

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

Message from the Superintendent

by Marilyn Capawan, Superintendent

November is a time of transition from bright, warm autumn days to the quiet, cold days of winter. This change is reflected in our school community as well, with the energy and excitement of the new year settling into a calm and focused commitment to teaching and learning. Those of you who were able to attend our Open Houses saw the commitment of both our students and staff to working together in pursuit of a promising future through education.

The wonderful things happening in our school would not be possible without the responsible management and allocation of resources. We are pleased to report that our external auditors, Raymond F. Wager, CPA, P.C. has complete the audit for the year ending June 30, 2007 and states that our District is in good financial condition. The Audit and Finance Committee of the Board of Education will work to implement recommended changes to enhance the effectiveness of our business operations.

Our facilities also provide crucial support to our program. We continue to work on refining and defining the scope of our EXCEL Capital project. At the November 15th Board of Education meeting, our architects, the Thomas Group, will present the plans to the community. The next step will be sending the plans to the State Education Department in Albany for approval. We invite you to attend that meeting, which will begin at 7:30 in the Media Center in the Dalton building.

Communication remains a goal of our District. In this issue you will find a survey asking for input on our current practices in that area. If you can find time in your busy schedule to answer our questions, we would appreciate it. The survey is also available on our website. When you visit our website, you will notice that we have added a "Current Events" link that features our District Calendar and Sports information. We hope this will be helpful, and welcome any suggestions you may have to make our website more effective.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, it is time for our annual Senior Citizens Dinner at Dalton. We hope you will join us on November 16th. I wish each of you a safe and happy holiday, and thank you for all the encouragement and support you provide to Keshequa and our students.

We invite you to attend the Board of Education Meeting on November 15, beginning at 7:30 in the Media Center in the Dalton building. Our architects, the Thomas Group, will present the EXCEL Capital Project plans to the community.

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.

Middle School/High School News

by Doris Marsh, Middle School/High School Principal

On September 11, 2007, the Middle School and High School students participated in a memorial service for September 11, 2001. The memorial program was organized by our high school social studies teacher, Mr. Cook. The program focused on remembering those heroes that have dedicated their lives to serving others such as our firemen, ambulance response team, policemen, and military service people. Several of our community members represented these true heroes in the ceremony. We like to thank the community citizens that came and shared the ceremony with us.

On September 26, our sixth grade class attended the annual conservation day at Cuylerville. Students watched presentations about how we can conserve water and how not to pollute the air and soil around us. Students then participated in class picnic for lunch. A fun day was had by all!

On September 28, our eighth grade class visited the Civil War Encampment at the Old Homestead in Canandaigua, New York. The class marched in formation as they visited the different campsites that demonstrated what it was like to live during that time period. The students visited with the Civil War doctors and viewed their modern medical equipment of the times. They were able to see Civil War uniforms along with the styles of dress that the common people wore during those times. The students were able to see cannons and were instructed how the North and South would strategize their battles against each other. These were just a few of the campsites students were able to view.

Our High School guidance office held a college fair on October 1, 2007, in the school library. We are please that we have over a hundred of our students visit with representatives from eight different colleges: RIT, Monroe Community College, Finger Lakes Community Colleges, Keuka, University



of Rochester, SUNY Brockport, Roberts' Wesleyan, and Genesee Community College.

Mrs. Bugman's Grade 12 English classes had the privilege on having Mr. Chad Heeb from the Art Institute present to the students how the arts may offer numerous job opportunities to students thinking of going in the college and business world of work.

Our Middle/High School teachers were also enthused to learn on the October 5th conference day about the Promethean Instruction Board to be used as another technology tool for classroom instruction. This innovative technology product helps teachers to prepare digital lessons quickly and with greater ease. The technology enables teachers to create, customize, and integrate

text, web, video, and audio content into their lessons. Our US History teacher, Mr. Cook, and English teacher, Mrs. Bugman, have already prepared lessons to present on the board. Be sure to stop Room 3005 to see the Promethean Board in action!

Students in grades 6-12 have the opportunity to use a web-based program called School Island. It is designed so students can study at home on their computers. The program allows students to practice any core subject, practice old Regents tests, and teachers will also be able to create homework and tests to be completed by students on the web-site. Contact your student's teachers for additional information about how to use the website.

Middle and High School Open House was held on November 1. Parents had the opportunity to meet teachers and learn more about course expectations, tour the school, School Island web-site, the Promethean Board. If you or a parent of a Middle School student sign up for a parent-teacher conference on November 19 and November 20, 2007.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 468-2541, ext. 2019.

Emergency School Closings

When schools must be closed, the decision is made by the Superintendent of Schools based on available information and recommendations. If the decision is made to close the schools, the Superintendent informs the following radio and television stations which then broadcast the information immediately:

Radio

WHAM (1180 AM)

WBEE (92.5 FM)

WPXY (97.9 FM/1280 AM)

WDNY (93.9 FM/1400 AM)

Television

WKBW (Channel 7)

WROC (Channel 8)

WHEC (Channel 9)

WOKR (Channel 13)

If the schools must close during the day, parents should make sure children know in advance what to do should they come home unexpectedly and find no one there. Prior arrangements should be made to have children cared for until a parent arrives home.

America Recycles 2007 Winners

Ms. Susan Coffey's Science classes at Keshequa Middle School have teamed up again this year with GLOW Region Solid Waste Management Committee's America Recycles 2007 National Campaign. This past year Ms. Coffey and her students competed with schools from all over the nation for State and National awards. Ms. Coffey's Science classes were not only the regional winners but they also received the state award, which was chosen by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Ms. Coffey also has been selected as a Sterling 2007-2008 award recipient as her networking platform has provided the necessary tools to cope with demanding times in the field of education, all the while ensuring student success. She has achieved excellence and equity in teaching and learning using innovative instructional strategies and making a difference in the lives of her students and their community.

America Recycles 2007's National Campaign is geared to emphasize the necessity to conserve natural resources for future generations. Our local program is also supported by community businesses such as Wegmans, Perry's Ice Cream, and High Tread. The Western NY Coordinating Committee will choose the winning school November 2, 2007 and the awards presentation will take place at an event at Marketplace Mall on November 3, 2007. The state award will be chosen on December 15, 2007. We would like to praise their efforts and continued success in making strides in our community.

Solvin' with Promethean!

Students in Mrs. Brickwood's class have been busy using Keshequa's newest piece of technology, the 'Promethean Activboard.'

First, we created our own multiplication word problems using grocery advertisements. Then, Ms. Ressler created a flip chart and transferred our problems onto the board so we could solve them on the screen. The students were experts at using the special pen and tools that the Activboard provides! We were then able to test our parents' math and technology skills at Open House and show them this awesome new tool. We are excited to be able to use the Activboard in the future to help prepare for our upcoming Social Studies state test in November!

A special thank you goes out to Ms. Ressler for spending extra time teaching us how to use the board and preparing our problems for us!

For Your Information

Check it out!!

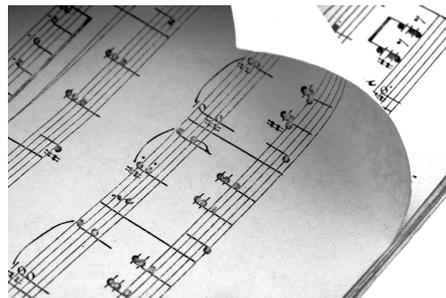
The High School Counseling Department has a webpage!! You can view it by going to www.keshequa.org, clicking on the Nunda High School link and then clicking on the District Counseling & Special Services link. Come visit the webpage; you will find lots of useful information. Search for college information, fill out your SUNY application or just find out what classes are offered here at the High School. The site also has information about scholarships offered and financial aid for college. The webpage will be updated periodically, so keep coming back.

Lindsay Gunn Accepted to Conference All-State

by Kim Coffey

Lindsay Gunn, daughter of Lisa and Ed Gunn, has been accepted to Conference All-State Chorus. This chorus is an elite singing group made up of students from all over New York State. In order to be considered for this honor Lindsay performed a level 6 solo at the spring solo festival in Canandaigua. She received a 98 out of a possible 100 on this solo. This fall an application was submitted and Lindsay was accepted over hundreds of other applicants. Our music department is very proud

of Lindsay and her accomplishments as a singer! Keep up the great work, Lindsay!



Symptoms to Watch For

It is that time of year again, when all the different illnesses creep in. Here are some signs and symptoms to help you in making the decision to keep your child home. If your child has the following signs and symptoms please have him or her see your family doctor.



Infuenza (Flu)

- Fever of 100 degrees or higher, when symptoms develop
- Chills
- Body aches and muscle pain
- Headache
- Pain with eye movement
- Fatigue, loss of appetite
- Dry cough, runny nose, and sore throat

Strep Throat

- Severe and sudden sore throat without sneezing or runny nose
- Pain or difficulty swallowing
- Fever of 100 or higher
- Swollen lymph nodes in the neck
- Bright red throat or dark red spots on the roof of the mouth, near the back of the throat
- Swollen tonsils

Mononucleosis (MONO):

- Fever of 101 or higher
- Sore throat, often white patches on tonsils
- Swollen lymph nodes all over body, especially in the neck
- Swollen tonsils
- Headache, body aches
- Lack of energy, fatigue
- Loss of appetite
- Pain in the upper left part of the abdomen

Teachers Creating Plan To Improve Middle School Literacy

by Christine Antalek

Keshequa Middle School teachers are working with Genesee Valley BOCES to create a plan to improve Middle School reading and writing skills. We have been selected to work with the Special Education Teachers' Resource Center, also known as SETRC. SETRC selects one district per year which is ready to improve student achievement. Because we have been so successful improving early literacy in Reading First, Keshequa Middle School was invited to participate in an improvement planning process targeted at students who struggle with reading and writing skills at grades 6, 7, and 8.

On October 12, Middle School English, Special Education, and Reading teachers, and school administrators met with SETRC Coordinator, Jackie Czamanske, to look at the current state of middle school literacy. We examined all kinds of student data in order to define concerns, questions, gaps, and trends in our literacy program.

As our planning continues, our team will be following guidelines for effective adolescent literacy programs developed by a team of educational researchers, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and the Alliance for Excellent Education. The resulting reports, entitled *Reading Next* and *Writing Next*, recommend key elements for success in teaching reading and writing to adolescents.

On October 30, the team reconvened to identify which key elements, research-based solutions and interventions we will use to improve literacy. We identified what data to collect to monitor students' progress as we implement the plan. One long-term goal is to increase the numbers of students scoring at a 3 or 4 on the New York State English Language Arts assessments in grades 6, 7, and 8. Students meeting benchmark goals in Middle School are predicted to have success on the Regents examinations.

Research strongly indicates that students who do not acquire strong literacy skills are at a distinct disadvantage. Students who are strong communicators finish school, continue their educations, find better jobs, and participate in their communities. By creating and implementing this plan, we are excited about the prospect of building proficient readers and writers who will have success both in school and in life.

8th Graders in Civil War

Mrs. Prinzi's 8th Grade Social Studies students will be studying the second half of American History this year, beginning with the 1850s and the 1860s. Students will begin by exploring how and why our nation began to divide between North and South and eventually end up in Civil War. During the end of September, students role-played during class as Senators trying to pass bills in an increasingly divided Senate floor. They toured the Civil War Encampment at the Granger Homestead in Canandaigua in September. Students were able to observe original artifacts from the time period and watched re-enactors display real activities that took place in a Civil War camp in the 1860s. This was just the beginning of what we believe will be a very exciting and enriching year in 8th grade Social Studies!

What Is Bullying?

Bullying is when one child, or a group of children keeps hurting another child through words or actions. Bullying may involve fighting, shoving, kicking, name calling, playing dirty tricks, leaving out a child or spreading rumors.

How to Recognize Bullying

It is a conflict between two or more children who are not friends and do not usually hang out together. The bully has more power and does not care about the victim's feelings. The victim is upset while the bully is calm and cool. The bully blames the victim.

How You Can Help Stop Bullying

-  Students can help others by speaking out and getting an adult to help. The goal of telling an adult should not be to get someone in trouble, but to help if someone is in danger physically or emotionally.
-  Students should make extra effort to include everyone.
-  Strength is found in numbers. If a bully wants to be popular and most of the class says, "I don't like that", he/she will not achieve his or her goal.
-  If you hear of someone who might commit a crime in school or on the bus or when someone is in danger... **REPORT IT!** Report it to your parents, a teacher, a school counselor or another trusted adult. How many adults should you tell? As many as it takes to get help!

What to do if You are Bullied...

HELP – Seek help from peers or an adult.

ASSERT YOURSELF – Look the bully in the eye and tell them to stop.

HUMOR – Respond with a remark that makes the bully laugh.

AVOID – Walk away, stay with others, not alone.

FOGGING – Use statements like "that's interesting."

ATTITUDE – Respond in a way that lets them know you are comfortable with yourself, regardless of what they say.

SELF-TALK – Put on a recording in your own mind that says nice things to yourself so the bully doesn't get to you.

OWN IT – Own the put-down to throw the bully off.

Planning Ahead

Chad Heeb, representing the Art Institutes, spoke with Mrs. Bugman's classes about careers and college. He explained various majors and jobs available, such as video game design, media arts and animation, graphic design, visual effects, culinary arts, and industrial design. He emphasized the importance of English in future careers and encouraged the students to continue their education after high school.



Greetings From Dalton Elementary

Thank you parents for participating in our Open House Celebration! Your involvement in your children's education is exceptional, admirable and an essential component toward a successful educational experience for your son or daughter.

We are in full swing here at Dalton! There are many opportunities available for our children, as most of our clubs are up and running such as: Chess Club, Bible Club, Earth Club, Art Club, Chorus and Music Lessons just to mention a few! Some clubs are just starting such as Guitar Club, Little Dribblers and Peewee Wrestling. Our Dalton Elementary Student Council is off to a great start with upcoming officer elections, a Halloween Dance scheduled for October 31st and our traditional Senior Citizen's Thanksgiving Dinner planned for November the 16th.

Our Reading First Program for students in Grades K-3 continues and reading instruction for students in Grades 4& 5 is also off to a great start! Teaching our students to be great readers is a shared goal and powerful vision that directs how we do business here at Dalton!

Our Peace Builders and Second Step Character Education Programs are exploding in the classrooms and throughout the hallways. You will be happy to know that we have a school full of peace builders!



Above are two photos of extra personal projects done for the District unsolicited; the connecting of the air compressor regulator by Mr. Myers, and the double-sided sandwich sign made by Mr. Burt for the Bees. Happy employees are we both...our students will benefit from both of these projects.

Second Graders Love History !

Mrs. Weaver helps Melinda Hahn, Kiyria Buck, Matthew Wilson, and Allegra Learn from Mrs. Gehrig's class share some important facts on the morning announcements. As part of their new Social Studies series the children learned that on October 11, 1892 the Pledge of Allegiance was said for the very first time in public schools. They learned that the Pledge of Allegiance was written by Francis Bellamy who lived in Mount Morris. The original pledge was different than what we say today. This is the original pledge:

"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and to the republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The children were able to find the differences. Can you?



Keshequa Central School District

2007 Communication Survey

The Communications Committee of the Board of Education has established a goal of creating and maintaining effective communication with all of our District's constituents. In order to achieve that end, we ask that you take a few minutes to respond to this survey. We recognize that communication must be a two-way path, and value the input you provide.

1. Please tell us about yourself (check all that apply):

- I am a Keshequa School District parent. My children attend:
 ___ Dalton Elementary ___ Nunda Middle School ___ Nunda High School
- I am a Keshequa School District student (grades 6-12). I attend:
 ___ Nunda Middle School ___ Nunda High School ___ Home School
- Other: _____
- I am a Keshequa School District Staff member.
- I am a Keshequa School District Community resident (with no children currently in school)
- I am a Keshequa School District Business owner.

2. Please indicate your gender and age range: Male Female
 ___ 11-18 ___ 19-29 ___ 30-39 ___ 40-49 ___ 50-59 ___ 60 and over

3. Please indicate the helpfulness of the following sources of school district news and information using the scale below. Please indicate a number 1-4 before each item.

- 1** = Very helpful **2** = Moderately helpful **3** = Minimally helpful **4** = Not familiar/Don't use
- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| ___ District Newsletter (Chronicle) | ___ Staff meetings/newsletters |
| ___ District Web Site (www.keshequa.org) | ___ Letters in the mail |
| ___ Democrat & Chronicle | ___ Board of Education Meetings |
| ___ Livingston County News | ___ School Personnel |
| ___ Genesee Country Express | ___ My children/family/friends |
| ___ Parent Broadcast System | |

4. What is your most preferred source of communication? Please be specific: _____

5. What is your least preferred source of communication? Please be specific: _____

6. What type of school District information is essential to you? (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| ___ District initiatives | ___ Budget information | ___ Testing information |
| ___ School events/activities | ___ Calendars/Lunch menus | ___ Student procedure |
| ___ School policies | ___ Facilities upgrades/building projects | ___ Sports information |
| ___ Curriculum information | ___ School Board meetings/action | ___ KPTSA information |
| ___ Meeting minutes/agendas | ___ Student honors/awards | |
| ___ Special Education information | ___ Safety/Emergency information | |

continued on page 8



7. What type of information would you like to see that we do not currently provide? _____

8. Have you communicated with the District in the past year? Yes No

a) If yes, how have you communicated with the district? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| _____ Talked to teacher/principal | _____ Sent an e-mail |
| _____ Called the school office | _____ Wrote a letter |
| _____ Called the district office | _____ Spoke at a school board meeting |
| _____ Left a voicemail | _____ Went to a PTA meeting |
| _____ Went to a Parent/Teacher Conference | _____ Went to a school meeting (other than PTA) |
| _____ Other: _____ | |

b) When contacting the district, did someone respond to your question/concern in a timely fashion?

Yes No

Comment: _____

9. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the district's communication efforts?

Please circle your answer based on the descriptors below:

A = Excellent **B** = Very Good **C** = Good **D** = Fair **E** = Poor

School Level: A B C D E

District Level: A B C D E

Please explain: _____

10. How can the District improve communication with you? _____

11. Do you have any additional comments regarding communication with the District that you would like to share?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. You may mail the survey to KCS, c/o Tammy Clark, PO Box 517, Nunda, NY 14517, send it in with your student, or drop it off in any school office. The survey will also be available on our website at www.keshequa.org. We would appreciate receiving your response by November 23. Thank you.



The Busy Bees...Doing What They Do Best; Bee-ing Busy!

We are extremely busy over at the Hive! We have, in various stages of completion, a 12 x 12 storage shed, a 6x10 storage shed with a firewood area, the two Rotary dugouts, a wonderful greenhouse prototype, and an addition just a few doors up Water Street we are building for Mr. Worden. We are one of Keshequa's best kept secrets and we'd like that to change!



Upcoming Events for November

- 9 ... End of 10 Weeks
- 11 ... Veterans' Day
- 12 ... **NO SCHOOL**, Veterans' Day Observed
- 13 ... Fall Sports Awards 7:00 pm
- 15 ... KCS Board of Education Meeting 7:30 pm at Dalton Elementary in Media Center
- ... NYS Grade 5 Social Studies Exam
- 16 ... First Quarter Report Cards K-5 Carried Home; 6-12 Mailed Home
- 19-20...Parent Teacher Conferences – K-5 Dismissal 11:30 am; 6-8 Dismissal 12:00 pm
- 21-23...**NO SCHOOL**, Thanksgiving Break

Attention all Dalton Elementary Students & Families!



Just a reminder that we are still collecting Box Tops for Education here at Dalton Elementary.

When you are finished with a box tops item, just cut off the box top label (look for the symbol below if you are not sure). Bring in all of your box tops to Mrs. Long (3rd grade) or Mrs. Privitera (4th grade). If you'd like to help collect more box tops, ask your family and friends to save theirs for you to return to our school.



Thank you for all of your help and support!

Keshequa School District Senior Citizens

Please join us for a Thanksgiving Dinner at Keshequa Elementary on Friday, November 16, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

*Please call Brenda Weaver at 476-2234 ext. 1132 or Tammy Clark at 468-2541 ext. 1105 to make your reservations by Wednesday, November 14!



Keshequa Central School

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

November 2007

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