beans, and our chef salad and salad plates consists of a blend of lettuce and spinach. Children don't even realize they are eating healthier foods!

FOOD SAFETY

At Forestville Central Schools, we work hard to ensure that the food served to our students is safe. Our food safety program is designed to identify and eliminate foodborne hazards through every step of meal preparation.

For example, we take internal temperatures from each batch of food being cooked; Monitor and record the cooking, cooling, and reheating temperatures throughout the food preparation process; Pre-chill all salad ingredients to help maintain cold food temperatures, etc. Our staff receives food safety training to help them adhere to these strict policies. We also receive two inspections from the Chautauqua County Health Department each school year.

Food safety breeches can occur anywhere – including in local grocery stores and restaurants – but our food safety policies have helped Forestville Central School maintain a great safety record.

PARENTAL SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL MEALS

School nutrition programs need the support of parents and families to succeed! Whether you join your students for school lunch or make time to talk with them about the food they eat at school, taking an interest in a child's eating habits can lead to a lifetime of good choices. And when children have tried new fruits and vegetables at home, they are more likely to pick up those items when they walk through the school lunch line. To get the facts about school meals and share your ideas, visit www.TrayTalk.org.

FLAVORED MILK

In Forestville Schools, low-fat or fat-free, plain or flavored milk is served with every school meal to help our students get their recommended daily allowance of nutrients critical for strong bones and healthy diets.

Leading health and nutrition organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Heart Association, American Dietetic Association, the National Medical Association, and School Nutrition Association, have all expressed their support for low-fat and fat-free milk in schools, including flavored milk. The groups cited studies demonstrating that children who drink flavored milk meet more of their nutrient needs; do not consume more added sugar, fat or calories; and are not heavier than non-milk drinkers. The Institute of Medicine, in their recommended nutrition standards for school meals ("[School Meals: Building Blocks for Healthy Children](#)"), also supported keeping fat-free flavored milk in schools because of the critical nutrients that flavored milk provides.

For more information about any of the above topics, fun activities and recipes you may go to the following websites.

www.letsmove.gov/eat-healthy www.choosemyplate.gov www.cnpp.usda.gov/DietaryGuidelines

Karen Giardina

Cafeteria Manager - Forestville Central School

965-6530

FCS DISTRICT INFORMATION

Free and Reduced Lunch Applications

Children need healthy meals to learn. Forestville Central School offers breakfast and lunch every school day. Your child may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Eligibility Guidelines. You may apply at any time during the school year.

Acceptance into the free and reduced lunch program can also help you in other ways. PSAT, SAT, and ACT test fees are waived. Many colleges waive their application fees as well for participants in the program.

In addition to these benefits, the number of students eligible for free or reduced priced meals plays an important role in the school's eligibility for Federal and State Funding. Those numbers are also used for a variety of purposes including competing for grants.

If your household income has decreased or the size of your household has increased, we encourage you to apply right away. Applications and full criteria are in the school calendar or you may call 965-6539 to request one be sent to you.

School Closing Information

As we head into another western NY winter, we all need to be prepared for the potential of a school closing based on inclement weather. We will use several reliable methods to communicate this important information in a timely fashion. Our first mode of communication will be our "Global Connect Broadcasting System". This system automatically calls all parents of students within the district, as well as staff members, notifying them of the closing/cancellation. The Global Connect system will not only be used in the case of closing/cancellations, but also whenever there is an important announcement from the District. After the Global Connect call is made, we will then contact the following Buffalo Television Stations so that the announcement will be made available for anyone watching:



WGRZ TV Channel 2
WIVB TV Channel 4
WKBW TV Channel 7



If you are not currently on the automated call system, and would like to be included, please send an e-mail request to Mr. Murphy at mmurphy@forestville.com

TOPS in Education Program

TOPS Markets is offering free money for our schools. Both our elementary school and middle/high school have been registered with the TOPS in Education program. If you, your family or friends would like to help out our students, you may register your Tops BonusPlus card at www.topsmarkets.com/education and select one of the Forestville schools from the list. When you purchase participating TOPS, Full circle, and Top-Care, Tippy Toes, Valu Time and Best Yet brand products with your BonusPlus card they will contribute a percentage of the purchase to the school you have chosen. The money will then be used to support our students in various activities. Thanks for helping us out!

FCS DISTRICT INFORMATION

Bus Information

Children should be at their bus stops and ready to board the bus when it arrives.

Remind your children to always remember to be safe by standing back from the curb. If they need to cross in front of the bus, make sure they wait for the driver to signal to them and look both ways before crossing. When exiting, move away from the bus. Your bus driver's number one interest is your safety. Follow his or her directions. All passengers need to behave, stay in their seats, and be respectful of others so that the driver is not distracted.

Reminder: It is illegal to pass a stopped school bus when the red lights are flashing and the stop sign is out. ALL VEHICLES MUST STOP even in parking lots. The bus is either loading or unloading students.

Student Accidents

If your child is hurt at school during the day or at a school sponsored event, make sure the incident is reported to the school nurse in the appropriate building as soon as possible. A form should be filled out detailing the facts of the accident. (This is in addition to reporting to coaches or teachers.) Any insurance claims should be made with your family's primary insurance first. The school offers secondary insurance once the primary coverage is exhausted.

Substitutes

We are currently accepting applications for substitute teachers and various other substitute positions at the school. Applications may be found at www.forestville.com

***In particular, we are in need of substitute bus drivers. Please contact Kari Turner in the bus garage for information and the appropriate applications.

Current Contact Information

Please be sure to let our school office know if your telephone number or mailing address changes. It is very important that we have your current information in case of a student emergency. In addition, our Global Connect system uses these numbers to advise you of cancellations and other important news. If you have any questions or concerns about which contact numbers are used, please speak to your child's school office.

School Visitors

A security system is in place in both buildings that includes all doors locked during the school day. Anyone wishing to enter the school building needs to request access by pressing the call button located on the outside of the building by the office entrances. To further protect the safety of our children, anyone entering the building must report directly to the office to sign in and receive a visitor's pass before going anywhere in the school. This includes parents and volunteers. The pass must be worn during the entire visit.



ALTERNATIVE VETERANS' SCHOOL TAX EXEMPTION

PUBLIC HEARING

November 6, 2014

6:00 pm

High School Library

The decision on whether or not to offer the Alternative Veterans' Exemption affects all Forestville School District taxpayers, including non-veterans. Please attend the public hearing to learn more about the exemption and how it would affect you. The Board of Education welcomes your input on this issue.

More details about who qualifies and the amount of the exemption are available at:

<http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/altvetoverview.htm> or by following the Veterans' Exemption link on our website.

FAST FACTS

- Beginning in 2014, school districts have the option to offer the alternative veterans' exemption.
- Exemption available only on a veteran's primary residence
- Exemption amounts are dependent on the extent of military service
- The tax burden is shifted to the other school district residents
- Allowing the veterans' exemption may cause some tax burden that is currently covered by New York State under the STAR exemption to shift to non-veteran residents of the Forestville District

2014 FORESTVILLE FALL FESTIVAL

The annual Forestville Fall Festival was held this year on October 4th & 5th at the high school. The highlights included a craft show in the gymnasium, food vendors, and several other events.

Tom Woodward and Joe Hodkin gave demonstrations on antique apple peeling and apple pressing. Frank Schneider brought an impressive display of local historical items. Forestville Key Club members provided free children's activities which included face painting, pumpkin painting, a photo booth, and several games - one mother commented "this was a great part of the festival." We were also excited this year at the response to our new amateur photography contest. Marlene Bradigan's entry won the "Best of Show." We are hoping to add an art contest next year.

Other activities during the weekend featured a 5K run that was coordinated by Emily Scott and Heather VanSlycke, advisors for the Forestville Half Marathon Club, a chili cook-off and our annual parade. Barb Towne served as the Grand Marshall for the parade, which featured the Forestville Marching Band, local fire departments, antique tractors, and horses. Prizes were also awarded for the best dressed animals in our new "dress your pet" category.

The Forestville Fall Festival Committee is a locally based organization that believes in giving back to our community. Some of the recipients of our group's efforts include: an annual award given to an FCS senior who is committed to community service, the Forestville Fire Department, and the Forestville Food Pantry. I would like to extend my appreciation to our school for their continued support and to all of the great Forestville Fall Festival Committee Members who work so hard to make this annual event a great success!

- Carol Woodward

Forestville Central District Newsletter

Published By: Scott Hazelton

Newsletter Editor

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FCS VOLLEYBALL HELPS TO SPIKE OUT CANCER

“**Spike Out Cancer**” was an idea that was developed by several coaches, parents, and athletes a few years ago. We never imagined that this event would evolve to be as special as it is when we first talked about doing this charity game in 2010. We cannot thank all of the people enough that have been involved in this night for all of their hard work in helping us raise these much needed funds.

Cancer is a disease that unfortunately hits home with all of us. We need to think of this as a start, a new beginning to making us all aware of the challenges that come with this disease, and also the hope that we can bring by doing our small part in helping to fight it.

Thank you to all our supporters

**and donators, this event was
made possible by YOU!**

