— SPECIAL BUDGET ISSUE —

HOLLAND PATENT CENTRAL SCHOOL

Home of the Golden Knights

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.HPSCHOOLS.ORG

MAY 2024

VALEDICTORIAN

Nicole Santa Maria

SALUTATORIAN

Heather Buchanan-Wise

OUR MISSION

Holland Patent Central School will provide a safe, caring, positive environment where all students can achieve their maximum innate potential and acquire the skills, attitudes and abilities necessary to succeed in an ever-changing world.

CLASS OF 2024

Valedictorian & Salutatorian

The Holland Patent Central School District is proud to announce the standard bearers for the class of 2024. Representing the class as valedictorian is **Nicole Santa Maria,** daughter of Dale and Maria Santa Maria of Holland Patent.

Nicole is an outstanding, all-around student. She has earned a 100.19 weighted grade point average throughout her four years at Holland Patent High School and has accomplished this while taking mostly Advanced Placement and dual credit college courses. Nicole is a very well-rounded student.

In addition to her gifted academic ability, she participates in a variety of extracurricular activities. During her senior year Nicole has been a member of the varsity soccer and the varsity track and field teams. She is also the Student Council vice president, National Honor Society president, and STEM Club president. Outside of school Nicole volunteers her time at the Foothills Food Pantry, the MVHS Children's Christmas Party, and several events at our district elementary schools.

Nicole also has a job at the Fitness Connection in Barneveld and as a soccer referee for the AYSO program. At this time, Nicole has not selected a college for next year, but plans to pursue a future in engineering.

Representing the class of 2024 as salutatorian is **Heather Buchanan-Wise,** daughter of Bryant Buchanan and Sharon Wise of Remsen. Heather also has a very impressive resume for her time at Holland Patent High School. She is graduating with a weighted grade point average of 99.20 and has also done this while taking our most challenging courses.

Heather is one of the most talented musicians to ever graduate from Holland Patent. During her senior year, she was selected as an alternate violinist for the All-Eastern Symphony Orchestra, which features top musicians from all over the eastern United States. Heather has also scored the highest level for NYSSMA Solo Adjudications for the last three years to go along with other countless awards and recognitions that she has earned.

In addition to being a gifted violinist and strong academic student, Heather is active in National Honor Society, STEM Club, Tri-M Music Honor Society and Genes in Space. Outside of school she volunteers her time for the Utica Roadrunners and the Utica Refugee Center. Heather is undecided on which college she will attend, but plans to pursue a degree in political science.

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BUDGET HEARING

TUESDAY
MAY 7

6:00 p.m.
HS Library

BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY
MAY 21

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
HS Gymnasium

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

PROPOSED
2024-25 BUDGET
$40,436,507

CURRENT
2023-24 BUDGET
$39,270,823

BUDGET
INCREASE
$1,165,684
2.97%

TAX LEVY
INCREASE
2.90%

Dear Holland Patent School District Community,

The Board of Education adopted the spending plan of $40,436,507 for the 2024-2025 school year at the February 29, 2024 meeting. The budget supports a solid curriculum which seeks to prepare students for college and career readiness. We have utilized flexible thinking and planning to produce a budget that maintains programming in the face of multiple challenges. The state aid reductions currently being considered and the rate of inflation in New York State has presented many challenges, and through long term financial planning our district has worked diligently to present a budget that stays within our tax levy limit at 2.90%. This would not have been possible without the efforts of our teachers, staff and students, as well as the support from our community. The spending plan that has been constructed is fiscally responsible to our taxpayers in the long and short term, while continuing to maintain the solid educational programs that are essential to our students' success today and in the future. We have maintained a hearty offering of extracurricular and athletic offerings to our students. It has been a positive and productive time in our school buildings across the district.

Some highlights, amongst other wonderful opportunities, in our budget are inclusive of the following examples of our programs:

- Languages: Spanish, French, Mandarin Chinese, American Sign Language
- Arts: Photography, Computer Graphics, Drawing and Painting, Digital Design, Sculpture
- Technology: CAD, DDP, Computer Applications
- Physical Education: Life Saving, Health, PE Pre-K-12
- Music: Guitar 1 & 2, Chorus, Select Chorus, Jazz Band, Vocal Ensemble, String Ensemble, Music Theory, K-8 General Music, Chamber Orchestra
- MVCC: English 101, Government, Economics, CAD, Accounting, Computer Applications, Music Appreciation, French, Spanish, Psychology, Sociology, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics
- Herkimer College: ASL 3, ASL 4
- AP Courses: Calculus, Biology, Language and Composition, US Government, US History and Government, Modern World History, Music Theory
- Sports: Football, Tennis, Swim, Soccer, Field Hockey, Cross Country, Cheerleading, Basketball, Wrestling, Bowling, Volleyball, Alpine and Nordic Ski, Baseball, Softball, Golf, Track and Lacrosse

As a team, we have worked on supporting a strategic plan as a Board of Education, leadership team, faculty, staff and community which aligns our focus on the Mission, Vision and District Goals for the future. As we digested the ideas from this plan, focusing on a commitment to student growth, we are focused on a balanced approach to facilities improvement. The Capital Project that was approved by voters last May will begin implementation this summer and throughout the coming school year.

We are future focused, with students centered at our core. Some of our current points of pride include:

- Investment in Early Literacy – Full-day pre-K
- Building Literacy Capacity K-12
- Teacher Center professional learning that supports District initiatives and building capacity
- Differentiated professional learning with technology integration
- Instructional coaching K-12 focused in reading, writing and math
- Connected Community Schools, which are located in every building
- Hubs located in every school with food pantry, clothing closet and school supplies
- LINKS referrals to outside agencies including mental health, housing, family needs, academics, nutrition, medical needs, transportation and behavior management
- Dual Credit Courses – Syracuse University Project Advance, MVCC, Herkimer College, Utica University, Hamilton College
- Career and Technical Education, P-TECH, New Visions, Regional Program for Excellence
- Summer programming for K-6 enrichment at Holland Patent
- Summer camps, including athletics, STEM, art and music
- Accrual of 54 dual-credits available to all students attending our high school
- Best community for music education for five consecutive years
- Mentoring program for new staff
- Updating curriculum to ensure the Next Generation standards are embedded
- Instructional coaches are building small group instruction in the classrooms
- Using student data to drive instruction and fill gaps due to learning loss
- Multiple Extracurricular opportunities including FFA and FBLA

These points of pride are supported through a fiscally responsible proposed budget. The proposed 2024-25 tax levy is a 2.90% increase from the 2023-24 budget. The tax levy limit requires districts in New York State to apply a multistep formula to determine the tax levy increase a district can propose. We will once again stay within this tax levy limit. The Board of Education adopted a spending plan of $40,436,507 for 2024-2025 school year, which results in a levy below the district maximum allowable levy limit.

Many years of financial planning has helped us to build a budget that engages student centered learning and is fiscally responsible with a tax levy under the allowable levy limit. We would like to thank everyone who put forth a great deal of effort in the development of the budget. We invite all residents to attend the public hearing at Holland Patent High School on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 6 p.m. The budget vote will be Tuesday, May 21, 2024 from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cheryl J. Venettozzi
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

PROPOSITIONS ON THE BALLOT

In addition to voting on this year's budget, we are asking the community to consider these items:

THE ELECTION OF ONE (1) MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR A TERM OF FIVE (5) YEARS.

Candidates running for the Board of Education (bios on page 6)

PROPOSITION NO. 1: Authorize a purchase of three school buses $516,347

PROPOSITION NO. 2: Authorize a non-voting student member on the school board

PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET PROPOSITION

New York state education law allows libraries to place a funding proposition on school district ballots and requires school districts, at the libraries' requests, to levy and collect taxes for libraries. Libraries are separate legal entities from the school district, with their own funding and budgets. The school district does not endorse, control or recommend any aspect of how the libraries spend money.

If voters approved proposition three, the school district would annually levy and collect taxes in the new amount for the library beginning in the 2024-25 fiscal year. The amount authorized for library services is listed as a separate line on residents' tax bills.

ESTIMATED INCOME

	BUDGET 2023-24	PROPOSED BUDGET 2024-25
Interests & Penalties on Taxes	$10,000	$20,000
Admissions	$6,000	$6,000
Interest	$100,000	$125,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	$2,378,740	$2,905,094
Sale of Equipment	$1,000	$1,000
State Aid - Basic, Trans, Special Aid, etc.	$16,045,776	$15,208,575
Building Aid	$2,215,136	$1,912,381
Textbook Aid	$119,265	$120,669
BOCES Aid	$1,908,809	$2,884,114
Appropriated Fund Balance	$2,000,000	$2,306,774
Tuition	$5,000	$5,000
Payment in Lieu of Taxes - Reg. Water Authority	$69,375	$120,445
Interfund Transfer	$300,000	$300,000
TOTALS	**$25,159,101**	**$25,915,052**

TAX LEVY

	2023-24		2024-25
Budget	$39,270,823		$40,436,507
Non-Tax Income	$25,159,101		$25,915,052
Tax Levy - Budget	$14,111,722		$14,521,455
Total	$409,733	or	2.90%
Tax Levy Public Library	$30,000		$60,000

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPONENT

The Administrative Component provides for overall general support and management activities including business office operations, payroll, purchasing, general administration, personnel, legal and auditing services. Cost for administration and supervision of each of the district's four (4) schools is also included in this component.

SCHOOL YEAR	2023-24	2024-25	INC/(DEC)
Board of Education	$34,965	$35,135	$170
Central Administration	$358,964	$372,004	$13,040
Finance	$569,189	$584,747	$15,558
Legal Services	$91,592	$95,057	$3,465
Public Information	$2,250	$2,250	$-
Central Printing	$45,000	$45,000	$-
Central Data Processing	$552,300	$585,438	$33,138
Unallocated Insurance	$150,157	$157,665	$7,508
BOCES Administration	$395,850	$419,601	$23,751
Supervision Reg. School	$935,157	$970,885	$35,728
Teaching Special Ed.	$127,797	$132,909	$5,112
AIS	$41,688	$43,356	$1,668
Employee Benefits	$1,108,167	$1,179,947	$71,780
TOTALS	**$4,413,076**	**$4,623,994**	**$210,918**

PROGRAM COMPONENT

The Program Component provides funding for the instruction of and educational support services for the districts 1,284 students. Programs are offered in two (2) Elementary Schools, one (1) Middle School and one (1) High School. Funds are also included in this component for transportation.

SCHOOL YEAR	2023-24	2024-25	INC/(DEC)
Teaching Regular School	$10,531,851	$10,733,911	$202,060
Teaching Special Ed.	$5,340,346	$5,561,678	$221,332
Occupational Education	$546,000	$578,760	$32,760
Legal Services	$78,658	$78,658	$-
AIS	$114,354	$118,665	$4,301
Instructional Media	$323,697	$337,857	$14,160
Attendance	$28,425	$29,328	$903
Guidance	$470,173	$488,168	$17,995
Health	$203,863	$209,394	$5,531
Co-Curricular	$90,796	$94,428	$3,632
Interscholastic Athletics	$497,414	$509,761	$12,347
Transportation	$2,245,007	$2,298,426	$53,419
Employee Benefits	$7,324,643	$7,659,981	$335,338
TOTALS	**$27,795,237**	**$28,699,015**	**$903,778**

CAPITAL COMPONENT

The Capital Component pays for maintaining 10 buildings, for upkeep of over 65 acres of property, and for electricity, gas heat, oil, water & sewer and telephone services. Funds are also included for "mortgage" payments on capital projects (principal & interest payments) and for refund of taxes for claims against property assessments.

SCHOOL YEAR	2023-24	2024-25	INC/(DEC)
Operations & Maintenance	$2,951,323	$2,999,631	$48,308
Tax Refund	$40,000	$40,000	$-
Employee Benefits	$931,607	$981,777	$50,170
Debt Service	$3,139,580	$3,092,090	($47,490)
TOTALS	**$7,062,510**	**$7,113,498**	**$50,988**

GRAND TOTAL	$39,270,823	$40,436,507	$1,165,684

BUDGET SUMMARY			
PROGRAM AREA	**2023-24 BUDGET**	**2024-25 BUDGET**	**DESCRIPTION OF BUDGET AREAS**
Board of Education	$34,965	$35,135	District Clerk, district mtgs., dues, supplies, State School Boards membership
Central Administration	$358,964	$372,004	Salaries - Supt./secretary; supplies, travel, journals
Finance	$569,189	$584,747	Salaries - Asst. Supt. support staff; auditor, audit mandates, treas., tax collector
Legal	$170,250	$173,715	Legal fees, advertisements, negotiations
Public Information	$2,250	$2,250	Newsletters, calendars, budget brochure
Operation & Maintenance	$2,951,323	$2,999,631	Water, tele, custodial-maint., equip., trash, heat fuel, elect., supplies, Capital Outlay (High School)
Central Printing	$45,000	$45,000	Mailing, repair costs, parts, supplies
Central Data Processing	$552,300	$585,438	Computer services: networks, rpt. cards, attendance, scheduling, payroll, acct.
Unallocated Insurance	$150,157	$157,665	Property, liability, student accident insurance
Tax Refund	$40,000	$40,000	Refund of taxes, sewer taxes
BOCES Administration	$395,850	$419,601	Salaries, supplies, telephones, hiring, space rent, new debt, legal, interest
Supervision - Regular School	$935,157	$970,885	Salaries - Building principals, Assist. Principal, Dean, secretaries, travel
Teaching - Regular School	$11,077,851	$11,312,671	Teacher salaries, subs, aides, clerical, equip., supplies, textbooks, BOCES
Students with Special Needs	$5,468,143	$5,694,587	Salaries - Sp. Ed. staff, Admin.; equip., supplies, textbooks, BOCES Sp. Ed. Prog.
AIS Instruction	$156,052	$162,021	Salaries - remedial staff - math, writing, reading; equip., supplies, textbooks
Instructional Media	$323,697	$337,857	Salaries - staff; equip., supplies, books, magazines, newspapers, BOCES prog.
Attendance	$28,425	$29,328	Salary - attendance officer, supplies
Guidance	$470,173	$488,168	Salaries - staff, secretaries, equipment, supplies
Health	$203,863	$209,394	Salaries - staff, school physician; equipment, supplies
Co-Curricular	$90,796	$94,428	Salaries - advisors, chaperones, clubs
Athletics	$497,414	$509,761	Salaries - coaches; officials' fees, equip., supplies
Transportation	$2,245,007	$2,298,426	Salaries - drivers, mechanics, athletic/field trips, fuel, parts, supplies
Employee Benefits	$9,364,417	$9,821,705	Retirement, social security, workers' comp., unemployment, health insurance
Debt Service	$3,139,580	$3,092,090	Principal/interest payments - bldgs (new/existing), buses, short-term borrowing
GRAND TOTAL	**$39,270,823**	**$40,436,507**	**Total budget increase of $1,165,684 or 2.97%**

Pictured left to right: Nancy Nowicki, Cheryl Venettozzi, Lydia Berez-Kelly, Kathy Smyth, Bill Paolozzi, Cecil Morris, Nick Panuccio, Mike Garrett

BOE Candidates

William Paolozzi

I am presently seeking reelection to my second term on the Holland Patent CSD Board of Education. The past five years on the Board have been very educational, challenging and rewarding as we worked through the hurdles of the pandemic and the hiring of a new superintendent. Throughout my tenure, I have had the honor and privilege of working collectively with the other Board members, and the District administration, to continue moving our school District in a positive direction. During my first term, the district has been able to bring Universal Pre-K to all eligible District students, has worked extremely hard to develop a new summer school program, has implemented many improvements to our art and music programs, and is in the process of breaking ground on our new turf field complex.

I have been a resident in the Holland Patent Central School District for the past 11 years where I live with my wife, Lonna. I have two stepchildren; Cierra, who graduated from Holland Patent in 2019, and Dominic, who is currently in his sophomore year.

I bring to the table a 25-year law enforcement career working in the area of community supervision. In the early part of my career, I worked as an Oneida County probation officer supervising troubled juveniles and young adults. For the past 20 years I have been employed by New York State Division of Parole where it has been my duty to help protect our communities from convicted felons, while at the same time, assisting offenders with trying to get their lives back on track.

If reelected, I will first and foremost continue to be committed to our students and their educational achievements and opportunities. I will continue to work with my fellow Board members and the administration to assess and monitor our District goals, recruit and retain high-quality educators and essential non-education staff, oversee the development and implementation of our school budget and ongoing capital projects, and uphold fiscal responsibility for our taxpayers.

Colt Brumm

Hi! I'm Colt Brumm, and I would appreciate your vote as I run for the Holland Patent CSD Board of Education. I am thankful to be supported in this election and in life by my wife, Sue, and my son, Magnus.

I am running because our kids are our future, and we need our schools' to help make that future bright. By equipping students with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in whatever path their life may follow, we can help them discover and pursue their talents, interests, and goals!

I am ready and excited to pitch in to help ensure that our kids, teachers, and staff have the resources, policies, and opportunities that they need. I am prepared to contribute right away, in part because I have attended most of the Board's public meetings over the last 2.5 years and routinely engage with Board members on District issues. I do so because I am genuinely interested in the topics of discussion and because I am invested in understanding the details of our school operations, policies, finances, and plans.

I currently work as the safety manager at the Eastern Air Defense Sector in Rome. I am committed to my own educational journey as well, as a lifelong learner with a BS in Environmental Science from Norwich University and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Albany.

In my professional life, I have often been asked to take on complex and diverse projects because I bring a flexible mindset and a strong set of collaborative problem-solving skills to efficiently get good things done. Among my contributions have been efforts to reduce opioid overdoses in Oneida County, a military deployment to help build up the Afghan National Army, numerous natural disaster responses, serving on a committee to manage risk in competitive rock climbing, leading the process improvement program at my current employer, helping to improve public health systems in Central Africa, and an innovative suicide prevention program that will become a national model for the National Guard in the next couple of years.

In our local community, I am an active member of the Golden Knights PTA, a volunteer with HP AYSO, a proud veteran, and a committed public servant. In my free time, I enjoy cross-country skiing, cycling, and running, especially in the Boilermaker!

If elected, I am ready and excited to work with the other members of the board to give our kids the best opportunities that we can.

HOLLAND PATENT CSD 2024

Summer School

K-6 SUMMER SCHOOL | MONDAY - THURSDAY*

JULY 1 - AUGUST 8 | 8 A.M. - 12 P.M. (HALF DAY)

GENERAL WILLIAM FLOYD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Lunch and transportation will be provided daily with arrival at 8:00 a.m. and dismissal at 12:00 p.m. We will focus on English, Language Arts, Math and Specials as well as a bridge program to prepare for the 24-25 school year. Additional Sign-Up info will be available soon via ParentSquare, Facebook and our website.

**Except July 4*

TAX CAP *vs.* TAX LEVY

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

In 2011, New York State implemented a tax cap, which limits the amount of property tax revenue that a school district can raise each year. The tax cap is calculated based on a formula that takes into account the district's property values, the rate of inflation and certain exemptions. The purpose of the tax cap is to help control property taxes and prevent them from increasing too rapidly.

On the other hand, the tax levy is the total amount of money a school district raises through property taxes to fund its budget. The tax levy is determined by the district's financial needs such as salaries, benefits, programs and facilities. The tax levy can also be impacted by other factors such as state aid, enrollment changes and the need for capital improvements.

So, how does the tax cap and tax levy affect you as a taxpayer? If a district proposes a tax levy increase that is below the tax cap, then the budget can be passed with a simple majority vote. However, if the proposed tax levy increase is above the tax cap, then the budget requires a supermajority vote of 60% or more to pass.

It is important to note that the tax cap does not limit your individual property tax bill; rather, it limits the total amount of property tax revenue that the school district can raise. Your individual tax bill can still increase more than 2% even if the tax levy increase is below the tax cap, because the school budget is not the only factor impacting your tax bill. Individual tax bills are also determined by the assessed value of your property, which can change from year to year. The Holland Patent Central School District encompasses multiple towns, all with different formulas for assessing properties.

We hope this information helps clarify some common questions regarding property tax bills and school budgets.

TAX CAP
Limits the amount of property tax revenue that a school district can raise each year.

TAX LEVY
The total amount of money a school district raises through property taxes to fund its budget.

SIMPLE MAJORITY
50% of all people who vote must vote yes for a budget to pass.

SUPER MAJORITY
60% of all registered voters must vote yes for a budget to pass.

HOLLAND PATENT STUDENTS REPRESENT DISTRICT AT

CONFERENCE ALL-STATE

On November 30 - December 3, Holland Patent students Heather Buchanan-Wise and Caedyn Rowlands represented the District at Conference All-State at the NYSSMA conference in Rochester.

Heather Buchanan-Wise, class of 2024, performed as a member of the 1st Violin section in the 2023 Conference All-State Symphony Orchestra. Being accepted into the 1st Violin section of this prestigious ensemble means that she is one of the top 28 high school violinists in New York State. Heather is also a member of the High School Mixed Choir.

Caedyn Rowlands, class of 2024, performed in the 2023 Conference All-State Symphonic Band. She plays trumpet in the high school Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band and studies privately with Brian Picente. In addition, Caedyn is a member of the Mixed Choir, Select Choir and Vocal Ensemble.

Holland Patent Students Participate in Area All-State Music Festival

The students pictured were chosen to represent Holland Patent at the Area All-State Music Festival, which was held on November 17-18 in Phoenix, New York. Students represented HP in the band, orchestra, mixed chorus and the treble chorus.

BACK ROW: Heather Buchanan-Wise, Stephanie Clemens, Brett Dobreski, Aaron Lopez
FRONT ROW: Holly Buchanan-Wise, Izzy Hobin, Renae Cellamare, Caedyn Rowlands

HPCSD Names 2024 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Joining Nicole and Heather in graduating with "highest distinction," reflecting an average in excess of 95 percent, are: **Renae Cellamare,** daughter of Tony and Amy Cellamare of Holland Patent; **Madeline Cieslak,** daughter of Joseph and Jamie Cieslak of Holland Patent; **Nadia Foley,** daughter of Robert and Diane Foley of Rome; **Hannah Gwozdz,** daughter of John and Stephanie Gwozdz of Rome; **Terralyn McLaughlin,** daughter of James and Bonnie McLaughlin of Holland Patent; **Brianna Mullins**, daughter of Melissa Forbes of Rome and granddaughter of Janice and Stallard Mullins of Holland Patent; **Emily Paladino,** daughter of Paul and Stella Paladino of Holland Patent; **Carter Poland,** son of Brendon and Dinah Poland of Holland Patent; and **Caedyn Rowlands,** daughter of Daniel and Lucinda Rowlands of Holland Patent.

Twenty-five additional students will graduate with "distinction," reflecting an average in excess of 90 percent. Members of the class graduating with distinction are: **Ella Armitage,** daughter of Mark and Lisa Armitage of Holland Patent; **Sarah Bangs,** daughter of Albert and Veronica Bangs of Rome; **Holly Brown**, daughter of Christopher Brown and Helena Muzzi of Hinckley; **Austin Cotton,** son of Richard and Jennifer Cotton of Stittville; **Ainsley Crossway,** daughter of Kevin and Melanie Crossway of Holland Patent; **Michaela Cushman,** daughter of Charles Cushman of West Leyden and Lisa Iselo of Holland Patent; **Jeffrey Dewar,** son of Randy and Robin Dewar of Barneveld; **Moira Dowd,** daughter of John and Lorraine Dowd of Marcy; **Kyle Erway,** son of David and Tanya Erway of Holland Patent; **Pazia Grocholski,** daughter of Peter and Sarah Grocholski of Westernville; **Alex Hoole,** son of Ronald and Laura Hoole of Rome; **Alice King,** daughter of Andrew and Jennifer King of Prospect; **Rory Jones,** daughter of William and Karla Jones of Holland Patent; **Julia Larry,** daughter of Jeff Larry and Andrea Hamilton-Larry of Holland Patent; **Joseph Latella,** son of Joseph Latella of Rome and Renay Latella of Stittville; **Isabella Makarchuk,** daughter of Peter and Cindy Makarchuk of Stittville; **Zahara Manion,** daughter of Tracy Manion of Westernville; **Dominic Mittiga,** son of Matthew and Alyssa Mittiga of Remsen; **Cassidy Reader,** daughter of Jason Reader of Rome and Jessica Coleman of Rome; **Elizabeth Shikula,** daughter of Aleksandr and Lyudmila Shikula of Marcy; **Brooke Smith,** daughter of Marcus and Melissa Smith of Barneveld; **Jake Smith,** son of David and Kelly Smith of Holland Patent; **Makenzie Stalker,** daughter of Everett and Diane Stalker of Barneveld; **Michael VanHatten,** son of Randolph and Avelina VanHatten of Barneveld; and **Hunter Walchusky,** son of George and Lisa Walchusky of Holland Patent.

Bethany Colenzo

WINNER OF

MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD

Congratulations to Bethany Colenzo, Holland Patent middle and high school music teacher, for being selected by radio station WCNY as the Music Educator Award recipient for October 2023!

Ms. Colenzo won the WCNY Music Educator of the Month Award and was surprised by this award during her Select Chorus class.

What is the Music Educator Award? As part of the station's 50th Anniversary celebration in 2022, Classic FM WCNY presented a new award spotlighting local music educators in our community who are dedicated to sustaining the performing arts and have had a strong positive influence on their students.

The Music Educator Award is announced live on Classic FM, and the honoree receives a special plaque presented by a WCNY representative during a music class. The honoree is also given the opportunity to bring an ensemble to the WCNY studios in Syracuse to record a brief performance to air on Classic FM. The formal award for Ms. Colenzo was celebrated on air on October 31.

The WCNY video team also created a one-minute tribute to Ms. Colenzo and her students that aired on WCNY-TV and was posted on the WCNY website. To view the video, please visit wcny.org/radio/musiceducator.

COCOA CAFÉ

COMES TO GWF

On March 1, the kindergarten students at General William Floyd Elementary celebrated the end of their narrative writing unit by hosting a hot chocolate cocoa café. The students invited a family member to come and listen to their narrative stories that they had written and illustrated. Students are learning to use their storytelling skills; learning the beginning, middle and end of the story; and using their "sound power" to sound out words in their stories. These young authors had a wonderful time sharing their writing over a cup of hot cocoa.

Third Graders Present *Values* MATTER

CONCERT

On March 28, the third grade at Holland Patent Elementary presented a concert in the high school auditorium. The concert was called "Values Matter" and included six songs about values and social-emotional concepts, reinforcing what the students have been learning in their classrooms!

Songs included: "Values Matter," "Penguins Are Lousy Bowlers," "Don't Need Riches/Thankful For You," "Everything Is Better," "Self Control," and "You-Nique." Students sang in two-part harmony, created movements to reflect the lyrics, and played drums and Boomwhackers as accompaniment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE THIRD GRADERS ON A GREAT PERFORMANCE!

Second Grade Students VISIT ADIRONDACK BANK CENTER

The second graders from General William Floyd Elementary had a wonderful time visiting the Adirondack Bank Center at the Utica Memorial Auditorium to watch the top women's hockey players from around the world in the IIHF Women's World Championship! The students had the opportunity to see Denmark and Sweden play on April 3. The visit included noisemakers, popcorn, music, lights and spending time with mascots.

Thank you to Bank of Utica for providing our students with a water bottle, popcorn and noisemakers. You made their visit extra special!

CHICKEN BBQ

May **21**

TO BENEFIT HOLLAND PATENT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

On May 21, a chicken BBQ will be held at Holland Patent High School. Tickets are $16. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased by calling 315-865-7292 or emailing Mr. Stevener at the high school at rstevener@hpschools.org. Dinners can be picked up between 4-7 p.m.

100th DAY OF SCHOOL

Our grades 3-5 students at HPE were busy celebrating the 100th day of school this year!

As a special celebration (with some math included), we were also celebrating the 1,000th day of school for our fifth graders (class of 2031).

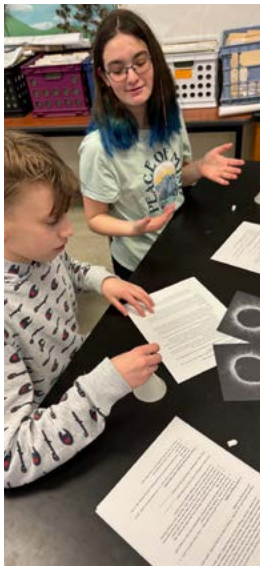
MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTEND

ECLIPSE *Workshop*

Middle school students attended an eclipse workshop led by Mrs. Kiehn and Mr. Eberley. Students created eclipse T-shirts using the reverse tie-dye method. By carefully spraying a bleach and water solution, students watched as the color lifted from their black T-shirts. Paper plates were used to mask the shirts, resulting in a ring of orange that represents the corona of the sun.

While students waited for their shirts to dry, they watched a video on what causes the solar eclipse, looked at simulations of totality from NASA, and explored three activities: making the corona of the solar eclipse with chalk on black paper (similar to their T-shirts), creating the totality shadow of the moon on the Earth during a solar eclipse, and determining what the solar eclipse would look like from Earth as the moon blocks out the sun.

Students left the workshop with some fun information, important things to look for during the solar eclipse, and of course, their T-shirt!



CELEBRATING

the Arts

IN OUR SCHOOLS

NYSSMA

FESTIVAL

Our Holland Patent High School music students participated in the December NYSSMA Festival.

Annie Jr.

Congratulations to all the students, faculty and staff that made the Knightly Players production of "Annie Jr." possible and such a huge success! All the hours of practice, planning, preparing, and hard work and dedication showed! We are so proud of you all.

Thank you to everyone that was able to support our production by attending!

Our seventh through ninth grade students recently participated in Junior High All-County.

Holiday Concert

Our grades 4-6 students shined as they displayed their talents at the Holiday Concert.

Our students shared their artistic talents throughout the hallways of each building!

FFA

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR FFA NEWS!

We have an additional Facebook page! Be sure to follow us at Holland Patent Central School District FFA on Facebook for news and updates.

It has been a busy year so far for the students and FFA members in Holland Patent's Agriculture classes. After nearly 30 years of not having an Agriculture program at Holland Patent, we are excited to have it back in action, providing our students hands-on opportunities and real-life experiences learning where our food comes from and the role they can play in that – not to mention all of the leadership experiences they are able to participate in as well.

We are very grateful for all of the support in building this program back up and we hope this page will help you to follow along with all of our students' experiences, both in the classroom and through FFA activities.

Holland Patent FFA CHAPTER AND AGRICULTURE PROGRAM UPDATES

In its first year officially being re-chartered, Holland Patent's FFA Chapter and Agriculture Program has been bustling with activity! From camp, to contests, to conventions, to hosting our own Agriculture Education Day for the community, our more than 50 members have been able to build their leadership skills and agricultural knowledge.

We have seen great success as we recently had 11 members advance to the Sub-States Leadership Development Event Contests, where two of those competitors placed first and second in their event, granting them a spot to compete at the State Convention in May. We will also have members competing in Career Development Events like Floriculture, Food Science, Marketing Plan and Quiz Bowl.

In the classroom, students have done many hands-on and real-life activities, such as hatching chicks, researching dog breeds and hosting their own "Dog-less Dog Show," tapping maple trees and sampling local maple syrup, growing plants, putting together monthly flower arrangements, making cheese, and learning about meat cuts from an alumni, among many other things!

There is never a dull moment in the Agriculture room and we look forward to the continued growth of the program.

Dewar SINKS 1,000 POINTS

We were excited to celebrate Holland Patent senior Jeffrey Dewar's 1,000 points for basketball!

WRESTLING

We were excited to share that we had two students compete and place at States this year for wrestling! These are our two state place winners this year:

Andrew Juliano *101 lb.*
STATE CHAMPION

Trent True *190 lb.*
PLACED 7TH

Congratulations, Golden Knights!

CONGRATS

COACH JOHN RICHARD

for being inducted into the
SECTION III
WRESTLING
HALL OF FAME

ALPINE *Skiing*

Congratulations to our girls Alpine ski team for their sectional title!

Photo: Madeline Snider, Pazia Grocholski, Payton Muha, Claire Fridel (Photos courtesy of Betsy Bernabe and Madeline Snider)

Congratulations to Hunter Walchusky and Payton Muha, members of the Holland Patent Alpine ski team, for successfully qualifying and competing in the Empire State Winter Games at Whiteface Mountain in February.

Holland Patent Athletics

2023-2024

Celebrating our student athletes....

Fall Season

- Cheer
- Cross Country
- Field Hockey
- Football
- Soccer
- Swimming & Diving Girls
- Tennis Girls

Varsity Field Hockey
Coach Renee Morrison, Coach Heather Bates

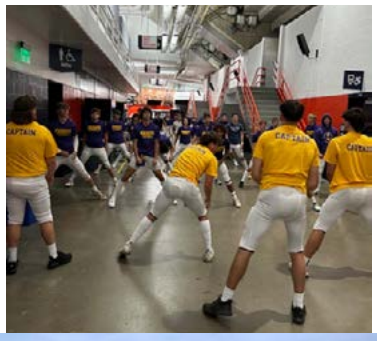
Varsity Girls Tennis
Coach Scott Parsons

DEDICATION

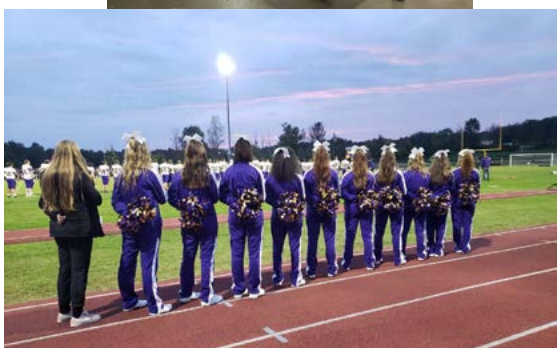
Varsity Football
Coach Brian Briggs, Coach Cliff Baker,
Coach Brian Langley & Coach Tom Ramos

Honoring the past....
HP FootballHall of Fame

AMAZING COACHES



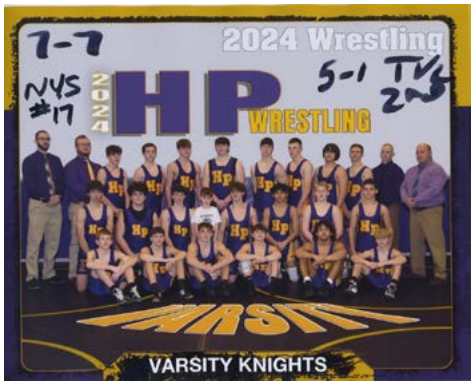
GOALS



Cheer
Coach Robyn Gaffney

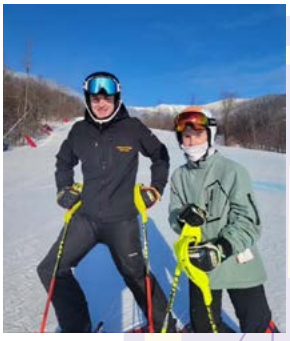
Winter Season

- Basketball
- Bowling
- Hockey
- Ski Alpine & Nordic
- Swimming & Diving Boys
- Volleyball
- Wrestling



Varsity Wrestling
Coach John Richard

Hunter Walchusky & Payton Muha
Empire State Winter Games



Nordic Ski
Coach Josh Olney &
Coach John Brown

Girls Alpine Ski
Section III Champions
Madeline Snider, Pazia Grocholski,
Payton Muha & Claire Fridel

Alpine Ski
Coach Dean Brown

CHAMPIONS

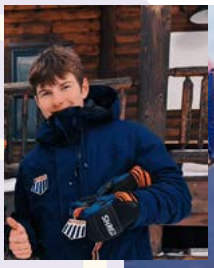
ACTION

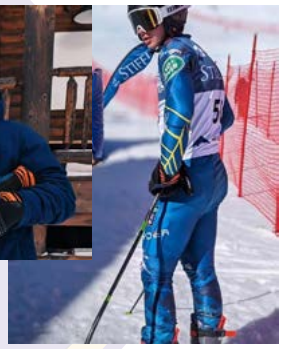
Jeff Dewar
scored his 1,000th
career point

Boys Varsity Basketball
Coach Scott Jones & Coach Colin Corrigan

Boys Swimming & Diving
Coach Mike Reilley

Dariusz Sargent
Class C Section Champion in
the 200 IM





Charles Howe
Alpine Ski
NY State Qualifier

SUPPORT

TRIUMPH

COMMUNITY

girls Varsity
Basketball
Coach Kirk Smith,
Coach Scott Rachon
&
Coach Lynda Bulson

Spring Season

Baseball
Golf
Lacrosse
Softball
Tennis
Track & Field

DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

COMING SOON...
SO MUCH MORE TO
CELEBRATE

TREASURE

HIGHLIGHT

RESILIENCE

WINTER 2023/2024 SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Girls Varsity Basketball
Coach Kirk Smith
Coach Scott Rachon
Coach Lynda Bulson
Scholar Team Average 94.83
Michaela Cushman
Abigail Lighthall
Kirsten Lighthall
Terralyn McLaughlin
Riley Mierek
Kaylen O' Brien
Alivia Quesnell
Sophia Rachon
Chloe Swift
Gabriel Way
Faith Zylinsky

Varsity Nordic Ski
Coach John Brown
Coach Josh Olney
Scholar Team Average 91.86
Silas Crowe
Aidyn Mosher
Carter Poland

Varsity Alpine Ski
Coach Dean Brown
Scholar Team Average 94.45
Claire Friedel
Pazia Grocholski
Haden Horton
Patyon Muha
Madline Snider
Hunter Walchusky

Varsity Boys Wrestling
Coach John Richard
Coach Jordan Swalgin
Scholar Team Average 90.62
Dylan Bailey
Nathan Bennison
Cooper Doxstader
Eli Doxstader
Connor Earl
Zachary Earl
Joseph Gorsky
James Houck
Andrew Juliano
Sean Mathewson
Davian Phan
Noah Rivera
Raymond Spann
Carson Tharrett
Trenton True
Erik Williams, Jr.

Varsity Volleyball
Coach Lisa Aiello
Coach Elizabeth Pirnie
Scholar Team Average 93.89
Ella Armitage
Renae Cellamare
Carlee Foote
Alice King
Julia Larry
Isabella Makarchuk
Carley Mierek
Miranda Millick
Brianna Mullins
Emily Paladino
Natalie Rubas
Annabella Schrader

Varsity Girls Wrestling
Coach Samanthalinn Doxstader
Coach Kassandra Fransman
Coach Rory Richard
Scholar Team Average 90.34
Lexilinn Doxstader
Macylinn Doxstader
Claire Favata
Crimson Francis
Hannah Kusmierczak
Autumn Razzano
Isabelle Schuler
Addison Snider

Boys Varsity Basketball
Coach Scott Jones
Coach Colin Corrigan
Scholar Team Average 91.97
Luke Benedetto
Jeffrey Dewar
Nicholas Doyle
Alexander Hoole
Andrew Jones
Christopher Kelly
Peyton Roberts
Caleb Savery

COMMITMENT

Individual Scholar Athletes

Leo Heiser	Ice Hockey
George King	Swimming
Henry King	Swimming
Brandon Nichols	Bowling
Alexis Schellerer	Bowling
Tyler Tyldesley	Volleyball
Izabella Walters	Bowling
Kaiden Whaley	Ice Hockey
Mathew Zaishnikov	Swimming

Work Hard Play Hard

Thank You SPECTATORS

Golden Knights support our teams as spectators, too!
These times are what memories are made of.

DILIGENCE

HOLLAND PATENT GOLDEN KNIGHTS

FALL 2023 VARSITY SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARDS

GIRLS SOCCER
GPA 94.31
Coach John Riemenschneider
Julia Callahan
Juliana DelPico
Marissa DelPico
Pazia Grocholski
Hannah Gwozdz
Isabella Hobin
Alice King
Corinne Lenart
Isabella Makarchuk
Brianna Mullins
Kaylen O'Brien
Emily Paladino
Sophia Rachon
Natalie Rubas
Breanna Russell
Nicole Santa Maria
Annabella Schrader
Makenzie Stalker
Chloe Swift
Faith Zylinsky

GIRLS TENNIS
GPA 93.28
Coach Scott Parsons
Ella Armitage
Zakiya Ball
Holly Buchanan-Wise
Sophia Crumb
Reese Finn
Carlee Foote
Morgan Kirkland
Julia Larry
Maura Matthews
Carley Mierek
Miranda Millick
Riley Niemetz
Olivia Perretta
Caedyn Rowlands

FIELD HOCKEY
GPA 92.35
Coach Renee Morrison
Holly Brown
Addyson Carrier
Michaela Cushman
Gabriella Diana
Lily Foley
Nadia Foley
Paityn Holt
Ava Larry
Kirsten Lighthall
Abigail Lighthall
Terralyn McLaughlin
Alivia Quesnell
Cassidy Reader
Caim Steele
Gabriel Way

INDIVIDUALS

Nathan Bennison	Football
Joseph Latella	Football
Persayus Doolen	Cheer
Camrynn Howard	Cheer
Nevaeh Lohnes	Cheer

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
GPA 92.3
Coach Rebecca Dietrick
Melody Bailey
Allyson Beiderbecke

GIRLS SWIM
GPA 91.61
Coach Mike Reilley
Cailyn Armstrong
Sarah Bangs
Madeline Cieslak
Kiera Crossway
Delanie Howard
Kyleigh Razzano

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
GPA 91.55
Coach Tim Hoffman
Silas Crowe
Cole Jensen
Christopher Kelly
Max Kowalsky
Elliott Meays
Aidyn Mosher
Carter Poland
Cooper Poland
Nicholas Race
Hunter Walchusky
Kaiden Whaley

BOYS SOCCER
GPA 90.59
Coach Adam Tritten
Austin Cotton
Alexander Farrell
Trace Finn
August Jones
George King
Henry King
Dawson Koenig
Liam Loche
John Manion
Joseph McChesney
Zachary Murray
Michael Murray
Jacob Olearczyk
Ethan Paladino
Davian Phan
Mason Rassmussen
Michael Santa Maria
Caleb Savery
Michael Sheets
Nicholas Sheets
Andrew Stanley
Luis Tellez Sanchez-Montes
Trenten True
Brett VanNamee

HOLLAND PATENT CENTRAL SCHOOL
HOLLAND PATENT, NY 13354
WWW.HPSCHOOLS.ORG

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Permit No. 3

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Kathy Smyth, *President*
Michael Garrett, *Vice President*
Lydia Berez-Kelly
Cecil Morris
William Paolozzi
Madeline Cieslak, *Student Member*

Voter Information

What am I voting on?

A budget of $40,436,507 for the 2024-25 school year, a proposition to purchase school buses, a proposition to authorize a non-voting student board member, a proposition to increase the appropriation of each of the three libraries from $10,000 per year to $20,000 per year, and one candidate for the Board of Education.

When and where is the vote?

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Holland Patent High School gymnasium.

Who is eligible to vote?

Anyone who is a U.S. Citizen, 18 years or older, and a resident within the district for a period of 30 days prior to the vote. A resident is not eligible to vote if they are prohibited from voting under the provisions of Section 5-06 of the Education Law.

How can I vote by absentee or early mail ballot?

Applications for absentee or early mail ballots for the 2024 annual meeting will be available beginning April 23, 2024, and may be picked up from the Office of the District Clerk at Holland Patent Central School District, 9601 Main Street, Holland Patent, NY 13354, or requested to be mailed by calling 315-865-7221. For voters requesting a ballot delivered to them by mail, completed applications must be received by the District Clerk no later than May 14, 2024. For voters requesting a ballot delivered to them personally, completed applications must be received by the District Clerk no later than May 20, 2024. All completed absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk's Office no later than 5 p.m. on May 21, 2024. All completed early ballots must be received by the District Clerk's office no later than May 20, 2024.

What about military voters?

Military voters who are qualified voters of the District may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk at 315-865-7221 or vmarris@hpschools.org. For a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the District Clerk must have received a valid ballot application no later than 5 p.m. on April 25, 2024. In a request for a military ballot application or ballot, the military voter may indicate their preference for receiving the application or ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail.