

To reach school district personnel by email please visit our website at [www.keshequa.org](http://www.keshequa.org), click on the Dalton Elementary, Nunda Middle School, or Nunda High School link, scroll down the page and look for the link that says Faculty Directory. For questions please call 468-2541 ext. 1105.

# Chronicle

- Honor**
- Wisdom**
- Leadership**
- Truth**

## Message From the Superintendent

The Budget Vote was held on May 16, 2006 and the results are as follows:

YES                      NO

- Proposition # 1** ..... 293 ..... 167  
*Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Dalton-Nunda Central School District, be and hereby is authorized to expend the sum of \$16,680,600 during the 2006 – 2007 school year and to levy the necessary tax thereof.*
- Proposition #2** ..... 276 ..... 188  
*Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Dalton-Nunda Central School District, be and hereby is authorized to borrow \$210,000 for the purchase of busses (one 46 passenger; one 58 passenger; one mini-van) and one maintenance truck in 2006 – 2007.*
- Proposition # 3**  
*Election of Board of Education Members. The candidate with the most votes will occupy one, four-year term. The candidate with the next highest number of votes will occupy one, three-year term.  
 Anita Buchinger – 300; John Gordinier – 201; Janice Pirrello – 125; Jennifer Reichard – 115;  
 Tim Cassidy – 106; David Waddle – 99*

Congratulations to Anita Buchinger who will fill a four-year term and to John Gordinier who will fill a three-year term. As a newcomer, Anita will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Chronicle so that you will be introduced to her.

We thank you, voters, for your support of our schools and we pledge to continue providing a quality education for our students. Our continued results of higher student achievement on all test scores are an indication of our successful efforts.

We are in the last weeks of the 2005 – 2006 school year with many events scheduled to recognize students. We hope you are able to join us for many of these as we celebrate student successes!

**District Goals**

- #1 Academic Achievement**
- #2 School Climate**
- #3 District Communication**
- #4 Educational Structure**

The mission of the Keshequa Central School District is to provide opportunities to empower all students to be cooperative, self-directed lifelong learners, prepared to responsibly meet the challenges of the twenty-first century.

# Board of Education News and Notes

This section of the newsletter is intended to communicate information about the Board of Education and highlights from recent meetings. Complete minutes are available from the District Clerk (Tammy Peck, 468-2541 ext. 1105) and on our website [www.keshequa.org](http://www.keshequa.org).

## April 11, 2006

- Presentation on Trip to Louisiana to help hurricane victims – Chris Meissel and Mel Macomber.
- Proposed Budget 2006-2007 – Dominic Aloisio.
- Approval of \$16,680,600 Budget for 2006-2007 to go to the voters on May 16, 2006.
- Approval of a proposition for voter approval on May 16, 2006 to spend \$210,000 for the acquisition of school buses and one maintenance truck.
- Approved voting on GV BOCES Board Member.
- Approved Proposed Administrative Budget for GV BOCES in the amount of \$2,290,187.
- Approval of several transportation requests to private schools.
- Approved the adoption of the textbook Buddha Boy.
- Adopted two new policies:
  - Student Physicals
  - Information Security Breach and Notification
- Approval to post and hire an additional modified baseball and modified softball assistant coach.
- Appointed Marilyn Capawan as Assistant Superintendent effective July 1, 2006.
- Appointed Mark Mattle as Elementary Principal effective July 1, 2006.
- Appointed Doris Marsh as Middle School/High School Principal effective July 1, 2006.

## April 27, 2006

- Approval of coaching positions.
- Approval of chaperones for senior trip May 5-8, 2006.
- Appointment of building maintenance mechanic, Eugene Stephens.
- Appointment of laborer, Donald McCullum.
- Approval of 3rd year math course, and adoption.
- Approval Survey in Mathemat-

ics of textbook for the course.

- Approved the retirement of Arthur Alexander, Head Custodian, effective July 1, 2006.
- Abolished .5 English 7-12 position.
- Abolished .5 Social Studies 7-12 position.
- Created 1.0 Social Studies 7-12 position.
- Approval to withdraw a grievance.

## May 9, 2006 Budget Hearing

- Budget Presentation – Lucinda Miner
- Introduction of Board Candidates
- Approval of substitute teachers
- Approval of tenure recommendations
  - Art Teacher – Kevin Raymond
  - Math 7-12 Teacher – Susan Goodhue
  - Home Economics Teacher – Gwen Gottschall
  - Library Media Specialist – Lydia Keough
  - Elementary Teacher – Michael

Dodge

- Special Education Teacher – Amanda Schwenebraten
- School Psychologist – Treva Walker
- Director of Special Education – Craig Benson
- Appointment of Chris Montulli, Social Studies 7-12 teacher.
- Approval of Earth Club Field Trip to Albany May 8 & 9, 2006 to accept I'm a Green Nation Award.

## May 25, 2006

- Approval of substitutes in various positions.
- Appointment of two Elementary Teachers, Amanda Schwenebraten and Christy Downey.
- First Reading of Five New Policies.
- Approval of two new scholarship awards in memory of Katelyn Brewer and William Smith.
- Approval of Middle Managers' Contract for July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009.

## *Ideas to Beat Summer Boredom*

*excerpted from [www.education-world.com](http://www.education-world.com)*

- Teach kids to cook with recipes. Have them do their own measurements, find recipes from Colonial times, or ethnic recipes.
- Make homemade bubble solution and experiment with such unique bubble-blowing tools as strings, milk containers, and garbage can lids.
- Read aloud *The Paper Crane* by Molly Bang. Then introduce the art of paper folding by printing and following the instructions for How to Make an Origami Crane.
- Go on a *Light Walk*, an outing designed to teach kids the properties of light and facts about the sun.
- Create musical instruments from materials found around the house.
- Cool down by making ice cream in a bag. The simple technique produces delicious ice cream in about 5 minutes. What ice cream varieties will you and your child concoct?
- Read aloud a story, then make a diorama depicting a pivotal moment in the tale.
- Catch a firefly and do some research on it together.
- Learn about national parks by encouraging your child to complete online activities and become a Web Ranger. Materials are grouped by age and include cool awards and a membership card.

# Appointment of Marilyn Capawan as Assistant Superintendent

Marilyn Capawan has been selected to be the next Superintendent of Keshequa Central School, but will serve as Assistant Superintendent for the next year or two and be mentored by Ed Stores (see related article at right). Although Mrs. Capawan has demonstrated excellent leadership since becoming the Dalton Elementary Principal in 2004, the Board of Education wanted to ensure her success as Superintendent by providing additional administrative experiences and mentoring support. We have seen many achievements in our district over the last three years and we want to keep these successes going. (Be sure to read our July Chronicle for a review of student and district accomplishments for 2005-06.)

Mrs. Capawan received her Bachelors Degree from Georgetown University, her Masters Degree from Nazareth College and her Administrative Degree from SUNY Brockport. She is currently enrolled in the Mid-West New York Superintendent Development Program through SUNY Oswego/BOCES District Superintendents. Mrs. Capawan worked in Financial Customer Service at Xerox Corporation in Rochester, and thus has a strong business background. In addition she served as an elementary teacher in Dansville from 1994-2004. She resides on Meyers Road in Nunda with her husband Michael and has two sons, Conor Sheehan, a Sophomore at New York University and Rory Sheehan, a senior at Keshequa.

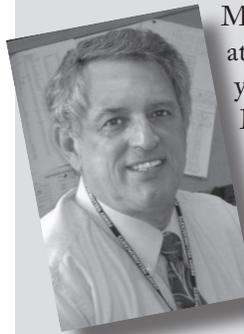
In Mrs. Capawan's application she states the following: "Throughout my career in public education, I have consistently focused on student learning and achievement. My resume reflects my commitment to communication and collaboration as the avenues by which all members of the learning community can reach our common goals. As both a teacher and principal, I have worked to create environments characterized

by mutual trust, integrity, high expectations, and positive support. As Principal of the Dalton Elementary School I have developed an understanding of and respect for the ideals and challenges of our school, and I welcome the opportunity to dedicate my leadership to enhancing and building upon the strengths of our

district. It is my unwavering belief in the potential of the Keshequa Central School District and its future as the center of a thriving community."

Congratulations, Marilyn Capawan! We believe you will be an outstanding leader to our District!

## *Appointment of Ed Stores as Interim Superintendent*

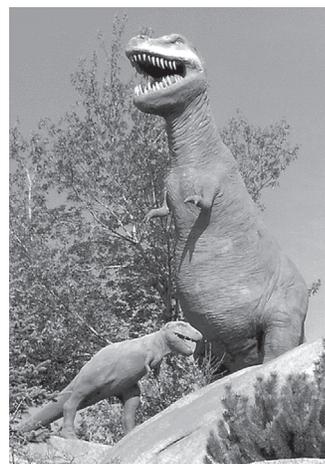


Mr. Ed Stores has been selected to be Interim Superintendent at Keshequa Central School effective July 1, 2006. He has many years of experience as a Superintendent and will be mentoring Marilyn Capawan to be our next Superintendent. (see related article on this page.)

Mr. Stores received his Bachelors Degree from Utica College and his Master and Administrative Degrees from SUNY Plattsburg. After teaching social studies for 15 years in Indian Lake he went to Warrensburg, where he served as High School Principal and Superintendent. Mr. Stores was Superintendent of Schools in Attica from 1983 until retiring in 1997. Since then he has served as Interim Superintendent in Wyoming, Caledonia-Mumford, Geneseo, Perry, and Avon as well as Interim High School Principal in Geneseo, Avon and Perry. He also has served from 1997 until the present as Executive Director of Section V of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Inc.

We are very fortunate to have such an experienced individual to lead our district for the next year or two and to mentor Marilyn Capawan, who already has demonstrated excellent leadership qualities.

Mr. Stores lives in Wyoming, NY with his wife Anne. He plans to be very visible in our community, so be sure to welcome him when you see him!



## *Dino Dig!*

*by Cathie Gebrig, Second Grade Teacher*

Second graders just loved the dinosaur presentation that was recently held at our Dalton Elementary School! They had many interactive experiences that included seeing a real triceratops skull, a large collection of dinosaur bones, and a quiz show! (2<sup>nd</sup> graders know their dinosaur facts!) They then became paleontologists and went on a dinosaur "dig", taking home real dinosaur bones to study. Such assemblies help to reinforce the science curriculum and foster improved reading and writing

# Lower Level PageTurners Win at Finals

by Joan Ellison



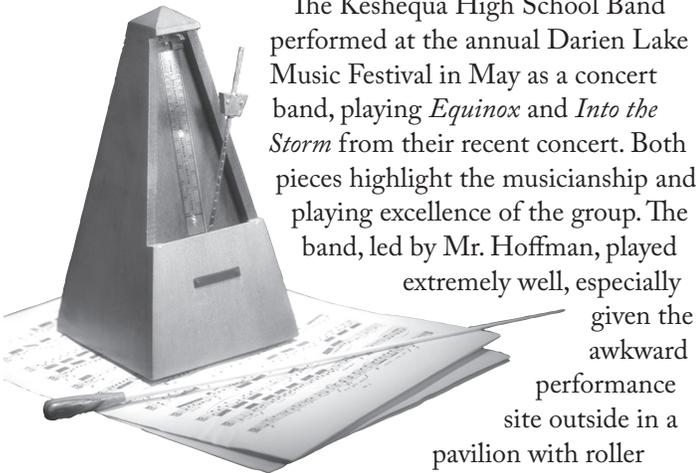
On May 19, the Lower Level (grades 3-5) PageTurners team met at York Central School to compete in the finals against the top teams from the other divisions in the Genesee Valley BOCES. Keshequa represented the south division, York represented the east division, Warsaw represented the central division, Byron-Bergen represented the north division, and Batavia represented the west division. At the end of a very exciting competition our team won by two points!

Teams needed to answer questions based on the official PageTurners list of books. There were 41 titles in all. In preparation for the two competitions during the school year and the finals in May, members of our team read as many books as they could and wrote questions about those books. Their questions were typed on cards and sent to Kathe Hartnett, Enrichment Coordinator at BOCES and emcee of the competitions. Some of our questions were used at the competitions.

Our team members were Lindsay Piraino, Katie Forrester, Blaithe Donovan, Grace Mehlenbacher, Aurora Straton, Michelle Hand, Alexandria Flint, Sarah Link, Kathryn Piraino, Cortney Clinton, Emma Snyder, Tim Carlin, Brooke Alford, Helen Alloco, Mariah Barranco, Katelyn Costello, Emily Forrester, Taylor Forrester, Danae Gibson, Gabrielle Mehlenbacher, Olivia Morris-Quackenbush, Skylar Simmons, Gracey Smith, Hannah Snyder, Katelyn Sullivan, and Kirsten Willey.

All students in grades 3-5 may join next year. The list of books is now available in the elementary library. If you have any questions about the program, please call Joan Ellison at 476-2234 ext. 1200.

# HS Band Earns Superior Rating!



The Keshequa High School Band performed at the annual Darien Lake Music Festival in May as a concert band, playing *Equinox* and *Into the Storm* from their recent concert. Both pieces highlight the musicianship and playing excellence of the group. The band, led by Mr. Hoffman, played extremely well, especially given the awkward performance site outside in a pavilion with roller coasters screaming by. After giving the judge a chance to express his initial comments about the performance, it was time to enjoy the day at the park.

At the afternoon award ceremony, the festival chair explained the three rating levels (good, excellent, and superior) and equated them to a bronze, silver, or gold medal. When Keshequa's name was called the festival chair exclaimed, "with a rating of superior, the Keshequa High School Band!" Obviously this is a huge accomplishment and certainly is a building block for other great things to come.

This has been a year of rebirth within the HS Band program. Mr. Hoffman's main goal from day one was to become one of the best bands in Western, NY. As evidenced by our performances, the number of students that are chosen to participate in all-county, all-state, and other special ensembles, as well as with this recent group award, we are well on our way

to achieving great things. Mr. Hoffman would like to sincerely thank all of the administrators, teachers, parents, and community members for their support throughout this year. Certainly none of these things would have been possible without students that give 100% every day both during rehearsals and performances. The HS Band program is looking stronger than ever, and we hope that you are proud of how we represent the great community of Nunda.

For more on the HS Band, check out the band website at: <http://www.keshequa.org/teacher%20pages/hoffman>

## Planning for 2006-07

by Christine Antalek, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Students may be ready for the year to end, but Keshequa's staff members are already thinking about next year! And New York State agrees. In fact, all school districts must update their Professional Development Plans (PDP) each year. Keshequa will be updating our PDP for next year during a planning day at Genesee Valley BOCES in June. Teachers, staff, parents, and administrators are welcomed by the Special Education Teachers' Resource Center to engage in a day of data review, analyzing program strengths and weaknesses, and finalizing an action plan for teacher growth for the following year.

This year, the planning team will focus on a system of targeting and addressing students' weak areas by using measurable ways to help students improve achievement. It's called Response to Intervention. We would like to spend next year orienting and training teachers, staff and parents in these specific techniques. We are currently using similar techniques with our Reading First program, and students are achieving more than we ever thought they could because the system targets specific needs. When we learn what the needs are, we teach to them, and students' learning improves!

The teachers in Title I and Academic Intervention Services will also be meeting to determine program needs for next year. Any parent who wishes to learn more about programs and services through Title I and other Title grants are welcome to be a part of this consultation. Please call Chris Antalek at 476-2234, ext. 1143 for more information.

*To the Faculty, Staff, and Classmates,*

*We can not express our gratitude enough for the help we received after the accident. The cards, flowers, food, posters, financial support, and especially the prayers are very much appreciated. Everyone has been very understanding and helpful in getting Janeen back on track. She is doing well and is on her way to recovery. We would like to Thank Everyone at KCS that helped us along the way.*

*The Bennett Family*

# From the Elementary Art Room

by Linda Strathearn

Mr. Sal Nicasto, driver of bus #115, and I are pleased to announce that 40 art students in grade 1 through 5 have entered this year's School Bus Safety Poster Contest sponsored by the Rochester Area Transportation Supervisor's Association and the Rochester Area School Bus Safety Rodeo. They will be competing with students from Rochester area schools for the prize money. Please enjoy these photographs showing a sampling of artwork.

This year's theme is "Be Aware! Cross with Care." The association's contest rules were very detailed and specific this year, much more so than previous years. The rules were discussed in complete detail during art class and students were asked to have their parents go over the rules with them again before beginning their posters. Students had to include the above theme in an original drawing on a specifically sized quality drawing paper, which the art room provided for them. They could not trace anything, nor could they use a computer for any area of their drawing. They could not use collage or any type of glued on images. Copyrighted characters from comics or television was not allowed, and they could not use photographs, magazines, or newspaper images in their drawings! The contest rules stated that all posters needed to show a positive approach demonstrating only proper school bus safety behaviors, and at least a part of a yellow school bus had to be present in the poster! Visual impact, in which quality craftsmanship and use of art elements, will be considered by the contest judges as important factors in the winning design.

Whew! This was a big challenge for students, as the association stated they would disqualify poster entries for not following these rules exactly. The students worked very hard on their posters and I am so proud of all of them! Please join us in wishing all contestants good luck with their posters. Keshequa had three

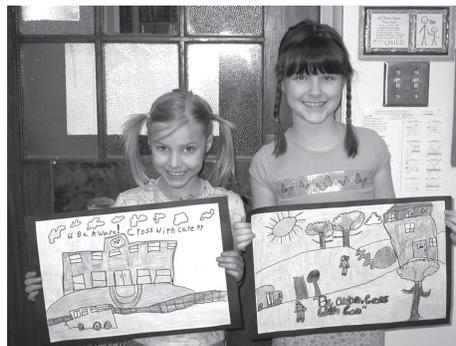
winners during our first year's participation in this contest in 2002! We will let you know the results as soon as we are notified.

## The contestants from grade 1 are:

McKenzy Bennett, Tanner Bugman, Gabrielle Cartwright, Madison Ewing, Samantha Foges, Lacey Hillier, Jordan Kapelke, Caelan Livingston, Tanner McVaugh, Samantha Quinn, Becky Tyler, Justin Willett



Grade 1 – Lacey Hillier, McKenzie Bennett, & Madison Ewing



Grade 2 – Tamara Lovell & Rachael Bugman



Grade 3 – Jory Jaroszek & Katelyn Ellwood

**The contestants from grade 2 are:** Joey Bennett, Gregory Buchinger, Rachael Bugman, Holli Cotton, Alex Fanaro, Samantha Galton, Kathryn Gelser, Tim Hatfield, Kelsey Holley, Dacoda Kingdon-Hess, Tamara Lovell, Ashley Morris, Kirsten Newland, Harlee Shoup, Shannon Sullivan, Lillian Willett, Kristle Willey

**The contestants from grade 3 are:** Katelyn Ellwood, Jory Jaroszek

**The contestants from grade 4 are:** Kathryn Forrester, Melissa McClements, Kaly Otero, Lindsay Piraino, Heather Preen

**The contestants from grade 5 are:** Riley Kirwan, Alicia Ludwig, Jessica Morgan-Strauss, Courtney Strain



Grade 4 – Lindsay Piraino, Melissa McClements & Kathryn Forrester



Grade 5 – Riley Kirwan & Courtney Strain.

# PeaceBuilders

by Tom Wiggins, School Counselor

## PeaceBuilders Continues to be an Important Part of Dalton Elementary School Climate

Our *PeaceBuilder* program is now ending its fourth year of implementation. The program is designed to help students and staff create a safe and supportive learning environment.

We continue to focus on school wide activities to help students understand the impact of treating each other with respect and working together. On April 11, we had our spring activity. The day started with classroom teaming. Fifth graders went to second grade, fourth graders went to first grade, and third graders went to kindergarten. Each student had a partner in the classroom to create a project to carry in the big *PeaceBuilder* parade. Students worked wonderfully together and exciting projects were created. Projects included all kinds of hats, windsocks, sashes, pinwheels, banners, and peace puppies. After the projects were completed, each student created a *Praise Note* to give to their partner.

The parade began at the gym, led by Mrs. Capawan with maracas and Mr. Isaman carrying the school flag. All students and adults paraded with their projects. When they passed the large Praise Boards in the main hall, they handed their *Praise Notes* to volunteers who stapled them to the board—almost 500 in all.

Everyone pitched in to make this day a success. Teachers came up with great ideas for projects and students were fantastic working together. Everyone in our community should be pleased with the effort everyone is making to create a safe learning environment for all students. We're all looking forward to our fall event because everyone did enjoy this one.



# Advanced History Conference Held at Nazareth College

by Tom Cook

Did the North really win the Civil War? What decisions led to the use of atomic bombs in WWII? Was Hurricane Katrina a natural or unnatural disaster? These are some of the questions Keshequa students tackled at the Advancement Placement History Conference at Nazareth College in March.

The Conference consisted of a keynote speaker and two sessions. The students had their perceptions of history challenged by Professor John Daly of SUNY Brockport who spoke on "The Day the South Won the Civil War: Tipping Points and Inevitability in History." Then they attended two other lectures, "Hurricanes and Other Unnatural Disasters: How Storms Make History" given by Rebecca Edwards of RIT, and a presentation by Joseph Henning which focused on "Hiroshima and Nagasaki: From World War to Cold War." Each of these sessions provided interesting approaches to studying different events in American History.

The students who attended the conference were Kari Buchinger, Jason Buckel, Amber Didas, Ray Halter, Josh Houghtaling, Lorelei Kujat, Marcie Mallaber, Mark Nesbitt, Grace Rich, Josh Trim, and Matt Whiteman. These students are juniors enrolled in the American History 204 class, part of the ACE program sponsored by Genesee Community College. Mr. Cook is the instructor of the course.

# Congratulations!

## 2006 LeadAmerica Leadership Conference For Outstanding Middle School Students

### Believe.....Imagine...Achieve

Keshequa Middle School is pleased to congratulate six exceptional students who have been nominated to attend a **2006 National Junior Leaders Conference (NJLC)**, sponsored by **LeadAmerica**. This selection is in recognition of academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and leadership potential.

### Congratulations!

*Amzi Ethbridge-Mitchell..... 6<sup>th</sup> Grade*

*Tyler Piraino ..... 6<sup>th</sup> Grade*

*Andrew Hark ..... 7<sup>th</sup> Grade*

*Melissa Curry ..... 7<sup>th</sup> Grade*

*Bryan Kunkle ..... 8<sup>th</sup> Grade*

*Mariah Mahlendorf ..... 8<sup>th</sup> Grade*

LeadAmerica sponsors leadership programs for our world's next generation of young leaders. Each conference is presented by a *distinguished faculty* and combines *challenging academics* with *hands-on experiential learning*. These programs inspire and empower students to reach their full leadership potential.

The NJLC is designed for today's Middle and Junior High School students. Students engage in thought-provoking *discussions* and enjoy educational *site visits*. They learn to think on their feet and debate complex issues as they participate in *real world simulations*.

At the NJLC's academic-based leadership conferences, students delve into a specific field of study, attend special briefings and lectures by a prominent professional in the field, and participate in hands-on simulations designed to give them a realistic sense of the topic they are studying. This year's topics include:

- U.S. Government and Policies
- Medicine and Healthcare
- Law and Trial Advocacy
- CSI: Forensic Science
- Intelligence, Defense and National Security
- Global Business and Entrepreneurship

At the NJLC's Leadership University students are motivated and challenged to excel and realize their

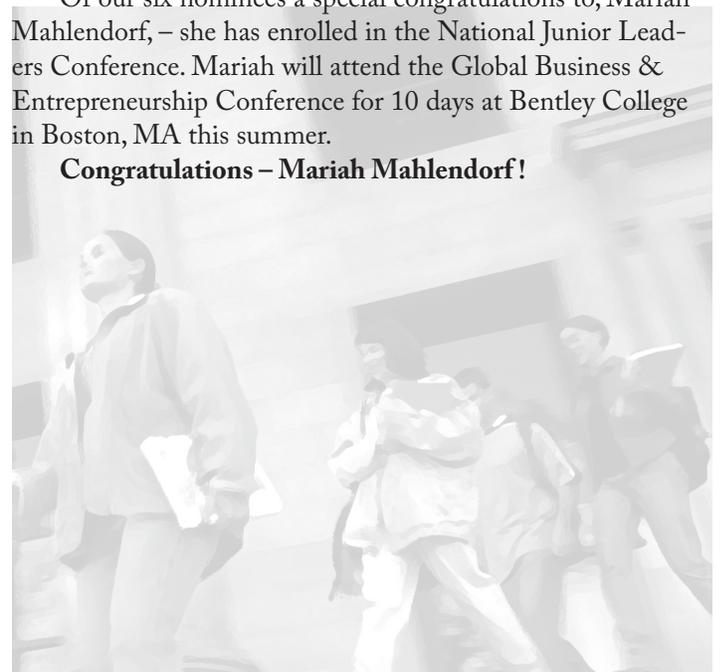
full potential. In this dynamic and life changing leadership immersion and personal development program, students build self-confidence, learn first hand how to lead and be an effective part of a team. They leave inspired and having developed essential skills necessary to be an effective leader in any field.

At every *LeadAmerica* conference, students meet with distinguished leaders who will give them insight into what it means to lead in today's complex and global society. In recent years, our students have met with an incredible group of global leaders in law, medicine, business, politics and other fields including: President George W. Bush, Senator John Kerry, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, Former Commander of U.S. Central Command General Tommy Franks, and Former Attorney General Janet Reno, to name just a few.

Leadership and character are *essential* to a student's future success. They are the key to what they do with their lives and how well they do. In today's world, it is imperative that we nurture leadership potential from a very young age. Leadership can make important differences in the lives of teenagers – in their academic and personal performance, in their acceptance to the college of their choice, and in the level of their focus, passion and purpose. At *LeadAmerica* students are empowered to cast a vision for their lives and instilled with the attitudes and confidence to make their future vision their reality.

Of our six nominees a special congratulations to, Mariah Mahlendorf, – she has enrolled in the National Junior Leaders Conference. Mariah will attend the Global Business & Entrepreneurship Conference for 10 days at Bentley College in Boston, MA this summer.

### Congratulations – Mariah Mahlendorf!



# What NYS Tests Can Show Us by Christine Antalek

Spring is here, and soon the season of final exams will be upon us. But already, our students in grades 3-8 have taken both the English language arts and the mathematics state assessments. Students in grade 5 have added a social studies exam to that list. Finally, students in grades 4 and 8 will soon take the science and social studies assessments. Phew! What are all these tests for anyway?

All the assessments in grades 3-8 are part of a staggering change to education called No Child Left Behind, or NCLB, as teachers call it. This federal law focuses on improving student achievement through challenging learning standards, teacher quality, and choice for students in poor-performing schools.

The student achievement section of the law requires every state that receives federal education funds to test children in reading and math every year from grades 3-8 and to give high school exit exams.

Those of you who graduated from a New York State school know that we already had rigorous exit assessments – the famous Regents examinations. But New York lacked a consistent set of exams for younger students. So, in 1999-2000, the first exams in grades 4 and 8 were given in math and English language arts. This year, for the first time, every child in New York State was given the full battery of tests. And parents, teachers and students know they are serious business. So how can we make the most of them?

To answer that question, you have

to know a bit about the construction of the test and the score reporting that schools receive. Each test is constructed to match the content standards for that course and grade level. So, every question on every test measures a piece of content that the student was supposed to have learned. The score reports tell us how each child answered each question and what each question tests. By looking at this, we can learn much about individual students and our program. For instance, each student's right and wrong answers are listed on the reports, so teachers can learn exactly what skills that student needs to review. Then, each grade level can see the percentage of students who got each question correct, and the percentages of students selecting wrong answers. We can look at what each question tests and identify strengths and weaknesses by looking at the pattern and percentage of correct and incorrect answers.

The information we learn from the "snapshot" of achievement on each of the state tests can assist us in preparing a remediation program for a student or purchasing textbooks. Indeed, as the Dalton Elementary School began to plan for the purchase of Social Studies textbooks, we looked at the pattern of achievement over the past few years in order to determine what content our new textbooks needed. We used data from previous ELA tests to apply for our Reading First grant. Summer school programs and academic intervention services use the score reports to identify where students need the most help. And finally, teacher professional development revolves around the data we receive from each test and all tests together.

So, although the tests can be strenuous and "not so fun," they are an important source of information to help students achieve and schools improve. More information on the 3-8 assessments, along with sample questions, can be found at [www.emsc.nysed.gov/3-8/parent-guide/home.htm](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/3-8/parent-guide/home.htm).

*Mr. Mike McGee (the late Senator Pat McGee's husband) and co-Busy Bee Program founder Keshequa Central School Principal Mark Mattle, snapped by Scott Burt,*

*Program Coordinator, at the Friday May 26 bronze dedication ceremony in honor of the late Senator Pat McGee. The bronze and its platform were entirely paid for and erected by the Busy Bees, an innovative Alternative Education Program whose initial seed monies to start the program seven years ago came from the Senator. On hand at the ceremony were many dignitaries, politicians, administrators, teachers, parents, and of course the Busy Bees of KCS. A proclamation from Governor Pataki was read along with several speeches including a congratulatory one given by Senator Cathy Young of the 57th District.*



# Middle School Corner

by Doris Marsh, Middle School Principal

Students at our Middle School are looking forward to finishing the month of June activities and having a long summer vacation. Students will be attending regular classes until June 13<sup>th</sup>. Final exams will occur on June 14 and 15, with make-ups on June 16, along with Career Day. June 19 is the Foreign Language Proficiency Exam and a half-day for all students with dismissal at 11:15 a.m. The students will be participating in our Field Days activities on Tuesday, June 20. The Keshequa Sports Booster Club will serve a free lunch to students and staff. Students are to come to school dressed for the weather and some outdoor fun. On Wednesday, June 21, the Middle School teachers, Middle School students, and parent chaperones will be going to Darien Lake for the day. The bus will leave at 8:00 a.m. and return around 6:30 p.m.

Our eighth grade Middle School students are practicing and looking forward to completing the NYS Grade 8 Social Studies Tests and the NYS Grade 8 Science Tests (Part Two). Students in grades 6 and grade 7 will be taking the TONYSS tests to measure their academic success for this school year. In addition to all these tests, the Middle School students will be taking final tests in all their subjects. Students' final report cards will be mailed home during the last week of June.

On June 16, 2006, the Middle School will be hosting their annual Career Day activities. We have numerous individuals representing a wide array of businesses and occupations. Each student will be able to select and attend at least three presentations during the morning sessions. In the afternoon students will be learning about juvenile delinquency, self-esteem, cancer, alcohol abuse, healthy relationships, drugs and the law, and sexual harassment.

On June 13, 2006, the Annual Awards Night for Middle School will be held at 6:30 p.m. Immediately following the awards presentations, a ceremony will be held to induct the newly nominated students to the Junior National Honor Society. This should be an exciting evening for many students, as they will be recognized for all their hard work throughout the school year.

For those students in grades 7 and 8 who were unable to successfully complete their courses, Genesee Valley BOCES will host a summer school site at Mt. Morris Central School from July 5 – August 15 for regular classes. Grades below 65 indicate failing work. Pupils will repeat 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade if they receive a failing grade in one (1) major subject area or three (3) minor subject areas. Students that meet Summer School Criteria may re-take up to two (2) major subject courses during summer school and if successful reduce the number of failing classes to zero (0), allowing promotion to the next grade. To attend summer school a student must attend the class for 40 weeks during the year and student must have a 50% or better grade for the class. Major subjects are: math, science, English, social studies, and foreign language. Minor subjects are: technology, art, home and careers, music, health, computer, physical education. Also, a student must have had good attendance during the regular school year.

It has been a pleasure working with the students of the Middle School and I am looking forward to welcoming them back next year. To our present eighth grade we wish lots of success in the high school and to the fifth grade coming to our Middle School we welcome you. You will really enjoy your new school setting.

Have a great summer vacation. Relax, read, and do some fun activities with your friends and families.

## Keshequa Middle School Year-End Schedule

### June 2006

The Middle School year-end schedule for June 2006, we be:

#### Grade 6-8

June 13.... Regular Class schedules

June 14.... Double Periods 1, 3, 5, 7

June 15.... Double Periods 2, 4, 6, 8

June 16.... Career Awareness Day/Make-up Tests Day

June 19.... Half day – Dismissal at 11:15 a.m.

Foreign Language Proficiency Exam given a.m.

### Regents Tests are scheduled for June 14-21

#### Tuesday, June 20

Field Days – Dismissal at 11:15 a.m. from Sports Complex. A free lunch will be served at 10:30 a.m. by members of the Sports Boosters Club.

#### Wednesday, June 21

Darien Lake Field Trip - Bus leaves at 8:00 a.m. and will return about 6:30 p.m. Cost per student will be \$10. For those students who sold candy bars as part of the fundraiser, you will go free.

# It's Elementary *by Marilyn Capawan*



As our school year enters the final weeks, it is a great time to look back and appreciate all of the growth and accomplishments our children have achieved. Their hard work and dedication are evident everyday in every classroom. In mid-May our students in kindergarten through grade 3 participated in the Spring Reading First Benchmark Assessments, and we are eager to see the progress they have made. We are committed to help every student read at or above grade level by the end of Third Grade. Thanks to all the families, faculty and staff of the Elementary School for all the time and dedication given to this worthy pursuit.

In addition to their academic success, our children are shining stars in other pursuits as well! Our Elementary PageTurners won both their division and Regional Championships this year. Mock Trial participants won their case with a spectacular defense of "Jack and Jill" in Geneseo, and our Earth Club earned First Place in New York State in the 15<sup>th</sup> annual "I-ma-GREEN-nation" contest for their recycling project. They celebrated with a trip to Albany to attend the awards ceremony and meet Senator Young. Our Chess Club won its second consecutive County Championship trophy. Congratulations to all our students and their families and advisors for such wonderful efforts!

Our PeaceBuilders Parade before Spring Break was a tremendous success. Classes teamed up to be "Peace Partners" and worked to create items ranging from "Peace Puppies" to "Peace Pennants" that the students then carried in a parade around the building. The morning was filled with cooperation and positive relationships among all of our students. Thanks to Mr. Wiggins for his excellent coordination of this event. Be sure and see the photos and article elsewhere in this newsletter!

Thanks to all our families and community artists who were able to join us for the Fine Arts Festival in May. It was a wonderful showcase for our students' multiple talents!

June promises to be a very busy time, beginning with our Field Days on June 2. We extend a cordial invitation to the community to attend our annual Flag Day Ceremony on June 14 at 8:45 a.m. in Dalton. We hope to see you there!

# Newspaper in Education

Newspaper in Education is designed to nurture the academic, analytical and citizenship skills of students. It reinforces thinking and learning skills by developing reading, math, social studies and language skills while exploring the issues of today's world with the use of the newspaper in the classroom. Newspapers in the classroom motivate hard-to-reach students, improve reading and writing abilities and develop real-life skills.

We have been very fortunate this year to have Rotenberg & Co. llp as a sponsor, providing Keshequa High School with 30 newspapers on a weekly basis for the entire school year. We have been provided daily lesson plans and materials for our teachers to intrigue and motivate our students. Their support of this educational program is commendable, and we greatly appreciate their support.

Thank you  
Rotenberg &  
Co. llp!



# Great Poker Table *by Nick Shute*

I take great pride in what I build. This poker table took me about six weeks to build. I worked on it for three hours a day Monday through Friday. I used about \$300 worth of black walnut and \$50 worth of cedar. I had built this table for my father for Fathers' Day. I had disappointed my dad so I wanted to show him how sorry I was and what better way than to build him something he has always wanted, a poker table.

I would never have been able to build this table if it wasn't for the Burt's Busy Bees Alternative Education class at our school. Mr. Burt and Mr. P. have helped me so much and have given me tips on how to make things better. This table is not the best I can probably do because it is my first one. I'll learn from my mistakes.

This program is great. It allows troubled kids to stay out of trouble and stay in school. This program teaches kids discipline and respect for others' work.

I'd like to thank my classmates for their support and help. RJ, Ian, Sean, Mike, Tasha, Steve, and Chris.

Also, I'd like to thank my dad for giving me the inspiration for making this table. You need to have inspiration and concentration for woodworking. It takes a great deal of patience, and you always need to do your best.



# Elementary Chess Club Championship Team 2006



On Saturday, April 1st the Elementary Chess Team competed with Dansville Elementary for the County Championship Trophy in six game matches. The final score was Dansville 2, Keshequa 43. The following members received awards:



## Advanced

- 1st Christian Garwood
- 2nd Brody Wood
- 3rd Alex Simone
- 4th Dansville
- 5th Marty Belewicz

## Intermediate

- Kirk Schner
- Austin Martin
- Brandon Bailey
- Austin Prince
- Josh Gath

## Beginners

- Mike Fuller
- Thomas Wood
- Seth MacNeal
- Josh Barranco
- Ian McNamara

- Other team members who did not medal are Chelsey Gillen, Cody Wise and Kyle Houtz.
- All-County Honors were awarded to Brody Wood and Alex Simone.
- Player of the Year honors went to Christian Garwood, who remains undefeated in two years of tournament play.

The Championship Trophy is on display at the Dalton Building.

The team is coached by Mr. and Mrs. Schoenacker.



## Middle School Chess Team News

The Middle School Chess team ended the year in second place in Division 10 play. The team had significant wins against Bloomfield, Livonia and Avon, but the biggest win was against previously undefeated Perry. The team will compete in the Rochester Chess Club Sectionals May 13 at Fairport Central School.

Team members include Troy Hatfield; Captian, Tyler Piraino, Phillip Wood, Zach Todd, Nick Snyder, Logan Thompson, Michalea Hillier, Christian Garwood, Alex Simone and Marty Belewicz.



# Cyber Safety At Home

by Kim Englert, Technology Coordinator

As educators, we try to do all we can to ensure that your child has a safe and positive experience when they go online here at school:

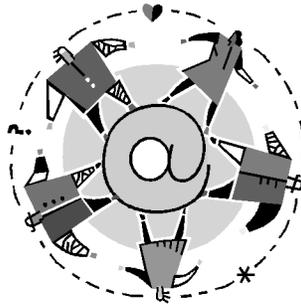
- Are they accessing age-appropriate material online?
- Are they learning how to evaluate the information they find online?
- Are they interacting only with friends or supportive adults while online?
- Do they know what to do if something troubling happens to them while online?

But what's happening at home or at a friend's house might be a very different experience. According to ISAFE.ORG, 87% of parents believe they have established rules covering their child's internet use, however 36% of students say their parents have **NOT** made rules for their online use.

A lot of behaviors on sites like MySpace or FaceBook have been going on in teen hangouts for generations, but parents were never privy to it. Today however, some shocking and even dangerous behaviors are on display at these sites for everyone (peers – parent – and yes even predators) to see. Some scary statistics from ISAFE.ORG:

- 70% of students go online at least once a week;
- 53% of these students like being alone while 'surfing' the net;
- 39% admit to having given out personal information;
- 31% have IM's with someone they don't know IRL;
- 12% have met a new person from an online experience f2f.

So what can parents do to ensure their child's safety while they are online? Here are several tips that you might use to help safeguard your child.



## Educate Yourself.

Today's adults are immigrants to technology, while their children are natives. This might be the first time in history that our children not only think they know more about something, but they truly do.

- Learn the language of online communication
- Study the "lay of the land"
- Understand the rules & laws surrounding online content

## Provide A Safe Environment.

- Keep the computer in a "family space" not a private space like a bedroom
- Know all online passwords, IDs and screen names
- Regularly review computer files
- Consider using monitoring and/or filtering controls

## Reinforce The Rules of the Road.

- Don't give anyone clues to be able to locate you
- Don't post personal information including full name, address, phone number, school attending, sports activities, job information, etc.

## Teach Responsible Use.

- Don't do anything online that you wouldn't do in real life.
- Let children know that responsible adults don't pursue relationships with minors (on or off line).
- Think before you click.
- Make them aware of the legal consequences for some of their behaviors.

When you sent your child off to school you had already taught them to not talk to strangers, to look both ways before crossing the street, to play nice with others and that if anything happens that scares you to seek help from an adult they trusted.

These same safe principals apply when your child ventures onto the information superhighway.

For more information on how to keep your child safe while surfing, check out the following sites:

### Common chat room lingo:

<http://www.netlingo.com/top20teens.cfm>

### Tips & Information For Parents & Children:

<http://www.safetyclicks.com>

### Downloadable Online Safety Lessons:

<http://www.cybersmart.org>



# Childcare Transportation Requests

Childcare Transportation Requests (bus changes) for the 2006-07 school year must be submitted to the Transportation Office before July 30th. If your child will need transportation to or from a location other than home, you will need to submit a new Childcare Transportation Request even if the arrangements are the same as the previous year. Requests received **after July 30th** will only be honored if there is room on the school bus and it does not result in altering the bus route.

Each summer the graduating students are removed and the new Kindergarten students are added to the routing program. The routes are then evaluated and updated to balance the loads and mileage. It is our goal to establish routes that are considerate to the safety and needs of the students and the community as well as being cost-effective.

Please note the following important aspects of the district's Childcare Transportation Policy:

- Childcare requests must be filed every year. Requests are valid for one school year only, September to June.
- Childcare request forms must be delivered to the Transportation Department Office by July **30th** for implementation in September.
- The childcare facility must be located within the Keshequa Central School District and on an already established bus route.
- A weekly transportation schedule must be established and it must remain consistent throughout the school year.
- One form must be completed for each child needing childcare.
- Requests will not be approved for students to ride home with other students to visit or attend birthday parties.

You may contact the Transportation Supervisor, Ivan Beardsley, with any questions by calling 476-5789 or by visiting the Transportation Office located in the bus garage just north of the flashing red light at the intersection of Route 70 and Route 408 in Dalton.

Completed forms may be mailed to: Keshequa Central School, Transportation Department, P.O. Box 517, Nunda, New York 14517



# Keshequa Transportation Department

Please return this form to: Keshequa Transportation Department,  
PO Box 517, Nunda, NY 14517 or have your child give it to the bus driver

**Please Print!!**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_  
(W) \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_  
(W) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If transportation is the *same for everyday*, please complete this section of the form.

Before School Arrangement

After School Arrangement

_____	_____
<i>Pick-Up Location</i>	<i>Drop-Off Location</i>
_____	_____
<i>Address</i>	<i>Address</i>

If transportation *changes for any day during the week*, please complete this section of the form.

Before School Arrangement

After School Arrangement

<b>Monday</b> _____	_____
<i>Pick-Up Location</i>	<i>Drop-Off Location</i>
_____	_____
<i>Address</i>	<i>Address</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> _____	_____
<i>Pick-Up Location</i>	<i>Drop-Off Location</i>
_____	_____
<i>Address</i>	<i>Address</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> _____	_____
<i>Pick-Up Location</i>	<i>Drop-Off Location</i>
_____	_____
<i>Address</i>	<i>Address</i>
<b>Thursday</b> _____	_____
<i>Pick-Up Location</i>	<i>Drop-Off Location</i>
_____	_____
<i>Address</i>	<i>Address</i>
<b>Friday</b> _____	_____
<i>Pick-Up Location</i>	<i>Drop-Off Location</i>
_____	_____
<i>Address</i>	<i>Address</i>

**Reminder: this transportation schedule must remain consistent throughout the school year.**

# Summer Youth Theatre

The Genesee Community College Center for the Arts is holding a Summer Youth Theatre Camp which will introduce the fundamentals of theatre in an engaging way for children ages 9-13. It is a confidence building program, providing an everyday hands-on encounter that is sure to be fun and very fulfilling. The camp will be an intense two week program that costs \$100 and will run from July 17<sup>th</sup>-July 28<sup>th</sup> at Genesee Community College in the Stuart Steiner Theatre. The children will be involved in acting, voice, movement, improvisation, audition techniques, and acting for the camera. In conclusion of the two week program there will be a small production held by the participants, which will be open to the public and for parents, families, and friends. The registration deadline for this program is June 9<sup>th</sup> and early registration is encouraged since the program is limited to 20 participants.

For further information please contact Maryanne Arena, Director of Fine and Performing Arts at (585)-343-0055 ext. 6439 or by email [mcarena@genesee.edu](mailto:mcarena@genesee.edu).



## Calendar of Events

### June

- 9.... Sr. Banquet & Awards Ceremony, Nunda 6:00 p.m.
- 10.... ACT Exam
- 11.... Baccalaureate, 6:00 p.m.
- 13.... MS Awards Night 6:30 p.m.
- 14.... Last Day of Classes 9 – 12  
.... Elementary Flag Day Program
- 14-16... Regents and MS Final Exams
- 16-17... Grade 5 Music Trip to NYC
- 19-22... Regents Exams
- 19.... MS Final Exams in the morning  
.... Kindergarten Graduation 9:00 a.m.
- 20.... Grades K – 2 Awards Dalton Elementary 8:30 a.m.  
.... Middle School Field Days
- 21.... Grades 3-5 Awards, Dalton Elementary 8:30 a.m.  
.... Last Day for Students K-5 – Dismissal at 11:30 a.m.  
.... Grade 5 Completion Ceremony 6:30 p.m.  
.... Middle School Darien Lake Trip
- 22.... Staff Development Day
- 23.... Graduation Rehearsal 9:00 a.m.
- 24.... Graduation at 11:00 a.m.

### Keshequa Central School

P.O. Box 517  
Nunda, New York 14517-0517

June 2006

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