

Adirondack CSD District Newsletter Spring 2022



March 11, 2022

Dear Adirondack Community,

Bring on Spring! Here we are over half way through the year, and it will be graduation time before we know it. I am proud of the many great things that are happening in our schools. Below you will find updates that are taking place in the district.



District Goals:

We are working on action steps over the next few years to accomplish our district goals. This quote sums it up best, “A dream written down with a date becomes a goal. A goal broken down into steps becomes a plan. A plan backed by action makes your dreams come true.” The action steps involve every one of us, and in my newsletters I will highlight some of our action steps. If you have ideas to support our goals, we want to hear from you!

The 4 overarching goals are:

GOAL CATEGORY 1: COMMUNICATION

GOAL STATEMENT: The Adirondack Central School District will build a collaborative partnership in our school and our community with open, transparent communication building trust and positive culture (school spirit).

- Transparency
- Building connections with all stakeholders
- Building unity across the ACS District
- Encouraging utilization of District resources throughout the community

GOAL CATEGORY 2: CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

GOAL STATEMENT: The Adirondack Central School District will support and sustain a safe, respectful and accepting environment.

- Foster a mentally and emotionally supportive environment for all members of our school community
- Survey stakeholders/seek feedback
- Counseling services
- Wellness/Health Center

GOAL CATEGORY 3: FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

GOAL STATEMENT: The district will provide an educationally sound and fiscally responsible budget that supports students in achieving the vision and mission of the district.

- Create, expand, and sustain educational opportunities for all stakeholders
- Develop and expand community-based opportunities

GOAL CATEGORY 4: GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

GOAL STATEMENT

The district will provide a comprehensive academic program, with customized learning for each learner to reach their maximum potential, with high expectations ensuring students are prepared for their chosen life endeavors.

- Increase graduation rate and increase Regents with Advanced Designation
- Increase performance on state exams, 3-8
- Increase participation rates on state exams, 3-8
- Decrease students needing AIS (academic intervention services)
- Increase students in advanced courses (AP, college, honors and advanced)
- Increase students earning Seal of Biliteracy and soon Seal of Civic Readiness



District Curriculum:



This year we are implementing an updated version of our Mathematics curriculum in grades K-5. We use enVisions Math.

We are currently researching curriculum options for ELA K-8 and Math 6-8. We anticipate presenting to the Board a recommendation on curriculum choices in May 2022, with implementation for the 2022-23 school year. The companies we are taking in-depth looks at include:

- K-5 ELA: Core Knowledge Language Arts, Expeditionary Learning K-5 Language Arts, and Wonders
- 6-8 ELA: Amplify ELA, Expeditionary Learning 6-8 Language Arts Curriculum, and StudySync: A Comprehensive ELA Curriculum for Grades 6-8
- 6-8 Math: E2 by Great Minds, Illustrative Mathematics by Kendall Hunt, and enVisions Mathematics 6-8

Therapy Dog(s):

The Board of Education recently approved a policy to allow therapy dogs in our schools. There are specific rules and procedures we will need to follow to get this going, but I'm excited about the possibility! Research shows the benefits of having therapy dogs in schools for the overall mental health of students and staff.

Focus on Mental Health:

We are realizing just how much of an impact Covid has had on mental health, for children and adults. We, like all schools, have seen an increase in mental illness, discipline issues, etc. We are working hard to add resources to support our community, and most of these items are being paid for out of our stimulus money. Below you will find a summary of new things added to target this:

- Rubenzahl-Knudsen and Associates Therapist - .8 Joanna Dailey, based at the High School
- An additional counselor added to the district team - based at the Elementary level
- Center for Family Life and Recovery - .4 Caryn Schweinsberg, based at the Middle/High School
- An Employee Assistance Program - added for staff
- CPI Training for Transportation Staff (Crisis Prevention Institute) - we also plan to offer to our Special Education staff
- An addition of 2 bus attendants for increased transportation supervision
- Trauma informed practices training to all of our staff (Sept and Oct 2022)
- We hired a Social Worker, when a counselor left, to add a Social Worker to the team - Middle School

3-8 State Exams:

Students in grades 3-8 will take their state exams in ELA, Mathematics and Science (4 & 8) in the next few weeks. A priority for our district is to increase participation rates. The state requires that 95% of our students participate each year, and our district is in jeopardy of needing to submit a corrective action plan if we do not continue to increase participation. Thank you for supporting us on this! The ELA and Mathematics tests are taken on the computer.

Covid Update:

I'm ecstatic to say that we have had zero Covid cases reported in the school for the past week!! Masks are now optional in schools, and everyone has done a great job respecting each other's choice on mask wearing. Masks are not optional for people who test positive for Covid, on days 6-10. Those who are positive must isolate themselves on days 1-5. We no longer have indoor capacity limits at events. Please help us...Do not come into the school if you are sick. Also, test often if you think you've been exposed or if showing symptoms. Our school nurses have plenty of rapid test kits. Please contact a nurse if you need a test. Remember to go to our district website and click on the Covid tab (top left) to access up-to-date information on our Covid Plan or Covid numbers.

Adirondack's Official Logo:

I have often been asked, what is the "official" Adirondack logo. When asking around, I was given many different answers. Our district is working on a vinyl graphics project, as part of the final touches to the capital project that's finishing up at the Middle/High School. As part of this project, the artist from Integrated Marketing designed for us new Adirondack "official" logos. Please find a few examples scattered throughout the pages of the newsletter. If anyone is making t-shirts, signs, etc. and needs the master file of our new logos, please contact the District Office and we are happy to share this with you.

I'm proud to work alongside you. I am truly grateful to be on this team...Team Adirondack!

Sincerely yours,
Kristy W. McGrath



Adirondack is Awesome

Here are a few of the many great things happening at Adirondack...

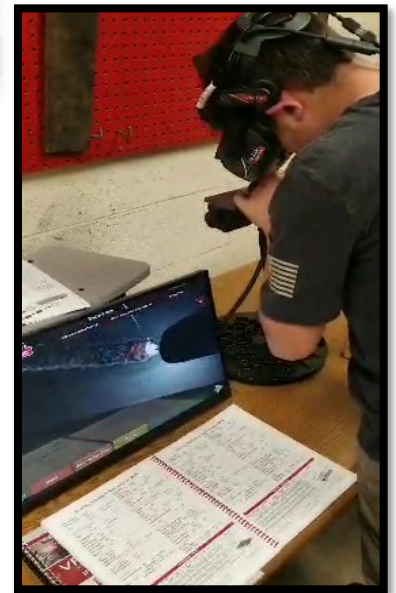
Service Project

In December, the Animal and Vet Science classes participated in a Community Service/Giving project in which they made fleece dog and cat blankets that were donated to Countryside Vet Clinics and local Humane Societies. In total they made 17 blankets to donate. They did an awesome job and loved it!



Virtual Welder

Adirondack got a Virtual Welder. Dan Granato and Heather Sweeney's students are blown away with how realistic and awesome it is! Students are learning to weld in a less intimidating way, without wasting all the supplies of actual welding.



Science Class

In Mrs. Sweeney's Agriculture Science class, students learned how to make balsam wreaths and bows that they were able to take home for the Holidays. I would like to thank Tim Faber and Dora Redner for providing the balsam clippings that the students used to create their wreaths. They then got to choose a bow color and made their own bow to put on their wreath, along with a couple of pine cones. (Missing from the photos was Kaylana Steria.)



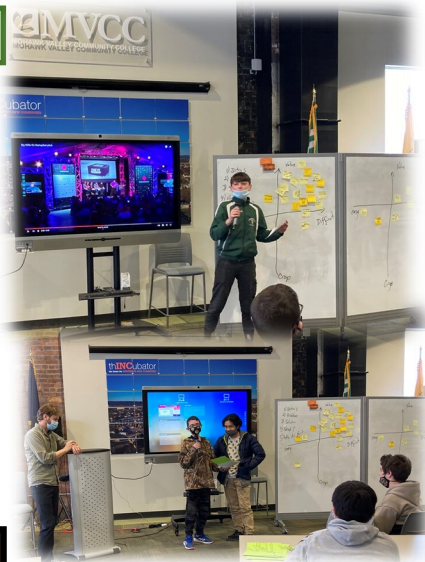
Anything But A Backpack 2022



Students were able to use anything but a backpack to carry their books and belongings throughout the school day on February 18th. Students got very creative with their ideas! There were microwaves, laundry baskets, sleds, a tricycle, strollers, suitcases, and belts- just to name a view of fabulous ideas.

MVCC-THINKcubator

MVCC's thINCubator is the Mohawk Valley's hub for Entrepreneurship. The thIncubator provides new and existing entrepreneurs the guidance and programs they need to turn their ideas into businesses. Ms. Corrigan's 7th grade Family and Consumer Science classes visited the creative work space on the MVCC campus and learned about entrepreneurship. After the students worked in teams to go through the process of starting up a business, the teams presented their ideas to the rest of the class. The students had a wonderful time and were appreciative of this experience.



"Walk, Ride, Rodeo"

Movie Star and Motivational speaker Amberley Snyder visited ACS where she delivered her inspirational message - There is no future in giving up - to middle and high school students. The Netflix movie "Walk, Ride, Rodeo" is based on Amberley's life. Amberley shared her story of triumph over tragedy. Through her message she encourages students to never give up, regardless of what obstacles and challenges life throws at them, and inspires and motivates students to believe in themselves and "get back on the horse"



Mrs. Hopsicker's Class at Boonville Elem.



Mrs. Hopsicker's third grade class was the first Boonville Elementary classroom to complete the Cool To Be Kind contest. It took them only three days to earn all of their pizza slices. KissFM then drew their name for a sponsored pizza party, complete with a special visit from WKTV, and the frog from Big Frog radio. Their party will be on March 18th. Some slices that they had to

earn included being kind/courteous/respectful in the cafeteria, helping a classmate pickup, holding the door for someone and giving someone a compliment

Family Lit & STEAM Night at West Leyden Elem.

West Leyden PTA hosted a Family Literacy & STEAM night on March 9th. The event was in collaboration with the PTA's PARP (Pick a Reading Partner) program and the reading of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. Families engaged in several literacy and STEAM activities like building gumdrop towers, science experiments with skittles and m&m's, tumblewings, Sphero, and more. The Scholastic Book Fair was open for families to shop for amazing titles and to promote literacy at home. We were excited to share a night of pure imagination!



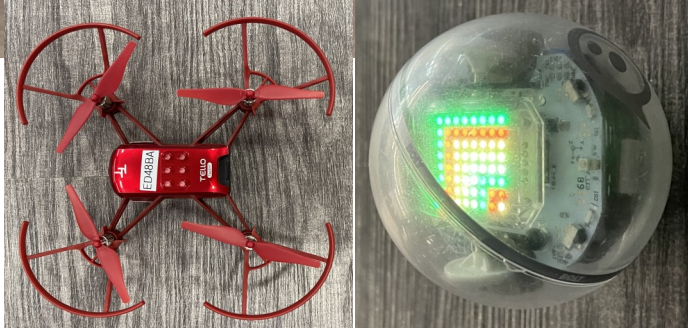
90th Birthday!

Lois Fey, a long-time sub for ACS, turned 90 in November. Her family contacted ACS and wondered if we could help with a special surprise...90 cards for her 90th birthday. Students met and crushed the goal and sent Lois 341 birthday cards! We were honored to be a part of her special day.



STEAM ROOM

5th graders visiting the STEAM room and collaborating with the 6th graders!



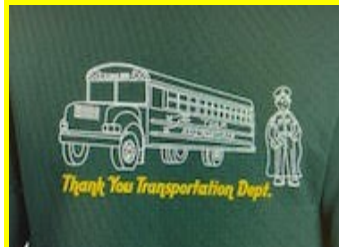
Vinyl Graphics Project

HS project coming soon...
Vinyl graphics on the walls outside the gym and auditorium.



Transportation Dept.

The district wanted to do something special to show that we appreciate all they do. Students designed a logo for sweatshirts and then the Transportation Department voted. The winning design was from 11th grader, Raelynn Yelton.



There were many days this winter where we used every driver possible, in order to make our runs. Many people stepped up to the plate to help, and we have had new recruits join our team.



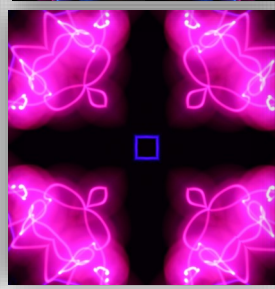
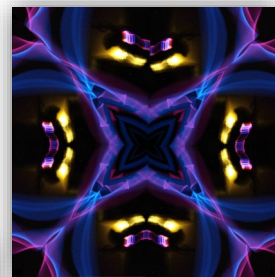
Fine Arts Update

Upcoming Events..

- ♦ March 23 Musical Performance for Elementary 8:00 a.m.
- ♦ March 24 Musical/District-Wide Art Show 7:00 p.m.
- ♦ March 25 Musical/District-Wide Art Show 7:00 p.m.
- ♦ March 26 Musical/District-Wide Art Show 7:00 p.m.
(Snow date Sunday, March 27, 2:00 p.m. matinee)
- ♦ March 25-26 Area All-State, Location TBD TBD
(Qualifying students, Grades 10-12)
- ♦ April 1-2 Elementary All-County at Utica CSD TBD
(Select students Grades 5-6)
- ♦ May 13-14 NYSSMA solo Festival I-VI at CVA TBD
(Select students Grades 4-12)
- ♦ May 17 Focus on the 5th Grade - Art Show during budget vote
(5th Grade Art Show in Middle School)
- ♦ May 25 Middle School Concert/Art Show 7:00 p.m.
(Gr. 6-8 Art, Band, and Choir)
- ♦ June 2 Elementary Concert/Art Show 7:00 p.m.
(Gr. 3-5 Art, 4-5 Bands, 4th Gr. Music Club & 5th Gr. Chorus in HS)



Winter Art Show
MS/HS 6th-12th graders



What's New at Adirondack

(CFLR) - Center for Family Life and Recovery - We are pleased to announce that we have a partnership with CFLR. Caryn Schweinsberg has joined our team, and is based at the Middle and High School on Mondays and Fridays. A grant covers 1 day/week, and the district pays for the second day. Center for Family Life and Recovery specializes in substance abuse and prevention, suicide prevention, behavioral and mental health support, and family support. Caryn pushes into classrooms to educate students on many topics. Recently, CFLR staff presented to students during Phys. Ed. classes to discuss vaping, and they educated staff during faculty meetings. Another example of the benefits of this partnership can be seen by CFLR being our partner for our recently adopted Narcan policy. In the event of an overdose, our district is now prepared to assist a person in crisis. We are appreciative of the expertise of this group in helping our staff in leading healthy and safe lifestyles.

(CCS) - Connected Community Schools - Adirondack has also partnered with this organization. You may have seen ads to hire for 2 site coordinators. One person will be based at the Middle/High School and the other will be shared between Boonville Elementary and West Leyden Elementary. CCS is growing in popularity, and is in many local districts, with examples including Rome, Camden, Little Falls, Dolgeville, Waterville, and many more. The community can access the CCS "hub" which contains food, hygiene items, clothing/coats, school supplies and other resources families may need. CCS can link and assist families that are in need of support to outside agencies. Connected Community Schools will offer family engagement events at the school and coordinate classroom programming for students. We are excited to have Connected Community Schools here to support our community and families!

Here are the staff members who have joined our team since our last district newsletter. We extend a warm welcome to our new employees.



Rebekah Leuenberger

Utica College of Nursing alum, Rebekah Leuenberger, joined Boonville Elementary in the Fall. "Nurse Leu" lives in West Leyden with her husband, three sons, two cats, chickens, turkeys, and guinea hens! The Leuenberger family enjoys cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and hiking the ADK fire towers. Mrs. Leuenberger enjoys reading Harry Potter and loves Mallow Cups.



Candice Norrs

Joined the Transportation Department as a School Bus Attendant. I reside in Boonville and my three children graduated from Adirondack. I enjoy gardening.



Malachi Hutchings

Joined the Transportation Department as a School Bus Driver. I've lived in Boonville for about 4 years and just recently bought a house. I love to drive around and I like to play video games. I also work well with children probably because I'm a bigger version of a kid.



Wendy Page

Joined the Transportation Department as School Bus Driver. My husband and I moved to West Leyden in 2007. I have three children, two attend Adirondack and my oldest graduated last year and now attends college. I enjoy spending time with family and friends. I love the outdoors, hunting, camping and riding ATV.



James Kwasniewski

Joined the Transportation Department in November 2021 as a School Bus Driver. My wife, Lori and I reside in Lee Center and we both are graduates of Adirondack. I have a daughter who will be a senior in the fall, at Adirondack. My hobby is collecting and restoring engines.



Marina DeAngelo

Marina DeAngelo is the ADK Afterschool Program Director. Although having earned her Masters' Degree in Psychology and Criminal Justice, she has always had a soft spot for teaching the youth of her surrounding communities. She spent two years working at Upstate Cerebral Palsy Pre-K and has coached modified track for Westmoreland Central School; she also works part-time at North Star Orchards in Westmoreland, NY.



Sally Townsend

Sally Townsend is the West Leyden Site Director/Group Teacher. She has maintained a private practice, while working for local colleges, public schools and therapy agencies for over forty years. She has worked for Head Start, Summer Youth Programs, RCIL, and has been an Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy at Utica College.



Jennifer Bowman-Family and Consumer Science

The Middle School welcomed Jennifer Bowman. Mrs. Bowman will be the long-term substitute for Family and Consumer Science(FACS) . As a well respected substitute in the district, Mrs. Bowman expressed her interest in the position as she loves many topics related to Family and Consumer Science. She received her Master's Degree in Mathematics at Utica College, and her Bachelors degree in physics with a minor in mathematics and chemistry from Wagner College. At one point she was a certified mathematics teacher with the NYC Teaching Fellows where she worked as an algebra, geometry, and AIS teacher at John Dewey High School in Brooklyn. She took time off to stay home with her four children.



Caryn Schweinsberg-Senior Prevention Specialist (CFLR)

The Middle School and High School are excited to have Caryn Schweinsberg on campus Mondays and Fridays. Miss Schweinsberg is from the Center for Family Life and Recovery (CFLR) and is a Senior Prevention Specialist. She received her Bachelors of Science in Community and Behavioral Health from Suny Poly. In order to support our students, Miss Schweinsberg started monthly seminars to educate students on social emotional learning topics. Through the CFLR, she offers resources to families and assists with professional learning to faculty and staff.

We are excited & grateful to welcome back...



Edward Swiecki

"We are excited to welcome back Mr. Swiecki to ACS! Mr. Swiecki has returned as our long term Spanish substitute. We appreciate his love for teaching and dedication to our students. Bienvenido Senor Swiecki!"



BOYS & GIRLS Spring Sports Schedules

For digital, up-to-date sports schedules go to: schedulegalaxy.com/schools/6

Boys Varsity Baseball: *Coach Phil Puleo*

Date	School	Site	Time
03/28	South Lewis	Away	4:30 p
03/30	Westmoreland	Home	4:30 p
04/06	Little Falls	Away	4:30 p
04/08	Holland Patent	Away	4:30 p
04/15	Oriskany	Home	4:30 p
04/18	Westmoreland	Away	4:30 p
04/20	Mount Markham	Away	4:30 p
04/22	Clinton	Home	4:30 p
04/23	Cooperstown	Away	1:00 p
04/25	Canastota	Home	4:30 p
04/27	Carthage	Home	4:30 p
04/29	Sherburne-Earlville	Home	4:30 p
04/30	Cooperstown	Home	1:00 p
05/04	Little Falls	Home	4:30 p
05/06	Holland Patent	Home	4:30 p
05/09	Mount Markham	Home	4:30 p
05/11	Clinton	Away	4:30 p
05/13	Canastota	Away	4:30 p
05/14	Lowville	Away	11:00 a
05/16	Lowville	Home	7:00 p
05/18	Sherburne-Earlville	Away	4:30 p



Boys JV Baseball: *Coach Jason Cossler*

Date	School	Site	Time
04/02	Sherburne-Earlville	Away	11:00 a
04/05	Dolgeville	Home	4:30 p
04/07	Cooperstown	Away	4:30 p
04/09	Sauquoit Valley	Home	11:00 a
04/19	Westmoreland	Away	4:30 p
04/21	West Canada Valley	Home	4:30 p
04/23	Little Falls	Home	11:00 a
04/26	Morrisville-Eaton	Away	4:30 p
04/28	Carthage	Away	4:30 p
04/30	Canastota	Away	11:00 a
05/03	Sherburne-Earlville	Home	4:30 p
05/05	Dolgeville	Away	4:30 p
05/07	Cooperstown	Home	11:00 a
05/10	Sauquoit Valley	Away	4:30 p
05/12	Westmoreland	Home	4:30 p
05/14	West Canada Valley	Away	11:00 a
05/17	Little Falls	Away	4:30 p
05/19	Morrisville-Eaton	Home	4:30 p
05/21	Holland Patent	Away	11:00 a
05/24	Canastota	Home	4:30 p

Boys Modified Baseball: *Coach Jason Cossler*

Date	School	Site	Time
04/29	Dolgeville	Away	4:30 p
05/02	Canastota	Away	4:30 p
05/04	Holland Patent	Away	4:30 p
05/06	Sherburne-Earlville	Away	4:30 p
05/07	Oriskany	Away	11:00 a
05/09	TBD	Away	6:30 p
05/11	Clinton	Away	4:30 p
05/13	Dolgeville	Home	4:30 p
05/16	Canastota	Home	4:30 p
05/18	Holland Patent	Home	4:30 p
05/23	Sherburne-Earlville	Home	4:30 p
05/25	Clinton	Away	4:30 p
05/27	Oriskany	Home	4:30 p

Boys Varsity Golf: *Coach Nick Palczak*

Asst. Coach Mickey Fauvelle

Date	School	Site	Time
04/27	West Canada Valley	Home	3:30 p
04/28	Town of Webb @ Dolgeville	Away	3:30 p
05/03	Dolgeville @ Poland	Away	3:30 p
05/04	Dolgeville, Town of Webb	Home	3:30 p
05/06	Poland @ West Canada Valley	Away	3:30 p
05/11	Remsen, Little Falls	Home	3:30 p
05/12	Town of Webb @ Little Falls	Away	4:00 p
05/16	West Canada Valley @ Town of Webb	Away	4:00 p
05/17	West Canada Valley @ Remsen	Away	3:30 p



Boys & Girls Varsity Track: *Coach Mitch Maryhugh*

Asst. Coach Kyle Swiecki

Date	School	Site	Time
04/06	Herkimer	Home	4:30 p
04/20	Little Falls	Home	4:30 p
04/27	West Canada Valley	Away	4:30 p
05/04	Dolgeville	Away	3:30 p
05/11	Frankfort-Schuyler	Home	4:30 p
05/18	CSC Division I & II @ West Canada Valley	Away	4:00 p

BOYS & GIRLS Spring Sports Schedules

For digital, up-to-date sports schedules go to: schedulegalaxy.com/schools/6

Girls Varsity Softball: *Coach Susie Case*
Americo Ventiquattro

05/23 Sherburne-Earlvile Home 4:30 p
05/25 Clinton Away 4:30 p
05/27 Oriskany Home 4:30 p

Date	School	Site	Time
03/30	Poland	Away	4:30 p
04/04	Westmoreland	Home	8:00 p
04/06	Little Falls	Away	4:30 p
04/08	Holland Patent	Away	4:30 p
04/18	Poland	Home	4:30 p
04/20	Mount Markham	Away	4:30 p
04/22	Clinton	Home	4:30 p
04/25	Canastota	Home	4:30 p
04/26	Camden	Away	4:30 p
04/29	Sherburne-Earlvile	Home	4:30 p
04/30	General Brown	Home	11:30 a
05/02	Pulaski	Away	4:00 p
05/04	Little Falls	Away	4:30 p
05/06	Holland Patent	Home	4:30 p
05/09	Mount Markham	Home	4:30 p
05/11	Clinton	Away	4:30 p
05/13	Canastota	Away	4:30 p
05/18	Sherburne-Earlvile	Away	4:30 p
05/20	Westmoreland	Away	4:30 p

Boys & Girls Varsity Track: *Coach Mitch Maryhugh*
Asst. Coach Kyle Swiecki

Date	School	Site	Time
04/06	Herkimer	Home	4:30 p
04/20	Little Falls	Home	4:30 p
04/27	West Canada Valley	Away	4:30 p
05/04	Dolgeville	Away	3:30 p
05/11	Frankfort-Schuyler	Home	4:30 p
05/18	CSC Division I & II @ West Canada Valley	Away	4:00 p

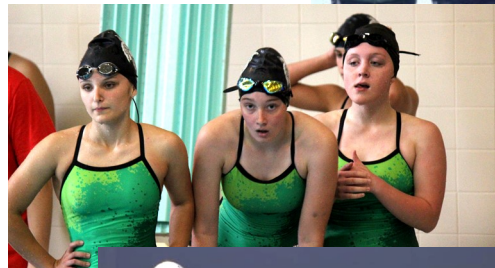
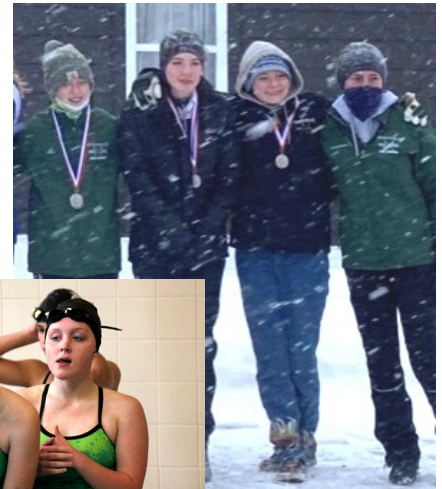
Girls JV Softball: *Coach Sean Green*

Date	School	Site	Time
04/02	Sherburne-Earlvile	Away	11:00 a
04/05	Poland	Home	4:30 p
04/07	Cooperstown	Away	4:30 p
04/09	Sauquoit Valley	Home	11:00 a
04/19	Westmoreland	Away	4:30 p
04/21	West Canada Valley	Home	4:30 p
04/23	Little Falls	Home	11:00 a
04/26	Waterville	Away	4:30 p
04/28	Holland Patent	Home	4:30 p
04/30	Canastota	Away	11:00 a
05/03	Sherburne-Earlvile	Home	4:30 p
05/05	Poland	Away	4:30 p
05/07	Cooperstown	Home	11:00 a
05/10	Sauquoit Valley	Away	4:30 p
05/12	Westmoreland	Home	4:30 p
05/14	West Canada Valley	Away	11:00 a
05/17	Little Falls	Away	4:30 p
05/19	Waterville	Home	4:30 p
05/21	Holland Patent	Away	11:00 a
05/24	Canastota	Home	4:30 p

Girls Modified Softball: *Coach Courtney Foll*

Date	School	Site	Time
04/29	Dolgeville	Away	4:30 p
05/02	Canastota	Away	4:30 p
05/04	Holland Patent	Away	4:30 p
05/06	Sherburne-Earlvile	Away	4:30 p
05/11	Clinton	Home	4:30 p
05/13	Dolgeville	Home	4:30 p
05/16	Canastota	Home	4:30 p
05/18	Holland Patent	Home	4:30 p

- ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
- ★ **Fall/Winter Highlights** ★
- ★ • Football team won the league and made it to the finals in Sectionals in the Dome ★
 - ★ • Girl's swim team captured their first ever league meet championship ★
 - ★ • Cora Hinsdill and Kylee Mathis qualified for States in XC ★
 - ★ • Wrestling team won the league title ★
 - ★ • Boys bowling won the league title ★
 - ★ • Logan Chrzan was chosen for the Sectional team to compete at States for bowling ★
 - ★ • Cora Hinsdill, Aya Knitel, Haylee Kowalewski and Carli Charbonneau qualified for States in Nordic Ski ★
- ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



Adirondack Central School
District Office
110 Ford Street
Boonville, NY 13309

SPRING 2022



Adirondack Excellence

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Utica, NY
Permit No. 566

or **Current Resident**

TEAM ADIRONDACK !!

Graduation

Class of 2022 will hold their graduation outside this year, weather permitting. This will be the first time for an evening graduation commencement. It's scheduled for Friday night, June 24th at 6:30 pm.

