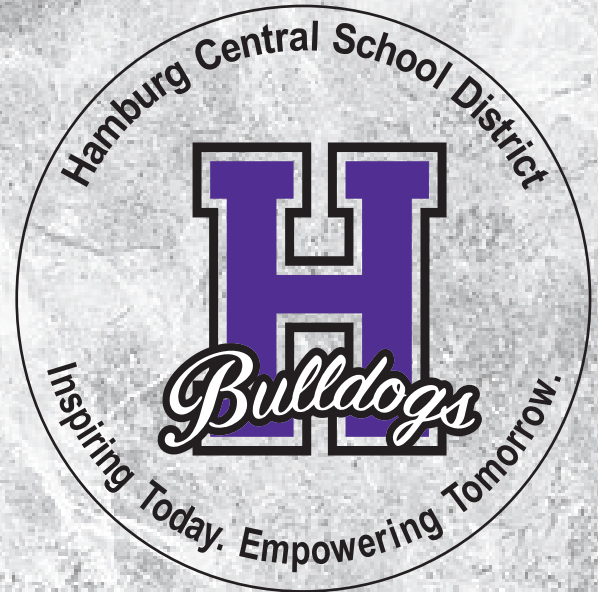


Hamburg Central SCHOOL DISTRICT



BUDGET NEWSLETTER

May 2019

Project will modify playgrounds for use by children of all abilities

Hamburg Central is working toward transforming its four elementary school playgrounds into areas where children of all physical abilities can enjoy activities together. This project to upgrade the playgrounds to be inclusive for children with and without disabilities carries a price tag of about \$350,000 for the first phase of work, which will involve replacing some existing play pieces



with inclusive equipment designed for children of all abilities. This phase could start in the fall. A

\$75,000 state grant through Sen. Chris Jacobs is providing seed money to get the project off the ground.

Playground resurfacing for accessibility is planned in the second phase. Completion of the full project is expected to take several years.

The Hamburg Alumni Foundation is partnering with the district on this project and will match donations up to \$25,000. For information on donating through the Foundation, see its website: hamburgalumnifoundation.org.



FOODIES — Anne Rich, *left*, and Tricia Miller are leading the way in bringing healthy local food into Hamburg Central's schools and educating children and community about its source. The Farm to School movement and The Giving Garden are "growing strong" thanks to their efforts. See pages 6-7.

VOTE

- Budget 2019-20
- Proposition on Land Transfer
- School Board Election

Tuesday, May 21

7 a.m.-9 p.m.

Hamburg High School

4111 Legion Dr.

The proposed 2019-20 budget will provide for educating modern thinkers who create, care, solve and discover. It is also sensitive to the financial constraints of the tax base.

- Expands learning opportunities & adds new instructional positions
- Stays within the allowable tax levy limit (known as the "tax cap")
- Budget total: \$73.017 million
- Budget-to-budget increase: 4.1%

Budget Message

Budget supports continued progress

As we near the three-quarter mark of the 2018-2019 school year, we can be proud of the work we have done together since the summer. Among our accomplishments are the completion of our initiative to engage every staff member in a full-day Youth Mental Health First Aid training, as well as a two-hour Suicide Prevention Training. Also, while we have completed most of the 2016 Capital Project, we were able to add a Phase II to that project which will include replacing the perimeter fence of Howe Field, the fence around the High School tennis courts and some unfinished work in some of the elementary school auditoriums.

We are also very proud of the great work that our educators did in designing and implementing the commitments in their 2018-2019 School-Based Learning Plans. These plans assured that the commitments in our HCS D Strategic Action Plan are carried out in each of our six schools. As a result of the efforts and expertise of our wonderful educators, students and staff are truly becoming modern learners “who create, care, solve and discover.”

Also significant, is the fact that the Hamburg Schools are ranked #10 out of all school districts in Western New York, our graduation rate is 96% and our students perform better on NYS Regents Exams than the students in all but five school districts in the region.

Importantly, the 2019-2020 budget will allow us to continue the progress we've made over the last several years. Next year's budget:

- Maintains all current programs at total budget cost of \$73,016,866
- Requires a levy increase of 2.87%, which falls under the allowable levy limit (tax cap)
- Adds two Instructional Coaches, who will be current HCS D teachers
- Replaces all retiring teachers
- Adds teachers at the Middle School

Also important this year is Proposition #2, which seeks to convey a parcel of land owned by the school district to the Village of Hamburg so that our colleagues at the Village can build a 90-foot synthetic turf baseball diamond next to Glen Meadows Park. As a result of this collaboration, the Village Recreation

Department will have the 90-foot baseball diamond it needs and the school district will be able to use it for modified and JV baseball. One of the most exciting opportunities that will result from this collaboration is that this field, because it will be synthetic, will be the ideal home of

the Kyle Reid Memorial Challenger Baseball League, which is an adaptive baseball program for people with physical and intellectual challenges. It is the kind of “win-win” that happens when local governments look for creative ways to collaborate with each other.

The budget of a school district reflects the priorities and values of the community. We are proud of the fact that the \$73,016,866 budget proposal for 2019-2020 emphasizes high quality modern learning for all. From our Tinker Tanks (elementary school Maker Spaces) and Instructional Coaches, to our inclusive play initiative and our strategic planning process, the 2019-2020 budget, as well as the proposal to convey unused district property to the Village, will allow us to “engage all students in learning experiences that inspire life-long learning and empower each for their future.” We hope to see everyone at the annual school budget vote and school board election on May 21, 2019.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Michael Cornell

Superintendent of Schools

Thomas Flynn III

President, Board of Education

Cameron Hall

Vice President, Board of Education





Proposition seeks transfer of land

Through a proposition on the May ballot, Hamburg Central is seeking voter approval to convey a 16-acre vacant parcel on Pleasant Avenue to the Village of Hamburg for creation of a baseball field. The parcel is near the Chapel Glen neighborhood, adjacent to Glen Meadows Park. The village would develop a full-size, 90-foot, regulation, synthetic turf ball diamond on the site.

The school district would have right of first use of the diamond during the spring baseball season for school teams. The site would become the future home base for Kyle Reid Memorial Challenger Baseball League, an adaptive program for people with physical and intellectual challenges.

This is an opportunity to enhance recreation in the community and another example of the sharing of inter-municipal resources.

Expenditures

How the money is spent

	2019-20 Proposed Budget	2018-19 Adopted Budget	Change
Instructional Program	\$56,350,682	\$53,866,888	\$2,483,794
Capital	\$11,041,003	\$10,523,983	\$ 517,020
Administration	\$ 5,625,181	\$ 5,729,129	\$ (103,948)
TOTAL	\$73,016,866	\$70,120,000	\$2,896,866

Estimated Revenue

Where the money comes from

	2019-20 Proposed Budget	2018-19 Adopted Budget	Change
Property Tax Levy	\$37,765,344	\$36,711,029	\$ 1,054,315
State Aid	\$27,555,075	\$25,781,121	\$ 1,773,954
Reserves	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 0
County Sales Tax	\$ 3,775,000	\$ 3,775,000	\$ 0
Fund Balance	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 0
Other	\$ 1,171,447	\$ 1,102,850	\$ 68,597
TOTAL	\$73,016,866	\$70,120,000	\$ 2,896,866

School tax rates will be established in August after the individual town assessors provide final assessment rolls and equalization rates to the district. Over the past several years, the tax levy has both increased and decreased, however the average rate of increase in the average tax bill since 2013-2014 has been less than 2%.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

■ Hamburg Central is ranked #10 out of 96 school districts in WNY for academic excellence by *Business First* newspaper and was named to its 2018 honor roll of outstanding school districts.

■ Hamburg High School is identified as a top-performer by *U.S. News & World Report*. Hamburg ranked 112nd in New York State and 1,151 in the country (2018) out of more than 20,500 public high schools, based on how well it prepares students for college and their performance on state tests.

■ Hamburg High School is #6 among Erie County school districts for Regents assessment scores (2018). The High School also had a 93% composite passing rate on all Regents scores.

■ Hamburg High School's athletics program is ranked #10 in Upstate New York for 2019 by *Niche.com*, a school and neighborhood analysis website, based on such criteria as student participation, championships won and number of sports offered.



New positions for 2019-20

Our most powerful resource is our people. Proposed staffing additions reflect priorities in the district's Strategic Plan & needs identified by building administrators:

- (2) Instructional coaches, districtwide, to support the learning needs of teachers
- (1) Social studies teacher, High School
- (1) Cleaner, High School
- (.6) Science teacher, High School
- (.6) Art teacher, Middle School
- (.4) Science teacher, Middle School
- (.4) ELA teacher, Middle School
- (.4) Social studies teacher, Middle School
- (.4) Math teacher, Middle School

FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

Hamburg Central was rated **#5** out of 96 school districts in Western New York for administrative efficiency by *Business First* newspaper in 2018. This ranking denotes school districts having a tight budget and lean staffing.

Program Component

The program component includes accounts for instruction and educational support services for district students. Transportation, instructional computers, supplies and textbooks, special education services, and salaries and benefits for instructional personnel are also reported in this category.

	2019-20 Proposed Budget	2018-19 Adopted Budget	Change
Educational Services	\$38,712,577	\$36,662,059	\$ 2,050,518
Benefits	\$12,332,141	\$12,033,289	\$ 298,852
Transportation	\$ 5,170,964	\$ 5,036,540	\$ 134,424
Inter-Fund Transfer/ Special Aid	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 0
Legal	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$56,350,682	\$53,866,888	\$ 2,483,794

Administrative Component

The administrative component provides for overall general support and management activities, including the School Board, Superintendent's Office and Offices of Curriculum/Instruction, Human Resources and Business. Also included are expenses for legal services, liability and property insurance, and salaries/benefits for administrative staff.

	2019-20 Proposed Budget	2018-19 Adopted Budget	Change
School Board	\$ 41,725	\$ 45,975	\$ (4,250)
Administrative Services	\$ 942,842	\$ 920,036	\$ 22,806
Human Resources, Public Info, Legal	\$ 322,711	\$ 317,050	\$ 5,661
Special Items - BOCES, Insurance, Assessments, Dues	\$ 591,224	\$ 565,000	\$ 26,224
Administration/ Improvement	\$ 2,359,650	\$ 2,462,892	\$ (103,242)
Benefits	\$ 1,367,029	\$ 1,418,176	\$ (51,147)
TOTAL	\$ 5,625,181	\$ 5,729,129	\$ (103,948)

Capital Component

The capital component of the budget covers maintenance and upkeep of the district's facilities and property including electric, gas, water, sewer and telephone services. It also includes principal and interest payments on capital projects, salaries and benefits for maintenance and custodial staff.

	2019-20 Proposed Budget	2018-19 Adopted Budget	Change
Debt Service	\$ 5,431,626	\$ 4,940,175	\$ 491,451
Benefits	\$ 1,326,686	\$ 1,312,406	\$ 14,280
Central Services	\$ 4,256,941	\$ 4,220,652	\$ 36,289
Special Items - Refund of Taxes/Claims	\$ 25,750	\$ 50,750	\$ (25,000)
TOTAL	\$ 11,041,003	\$ 10,523,983	\$ 517,020

Vote on Tuesday, May 21 at Hamburg High School from 7 a.m.-9 p.m.



Qualifications to vote

To vote, you must be:

- At least 18 years of age
- A U.S. citizen
- A legal resident of the district for 30 days prior to May 21, 2019

To vote, you:

- Do not have to own property
- Do not have to be a parent or have children in school

Your legal residence is:

- The address on your driver's license, federal income tax forms, car registrations and/or any other government registration forms
- Where you are registered to vote in county, state and federal elections

Your legal residence is not:

- A temporary address, even if you have lived there 30 or more consecutive days before May 21, 2019
- Related to whether you pay property taxes in the district
- More than one place. Each person has only one legal residence.

Preregistration is not required. Those who are voting for the first time with Hamburg Central will be asked to attest to their eligibility. A driver's license or other government issued picture identification will be required.

Call 646-3200, ext. 7220 to request an application for an absentee ballot.

Detailed budget information available for public to view

Hamburg Central's line-by-line proposed 2019-20 budget is available for the public to view in each of the district's buildings, at the Hamburg Village Library and on the district website: hamburgschools.org.

On the ballot

PROPOSITION #1 - BUDGET

Shall the Board of Education of the Hamburg Central School District be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the proposed 2019-20 budget in the total amount of \$73,016,866 and levy the necessary tax?

PROPOSITION #2 - PLEASANT AVENUE PARCEL

Shall the Board of Education of the Hamburg Central School District be authorized to convey to the Village of Hamburg a parcel of property on Pleasant Avenue (SBL number 182.19-3-1), which is currently owned by the District and no longer needed for school district purposes, on the condition that the Village of Hamburg construct a baseball diamond and field with synthetic turf for District and public use?

PROPOSITION #3 - ELECT THREE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Richard G. Schneider

David Yoviene

Laura Heeter



Understanding the tax levy

The tax levy is the amount of the budget funded by local school taxes. The proposed 2019-20 budget carries a 2.87% increase in the tax levy, which is within the allowable levy limit ("tax cap").

School survey gathering input on safe learning environment

Hamburg Central is conducting a School Climate Survey of students in Grades 5-12, parents and staff members in May to gather information in support of a safe and positive learning environment. This online survey includes questions about school discipline, student support, student engagement and safety conditions.

The survey results will provide the district with valuable information to guide educational practices and programs.

The student survey is being conducted during the school day. Parents will receive information by email and mail on how to participate in the survey, so that they can share their opinions on how their child's school is doing.

On the topic of safety...

- Hamburg Central is ranked 27th in school safety (safety grade: A+) out of more than 430 upstate New York school districts for 2019 by Niche.com, a school and neighborhood analysis website. The ranking is based on such data as area crime rates, student suspensions and school-related arrests.

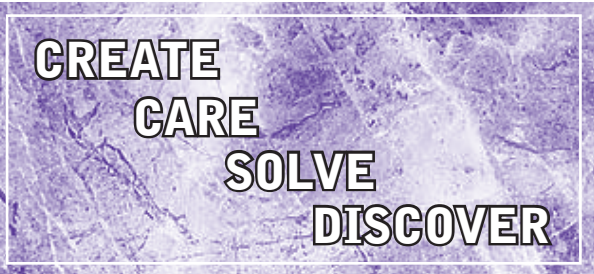
- The district is on track to have all employees receive "Stop the Bleed"/tourniquet training by the end of this school year.

Remember to vote

Tuesday, May 21

7 a.m.-9 p.m.

**Hamburg High School
4111 Legion Dr.**



Food Service Director lauded for expertise in child nutrition

Anne Rich, Food Service Director for the Hamburg Central Schools, has received the Council of Food Service Associations Silver Medal Award 2019 in recognition of her accomplishments in child nutrition and work in the Farm to School/New York State 30% initiative. She was honored in March at an awards dinner at the Saturn Club.



Pictured: Mrs. Rich, left, with Susan Birmingham, ECSNA board member/retired Frontier Central Schools Food Service Director.

Mrs. Rich was nominated for the award by the Erie County School Nutrition Association (ECSNA), of which she is President. ECSNA is one of the seven food service groups comprising the Council of Food Service Associations. Each group selects an honoree from within its ranks for exemplary performance in the field. She has been integral in the ECSNA's efforts to seek out New York products for all school districts to use in their

programs.

Mrs. Rich's career in school food service and child nutrition spans 28 years. Before joining the Hamburg Schools in 2017, she worked in the Grand Island Schools and Buffalo Public Schools. She was instrumental in creating Hamburg's Farm to School (F2S) Team, which has put an action plan into place this school year that includes obtaining more local products

for the lunch menu, and educating staff, students and community about the benefits of healthy, local food. These efforts have resulted in Hamburg receiving a 2018 NYS Farm to School Partnership Award for building connections with local farmers and businesses, and a 2019 Farm to School Partnership Award for Distribution: Finding Creative Ways to Get/Receive Local Farm Products.



Fair showcases healthy food, fitness



Food tastings, fitness options and health exhibitors made Hamburg Middle School's Family Food and Fitness Fair in March a fun evening for the approximate 275 people in attendance. The district's Food Services Department and S.O.L.E./The Giving Garden showcased healthy foods, including the Farm to School program. The Middle School FACS Club made fresh smoothies. There were also four fitness options and a variety of exhibits and activities.



For more information on our Child Nutrition & Farm to School visit our website:
HamburgChildNutrition.com

Follow us!

 Hamburg Central School District Farm to School Initiative

 @HCSDF2S 



Farm to School booth at Farmers' Market on May 18

Free tastings of local food items served in Hamburg Central's school cafeterias will be featured at the district's booth at the Hamburg Farmers' Market on Saturday, May 18. The market runs from 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the village municipal parking lot.

This is an opportunity for community members to informally meet and speak to school officials, as well as to learn more about nutritious school food, the district's Farm to School program and the upcoming budget vote.

PIZZA PALOOZA — Joshua Rogers, left, and Nathan Mascia were among Hamburg Middle School eighth graders who headed to the Potter Career & Technical Center in March, to make breakfast pizzas and to get a taste of the Culinary Arts program. Dozens of Family and Consumer Science (FACS) students from Sheri Gund's and Stacey Smith's classes rolled up their sleeves and put on their aprons to create pizzas from scratch during Pizza Palooza. This module paired Hamburg with an Erie 1 BOCES instructor to add a hands-on component to the lesson.



School volunteer Tricia Miller plants seeds of healthy eating

Learning stems from garden into cafeteria and classroom

On one April day, parent volunteer Tricia Miller helped elementary students make worm composting bins for their classroom. The next morning she was out in the community garden with students covering tender pea plants with hoophouses to protect them from the cold. On other days, it's not unusual to see her in Hamburg's schools encouraging children to try a raw vegetable or sample a healthy menu item in the cafeteria. For about the past 10 years, Mrs. Miller has been connecting what grows in a garden to healthy eating at school and home.

By doing so, she hopes to plant seeds for the future, so that Hamburg students carry healthy eating habits and environmental awareness with them into adulthood. It's important to her that students know where food comes from.



Tricia Miller led a lesson on worms and composting at Armor Elementary in April.

butterfly life cycle. With the support of the cafeteria staff, she offers taste tests of featured harvest of the month recipes to students and staff. She works closely with Food Service Director Anne Rich at school and community events to hand out samples and talk about the healthy food choices available in the school cafeterias. She advocates for supporting local farmers and food products.

What drives her?

"Ever since I was little, I've wanted to live on a farm," she explains.

Mrs. Miller is a familiar face in the schools and students eagerly show her that their lunch includes healthy food. With her nudge, they'll try a raw vegetable or healthy menu item and are often surprised to like the taste. She hands out many stickers and hand stamps to adventurous tasters.

"Tricia Miller has become an integral part of the excitement at Union Pleasant Elementary School," said Principal Jacqueline Peffer. "When students and adults see her, eyes light up because everyone knows we'll all be learning something new or tasting something wonderful. We love her!"

Mrs. Miller said it's also been gratifying to see gardens and student garden clubs sprout at the other schools and to be an integral part of the district's Farm to School initiative as it gains traction.

"A lot of people volunteer to make all this happen," she noted.

Mrs. Miller was honored by the Hamburg School Board in April for her work in the schools.



Garden marks 10 years; Local Living Fair on June 7

The Giving Garden at Union Pleasant Elementary School is celebrating 10 years of growing food and flowers this year. The garden has provided students the opportunity to have hands in the soil, observe bees and butterflies, tend to worms, grow plants, harvest food, save seeds and compost plant waste. It has built a connection to where food comes from, eating healthy and caring for the environment.

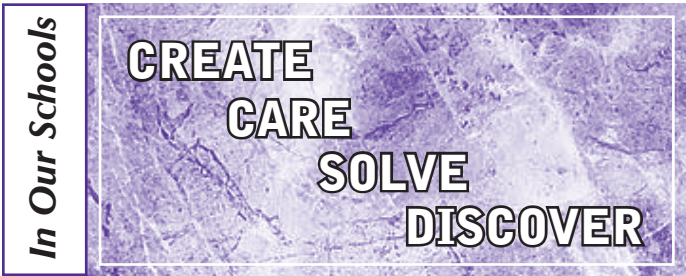
In the past year, there have been hundreds of garden experiences, more than 60 classroom or cafeteria visits, activities with the district's Farm to School Team and community events.

The garden will host its sixth annual Local Living Fair on Friday, June 7 from 4-8 p.m. This is a free family event featuring entertainment, children's activities, local farms and vendors. Unity Through Rhythm will hold a drum circle at 6 p.m. Shine will share family yoga. Garden Club students will provide tours.

The Garden Club will run through the summer via Hamburg Village Recreation. The weekly food pantry harvest will also continue.



Students worked together to make and eat salsa in The Giving Garden.



Boston Valley, Charlotte Ave. hub areas renovated

Focus is on learner-centered spaces

With flexible seating options, Charlotte Avenue’s refurbished LMC features learner-centered areas for small group collaboration, whole class conversations and independent learning.

Recently completed renovations at Boston Valley and Charlotte Avenue Elementary Schools have created spaces that promote “learning through doing” for students and refurbished some of the hub areas in the buildings.

At Boston Valley (BVS), a former computer lab was transformed into a Tinker Tank in April, bringing collaborative space for students and teachers to turn ideas into reality. Students using this space are encouraged to follow their curiosities, test how materials work, experiment and ultimately combine materials and ideas together in inventive ways. Tinkerers are taught to take control of their own learning and to have an active role in deciding how to use the room.



Boston Valley’s renovated LMC

- Also recently completed at BVS through a \$100,000 grant from Sen. Patrick Gallivan:
- *Library Media Center (LMC)* – new interactive display board, furniture, bookshelves, lighting, ceiling, paint
 - *Cafeteria* – new seating, lighting, ceiling, paint
- At Charlotte Avenue (CAS), a \$168,000 grant through Assemblyman Sean Ryan provided upgrades in two key areas:
- *LMC* – new interactive display board, bookshelves, cabinets, seating, lighting, sound, paint
 - *Cafeteria* – new seating, countertop and stools, lighting, ceiling, paint
- Upcoming throughout the district this summer, as additional work under the 2016

Capital Project, will be:

- Replacement of the perimeter fence around Howe Field
- Districtwide replacement of exterior and parking lot lights with energy-efficient LED
- Start replacement of Middle School hallway ceilings

New Boston Valley garden beds will add to growing, learning

Five new raised garden beds will sprout at Boston Valley Elementary School (BVS) this spring, providing students with more opportunities to learn and grow together. The school won a grant for the garden expansion through Project Learning Garden at the Captain Planet Foundation.

In addition to the new beds with soil, compost and seeds, BVS will receive a mobile cooking cart to incorporate the garden’s harvest into students’ learning experiences, garden supplies, online professional development and access to standards-aligned lessons.

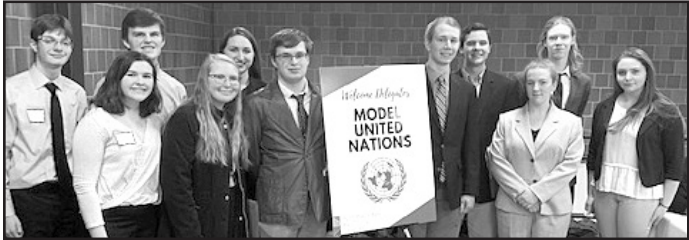
Serving on the BVS Learning Garden Team are: Principal Nicole Lauer, Beth Piazza of PTSA, teachers Beth Knodel and Dara McFadden, and head custodian Jeff Rozler. The team has drawn on the expertise of parent volunteer Tricia Miller in planning the garden enhancement. There are also several grade level teachers and building staff members who will be part of planting and maintaining the garden.

District K-12 Art Show

Wednesday, May 29
4-7 p.m.

Hamburg High School

~ Art displays by Grades K-12 students
~ Hands-on art workshops for all ages
~ Ceramics sale
to benefit Thanksgiving Food Drive
~ Photo booth ~ Food trucks



MODEL STUDENTS — Hamburg High School was represented when more than 550 students from 40 local high schools participated in the annual Model United Nations General Assembly in March at SUNY Buffalo. Students addressed pressing issues in international relations by writing, debating, amending and voting on resolutions in committees that simulated those of the UN General Assembly. Hamburg's participants, *from left:* Thomas Grasso, Annika Smith, Liam Riter, Leah Jarzynski, Christina Birt, Nick Grand, Michael Skora, Anthony Zogaib, Sarah Reiter, Henri Fessel and Madelyn Poeller.



TECH HONOR SOCIETY — Seven Hamburg High School students were inducted into Erie 1 BOCES' chapter of the National Technical Honor Society in March. They were among 172 students from 28 area high schools to be inducted. In order to qualify, a student must be nominated by his/her teacher, have a 90% or higher average in their career and technical education course, and maintain an overall grade point average of 85. The student must also demonstrate skill development, leadership, responsibility and good character. Hamburg's inductees and their programs, *front from left:* Connor Chojnicki, Web Tech; Kirsten Capparello, Health Careers; Kelly Riederer, Animal Science; Sarah Davidson, Cosmetology. *Back:* Haley Martin, Criminal Justice; Frederick Ando, Criminal Justice; Taylor Fawley, Animal Science.

Junior is highest scorer in money skills competition

Trevor Kedge, a junior at Hamburg High School, bested a record number of participants to win this year's MoneySKILL Mania financial literacy competition. More than 1,315 students registered for this competition, which tested their proficiency with basic money management concepts, including budgeting, income, credit and insurance. The competition was sponsored by the SUNY Buffalo School of Management and M&T Bank in high schools across Western New York.

As the highest scoring student, Trevor won an Apple iPad. His teacher, Sheila Sampson, won a \$100 Amazon gift card.

Recognition for financial literacy

Hamburg High School has been named as one of the top 100 schools in the country for teaching financial literacy. Hamburg students took a national certification exam for the school to achieve this status.

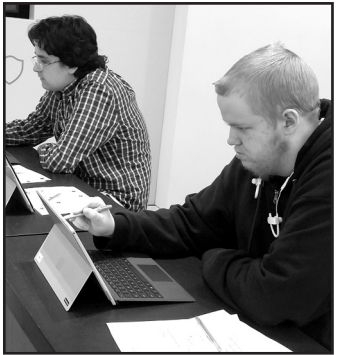
The 2019 national ranking of the 100 Best High Schools Teaching Personal Finance was released by Working in Support of Education (Wise), an educational non-profit focused on promoting student financial literacy.

High School lauded for participation of female students in computer science

Hamburg High School has been awarded the College Board's AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award for its work in engaging female students in computer science. The award recognizes female student representation in the AP Computer Science Principles course for 2018.

Only 490 schools earned the award for this course. Schools receiving the recognition have either 50% or higher female representation in the course or a percentage of the female computer science examinees meeting or exceeding that of the school's female population.

WORK READY — Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM), as well as Computer Science, are areas in education and industry that continue to grow. With that in mind, students in Hamburg High School's Work Readiness class spent a day attending a STEM-related class at the Microsoft Store in Galleria Mall where they created videos with mixed reality, experimented with 3D effects and tried out new Surface accessories. *Pictured:* Lincoln Roza, *left,* and Corey Rammacher.





Armor moves & grooves through decades

Decades of pop culture are being explored at Armor Elementary School for the celebration of its 50th anniversary. Various grade levels began moving into the new school over six months in 1969, so Armor is holding celebration activities over the same period of time.

For week-long explorations of the 60s, 70s and 80s, students dressed in styles of the decades, played games and toys from the times, and watched classic commercials, cartoons and top shows. For Read Across America day in March, students enjoyed read-alouds of classic books published in 1969.

In April, students celebrated with a concert featuring top Disney songs of the decades. A dance party followed (pictured above) as students and staff did movements to "YMCA" by the Village People from the 1970s.

Harkness Student of Month excels in early childhood ed.

Patricia Harrington, a junior at Hamburg High School, was chosen as Student of the Month for February in the Early Childhood Education 1 program at the Harkness Career & Technical Center. She was recognized for her work with preschoolers and "always putting her best foot forward."



P. Harrington

Nominations open for 2019 Wall of Fame

Do you have a favorite teacher or administrator that you would like to see honored as a Distinguished Educator? How about a Hamburg High School grad that you feel deserves the honor of Distinguished Alumnus or Sports Legend? If so, the Hamburg Alumni Foundation wants to hear from you.

The Wall of Fame Committee welcomes any and all nominations for this year's Wall of Fame event on Saturday, Sept. 28 at Michael's Catering and Banquets. Nomination forms are available online at hamburgalumnifoundation.org and in the HPER office at Hamburg High School. Completed forms should be submitted via the foundation website or emailed to robertalee99@yahoo.com.

Bald for Bucks 2019



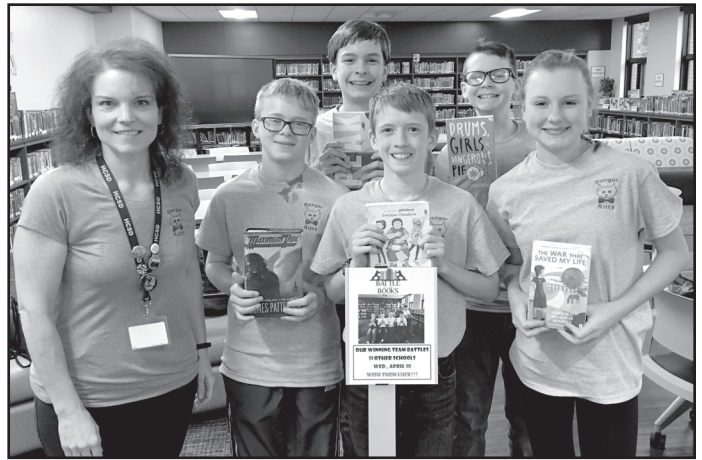
Among the first up were Abbey Kelkenberg, fourth grader at Union Pleasant Elementary, and Holly Darling, PreK teacher aide at Charlotte Avenue Elementary.



Ninth grader Tessah Borkowski donated her hair.

There was a little bit of everything going on in April at Hamburg High School's Goin' Bald for Bucks: head and beard shaving, hair braiding and donating locks for wigs for children who have lost their hair due to medical issues. Organized by Student Government, the event was a fund raiser to benefit Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. In May, Hamburg was recognized in the Top 10 of Bald for Bucks groups for the fund raising efforts.

CREATE
CARE
SOLVE
DISCOVER



Team emerges in Battle of Books

Hamburg Middle School's Team Danger Kitty brought home a third place win in the annual Battle of the Books competition in April. The seventh graders competed against teams from 11 middle schools at Pioneer Middle School. For this challenge, students read five titles then competed to see which team knew the most about the books. The competition included two local rounds of 30 questions, with Danger Kitty emerging as the top Hamburg Middle team advancing to the final multi-district battle. *Pictured, from left:* Middle School Librarian Megan Moelbert with Team Danger Kitty's Logan Kaminski, Max Snyder, Liam Tillo, Jacob Gearhart and Grace Tanski.



SERVICE TO COMMUNITY — A group of Hamburg Middle School sixth graders organized their own community service project to benefit the Food Bank of WNY. Their food and bottle drive resulted in a donation of more than 400 pounds of food and more than \$350 from bottle returns. *In front, from left:* Caitlin Woodrow, Eliana Wolfley, Sean Flynn and Jordan Fuhrman. *Back:* Thomas Getz and Dominic Buczkowski. This year, students in all social studies classes are required to complete service hours as part of the curriculum, including some outside of school.

Snow day makeup on May 24th

The most recent snow day (Feb. 25) was the fifth time that the Hamburg Schools were closed this year due to the weather. This exceeds the four days set aside in the School Board approved 2018-19 school calendar. According to that calendar, Friday, May 24th will now become a full day of student attendance. This calendar change is consistent with NYS Education Department law.



Rocker answers Pourquoi Take French?

Hamburg Middle School and High School French language students said "oui" to the music of Canadian rocker Etienne, who performed at the Middle School in March as the last stop

of a U.S. tour. Students from Williamsville and North Collins also participated. *Pictured above:* Ninth grader Brianna Collins snagged an autograph. *At right:* Hamburg dancers prepared to join the rocker for one of his numbers. Students are very familiar with the music of Etienne, as it's used to teach French grammar and vocabulary beginning in seventh grade.





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5305 Abbott Rd.
Hamburg, N.Y. 14075

Published by the Board of Education
Thomas F. Flynn III, Board President
Michael Cornell, Superintendent
Michele Darstein, Editor

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Boston Valley Elementary..... 646-3240
Charlotte Avenue Elementary 646-3370
Union Pleasant Elementary..... 646-3280
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The Focus Volume 50, Issue 5

www.hamburgschools.org

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Buffalo, NY
Permit No. 1002



CELEBRATE!!

HAMBURG CENTRAL SCHOOLS DAY

at Sahlen Field

Sunday, May 19, 2019 1:05 p.m.

Buffalo Bisons v Louisville Bats

Tickets \$10

Purchase tickets at:

<https://groupmatics.events/event/Hamburgbulldogs>

Wear purple or your Bulldog gear!

Sponsored by Hamburg Bulldogs Booster Club

www.bulldogsbooster.com



MAKING A MUSICAL — Parent volunteers worked hard behind the scenes to provide added support for Charlotte Avenue Elementary School’s “Seussical the Musical,” performed by fourth and fifth graders in April. *Pictured below* with musical director Jackie Gould are some of those who assisted: Danielle Zientek, Bill Hauck, Shannon Hauck, Melissa Cervo, teacher MaryBeth Diggins, Jeremy Cooper and Matt Gould. Also pitching in were Kelly Migliaccio and teacher Kim VanWagnen.



CANDIDATE PROFILES

There are three candidates seeking re-election to three seats on the Hamburg Central School Board for three-year terms commencing July 1. The candidates provided the information that follows.



Laura Heeter

Address: 66 Highland Ave., Hamburg

Family: Husband, Shawn, director of manufacturing, Curbell Medical. Children - Emily, Hamburg grad 2012, U.S. Air Force active duty; Sam, Hamburg grad 2014, SUNY Geneseo grad 2018, bachelor of science, secondary math education; Caroline, Hamburg grad 2017, SUNY Fredonia student and Air Force reservist; Seth, Hamburg grad 2019, attending SUNY Brockport this fall; Lynae, 10th grade; Anna, 8th grade

Occupation: Randolph Academy/behavior support

Community involvement: Member of Hamburg School Board since 2013, Parent Child Connection, Strategic Planning Committee; NYSSBA presenter on restorative justice & member, Restorative Justice Coalition

Reasons for seeking a board seat: "I have been extremely honored and humbled to serve on Hamburg's Board of Education. Hamburg prides itself on ensuring that all types of students get the education they deserve. My passion for special education and my work in an alternative school have given me a deep understanding that education should not be a one size fits all approach. There are many different voices on our Board with the same goal of providing student-driven decision making while being cognizant of the taxpayer!"



Richard G. Schneider

Address: 3496 Lakeview Rd., Hamburg

Family: Married 26 years to wife, Beth. Children - Jessica, 25, received her doctor of physical therapy at Daemen College and lives in Hamburg with her husband Derek and bulldog puppy Baxter; Heidi, 23, received a bachelor of music at Fredonia State College and is pursuing a graduate degree in music performance at Stony Brook University; Erica, 21, is a senior at Hilbert College and will receive a bachelor of science degree in forensics with a minor in criminal justice in May, then pursue a career in law enforcement. All are graduates of Hamburg High School.

Occupation: President & CEO at Crane Home Care, Inc.; associate professor at SUNY Erie Community College Emergency Medical Technology/Paramedic Department

Community involvement: Member of the Hamburg School Board, District Safety and Legislative Committees; trustee, Medaille College Board of Directors; president, Medaille College Alumni Association; past president and board member, SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church; member, Hamburg Oktoberfest committee

Reasons for seeking a board seat: "In 2015, I ran for a seat on the Hamburg School Board because I was drawn to the district that provided an exceptional learning experience for my children and wanted to help other families come away with the same experience. My core beliefs remain the same. I believe in a clear vision, goals and measuring success; striving for excellence in communication within our board and to the community; respectful collaboration and fiscally sound district budgeting. Most of all, I believe in what's best for kids! I would be honored to continue serving as a trustee of the Hamburg School District and our community."



David Yoviene

Address: 95 Alexander Way, Orchard Park

Family: Married 33 years to wife, Karen. Children - Dan, junior at Hamburg High School; David & Natalie, graduates of Hamburg High School

Occupation: Manufacturer and sales of building products

Community involvement: Member of Hamburg School Board for six years; member, Hamburg PTSA; member, Parent Child Connection Committee; member, Erie County Association of School Boards Legislative Committee; recipient of "Advocate in Action Award" by New York State and Hamburg PTSA; recipient of the following recognitions from Erie County Association of School Boards - Rising Star Award (2015), Shining Star Award (2016), Medallion Club (2017) & Laura M. Burns Advocacy for Children Award (2019)

Reasons for seeking a board seat: "It has been a pleasure to serve our community and advocate for our students for the last six years. I wish to continue to work together with my fellow board members and our outstanding administration staff on our constant goal toward student achievement. I will continue to work as an active team player with my fellow board members and all stakeholders of our school district, to retain Hamburg Schools' reputation as one of the premier school districts in Western New York."
