

HOLLAND PATENT CENTRAL SCHOOL

HOME OF THE GOLDEN KNIGHTS

DEC
2019

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.HPSCHOOLS.ORG

GENERAL WILLIAM FLOYD ELEMENTARY HOSTS GRANDPARENTS DAY

On October 23, General William Floyd Elementary hosted a Grandparents Day organized by our Parent Teacher Association. Our grandparents had an opportunity to spend time in the classrooms with their grandchildren and the classroom teacher. After visiting the classroom, grandparents were escorted to the gymnasium for coffee and treats. The students and grandparents had a wonderful time. A special thank you to Mrs. Kristin Roberts and Mrs. Cherie Savory for organizing such a special event. We served more than 500 parents due to all of our PTA volunteers.



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.

Dear Holland Patent Central School District Residents,

On behalf of Holland Patent Central School District, I wish you and your family a safe, healthy and happy holiday season. Please enjoy this special time of year with your families and friends.

I am thankful for the collaboration and partnerships we have developed throughout the years to support the growth of our students both physically and emotionally. This alliance extends beyond the classroom and into the community. Whether attending district events or providing families with holiday meals, the Holland Patent Community is truly dedicated to meeting the needs of our students and families. Thank you.

District Update

The 2019-20 school year is off to a great start. We have many academic accomplishments and achievements we are proud of. The high school and middle school have inducted 33 members into the National Honor Society and 35 members into the National Junior Honor Society respectively. This is an incredible feat and certainly is recognition of the work ethic and motivation of our students and the support and guidance from our staff and families. At HPE and GWF our students are becoming authors and publishing pieces of writing that are meaningful to them. Our staff celebrate this great work and encourage our students each and every day to become better writers.

In addition, we had a very successful fall athletic season. The commitment of our athletes and the support of our coaches and families provided the perfect environment for our Golden Knights to excel during the season and represent Holland Patent during the postseason. I cannot thank you enough for the enthusiasm our fans showed throughout the entire season.

Capital Improvements

We are near the completion of our SMART Schools Bond initiative which has provided us with upgrades to our wired/wireless network and security throughout the District with additional cameras and building security enhancements. The \$9.839 Capital Improvement Project planning is progressing and we are on target to begin the site work this spring. We will also be completing some flooring replacements at the middle school and window replacements at the high school. The first full season of competitions at our athletic facility at the high school was very successful. Thank you to our community for your support and your attendance at our new facility.

Participation Rates in the NYS Assessments

As you are aware, each spring the grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science assessments are administered to students across New York State. The New York State Assessments measure how our schools and District are progressing with the learning standards and the necessary skills to be successful in college and career. The assessments are a federal requirement and a 95 percent participation rate is required for each District. Currently, we are at 62 percent. In order to meet the federal requirement, the New York State Education Department has: decreased the amount of testing (days and questions); eliminated time constraints; increased teacher involvement with reviewing and creating questions and removed all employment-related consequences for teachers and principals. The results from the assessments, along with our other District assessments and measures, plays a vital role in evaluating our overall instructional program. As a District, the data helps us assess our instructional program and guide our curriculum, academic interventions and professional development. The increase in participation rates supports our high graduation rates.

As a District we take tremendous pride in the opportunities and experiences we provide students, families and community of Holland Patent. This is made possible due to the trust and confidence we have with each other which makes for a strong partnership. Your dedication and commitment to the District is truly appreciated. Go Golden Knights!

Sincerely,

JASON P. EVANGELIST

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

UPCOMING EVENTS

MS Concert December 10 7:00 at the HS

ES Concert December 12 6:30 at the HS

HS Concert December 17 7:00 at the HS

Winter Concert Snow Date December 19

Winter Recess Dec. 23 – Jan. 3 **No School**
Students Return Jan. 6

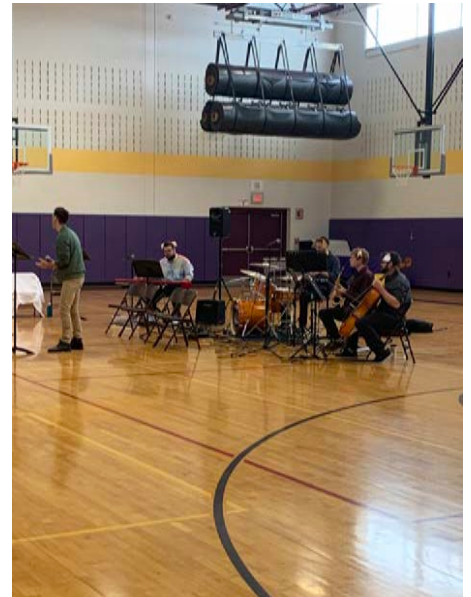
NYC-BASED BRIDGE ARTS ENSEMBLE VISITS HOLLAND PATENT SCHOOLS

The Bridges Art Ensemble from New York City recently visited the Holland Patent School District. The six teaching artists that visited included two singers, a piano player, a percussionist, cellist and saxophone/clarinet player.

These musicians took a break from performing on Broadway, concert halls and other theaters to spend time with students at General William Floyd and Holland Patent Elementary schools and the Holland Patent Middle School.

Students participated in interactive workshops such as Musical Storytelling, What's Music All About? and How to Work Together. The artists taught students to make music using their voices, instruments and through the use of storytelling, drawing and dancing.

The group concluded their stay with performances that included programs about the incredible music of women composers and performers throughout history; "STEM-nesia," a show centered around connecting music with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math; and "Song Rainbow," a performance about the many types of songs and how their structure influences how you play, listen and feel.



Holland Patent Holds Esports Tournament

The Holland Patent Esports team held an in-district Smash Bros. tournament on November 14. This was a single elimination tournament for the game Super Smash Bros.

More than 12 teams competed, with more than 20 additional students in attendance to watch. Winners of the Stewart's gift certificates were Jimmy Gillett and Hunter Maunz. In second place was Wyatt Humpf and his partner, Esports coach, Mr. Ferris.

While the students had a great time, what stood out most to both advisors was how the students conducted themselves. All students were extremely respectful of each other, and there was a great amount of sportsmanship throughout the event.

We are hoping to continue to have in-district tournaments monthly, and the team will be continuing to pursue competitions with other districts.





GENERAL WILLIAM FLOYD ELEMENTARY PARTICIPATES IN FIRE PREVENTION DAY

Students, faculty and staff at General William Floyd Elementary recently participated in Fire Prevention Day. The pre-k through second grade students started off the day with a puppet show where students learned to “stop, drop and roll,” when to call 911 and the importance of practicing fire drills.

Students traveled to the Stittville Fire Pavilion and rotated around stations learning about emergency vehicles, firefighter equipment and even sprayed water out of the hose. Students were presented with a future firefighter’s hat, crayons, coloring books and stickers.

The District thanks the Floyd, Stittville, Westernville and Oriskany Fire Departments for their ongoing dedication to students.



HPE Recognizes Diabetes Awareness Month



November was Diabetes Awareness month and November 14 is World Diabetes Day. On November 14, 1891, Sir Frederick Banning was born. In 1922, he would co-discover how to extract insulin from animals and inject it into humans. HPE staff and students wore blue in support of family and friends who have diabetes.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS 33 NEW MEMBERS

The Holland Patent Central School District Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 33 new members on Oct. 17.

The accomplishments of these students in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service and character were honored. All of the new members are involved in numerous clubs, sports, activities and community service while maintaining a GPA of at least 88 percent.

The new members will join with current honor society students to serve as leaders and role models in the Holland Patent High School community. They will also serve the Holland Patent community by completing at least 12 hours of community service each year.

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Olivia Bochniak | Sydney Givens | Scott Rachon, Jr. |
| Isabella Boulерice | Anna Healey | Rory Richard |
| Thomas Breil | Ryan Hoole | Jonathan Schmitt |
| Kaitlyn Brucker | Emmalee Howard | Kyle Shepard |
| Ella Buchanan | Alexis Johnson | Johanna Sherman |
| Emily Clemons | Luke Kochan | Austin Smith |
| Hanna Corrigan | Jessica Landman | McKenna Smyth |
| Lyla Cushman | Arianna Lange | Logan Surace |
| Bryce Dare | Grace Mahanna | Jonathan Tolpa |
| Dylan Foley | Amber Manion | Natalie Yutzler |
| Colby Germond | Jenna Mazza | |



NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS 35 NEW MEMBERS

On November 6, 35 outstanding 8th grade students were inducted into the Holland Patent Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. The National Junior Honor Society was founded to recognize students who excel in the categories of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character. In addition to recognizing students for their achievements, being a member of the organization also challenges students to develop themselves further through active involvement in service to the school and community. A special thank you to last year's president, Sierra Laguna, who did a wonderful job leading the ceremony, along with last year's members for helping out: Emily Carlson, Andrew Kanclerz, Ava Dornburgh and Dylan McGuire. Congratulations to all new members!

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Ella Armitage | Pazia Grocholski | Brianna Mullins |
| Sarah Bangs | Hannah Gwozdz | Emily Paladino |
| Heather Buchanan-Wise | Alexander Hoole | Madeline Poynter |
| Amber Carman | Alice King | Cassidy Reader |
| Renaе Cellamare | Morgan Kirkland | Caedyn Rowlands |
| Madeline Cieslak | Margaret Koenig | Nicole Santa Maria |
| Austin Cotton | Julia Larry | Brooke Smith |
| Michaelа Cushman | Joseph Latella | Makenzie Stalker |
| Jeffrey Dewar | Liam Locke | Emma Tabor |
| Moirа Dowd | Isabella Makarchuk | Payton VanNamee |
| Kyle Erway | Darcey Malachowski | Hunter Walchusky |
| Nadia Foley | Terralyn McLaughlin | |



Foothills Rural Community Ministry

The Holland Patent School District is sponsoring a food drive to help support our local community Christmas food basket project. Donations will be accepted beginning **Monday, November 25 through Wednesday, December 11.**



The following items listed below are needed for the basket:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Pasta | Canned Tuna/Chicken | Peanut Butter |
| Canned Fruits | Canned Vegetables | Canned Sauce |
| Jams or Jellies | Pudding/Jello | Pie Fillings |
| Cake/Cookie Mixes | Cereals | Stuffing/Instant Potatoes |

Please drop the items off in the main office. Thanks for your support!

*Please do not
bring any glass
containers and
remember to check
for expiration
dates.*



High School Hosts Mental Health Workshop

On November 13, Holland Patent high school senior Emma Shoemaker, in collaboration with President Barbara Freeman of the Adirondack Foothills Rotary club, hosted a Mental Health night in the library of the high school.

A great success, parents from local communities enjoyed food and refreshments as they heard from the area's most esteemed mental health providers. Speakers included, Clinical Social Worker Shawn Johnston from the Neighborhood Center, Crisis Counselor Donnette Morgan from MCAT (Mobile Crisis Assessment Team), and MVCC's (Mohawk Valley Community College) Mental Health Practitioner Nicole Ollerenshaw.



The mental health professionals spoke on essential mental health topics including "stressors adolescents face that their parents didn't", "Potential mental health challenges that first year college students face", "what parents should look for" [in relation to mental health issues], "how parents can offer support" and "when parents should look for outside help".

Community members enjoyed the open forum, casual atmosphere and enjoyed relating with others in attendance on the challenges of raising children in the beginning of the 21st century. Holland Patent high school's school counselor, Jason Scialdone, and school social worker, Stephanie Strzepek, were in attendance offering insight and encouraging parents to reach out to school mental health professionals when they have a concern with a youth of their community. Events like this do an incredible service to communities and today's youth as they fight the stigma of mental health challenges and asking for help while shedding light on obstacles the youth fight in today's world.

Nutrition Nuggets™

Food and Fitness for a Healthy Child December 2019

Holland Patent Central School District
Mr. Cliff Casab, Food Service Director



BEST BITES

Bulk shopping = savings

Shopping from bulk bins almost always saves money. Let your child help you fill bags with foods like rice, beans, pasta, and nuts. *Idea:* Tell him how much you need (say, 2 lbs.), then have him estimate that amount and weigh it to check.

DID YOU KNOW?

Physical activity is good for your youngster's brain. It can improve her memory, mood, and ability to focus. Help her get at least 60 minutes of exercise each day, keeping in mind that it doesn't have to be all at once. She might walk to school, run around the playground at recess, and play catch with you after school.

Fruit with a message

Send your child off to school or sports practice with a snack that's healthy *and* inspiring. Use a marker or pen to write an encouraging message on a fruit he will peel, like

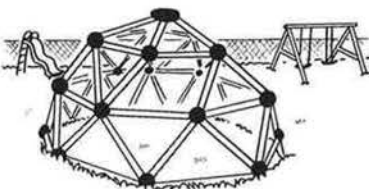


a clementine or banana. *Example:* "I hope your day is a-peeling!"

Just for fun

Q: Where does Tarzan work out?

A: In the jungle gym!



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A healthier winter break

Special occasions can be learning opportunities when it comes to nutrition. Show your youngster that healthy choices are an important—and fun—part of any celebration with this advice.

Eat normally

Make sure your child has a healthy breakfast and lunch rather than "leaving room" for a big meal. She won't be starving by dinnertime, so she'll be less likely to overeat. If you're traveling, help her pack nutritious snacks to eat during the trip.



Add more nutrients

Look for ways to get more whole grains and vegetables into favorite dishes. Make macaroni and cheese with whole-wheat noodles, and stir in thinly sliced brussels sprouts or cubed sweet potatoes. For stuffing, use whole-grain bread, and add fruits and vegetables (chopped apples, diced onion, spinach).

Fill up on the good stuff

Encourage your youngster to put healthier options like turkey breast and salad greens on her plate first. Then, she could take small portions of richer foods like gravy or creamy casseroles. She'll learn to make good choices—and enjoy treats in moderation. ♥

M-O-V-E your body

Scientist Isaac Newton was right: A body in motion tends to stay in motion! Set your child up for a lifetime of being active with these tips.

Multitask wisely. Your youngster could balance on an exercise ball at homework time. Or while folding laundry, he might shoot balled-up socks into drawers to score "baskets."

Opt for activity. Walk to the store or playground instead of driving. When you do take the car, park as far from the door as possible.

Vary the exercise. If your child plays baseball, he could swim or bike on other days. Or a gymnast might play badminton with friends on weekends.

Enjoy yourself. Your youngster is more likely to stay active if he's having fun. Instead of telling him to "exercise," suggest some "fun" like riding his scooter. ♥



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FALL 2019 ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

Girls Varsity Soccer

The team began the season with a win in the Niskayuna tournament. The team made the final four of the Section III Girls Soccer tournament. They finished the season with a 15-4 over all record.

Boys Varsity Soccer

The team increased their total wins from last year and qualified for Sectional play. In Sectional play, we were able to defeat the number 1 seed General Brown on their home field. We are looking forward to having ten starters return next year and the leadership they will provide our program.

Boys Varsity Football

The team had a successful season going 4-4, after losing 18 seniors to graduation. The team had 7 First Team All-Stars and 6 Second Team All-Stars.

Girls Varsity Swim

The Lady Aqua Knights placed tied for second in the CSC dual meet season and placed second at the CSC championship meet held on Oct. 25. At the class C sectional meet the lady Aqua Knights placed 4th out of 9 teams. Maggie McGuire was the class C Sectional champion in the 50 and 100 Freestyle. She teamed up with Arianna

Lange, Erin Shivas, and Jenna Mazza in the 400 Freestyle Relay for another championship win. For her performances, Maggie was selected as the meets most Outstanding Swimmer. Congratulations to all the Lady Aqua Knights for their performances throughout the season.

Boys Varsity Cross Country

Boys Varsity XC finished with a record of 4-1. They finished 2nd in Division 1 of the CSC. Richard Zielinski and Nick Foley were named CSC All Stars for 2019.

Girls Varsity Cross Country

Girls Varsity XC finished 3rd in their Division of the CSC. There were two runners selected as All-Stars.

Girls Varsity Field Hockey

For the third year in a row, Field Hockey won a Section III title. The team played at the Class B level and finished their season with an overall record of 17-2-1.

Girls Varsity Tennis

The Girls Varsity Tennis team had a great year, finishing 11 -2 and 2nd in the league. They went to team Sectionals and Individuals Sectionals.

Two Holland Patent Athletes Sign Letter of Intent to Play in College

Two Holland Patent Central School District athletes will be playing at the collegiate level next year. Senior Haedyn Roberts, a member of the Girls Varsity Basketball team, and Sam Rachon, a member of the Girls Varsity Soccer team, made their future plans official when they recently signed a letter of intent at the Holland Patent High School.

Roberts signed a letter of intent to play basketball at LeMoyne College in Syracuse, N.Y. She has been on the Girls Varsity Basketball team since she was in eighth grade. She has been part of the New York Havoc AAU program for the past two years and was selected for the Center State Conference First Team, as well as the Center State Conference Player of the Year. Roberts is also a two-time All Mohawk Valley All Star.

Rachon signed a letter of intent to play soccer for Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, N.Y. She has been a member of the Girls Varsity Soccer team for the past four years. She has been the starting center mid for all of those years and helped her team win a Sectional and Regional title last year. The team also made an appearance in the State tournament, where they were State Finalists. In ninth grade, Rachon joined the Syracuse Developmental Academy (SDA) playing as a center back/holding mid position. SDA is a travel soccer team in Syracuse that won three state championships and made appearances at regionals over the past three years. The SDA team was also accepted into the National League last year and traveled around the nation playing the top teams in the country. Rachon also played on an Olympic Developmental team for one year. This travel team is composed of the best players in the state.

Congratulations to Haedyn and Sam, and best of luck in your future endeavors.



Holiday Decorations Safety

Tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics

Twinkly lights, candles, holiday trees and plants, ornaments and other decorations are an important part of holiday celebrations. Besides being festive and fun, the decorations your family brings out every year can help children feel connected to family traditions. To help make sure your decorations are safe, the American Academy of Pediatrics offers some tips:

Trees

- When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. The needles should be hard to pull off, and should not break when you bend them. When you tap the tree on the ground, only a few needles should fall off. Cut a few inches off the bottom of the trunk before putting it in the stand, and be sure to keep the stand filled with water.
- If you have an artificial tree, make sure it's labeled "Fire Resistant."
- When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces, radiators or portable heaters. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.
- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree.

Lights

- Check all lights before hanging them on a tree or in your home, even if you have just purchased them. Make sure all the bulbs work and that there are no frayed wires, broken sockets or loose connections.
- Be cautious about trimmings that may contain lead. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or non-leaded materials. Light strands may contain lead in the bulb sockets and wire coating, sometimes in high amounts. Make sure your lights are out of reach of young children who might try to put lights in their mouths, and wash your hands after handling them.
- Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use. To

hold lights in place, string them through hooks or insulated staples, not nails or tacks. Never pull or tug lights to remove them. Plug all outdoor electric decorations into circuits with ground fault circuit interrupters to avoid potential shocks.

Decorations

- When lighting candles, remove flammable materials from the area, and place the candles where they will not be knocked over. Never leave a burning candle unattended. Do not use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. For more fire safety tips, listen to "Holiday Fire Safety" on HealthyChildren.org.
- In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable. Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to prevent them from swallowing or inhaling small pieces. Avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a young child to eat them.
- Wear gloves to avoid eye and skin irritation while decorating with spun glass "angel hair." Follow container directions carefully to avoid lung irritation while decorating with artificial snow sprays.
- Remove all wrapping papers, bags, paper, ribbons and bows from tree and fireplace areas after gifts are opened. These items can pose suffocation and choking hazards to a small child, or can cause a fire if near flame.
- Keep potentially poisonous holiday plant decorations, including mistletoe berries, Jerusalem cherry, and holly berry, away from children.



SAFETY TIPS FROM THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

- Please be reminded that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus in all of our school parking lots and bus circles. The same rules apply on school property that apply on the roadway.

WINTER WEATHER DRIVING TIPS

- Please make sure all of your windows are clear of snow and ice before driving
- Keep your headlights and taillights clean so other motorists can more easily see you
- Reduce your speed on slippery roads and give yourself more distance between you and the vehicle ahead of you
- Use your headlights while driving in snowy conditions, although it may not improve your visibility, it will help other vehicles see you

Holland Patent CSD Class of 1954 Holds Reunion, Tours Alma Mater

The Holland Patent Class of 1954 held its 65-year reunion on Oct. 12 and 13. The reunion began on Saturday evening with dinner at the Holland Patent American Legion and concluded on Sunday with a brunch at the Delta Lake Inn and a tour of the Holland Patent Middle School.

Attending the tour and representing the class of 1954 was Earl Farney, Col., USAF (retired) accompanied by his family.

Pictured from left to right: Merle Farney, Col. Earl Farney, Susan Farney DuBois, Sandra Farney, Jerry Alexander and Superintendent of the Holland Patent Central School District Jason Evangelist.





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WINTER WEATHER SCHOOL CLOSINGS

As the weather begins to change, we will be faced with deciding on opening, delaying or closing school due to the weather conditions. We understand the ramifications these decisions have on our families; however, our top priority is the safety of our students.

HOW THE DECISION IS MADE

- Information on road conditions from transportation staff, Town Highway Supervisors and Superintendents, neighboring School Districts and other sources.
- Amount of snow and ice accumulated.
- Whether precipitation is continuing.
- Building conditions (such as whether we have electricity and heat).
- Status of our buses.
- Weather predictions.
- What other districts are doing. We share information with other local districts and check whether they are opening or closing.

WHO MAKES THE DECISION?

The Superintendent is responsible for the final decision, based on the above factors.

HOW IS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED?

Parents of students attending the District will receive automated phone, email and /or text messages through our School Messenger Automated Notification System. **Please be sure all of your contact information is updated.** Also, tune to WKTV, WUTR, WFXV, WPNY, WIBX, WSKS, WSKU, WBGK, WBUG, WUTQ, WVTL, WTLB, WSYR, WTLB, WBRV, WLLG, WRUN, WFRG, WODZ, WLZW, WTLB, WOUR, WIXT, WTVH, WSTM and YNN for information on school closings. You can also check our district website at www.hpschools.org for information.

WHEN IS THE DECISION MADE?

When possible, we make the decision by 5:30 a.m. (or earlier) so that we can activate School Messenger, notify radio and TV stations and post the decision on our website.

WILL WE CLOSE SCHOOL IF CONDITIONS WORSEN?

If conditions worsen throughout the day, the District will decide whether to proceed with an Emergency School Closing. Please be sure your family Emergency School Closing Plans are in place and contact information is updated with the District.

WILL SPORTS STILL BE SCHEDULED?

No. Once we close, **all** afterschool and extra-curricular activities are cancelled.

We encourage our parents to always assess the situation as well and determine if their child should stay home or board the bus. We hope this information assists our families in better understanding all of the factors which go into school closings and know that your child's safety is our number one concern.