



# Southern Cayuga CSD Newsletter

February 2024



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**Patrick Jensen,**  
*Superintendent*

Good News, SCCS!

We are thrilled to announce that Southern Cayuga students in grades three through eight have demonstrated excellent performance on the NYS 2023 ELA and math assessments, establishing themselves as top performers in Cayuga County. In comparison to the 50 school districts in the Central New York (CNY) region, our achievements over the past year are truly noteworthy.

- ◇ SCCS students excelled on the grade 3 - 8 NYS Math assessment, securing the 5th position among the 50 school districts in CNY.
- ◇ SCCS students also excelled on the grade 3 - 8 NYS ELA assessment, securing the 9th position among the 50 school districts in CNY.

Assessment plays a crucial role in the learning process, offering students the chance to showcase their knowledge and abilities. The assessment results not only highlight students' strengths but also pinpoint areas for growth, enabling us to evaluate their progress toward high school graduation. Furthermore, these results assist us in assessing the strengths and weaknesses of our academic program, with the ultimate goal of refining instruction and elevating student achievement.

Congratulations to the students, teachers, principals, staff and parents whose dedication and efforts have contributed to this outstanding success! This achievement is a testament to the power of collaborative teamwork, and it's time to celebrate the remarkable accomplishments of our students.

Patrick Jensen  
Southern Cayuga CSD

## School Board Elections

Qualifications for school board membership in NYS:

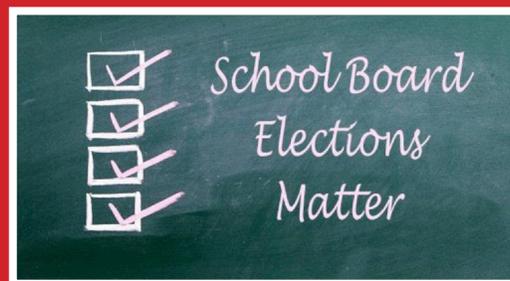
- Must be able to read & write
- Must be qualified voter of the district; a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age
- Must be and have been a resident of the district for at least one year prior to the election but need not be a taxpayer
- May not have been removed from any school district within the preceding year
- May not reside with another member of the school board as a member of the same family
- May not be a current employee of the school
- May not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office

### Election day is Tuesday, May 21 , 2024.

New school board members must fulfill mandatory training within the first year of service. This includes fiscal oversight training and governance skills training. School board seats carry three-year terms. There are two seats up for election for the 2024/25 school year.

If interested in being a school board member, please call or visit the district office for a petition. It must be signed in ink by at least 25 district voters and returned to the district clerk in the business office no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, April 22, 2024.

Election Inspectors needed for May 21, 2024. If interested, contact Marcy Hand at 315-364-7211.





**Loretta Van Horn,**  
*Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations*

The Board of Education and Administration have been actively engaged in planning for the 2024-25 school year budget and projecting expenses for next school year. On January 16, the District received the preliminary state aid projections based on Governor Hochul’s executive budget proposals. These projections are only an estimate until the New York State budget is finalized and enacted by the State Legislature. These initial projections include a reduction of \$1.1M from the amount of Foundation Aid that we received this year, with the elimination of the “save harmless” provision and instituting a “transition adjustment.”

Historically, the State guaranteed school districts would receive at least the same operating aid as the previous year, irrespective of demographic changes. This assurance, especially in Foundation Aid, meant that districts like Southern Cayuga, experiencing declining enrollment, didn’t face deductions. However, the executive budget removes the “save harmless” provision and introduces a “transition adjustment.” Under this adjustment, districts receiving more Foundation Aid than the formula calculates will only receive a wealth-adjusted portion of the difference. For Southern Cayuga, the current formula overestimates by \$2.2M, and with the 50% “transition adjustment,” our projected loss for the 2024-25 school year is \$1.1M. These figures will guide our understanding of the district’s State Aid revenue.

As always, when building the school budget, we review ways to conserve and reduce, while staying dedicated to providing our students and community with an environment conducive to personal and academic excellence. We explore all revenue options and scrutinize spending to ensure financial responsibility. Meetings with principals and department heads are ongoing to discuss anticipated expenses for the next school year. The Board of Education and administration will continue assessing projected expenses and revenues for the 2024-2025 school year. SCCS has been fortunate over the years to keep the tax levy increases minimal and below the tax cap limit, which has in turn kept tax rates the lowest in Central New York. Planning next year’s budget will definitely have its challenges; however, we will work to continue to be financially responsible while maintaining fiscal solvency.

The 2024-2025 school budget vote is scheduled for May 21. Now is an opportune time to familiarize yourself with the Southern Cayuga Central School budget-building process. We invite parents, students, staff, and community members to attend Board of Education meetings to gain insight into the decisions shaping the 2024-2025 budget. Understanding the process helps us collectively ensure the continued excellence of our educational environment.

**We encourage all to attend Board of Education meetings to learn more about the budget for 2024-2025.**

**Regular Board Meetings:**  
**February 12, March 11 & 25,**  
**and April 17, 2024**

**Budget Hearing:**  
**May 13, 2024**

**Budget Vote:**  
**May 21, 2024**



## Coffee with the Board of Education

In the Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria, Auditorium  
and Jr/Sr High School Foyer

**Monday, February 26, at 7:00pm**





## Junior/Senior High School

Luke Carnicelli, *Jr/Sr HS Principal*

Greetings, Southern Cayuga School Community,

As we embark on the second half of the school year, it's time to begin our student scheduling process for the 2024-25 Senior High School academic year for grades 8-11. Over the next few months, our Jr/Sr High School counselors will meet with students in grades 8-11 to provide information on course options for the upcoming school year.

For a comprehensive listing and explanation of courses available next year, please visit the 2024-25 Program of Studies on the Southern Cayuga Jr/Sr HS Guidance Office website: <http://www.southerncayuga.org/973>. Additionally, the website features projected courses available by grade level (9-12). Our school is fortunate to offer a diverse program of studies, regularly updated to incorporate changes and additions to the curriculum. Beyond the required New York State courses in Math, Science, Social Studies, English and PE/Health, we offer distinctive courses at both the Jr and Sr High School levels. Elective courses encompass a variety of AP and college offerings, Arts, Technology, Agriculture and Spanish. We strongly encourage our students to take full advantage of these classes each year, aiming to help them become well-rounded, high-caliber graduates of Southern Cayuga Schools.

Currently, we are actively engaged in NYS standards data collection and analysis in our courses, in addition to administering mid-term assessments. The mid-term assessments serve as a culmination of activities from the first half of the year, allowing us to examine our students' progress. The data collected will be instrumental in identifying any gaps in student knowledge, enabling us to create tailored learning plans to support their content knowledge.

For additional and current information from the Jr/Sr High School, please refer to the following resources:

•SC Jr/Sr High School website: [www.southerncayuga.org/648](http://www.southerncayuga.org/648)

•SCCS Twitter feed: [http://twitter.com/Southern\\_Cayuga](http://twitter.com/Southern_Cayuga)

Take care, stay safe, and Go Chiefs!  
Luke Carnicelli,  
Principal Southern Cayuga Jr/Sr High School



SCCS Guidance Counselors





**Emily Howland Elementary**  
Michael Naylor, *Elementary Principal*

Hello, Emily Howland Families,

Winter has finally arrived! The students were ecstatic when the snow finally showed up. They were all about sledding!

It has been a busy couple of months for Emily Howland. The students and staff have been working very hard on their academics. There has also been a lot of laughs and good times in the building. The staff enjoyed some camaraderie at their holiday party. It is always fun to watch how competitive educators become by playing a few board games.

I decided to share a collage of pictures from the past few months; I hope you enjoy them. Please reach out with any questions, suggestions, how to volunteer, or join the Parent Teacher Organization. There are several exciting events happening this spring being planned right now. Come on out and support your child's school!

Yours truly,  
Mike Naylor





## SCCS Athletics

Caitlin Wasielewski, AP/AD

### Achievements and Successes

The fall sports season was filled with remarkable accomplishments, from the girls' soccer team's strong performance in sectionals to the boys' soccer team's championship and sectional runner-up status. A special congratulations to Parker Cullen for being named the boys' soccer athlete of the season by The Citizen Newspaper.

The girls' swim team's improvement and top eight finishes in sectionals, along with the cross-country team's impressive achievements, showcase the dedication and hard work put in by all the athletes. It's also commendable that all of the sports teams qualified as Scholar Athlete teams. This reflects the commitment not only to their sports but also to academic excellence.

Moving into the winter sports season, it's clear that the momentum continues with the athletes' hard work and skill improvement. A huge congratulations to junior Charli Bennett for reaching the 1,000-career point milestone in basketball – a significant accomplishment that speaks volumes about her talent and dedication. It's fantastic to see Southern Cayuga athletes excelling both on and off the field.

The Basketball teams recently competed in the 50th Annual Cayuga County Holiday Tournament. They did an excellent job and finished as follows:

- Girls' JV - Fourth Place
- Boys' JV - Fourth Place
- Girls' Varsity - Second Place
- Boys' Varsity - First Place

We look forward to the success of our teams during the rest of the year.

### A few upcoming dates:

Spring Sports

March 11 - Spring Varsity Sports Begin

April 1 - Spring Modified Sports Begin

Wishing all the winter sports teams continued success, and looking forward to the achievements of the Southern Cayuga student-athletes in the coming seasons!



Boys' Varsity Tournament Team Champions



Boys' All-Tournament Team



Girls' All-Tournament Team

You can check out the Southern Cayuga Athletics website and follow us on X - formerly Twitter - @SCAthletics2



### Joanne Cartner Honored with Secretarial Section IV Athletic Assistant Award



Joanne Cartner, Jr/Sr High School Secretary and Athletics Secretary, has been honored with the prestigious Secretarial Award from Section IV. This accolade is bestowed upon an athletics secretary within Section IV who showcases unwavering dedication to their school's athletics program and athletes. Joanne's exceptional efforts behind the scenes ensure the seamless operation of all athletics programs. We deeply value and acknowledge the tireless commitment she brings to her role every day, and we are thrilled to celebrate her well-deserved recognition alongside Section IV.

*Secretaries  
are the  
Core of the  
School*

### Charli Bennett Sets New Scoring Record



There's a new record at Southern Cayuga! On Friday night, January 12, Junior Charli Bennett set the new Southern Cayuga basketball scoring record for total career points 1262, in a 66-36 win over Candor. The previous record was set at 1260 career points by Catie Kopp, SCCS Class of 2019.

Going into the game on Friday, Charli was 32 points away from tying the record, and 33 points away from claiming the record. She put up 34 points against Candor to become the single all-time scoring leader at Southern Cayuga! She tied the record in the fourth quarter off a free throw. Less than a minute later, she went in for a layup and scored her 33rd and 34th point of the game. This gave her 1262 points. In addition to her 34 points, she also added 15 rebounds and 7 assists to her stats in the game.

When asked what she felt after claiming the record, Charli said she was filled with excitement, and excited to celebrate with her team and family. Her coaches, family and teammates all recognized her hard work and extra time put in leading up to this incredible accomplishment. With a year and a half left at Southern Cayuga, we are sure she will continue to add more points to her current record. Congratulations, Charli!

## Parseghian Repeats As Spelling Bee Champ

Four students from Southern Cayuga have advanced to the second round of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, showcasing their exceptional spelling skills during the annual Southern Cayuga Spelling Bee on December 14. Josephine Parsighian, a sixth grader, secured the top position for the second consecutive year by successfully spelling the word *silicon*. Joining her in the next round are eighth grader David Hays and seventh graders Alex Soch and Autumn O’Connell.

A total of 20 students earned their spots in the local bee by achieving top-five positions in their respective grade levels on a challenging 20-word written test. The victorious quartet is now poised to face competitors from across central New York in an online written spelling test. The top 20 performers in this stage will progress to the area oral spelling bee scheduled for March at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications on the Syracuse University campus.

The ultimate goal remains the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., where the champion of the regional competition will represent Southern Cayuga in this prestigious linguistic challenge. Congratulations to our spellbinding students and may their spelling journey continue to unfold with success!



“In the hive of letters, where words buzz with potential, each spelling bee is a symphony of language, where participants spell out their dreams letter by letter.” ~Marianne Williamson

## Upcoming, the SCCS Drama Club production of SpongeBob the Musical!

The talented cast of The SpongeBob Musical is diligently mastering their songs and dances. They're thoroughly enjoying the process of reimagining the familiar characters we all love in a contemporary light, set to the tunes of renowned bands like Aerosmith, Lady A, Panic at the Disco, Sara Bareilles, Cyndi Lauper, and more. Catch the performances on March 15 and 16 (7 PM), and March 17 (2 PM). Tickets are priced at \$10 (\$5 for kids 5 and under). This musical promises to defy expectations of SpongeBob, delivering a spectacular showcase of musical theatre with grand dance numbers, comedy and heartfelt moments.

The storyline unfolds with the beloved characters engaging in an epic race to save their home from destruction as Mount Humongous threatens to erupt. Amidst the citizens of Bikini Bottom succumbing to fear, SpongeBob, Sandy, and Patrick race against time to rescue their cherished town. Will Plankton's plot to trap the entire town succeed? Can the power of friendship triumph in the end? And will Patchy the Pirate finally get the chance to meet SpongeBob? Discover the answers in this delightful, all-ages show, that will have you laughing, shedding a tear, and humming the tunes as you leave the theater!



### Instrumental Music

The junior and senior high school bands have kicked off their musical journey with focus on the theme of global exploration. They are performing pieces inspired by Japanese, Irish, Canadian and Cuban cultures. Students are exploring the complexities of the pentatonic scale and various rhythmic instruments unique to each culture. The jazz band is also embracing this theme, holding rehearsals every Wednesday morning at 7 am, with open spots available for new members. In recent midterms, students showcased their musical skills, achieving commendable scores in key signatures, time signatures, and articulation patterns.

### Chorus

The junior and senior high school choruses have commenced their exploration of new musical pieces. The junior high chorus is dedicated to singing in three parts and are investigating music from the past 40 years. Meanwhile, the senior high chorus is concentrating on cultivating a more classical and mature sound while sharpening their sight-reading skills. Chorus students are gearing up to participate in NYSSMA solo festivals in May. Additional details will be provided to those who are participating

## Masterclass and the Musical

The Drama club recently hosted Tyler Johnson-Campion, a member of the touring cast of *Aladdin*, for an engaging dance masterclass. During the session, Mr. Johnson-Campion led warm-ups, taught a dance piece from “Thoroughly Modern Millie,” and engaged in a Q&A session with students. It was truly inspiring to hear him share insights into his career in musical theater and his experiences touring with *Aladdin*. Following the masterclass, students had the opportunity to witness Tyler in action during a trip to see *Aladdin* in Syracuse. Looking ahead, there are two more exciting masterclasses scheduled for this year, including a virtual session with Wesley Taylor, the original Plankton from *The SpongeBob Musical*, and an in-person class in May featuring a cast member from *Six the Musical*.



## Elementary Music

The first week of December was a busy one for elementary music! On December 6, the entire elementary school came to the auditorium to hear our fourth and fifth grade students perform a full preview of their winter concert repertoire. It helped to get the nerves out before the main event (December 7), and it gave our younger students a chance to see what their older peers had been working on, and what they themselves will be doing when they get older. They were an enthusiastic audience!

On the afternoon of December 7, the district hosted their 33rd annual Senior Citizens’ Concert and Luncheon. Each of our elementary ensembles came to perform one song for the guests. Later that evening, they performed their entire concert for a receptive audience of family and friends. This included a special performance of *Jingle Bell Rock* by a band composed of high school faculty and students.

Meanwhile in the music classroom, third grade students will begin learning to play the recorder (details to come)! Second grade students have been playing hand bells and first grade students are making great progress in reading rhythms. All grade levels are enjoying various folk dances, and there will be plenty of drum, xylophone and boom whacker playing in the near future. Fourth and fifth grade students will begin preparing for their May concert.



## Annual Senior Citizen Holiday Concert and Luncheon

The Annual Senior Citizen Holiday Concert and Luncheon was held on December 7, at Southern Cayuga's Auditorium. It was a delightful event that showcased the talents of the Chorus and Band students. Spanning grades four through twelve, the students captivated the audience with their musical performances, making it a memorable experience for the area's senior citizens.

A standout feature of the event is the inclusion of students from various grade levels, showcasing their musical talent. From instrumental ensembles to choruses and even an elementary school bell choir, the concert offered a diverse range of performances, ensuring there was something for everyone to enjoy.

The concert was meticulously organized and conducted by the dedicated band and chorus teachers, Lily Vernon, Jennifer Diana and elementary chorus teacher Joseph "Ricky" Gessler. Their efforts were evident in the seamless execution of the performances, highlighting the musical prowess of the students under their guidance.

The crowning moment of the event was undoubtedly the scrumptious turkey luncheon prepared by our very own cafeteria staff, a tradition that adds a heartwarming touch to the festivities. This annual gathering serves as a testament to the Southern Cayuga School District's commitment to fostering community connections and providing a platform for students to showcase their artistic abilities.

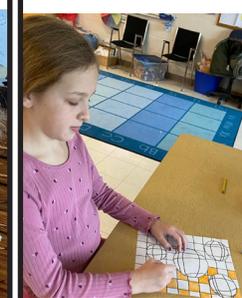
Adding to the festive atmosphere, student volunteers took on the responsibility of serving lunch to the attendees. This thoughtful touch not only provided a delightful culinary experience, but also fostered a sense of community and camaraderie.

Overall, the Senior Citizen Holiday Concert and Luncheon proved to be a resounding success, bringing together generations through the universal language of music and the spirit of the holiday season. The Southern Cayuga community can look forward to future editions of this cherished event, where the talents of the students continue to shine, and the bonds between the school and the senior citizens of the area grow stronger each year.

\*A special thank you to all of the staff and students who helped to make the event a success!

## Emily Howland Students' Art Projects

Fifth Graders trying their hand at OpArt. Op Art, short for optical art, is a style of visual art that uses optical illusions.



Kindergarten artists hard at work creating cardinals.



## BOCES Visit

On Friday, January 5, 10th-grade students seized the opportunity to explore future possibilities during their visit to BOCES. Juniors and seniors have the option to spend half of their day at BOCES, delving into diverse careers and trades. The other half of the day is dedicated to attending classes at Southern Cayuga, ensuring continued progress toward graduation requirements in core subjects.

During the visit to BOCES, they received insights from BOCES teachers and heard firsthand experiences from Southern Cayuga students currently enrolled in BOCES programs. This exposure provided a glimpse into the array of offerings available. Students planning on attending BOCES can further explore their interests by shadowing their top two program choices for a half day, gaining a more in-depth understanding and evaluating the fit for their goals.

With a total of 16 programs, BOCES offers a rich array of opportunities for students to explore and pursue.



## STEAM 7

This marking period students were introduced to block coding and conceptualizing what goes into programming the actual Mars Rovers that NASA has put on Mars over the past two decades. Our class borrowed EV3 Lego Mindstorm Robots from Cayuga Onondaga BOCES, where students would program them to perform specific challenges. Each challenge was correlated to the type of sensors that the EV3 robots are meant to perform, much similar to what we see on modern automobiles. Students had to work through the engineering process to create their own codes, troubleshoot as a team, and collaborate effectively to complete each mission.

Furthermore, students did an exceptional job completing their midterm project; Mars Bound: Mission to the Red Planet. Students worked in teams to orchestrate a mission to Mars on a board game simulation. Their goal was to stay under a budget of \$250M while also maintaining their mass and power limits. Students implemented the engineering process along with grade level math and science to accomplish their mission.



## STEAM UPDATES

STEAM classes have been busy the last few months.

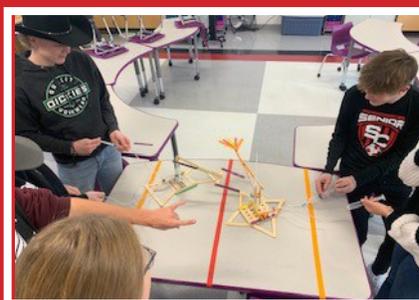
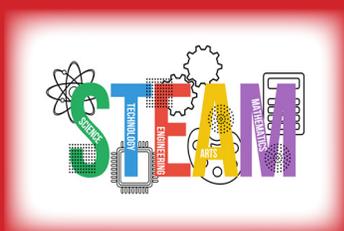
Sixth grade STEAM classes have acquired skills in utilizing a computer-aided design (CAD) program named TinkerCad. They each crafted a personalized nameplate/bookmark, which was printed using 3D printers. A number of students created additional items that will be printed in the near future. Additionally, students enjoyed the art of origami, finding particular delight in creating various origami objects. Among the diverse folds, Mrs. Snyder’s personal favorite was an intricately crafted 3D origami Christmas tree.

Eighth grade students also extended their coding exploration across multiple platforms, increasing proficiency in utilizing TinkerCad. Through this software, they’ve crafted intricately designed snowflakes. These students have used the creative possibilities of Google products, crafting a Holiday Stop Motion show, an Emoji Story, and engaging in Pixel Art projects.

Students also successfully completed the hydraulics segment of the Emerging Technologies course, designing hydraulic mazes culminating the learning experience with a competition featuring innovative hydraulic arms. Additionally, the class constructed rubber band cars, crafting environmentally friendly ‘cars’ from recycled materials and propelling them with the energy of rubber bands.

The seventh and eighth grades gaming club meets twice a week after school, bringing together approximately 15 students who engage in a range of games. Members collaborate to share strategies and tips. Over the next month, they will be configuring the computers for an elevated level of competition.

Hydraulic Arm Battle:



Rubber Band Cars:



## FFA PALS

In the fall session of Ag and FFA PALS, October to December, 50 enthusiastic fourth, fifth and sixth grade students immersed themselves into an introduction to the FFA program and exploration of our local agricultural industry.

Students learned about the mission of The National FFA Organization, and what opportunities they can participate in throughout their time in FFA. These activities included creating FFA emblem cookies, introductions to Leadership Development Events (LDE's), public speaking and team building. The sixth-grade students started working on preparing for an LDE. They had the choice between People in Agriculture or Creed Speaking. In the People in Agriculture, students must research a career in agriculture, then present what they learned. For Creed Speaking, students must memorize and present the five paragraph FFA Creed. A few students decided to continue on and to compete at District competitions in Owego, NY with our Junior High FFA.

Students learned about our local agricultural industry through holiday related activities and going on a tour of a local farm. Highlights included pumpkin carving, a Thanksgiving food origin project, wreath making, and a field trip to Cayuga View Farms. Students learned how agriculture plays a role in daily lives, and how the industry is a part of some of their favorite holidays. At Cayuga View Farms students learned goat and cattle care, showmanship and the future opportunities they may have in showmanship.

The FFA PALS are looking forward to the spring session from February to April to learn more about FFA and local agricultural industry!



## American FFA Degree

The American FFA Degree is considered the highest degree available to FFA members nationwide. Kelsey LaFave of the Southern Cayuga FFA Chapter from Locke, NY, is the latest recipient to receive this honor during the 96th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis, Indiana, on November 4. Kelsey is the first female recipient from Southern Cayuga to receive this honor, making it even more note worthy!

As the highest degree achievable in the National FFA Organization, the American FFA Degree shows an FFA member’s dedication to his or her chapter and state FFA association. It demonstrates the effort FFA members apply toward their supervised agricultural experience and the outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement they exhibited through their FFA career.

American FFA Degree recipients show promise for the future and have gone above and beyond to achieve excellence.

As an FFA member, Kelsey was involved in several career development events, including competing as a member of Southern Cayuga’s state winning Agricultural Issues Team in 2019. She also served on the leadership team of her chapter and as the New York State FFA District VII President from 2019-2020. For her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), she provided 5th and 6th grade students an opportunity to explore agriculture while introducing them to FFA. Kelsey also managed the PALS (Partners in Active Learning Support) program in collaboration with her FFA Advisor Halee Wasson, which program was instrumental for encouraging students to join FFA when becoming eligible in 7th grade.

The American FFA Degree runs in the LaFave family. Her father Doug LaFave received the American Farmer Degree in 1989 and her brother Logan LaFave received the American Degree in 2018. Kelsey currently is a senior at Cornell University studying Communication with a minor in Sustainable Agricultural and Food Systems. She hopes to be employed in agricultural communication after graduation in May 2024.



American FFA Degree



Logan LaFave, Kelsey LaFave and Doug LaFave  
American FFA Degree recipients



Kelsey LaFave & Halee Wasson  
(Southern Cayuga FFA Advisor &  
Agricultural Education Teacher)

*Excerpts taken from article in the Tribune.*

## Helping Hands

‘Twas the season of giving and the Southern Cayuga National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) spread holiday cheer through not one, but two community service initiatives. Their first project involved crafting heartfelt Christmas cards for the residents of a local assisted living facility. Recognizing that the holidays could be a lonely time for some, especially those without many visitors, their goal was to bring joy and smiles to their faces.

In addition to the card-making endeavor, NJHS also led a collection drive for personal care items to support the King Ferry Food Pantry. They gathered essentials such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, and more. These contributions aimed to make a positive impact on the well-being of those in need within their community.

As a society, service holds a special place among their core values, with a commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. They take pride in discovering meaningful ways to contribute and serve their community.

## Nurses Notes

It’s important to note that while cold, flu, and COVID-19 share some similar symptoms, there are also distinct differences. The guidance provided below regarding keeping students home if they are not feeling well and the criteria for returning to school is a good practice to help prevent the spread of illnesses.

**Please keep your student(s) home if they are not feeling well!**

### When To Stay Home

<p><b>Coughing</b></p>  <p><b>Stay home when:</b> Coughing won't stop or other problems with breathing</p> <p><b>Return to school when:</b> Cough is mild and infrequent and evaluated by doctor if needed</p>	<p><b>Rash</b></p>  <p><b>Stay home when:</b> Body rash with itching and/or fever</p> <p><b>Return to school when:</b> Free from rash, itching or fever and evaluated by doctor if needed</p>	
<p><b>Diarrhea or vomiting</b></p>  <p><b>Stay home when:</b> Diarrhea or vomiting within the past 24 hours</p> <p><b>Return to school when:</b> Free from diarrhea and/or vomiting for at least 24 hours and evaluated by doctor if needed</p>	<p><b>Strep</b></p>  <p><b>Stay home when:</b> Receive a positive strep test which can come with fever and/or vomiting/stomach ache</p> <p><b>Return to school when:</b> Free of a fever and have taken antibiotics for at least 24 hours</p>	
<p><b>Head Lice</b></p>  <p><b>Stay home when:</b> Itchy head, active head lice</p> <p><b>Return to school when:</b> After first head lice treatment</p>	<p><b>Eye infection</b></p>  <p><b>Stay home when:</b> Eye is red and oozing a yellow or green discharge</p> <p><b>Return to school when:</b> 24 hours after starting antibiotic eye drops or ointment</p>	<p><b>Fever</b></p>  <p><b>Stay home when:</b> A temperature of 100.4° F or higher</p> <p><b>Return to school when:</b> Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication</p>

This information is for general guidance purposes. It does not replace the advice of a medical professional and it does not account for individual school policy. Information Without Borders disclaims any liability for the use of this information. Motivation Without Borders © 2019

## Are you winter ready?

As the weather is now turning colder, please remember to have students bring appropriate cold weather gear with them to school daily; winter coat, snow pants, gloves, hats, and boots.

We want to ensure all students stay warm, get plenty of fresh air and enjoy the outdoors!



# Vacancies

## Now Hiring - Various Positions

*Competitive Wages & Benefits  
Paid Bus Driver Training*

### Full-Time Positions

◇ School Bus Drivers

### Substitute Positions

- Food Service Helpers
- School Bus Attendants
- School Bus Drivers
- Cleaners
- Teachers
- Teacher Aides
- Nurse (RN/LPN)
- Bus Driver Trainees

### Apply Online

Go to [southerncayuga.org/644](http://southerncayuga.org/644)

Click on the correct application  
in the right column

Teacher Applicants use the  
Professional Employment Application

Non-Teacher Applicants use the  
Support Staff Application

Southern Cayuga Central School  
2384 State Route 34B, Aurora NY 13026

## 2024-2025

### Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) and Kindergarten Registration Information

It's that time of year! We are accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year for both Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) and Kindergarten.

UPK Information Night will be March 21, from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

To be eligible your child must:

- Be a resident of the Southern Cayuga Central School District (SCCS)
- Meet the age requirement; children who will turn four (4) on or before December 1 are eligible to attend our Pre-Kindergarten program.

For Kindergarten a child must be five (5) years old on or before December 1 to be eligible to attend school. Under the current law, a child who turns six (6) after December 1 must begin school no later than the first day of school the following September.

If you are interested in having your child attend the UPK program or enroll them in Kindergarten, please contact the Emily Howland Elementary School office at 315-364-7098 ext. 3500 or the district registrar at 315-364-7111 ext. 2114

## Registration Information

Emily Howland Elementary



# February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Food Pantry Open 9-noon
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 BOE meeting	13	14	15	16	17 Food Pantry Open 9-noon
18	19 Presidents' Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 BOE meeting	27	28	29	Winter Recess	

**Southern Cayuga Jr/Sr High School  
YEARBOOKS ARE NOW ON SALE**

**Hardcover Color  
Tapa dura a color  
\$48.00**

**To order visit: [inter-state.com](http://inter-state.com) and enter this  
code 83345W**

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codigo: 83345W**

**Order Form Flyers are available  
in the High School Office  
with return envelope with cash or  
check payable to: SCCS Yearbook**



**Reminder: Wifi is available in the District  
Office parking lot for students**



## **BOOSTER CLOTHING SALE**

SCCS apparel is available at The Printery in Auburn or through The Printery store online.

Go to <https://www.theprinteryny.com>, select the store tab, and then select the Southern Cayuga Chiefs.

Individual teams have their own store set up with clothing for team members only.

Southern Cayuga  
Central School District  
2384 State Route 34B  
Aurora NY 13026

Non-Profit  
Organization  
PAID  
Permit NO. 1  
Poplar Ridge, NY  
13139

Box Holder or  
Rural Route



### SCCS Board of Education

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Vice President Matthew Bennett  
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David Harvatine  
Janet Lehman  
Rachel McCarthy  
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Heather Rejman

### Contact Information

District Office	364-7211
Business Office	364-8711
Special Education Office	364-5570
Jr/Sr High School Office	364-7111
Emily Howland Office	364-7098
Athletic Office	364-5924
Bus Garage	364-8652

Board of Education agendas and minutes can be found on our website. [www.southerncayuga.org](http://www.southerncayuga.org)



### **School Messenger**

Please be sure the district has your correct contact information, including your phone number(s), email address and mailing address. You can add or revise your information from a link on our website, or by calling 315-364-7111, ext 2114