

To reach school district personnel by email please visit our website at 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

Superintendent's Message by Edward Stores

One of my responsibilities upon accepting the position of Interim Superintendent at Keshequa was to assess the administrative team structure as it presently exists and to recommend to the Board of Education whether or not changes should be made. As you may remember, the administrative team last year consisted of an elementary principal, a middle school principal and a high school principal. This year, in preparation for a new permanent superintendent, the positions were changed to include an elementary administrator and a combined middle school and high school principal. This position included grades six through twelve. What has made this doable, for the first part of this year, is the fact that Mr. Craig Veley has been working on an administrative internship and therefore was able to pick up some of the duties for administering these grades. His internship is now over. The Board of Education has given approval for Mr. Veley to be classified as a "Teacher on Special Assignment" for the remainder of the year. We are grateful for this action and look forward to Mr. Veley taking over some of the responsibilities of the position. His primary responsibility will be student discipline. Please feel free to contact him as well as High School Principal Doris Marsh with any concerns you have.

District Goals

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

Dates to Remember

February

- 15..... Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 19..... President's Day NO SCHOOL
- 19-23 ... Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL

March

- 2..... End of 25 week marking period
- 8..... Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 9..... Interim Reports K-12 sent/mailed home
- 11..... Turn your clocks ahead

Things to Work on With Your Child

- Reading & Writing
- Oral Narration
- Memorization
- Hearing & Listening
- Family Time
- Arts & Crafts
- Field Trips & Library
- Work & Service
- Discipline
- Play & Exploration

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.

Auntie Pasta, Anyone?

Auntie Pasta is just one of the fun activities available to play on Tuesday night, February 6, when the Dalton Elementary School will host its first Family Math Night for Grades 1-3. The purpose of the Family Math Night is to get students excited about math, familiarize parents with the math curriculum and encourage families to enjoy an evening of math related activities and games. They can then continue the fun of math at home!

Each child, accompanied by a parent, will attend two-25 minute activities or games prepared especially for their grade level. Each activity or game will be facilitated in a small group setting to allow greater hands-on participation by the child and their parent.

To allow parents to focus, enjoy the fun, and have one-on-one time with their grade 1-3 child, babysitting services will be provided by our senior class students for additional children in the families.

The schedule for the evening is as follows:

6:10-6:20Arrival and registration in the Cafetorium

6:20-6:30Welcome and directions

6:35-7:00Activity/Game 1

7:05-7:30Activity/Game 2

7:30.....Refreshments in the Cafetorium

Math CAN
Be Fun!!!



Hope to see you there!! Questions? Contact Mrs. Brooks at Dalton Ext. 1241

Community Sing Opportunity



The varsity chorus of Keshequa Central School would like to invite any interested community members to sing with them in a joint concert. We need all voice parts and plan on performing the following pieces: *Distant Land* by John Rutter, *You Raise Me Up* as recorded by Josh Grobin, *I Can Only Imagine* by Bart Millard of Mercy Me, *A Star Spangled Celebration* and *Homeland* from *The Planets* by Gustav Holst. This music promises to be very inspiring and will give the singer and listener a wonderful musical experience. The concert will be held in March in honor of "Music in Our Schools" month.

Please call Kim Coffey at 468-2541 ext. 1140 if you are interested.

College Honors Band Students Chosen

Seven high school band students have been chosen to participate in the Roberts Wesleyan College Honors Band. This band is made up of the very best high school students in the Northeastern United States. Students are accepted based on recent solo festival scores and director recommendation. The honors band festival takes place from February 2-4 at Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester. Students gain a true college experience by getting to stay with a college student for two nights, eating in the dining halls, and most importantly working with some of the very best musicians around. This truly is a once in a lifetime experience and is also one of the highest honors that any high school musician can achieve. Mr. Hoffman is extremely proud of these seven students for their hard work and diligence which has certainly proven to be worthwhile. To have seven students selected from our high school band is a huge accomplishment. The competition is fierce for acceptance into this honors band, which in turn shows the high level of musical excellence that is taking place within the high school band program. For more information on the high school band, please visit the high school band website at: <http://www.keshequa.org/teacher%20pages/hoffman>.



Row 1: Kristen Randall, Sarah Gray, Lindsay Gunn, Grace Rich. Row 2: Laurie Rich, Scott Gray, Mr. Hoffman, Jason Buckel.

23 High School Band Students Attend GVSMA Solo Festival



Row 1: Lindsay Gunn, Kristen Randall, Sarah Gray, Jessica Snyder, Alicia Halpenny, Chrysta Giles, Grace Rich, Bryan Kunkle. **Row 2:** Christine Tallman, Ryan Forrester, Becca Pierce, Amanda Gath, Adam Green, Tim Rymer, Jesse Orellana, Mr. Hoffman. **Row 3:** Laurie Rich, Ray Halter, Scott Gray, Jason Buckel, Joe Maddalena, Nathan Pierce. **Not Pictured:** Liz Gilbert, Chris Gray.

On Saturday, January 6, twenty-three high school band students attended the annual GVSMA solo festival in Warsaw. This annual festival is held for all students in Livingston County to perform a state sanctioned solo in front of a certified judge. Though this can definitely be a nerve racking experience, all of our students did an amazing job! Keshequa was very well represented by all of our students. Mr. Hoffman would like to congratulate all of these fine musicians for their hard work and persistence in preparing and performing their solos. We had one of the largest groups at solo festival, which is a true testament

to the musical excellence that is being bred within our music department. Stay tuned for more great accomplishments from the high school band program! For more information about the high school band, please visit the high school band website at: <http://www.keshequa.org/teacher%20pages/hoffman>.

Fire Prevention Essay

Congratulations to the following students from Mrs. Stephanie Gehrig's English classes on winning the Livingston County Volunteer Firefighter's Association Fire Prevention Essay contest. These essay winners were presented their awards on February 15th and had their essays forwarded to the Western NY Volunteer Fireman's Association and the Fireman's Association of the State of NY for judging in their respective essay contests later this year. **1st place:** Chelsea Nichols, grade 8; **2nd place:** Ryan Sarratori, grade 7; **3rd place:** Brittany Ressler, grade 7; **Honorable Mention:** Katelyn Gelser, grade 8 and Sam Gordnier, grade 8.

News From Marilyn Capawan

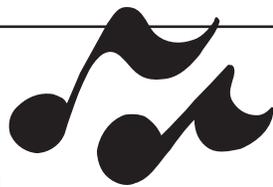
Assistant Superintendent

As we go to press it appears that real winter has finally arrived, but the cold and snow cannot put a damper on the energy and passion of the members of our school community. This month we are happy to applaud noteworthy accomplishments on the parts of students who are just beginning their educational careers and those who are preparing for post-secondary school experiences.

In a county-wide coloring contest sponsored by the Livingston County Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse's (LCCASA) Prevention/Education program, two of our Dalton First Graders were recognized for their artistic accomplishments. Savannah Vasile won the Grand Prize, receiving a \$20 gift certificate. Megan Wilson won First Place in the division, and was awarded a gift bag. We congratulate our winners, and commend all of our First Graders for participating. Special thanks go to Mrs. Piraino who helped coordinate the contest entries!

As many of you are aware, we offer students the opportunity to get a "head start" on their college careers through our participation in Genesee Community College's Accelerated College Enrollment (ACE) Program. ACE challenges and motivates students with advanced coursework and provides quality instructors who have Genesee Community College adjunct status. ACE students pay a lower tuition rate than traditional students—typically one-third the cost of regular college tuition. The college credits earned in these courses will transfer to SUNY colleges and most two/four year colleges and universities throughout the state and country if a student has earned a C or better in the course. In a recent letter from Kathy Lopes, the Associate Dean for GCC's ACE Program, Keshequa was commended for having 13 students— the second highest number of pupils enrolled among all participating high schools— who are considered full time GCC students due to their Fall 2006 course load. Ms. Lopes credits this achievement to our teachers who have taken the extra step to become approved as adjuncts, and our students (and their parents) for accepting the challenge of enrolling in college level courses and recognizing the value of taking these classes. As a district, we will work hard to continue to provide multiple opportunities for our students to be successful and prepared for the future.

Upcoming Concert Dates



- April 3 Elementary Chorus/Elementary Band
- May 1 Middle School Band/High School Band
- May 14 ... Dalton Fine Arts Festival
- May 15 ... Nunda Fine Arts Festival
- May 22 ... Middle School Chorus/High School Chorus

Students Selected for Jr. High All-County



Keshequa had 17 students accepted for Jr. High All County. The concert will take place in Dansville on February 9 & 10. Congratulations to the following students!

Floor (left to right): Michaela Hillier, Brittany Hark, Brittany Ressler, Kendra Smith, Kaylie Mann (lying on laps)

2nd row: Logan Thompson, Gabrielle DiAngelo, Nolan Gelser

Row 3: Desiree Clark, Sam Gordinier, David Flint, Katelyn Gelser

Missing: Ariel Simone, Zach Coffey, Amanda Reichard, Ryann Gardner, Kaylie Buckel

Greetings from Dalton Elementary School

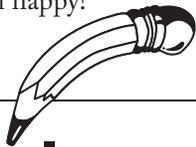
Mark Mattle, Elementary Building Principal

January is traditionally a time for snow, snow, and more snow, skiing, mid-term and State exams. We haven't had much snow or skiing but we did have plenty of State exams! I would like to commend our staff on an excellent administration of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade State English (ELA) Exams; it truly took a school-wide team effort! Thanks also to our parents for sending our students to school well rested and prepared to take the exams. The results of the exams will be used to monitor our students' progress based on the NYS Learning Standards for English and Language Arts. The students gave a great effort concentrating on the exams over a four day period, although I think most of them would say skiing would have been a bit more fun! In the end, it will be very useful to see how our students are doing compared to NYS Standards and, if some students need extra help, we can provide it for them.



As winter does roll on and the routine events become a bit tougher to accomplish, I would like to share with you, "Reasons To Do School Work," as expressed by one of our KCS students:

- To get 100's on my tests, get good grades, and pass 5th grade;
- To get a good education, go to college, and get smart;
- To get a good job, have a good career, and make smart choices;
- Work is important to pay bills, keep busy, and stay out of trouble;
- And, most importantly, to make my mom happy!



Middle School NY State Exams

Grades 6, 7, & 8 Mathematics March 12-16
Grade 8 Science Performance Test..... April- May 11
(Teacher will choose date)
Grade 8, Science Written Test April 30-May 11
(Teacher will choose date)
Grade 8, Social Studies Booklet I Test June 5
Grade 8, Social Studies Booklet II Test ... June 6

Asthma Basics

Asthma is a disease of the bronchial tubes, or airways of the lungs, which is characterized by tightening of these airways. Approximately 10%-12% of children under 18 years have asthma.

Common signs and symptoms of Asthma include:

- Coughing (especially at night)
- Wheezing (a high-pitched whistling sound heard while the person is breathing out).
- Shortness of Breath
- Chest Tightness, Pain, or Pressure

If you suspect that you may have asthma see your doctor. The doctor can run tests to see if you have it. If you do have asthma your doctor can prescribe different treatments to make you feel better.

- *webmd and The Cleveland Clinic*

Mandatory Spring Sports Meeting

All parents and athletes, grades 7-12, that plan to participate in:

- ✓ Baseball
- ✓ Golf
- ✓ Softball
- ✓ Track

Are required to attend a Mandatory Meeting on:

Thursday, March 1, 2007

7:00 p.m.

MS/HS Auditorium, Nunda

If you are unable to attend please call
Craig Veley at 468-2541 ext. 1197

Middle School/ High School News

by Doris Marsh

Middle School/High School students are commencing the third marking period of the school year. Mid-term and regents tests have been completed and report cards are due to be mailed on Friday, February 2. Middle School students have completed New York ELA tests for Grades 6, 7, and 8. Hopefully, results will be reported back to us by late spring.

Our seniors are beginning to hear from colleges as to whether or not they have been accepted. There was a financial information session in January to learn how and where to apply for financial assistance where they learned that there are many resources, but a key step to financial aid is to complete the FAFSA form as soon as possible (Free Application for Federal Student Aid form).

Students in grades 8-11 are attending class-scheduling conferences with guidance counselors Mrs. Beaumont and Ms. Prince, to prepare for the 2007-08 school year.

Grade 8 students and their parents will be attending a special meeting on February 8, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be a Skills Showcase and Open House at GVBOCES at the Mt. Morris Campus. Parents, prospective students in grades 9-11, and community members are invited to come and view students demonstrating their skills in cosmetology, computer information systems, conservations, windmill designs, culinary contests and much more.

Our high school band will be selling CD's of their performed music for \$5 each. Call Mr. Hoffman to order your CD at 468-2541, ext. 1153.

Mark your calendars for March 14 at 2 p.m. to watch the SUNY Fredonia Chamber singers perform for our students. Remember March is Music in our School Month.

On Sunday, March 4, the Nunda Community Scholarship Fund Dinner (prepared by chefs Bob Kelly and Mike Vasile) will be held at the Woodlyn Hills Golf Course. A five course meal will be served with the theme of "East Meets West." See Jan Hudson for tickets at \$40 each.

Seniors: If you are interested in applying for a local scholarship of \$500, you need to submit a 500 word essay detailing about a life hardship or loss, how you've dealt with it, and how you've been involved in the Nunda community throughout your high school years. Submit your essay and a letter of recommendation from a community member by February 15, to Deb Beaumont, Guidance Counselor.

Remember: Students will have a winter recess February 19-23, 2007.

All County Auditions



Ten music students attended the All County Quartet auditions held at Cal-Mum on Saturday, January 13. Students prepared 2 pre-selected pieces for this audition process. Once there they went into the audition room in quartets (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) and sang for 2 judges. They received a grade for this singing and a grade for sight-reading. Out of 30 possible points all of our students received marks of 23 and above, with one student, Jason Buckel, receiving a 29. These auditions will hopefully lead to a spot in the Livingston County '07 All County Chorus. All the music students did an amazing job. Congratulations!!

Shakespeare Comes to Keshequa!

The KCS High School Drama Club will be presenting William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" February 16 and 17 in the High School Auditorium (time TBA).

This is one of Shakespeare's most beloved and popular comedies, awash with love... from the sublime to the ridiculous! Four young lovers and a group of amateur actors enter a magical, moonlit forest inhabited by fairies, where anything can - and does - happen.

Please come and enjoy a night of hilarious entertainment and at the same time show your support for our young thespians.



Information on ADHD

by Craig Benson, Director of Special Education



As an attempt to provide the community with up to date information on elements that can interfere with normal learning and child development, I will give some brief information this month about ADHD. In following issues I will discuss other factors that may affect student learning.

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (commonly known as ADHD) is one of the most common learning and behavior problems affecting students. It can interfere with a student's ability to concentrate, follow directions, remain still for long periods of time, and control impulsive behavior. It is acknowledged that people who have ADHD are often very bright and creative, but have difficulty with schoolwork, social relations and behaving appropriately.

Research over the past 30 years has shown that ADHD is not caused by a bad attitude or by being lazy. It is a neurological disorder that affects how the brain takes in and uses information. While there does not appear to be a single cause, research has shown that genetic factors have a significant influence. Other environmental factors may play a role also.

There are thought to be three different types of ADHD. **Inattentive:** People have problems with inattention and are distractible. **Impulsive/hyperactive:** People have problems primarily with impulsivity and overactivity. **Combined inattention and impulsivity/hyperactivity:** People have elements from the first

two. This is the most common form.

The American Psychiatric Association has defined ADHD as consisting of a set of 18 possible symptoms. While too many to list here, consultation with your child's physician or school personnel can give you an idea of some of the signs. It is generally thought that signs of ADHD are usually present by the age of 7.

ADHD is diagnosed by a health or mental health professional – usually a physician or a psychologist. While school personnel generally do not diagnose ADHD, their information concerning behavioral observations and information about the student's academic and cognitive skills is extremely important to the person making the diagnosis. Assessment in school can be done to rule out other learning and/or emotional disorders that often have similar behavioral symptoms to ADHD.

In school ADHD may affect student performance by making it hard for students to pay attention, write down information, and complete work. Students with ADHD often have a hard time breaking down longer assignments into smaller chunks. Students with ADHD often display impulsive behaviors, which may lead to disciplinary problems.

Parents are encouraged to consult with their student's teachers if they feel that ADHD issues may be affecting their student's academic and social development. Consultation with our dis-

trict school psychologists is another way to gain valuable information concerning ADHD and possible school-based interventions.

If a child is diagnosed with ADHD, several school-based interventions can be developed to help students cope so that they are able to continue growing from an academic and social perspective. The most important intervention is the development of a partnership between the students family and school staff to create an individual plan. Some plans may include monitoring student performance over time, while others may be more intense based upon the child's needs. If ADHD significantly impacts a student's ability to learn, Special Education resources may be available. For other students whose ability to learn are not as affected, school plans that are less invasive (such as behavior plans, increasing daily structure, social skills building, increased home-school communications, etc.) can be developed. Outside of school there are several medically-based interventions for ADHD that can be developed by working with a physician, psychiatrist or psychologist.

For further information about ADHD feel free to contact myself, the school psychologists and/or school counselors in your child's building, or check out national websites like www.chadd.org or www.addwarehouse.com.

Financial Aid For College Students

It is that time of year for parents of college-bound students to begin the process of applying for financial aid. Listed below is some information that may be helpful to you and help answer any of your questions:

- In order to receive aid of any kind; scholarships, grants and loans, the parents and students must complete the FAFSA form- "Free Application for Federal Student Aid".
- The FAFSA can be completed on the website: www.fafsa.ed.gov or by using the paper application that is available from the counseling office.
- If you will be completing the FAFSA online you must apply for a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov this is used as an electronic signature.
- The data you will be using to complete the form will be the parents and the student's 2006 tax information.
- Be sure to check the financial aid deadlines for the colleges you are applying to.
- If you have any questions I encourage you to call 1-800-4-FED-AID. You may also be interested in participating in the SUNY Statewide Student Financial Aid Day where counselors will work with you individually to help you complete the financial aid application. You can register for this through www.suny.ed/student or at Alfred State College 1-800-423-3733

..... *The Keshequa Drama Club will present*
William Shakespeare's romantic comedy

A Midsummer Nights Dream

**Friday, February 16 & Saturday, February 17
7:00 p.m. in the Middle/High School
Auditorium**

Admission – \$4 per person
*Come out and support these
talented students.*



**Auditions for the spring musical
"Oliver!" will be held on Tuesday,
February 27 and Wednesday, February
28 after school in the Auditorium. This
play is open to both middle and high
school students.
The show will
be presented on
April 27, 28 and
29.**



Keshequa Central School

P.O. Box 517

Nunda, New York 14517-0517

February 2007

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