



Inventing
the future
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Superintendent Dr. Marion Martinez



“
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Dear community members,

On January 19 I had the distinct honor and privilege of delivering the keynote address at the Martin Luther King Day Celebration at Binghamton City Hall. I would like to share with you some of the thoughts I shared with the audience at that event.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. immortalized the words “I have a dream” in 1963. In his now famous speech, he said, “I have a dream that my four little children will not come up in the same young days that I came up within, but that they will be judged on the basis of the content of their character, not the color of their skin.”

Two years later, Dr. King proclaimed: “. . . we’ve been in the mountain of indifference too long and ultimately, we must be concerned about the least of these; we must be concerned about the poverty-stricken because our destinies are tied together. And somehow, in the final analysis, as long as there is poverty in the world, nobody can be totally rich. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.”

Every child should have a dream that can be realized. Every child should have adequate clothing, food, shelter and an inherent belief that all things are possible. Every child should be welcomed into schools across this nation by educators who truly believe they can achieve at high levels and set goals accordingly. Every child should have the expectation that the instructional resources necessary to be successful in our schools are there for them. I see the faces of great potential in the Binghamton city schools every day.

In Binghamton city schools, there are approximately 5,500 students in grades pre-k-12. With 75 percent poverty, all students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch under the USDA’s Food and Nutrition program. This makes me both sad and happy. It’s wonderful that children and families can count on this supplement, but I’m so sad that hunger is a real issue in this city, this state and our nation because it influences brain and body development, student achievement and mental health.

In 2007, responding to a ruling made by the state’s highest court, a new funding formula was adopted with the intent of providing support to financially struggling districts, but the recession provided government leaders with an excuse for failing to live up to that responsibility. As a result, in the last five years, Binghamton has lost \$22 million in foundation aid alone, largely through a legislative take back called the Gap Elimination Adjustment.

“Maisto v New York” is a lawsuit that was filed some time ago on behalf of students in 60 small cities across the state including Binghamton. Collectively, we contend that financially distressed districts like ours have lost financial aid disproportionately as compared to wealthier districts. This case is currently being heard.

A recent “New York Times” editorial (Editorial Board, New York Times, The Central Crisis in Education, 2015) charged that our state has the most racially and economically segregated schools in the nation. Furthermore, the Civil Rights Project at UCLA found that, “The children who most depend on the public schools for any chance in life are concentrated in struggling schools with all the dimensions of family and neighborhood poverty and isolation.” Yet, to date, our governor’s office has not adequately addressed the racial and economic segregation and inequity in school funding. His initial 2015 budget proposal appears to offer more of the same.

Marian Edleman, in her book, “The Art of Winning Commitment,” said, “A lot of people are waiting for Martin Luther King or Mahatma Gandhi to come back - but they are gone and we are it. It’s up to you and it’s up to me.”

As Dr. King said, “The time is always right to do what is right.” We must move out of the mountain of indifference concerning poverty.

Equity in education is the civil rights issue of our day and we must act.

Thank you. ■

Marion

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Two more teachers named masters in STEM

In January, two Binghamton High School teachers, Chelsea Northrop and Barbara LaBarre, were accepted into the New York State Master Teacher Program (NYSMTP), which recognizes outstanding STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) teachers for their commitment to professional growth and excellence in the classroom.

The program was developed to help strengthen the nation's K-12 STEM education. In partnership with the State University of New York (SUNY) and Math for America, the program creates a state-wide network of the highest-performing STEM teachers who are dedicated to sharing expertise with peers and attracting the brightest minds to a career in STEM.

Northrop said, "I'm thankful to be recognized. I am looking forward to developing my teaching and continuing to support our district." Northrop has been with the district for five years and currently teaches Algebra, Foundations of Algebra A and Geometry Enriched.

LaBarre, a chemistry teacher who has been with the district for 23 years, said, "I am looking forward to participating in the many opportunities for professional development and growth. Mentoring new and pre-service teachers, bringing fresh ideas and pedagogy back to my home school to improve teaching outcomes, preparing students for upcoming STEM careers and engaging in leadership training can only serve to improve the teaching and learning that goes on in my building."

The program is a four-year commitment in addition to regular classroom responsibilities. Master teachers meet on evenings and weekends for professional development, which includes mini-courses on STEM subjects, professional learning teams, leadership development, and participation in learning networks through regional STEM hubs, which partner with local businesses and agencies.

To be accepted into the program, teachers must be rated effective or highly effective, supply college transcripts and letters of recommendation, take a content test, and participate in a day-long session, which includes giving a presentation, writing an essay and being interviewed. Last April, high school science teachers Susan Mayer and Jacqueline Scallan were accepted into the program.

For more information on the program, go to the program website www.suny.edu.



Chelsea Northrop



Joel Smales

Teacher published

Whether he is conducting a high school group or teaching a class, Joel Smales knows that working with student musicians is both challenging and rewarding. With his nearly 20 years of experience directing musical groups, Smales can certainly offer advice and suggestions to other musical educators, and one national publication asked him to do just that.

Recently, Smales wrote an article entitled "Percussion Section Management," which was published in "School Band and Orchestra" magazine. It was so well received that the "Woodwind and Brasswind" catalog asked Smales if they could publish it on their website.

Smales said he wrote it because he has found that educators often need help when it comes to the percussion section, adding, "From an educator's perspective, the WW and BW catalog is on every band and orchestra teachers' shelf as a resource for purchasing and for information. I know I have gone there when I have an oboe question."

Smales teaches ninth- through twelfth-grade band and world drumming. He is also the director of bands in the Rod Serling School of Fine Arts, and conductor of two concert bands, two jazz ensembles, percussion ensemble, the pep band and steel drum band. He began teaching as an adjunct professor of percussion at Binghamton University in 2013. He holds a Bachelor of Music from the Crane School of Music and a Master of Music from Binghamton University.

Congratulations!

Effective Educators



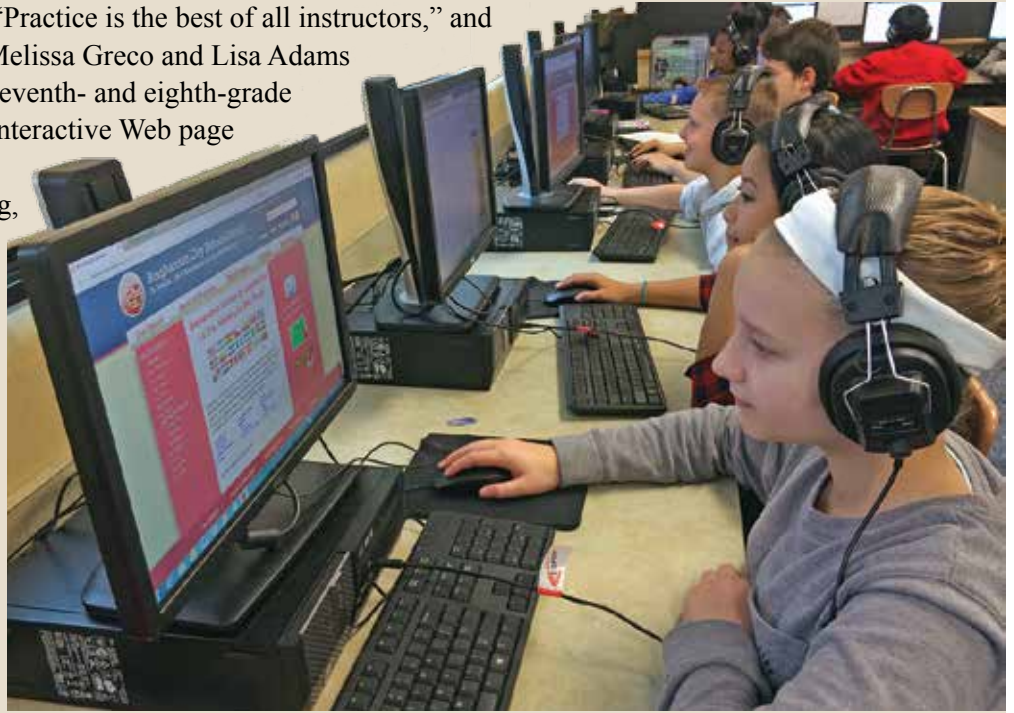


Hables Español;

WMS students learn Spanish with custom-made web page

As Publilius Syrus said, “Practice is the best of all instructors,” and WMS Spanish teachers Melissa Greco and Lisa Adams agree. That is why their seventh- and eighth-grade Spanish students use an interactive Web page created by Greco and Adams to practice reading, writing, speaking and listening, all parts of the Common Core standards in Spanish.

The Web page is designed to help improve learning by embracing the power and influence technology plays in our students’ daily lives while strengthening 21st century learning skills. Greco added,



“We infuse the daily Common Core strands in reading, listening, speaking and writing lesson plans, which includes interpersonal, interpretative and presentation practices.”



Using computers and a Web page gives students the opportunity to practice grade-appropriate Spanish curriculum. In seventh grade, students learn personal identification, family, health and sports. In eighth grade practice common verbs as well as vocabulary in travel, food and shopping. With the interactive Web page, students listen to Spanish and then practice it themselves. They also take virtual trips and watch cultural and instructional videos.

Greco said students are learning in different ways that help reinforce their Spanish-speaking skills. The students agree. Eighth-grader Kristin Ciureynski said, “I like using the Spanish sites because it gives a variety of sites and games for us to study with. The sites help you memorize important vocabulary in a fun way.”

Both Greco and Adams plan to continue to use these sites to help teach students learn the skills needed as they continue with Spanish. ■



Visit to SUNY Broome offers a look at medical careers

Binghamton High School's Medical Terminology class spent an exciting day exploring the health sciences curriculum at SUNY Broome Community College. These students are currently enrolled in SUNY Broome's Medical Terminology and Seminar in Health Sciences course, which is taught by Rick Wheeler at the high school through the Fast Forward program and provides high school and college credit at no cost. Also, several students from Dawne Anna-Adams new P-TECH program were in attendance.

Mike Carra, SUNY Broome's admissions officer, provided an informative day for students that included presentations and hands-on activities with SUNY Broome staff from health sciences. Speciality areas covered dental hygiene, radiologic technology, human biology, and many others.

Wheeler says he was extremely impressed with the hospitality, the approachability of the faculty, and the attention his students received, adding, "We value SUNY Broome as a community partner. It is vitally important that our students make the connection between high school, post-secondary education, careers, and eventual employment. This was a wonderful opportunity."

In addition, students also toured the Decker Health Sciences building and the brand new Natural Science Center building, which included presentations about science travel courses to national parks in the U.S. as well as England.

Students found the visit both informative and enjoyable. Senior Makayla Martinkovic said, "Our day was extremely interesting. I really enjoyed how friendly and welcoming the faculty and staff were at SUNY Broome."

Senior Sabrina Bromsey stated, "It felt like I was already looking at my future after visiting SUNY Broome's nursing simulation laboratory."

Each student received a college ID card as part of the tour. ■



Seniors Zachary Madden and Chantel Jackson check out X-ray equipment during their tour of the Decker Health Sciences building radiology lab at SUNY Broome.





Cooking competition spurs students' culinary creativity

Culinary arts instructor Patrick Rae and his students knew that competing at a major culinary competition would be tough the first time out. However, that did not discourage them for preparing to do it again this year.

In March, eight Binghamton High School students will again compete in the 11th Annual New York State ProStart Invitational held at The Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park.

While last year's team did not place in the top five, they did an outstanding job. This year, with two returning team members and a better understanding of the competition, they hope to do better. This year's team members are seniors Ben Capra and Cassandra Jenkins, both returning members, Brianna Rodriguez, and juniors Ashley Evans and Manasia McKenzie.

The culinary competition includes all aspects of cooking, including demonstrating knife-cutting skills to the exact dimensions determined by the judges, breaking down a whole chicken into its eight pieces, preparing a three-course meal in one hour using two

burners, and pricing menu items. They are also judged on product management, presentation, and health and sanitation.

This year's menu is challenging because it includes several molecular gastronomy techniques. The appetizer is an ahi tuna summer roll with a reverse spherification sesame ginger sauce and Sriracha spheres. The main course is a seasoned bison steak with a coconut-infused rice and a vegetable hash. Dessert is a fruit spaghetti with a mascarpone toffee cream.

Also, for the first time, students will compete in a management competition in which a team develops visual and oral presentations for a restaurant concept they created. They are required to develop the interior design, menu items and layout, demographic research, and create two marketing or promotional ideas. Team members are Ben and Brianna along with juniors Kameron Crimmins and Jerome Wiggins, and sophomore Raymond Johnson. Their concept is a multi-cultural restaurant that uses dishes from their various backgrounds.

Rae said, "I will be proud of them regardless of their placing, as long as they work together and are proud of what they have accomplished." While Rae helps and advises, the students are responsible for making the menu as well

as raising funds to buy food to practice their dishes. The students practice three to four days a week leading up to the competition, focusing on proper flavor balance and plating.

The entire team is excited for this year's competition. Brianna said being a part of this team has taught her a lot about the field she plans to study, adding, "I am learning more techniques and recipes. This is preparing me for college." Brianna has been accepted to Johnson and Wales University in Miami.

Kassandra said the team is working hard, adding, "We have a better idea of what to expect this year. We are excited about this competition." Kassandra will attend the Culinary Institute of America in the fall.

The winning team will represent the state at the national competition held in May at Disneyland. ■



Professional photographers put artistic work into focus

Hearing from the professionals and getting to meet and talk with them about their profession is a great learning experience for high school students. In January, students in the Rod Serling School of Fine Arts were treated to a special presentation from professional photographers Mindy Veissid and RA Friedman.

Students in Amanda Crans-Gentile's photography and advanced photography classes, and Jean Klein's media arts class, attended the presentation to learn about Veissid's and Friedman's artistic philosophy, experience and inspiration, and look at samples of their portfolios.

Veissid and Friedman are collaborating on a photographic project titled "Photographers Squared," which will culminate in the publication of a photographic book and gallery shows in New York City and Philadelphia.

The project is funded through a Kickstarter campaign (www.kickstarter.com) and has been featured by "B&H Photography."

While traveling to five predetermined U.S. locations, the team is reaching out to local schools and community centers

in these areas to give their presentation in hopes of inspiring future artists to follow their own creative passions.

One student said "It was interesting to see their differing points of view of the same subject. I'm excited to see their finished photos printed side by side." ■



Mindy Veissid, far left, and RA Friedman present to students.

Binghamton leads collaborative effort for better assessments

Over the next several months, a team of 45 teachers and administrators from the Binghamton, Johnson City and Whitney Point school districts will collaborate to review, evaluate and modify or create dozens of assessments now used in their respective schools.

Using a \$100,000 "Teaching is the Core" grant from the New York State Education Department, these three districts will look at assessments currently being used in almost every content area and at every grade level to evaluate their usefulness in the classroom. Extensive professional development provided by renowned assessment authority Dr. Giselle Martin-Kniep, president, Learner-Centered Initiatives, will help teacher and administrator teams determine each assessment's value based on authenticity, alignment with Common Core standards, and relationship to other assessments in each district's overall plan.

The purpose of this project is to reduce the number of redundant or irrelevant assessments, modify existing assessments to increase effectiveness, create new assessments where gaps exist, and identify assessments that may be used across more than one discipline or content area. The results of this year-long effort will be posted on a number of state and local websites and shared with other districts statewide. ■



the in•ven•tion process

cover story

Preparing an invention to meet U.S. patent requirements is a precise and arduous process, as students in Marta Gaska’s Engineering Design and Development course can readily attest.

The students, seniors in the **Project Lead the Way** program, have been creating 3-D prototypes to test their inventions while applying their problem solving skills as they work through the steps necessary to prepare their inventions for patent.

Veterans of several other Project Lead the Way pre-engineering courses at Binghamton High School, the students are using what they have learned to invent products that address problems they experience in their daily lives. In all, nine teams this year have worked through the invention process, beginning with a problem statement that is then justified as a problem that exists for others by performing surveys and documenting articles and existing solutions. After a patent search was completed, they developed several of their own ideas in detail and consulted experts. Once a final design was agreed upon, a prototype was constructed and tested. Future improvements were discussed along with any ethical dilemma involved with the product’s effect on society and the environment.



All of these prototypes were created using the 3-D printer in the manufacturing lab at Binghamton High School. The 3-D printer was purchased using money generously donated by Lockheed Martin.



Sarbast Doski, Nicholas Goodman, and Luke Scoville successfully developed a product that prevents headphone wires from becoming tangled while in your pocket.



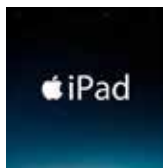
Jack Blackman, Michayla Paniccia, and Megan Lewis invented a device that can slice open your bag of chips without a vertical tear, and then be used to clip it closed to keep it fresh.



Zach Madden, MichaelAllen Robinson, and Raymond Ragnauth created a product that makes it easier for a person to open a tightened soda bottle cap.

LOCKHEED MARTIN





iPad provides learning opportunity for student

Technology has an important role in student education and one fifth-grader has his own piece of technology to help him continue to succeed. MacArthur student Philip Johnson was awarded a free iPad and protective case for use in class and at home. The iPad was awarded through a grant that occupational therapist Kim Wiggins submitted to Autism Speaks!

Philip will primarily use the iPad as an academic tool, scanning assignments and typing his answers as well as using a variety of apps to assist with reading and writing comprehension, sensory function and social skills.

Ipads are becoming a powerful form of assistive technology in schools all across the nation including Binghamton.

Wiggins, Philip and his family were happy that Philip won an iPad. Wiggins said, "We are all grateful and excited he received such a generous gift."

Autism Speaks has grown into the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization, dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism. Learn more about Autism Speaks at www.autismspeaks.org. ■



Philip Johnson with his new iPad.

Graduation study strives to curb dropout rate

Last year, Binghamton High School special education teacher Emily Buss was one of three local educators featured in WSKG's American Graduate Day program, an initiative to raise awareness about the dropout crisis.

As part of this project, Buss and her Regents Prep ELA 10 students have been exploring the dropout crisis in the United States as well as learning about graduation rates in their own high school. As student reporters for this project, they reflected on their personal goals regarding graduation and looked at national and district graduation data. They were surprised to learn that in the U.S., approximately three out of 10 students won't graduate. From their research and reflecting on their own challenges, obstacles, and inspirations regarding graduation, they wrote scripts and recorded audio to tell their story.

After recording, students used Podcaster equipment to take photos, find metaphors to symbolize their story and select quotes to serve as headlines. Last, they used Canva to create images to be published with the stories.

Buss said the project encouraged students to think purposefully, adding, "Students gained work experience and had ownership

in producing a piece from start to finish. They worked under tight deadlines and had to complete a task within a certain time frame and to certain specifications. Students also increased their digital literacy skills and interpersonal and collaborative skills."

This project was done under the guidance of WSKG and will be publicized nationally through its websites and blogs. This is the second major collaboration with WSKG. Buss added, "We appreciate their commitment to addressing the drop out crisis and promoting student voices in our area." ■



Students in Regents Prep ELA, taught by Emily Buss.

Student group shares gifts and smiles

Student council members at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School brought smiles to residents of Good Shepherd Village in Endwell after making and delivering homemade holiday pretzel wreaths and ornaments.

The students gathered together during their lunch hour to make the wreaths and decorate in their own unique way. The students interacted positively with the residents, giving them wreaths and singing holiday carols and sharing their youthful and joyous presence. Sharing their personalized gifts from the heart brought joy to everyone. This experience highlighted sharing the gifts of joy and happiness during a season of giving.

Afterward, the students were treated to a carousel ride at Recreation Park. The City of Binghamton Parks and Recreation Department partnered with the student council to open the carousel. The students were thrilled and enjoyed having the carousel all to themselves.

Woodrow Wilson Student Council is made up of students in grades three through five who represent the voice of the student body. They work together to improve school spirit, share ideas to improve the school, model good citizenship, and provide greater service to the school and community. In order to participate in this group, students had to complete an application, write a reflective essay, and obtain letters of recommendation. Classroom teachers also evaluated students on work completion, punctuality, attendance, leadership, behavior, organization, and being both respectful and responsible. The Wilson community is lucky to have such a fantastic group. ■



Kaleaha Crimmins and Naeimah Castillo with resident Peg Smith during their visit.

Staff at Roosevelt works to encourage parent involvement

The old saying goes, **“It takes a village to raise a child.”** Staff at Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School knows that keeping parents involved in their child’s education is vital to student success, which is why the school created various parent events.

Parents were invited to meet with Principal Dave Chilson to discuss expectations, independent reading needs, and strategies on how to better help their children. Students and parents then went to classrooms to meet teachers and see the classroom and learn about the structure of the day. The event concluded with a free spaghetti dinner for all families.



Theodore Roosevelt basket winners.

Parents were also invited to Safety Night, when families could register for the Masonic safe student identification cards and learn about various health and safety programs. Information on insurance was available and an ambulance and fire truck with emergency staff were on hand to answer questions and show them the vehicles. The PTA provided ice cream sundaes.

At every event, themed-gift baskets created by each grade were on display. They included gift cards, movie night passes, and cooking and baking items. When parents attended an event, they were presented with a free “Parent Participation Ticket” to place in a container for each basket. In early December, after the final day of conferences, a winning ticket was selected for each basket.

Chilson said, “Theodore Roosevelt staff continue to work hard to increase parent participation at events such as these. Students and parents were excited to take a chance at winning a basket. Roosevelt plans to continue this tradition in years to come.” ■

US Senator supports student nutrition legislation



Making sure students get the nutrition they need to be healthy and stay focused on learning year-round was the underlying message when U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand visited Binghamton High School in February.

Gillibrand used the occasion to announce the reintroduction of the “Summer Meals Act of 2014” and to reaffirm her support for continuing the standards established under the “Healthy-Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010,” which is set to expire this year. The renewal would take form under the “Child Nutrition Reauthorization” bill that Gillibrand said will be debated in Congress in the next few months.

Both measures, she said, are important in helping students develop healthy eating habits, combat obesity, and improve their chances of reaching their full potential.

“It’s up to us - the adults in the room - to set good standards for our kids and teach them about nutrition and how it’s related to keeping them healthy,” she said.

The Summer Nutrition Program would ensure that low-income children have access to healthy food throughout the summer. Gillibrand said most summer nutrition programs occur in tandem with educational and enrichment programs that keep children learning, engaged, and safe during the summer months. Funded under the USDA, the program would provide transportation for students in underserved areas and promote innovative and creative ways to increase access to summer meals.



Joining Gillibrand at a morning news conference in the high school cafeteria was district Superintendent Dr. Marion Martinez, Senior Director of Food Services Mark Bordeau, Food Bank of the Southern Tier CEO Natasha Thompson, Reisinger Farms owner Rick Reisinger and several local elected officials.

The event overlapped with the district’s recent receipt of the New York State

School Nutrition Association’s “Farm-to-Market Partnership Award,” which recognized a collaborative effort to put fresh produce into district lunchrooms. For the past two years, the district has worked with Broome-Tioga BOCES, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Food Bank of the Southern Tier to purchase apples from Reisinger’s Apple Country Farm in Watkins Glen.

“Some will say, ‘well kids prefer pizza over fruits and vegetables.’ Well, of course they do,” Gillibrand said. “Why would you let a five or six year old determine nutrition standards for our country? Common sense is needed here, so I hope we can win this debate in Washington.”

Patriot Scholarship recipient named

Binghamton High School is proud to announce the 2014-15 Patriot Scholarship winner, Isiah Turner.



Isiah Turner.

Isiah has been on the honor and high honor rolls throughout high school and earned student athlete recognition.

Isiah intends to major in pre-med, kinesiology or exercise therapy with a minor in business and continue his education to receive his doctorate in physical therapy. He has been accepted to the University of Tennessee, LSU and Seton Hall, which offered him a Presidential Scholarship. After college, Isiah hopes to open his own physical therapy practice. He currently interns at Oakdale Physical Therapy with Dr. John Koniuto.

Isiah is a member of the lacrosse and football teams, helps the modified football team, and is a member of Dollars for Scholars. Outside school, Isiah participates in CYO basketball, referees youth lacrosse and coaches YMCA youth basketball.

The Patriot Scholarship was established at Binghamton High School in the late 80’s by an anonymous donor to assist a graduating senior to further his/her education in a way he/she might not financially have been able to do. The recipient must be in the top 100 of the class and have exhibited good attendance. But more importantly, the recipient must have made a positive contribution to the school community. This is one of the most prestigious scholarships that our school offers. ■

Student musicians accepted into BCMEA Festivals

Congratulations to the students listed below on their acceptance to the BCMEA Music Festivals. Students had to prepare scales and excerpts for an audition. They competed against other students from area schools. The three festivals were held in February and March. Congratulations on a job well done.

EMS All-County Band & Orchestra

6th Grade

Yaseen Anderson – trombone
Sarah Boyko- flute
Joseph Caezza – alto saxophone
Soniah Rodney- flute

7th Grade

Jacob Donlin- clarinet
Madison Stankevich- bass



Pictured (l-r) back: Yaseen Anderson, Madison Stankevich, Soniah Rodney, Sarah Boyko. Front: Joseph Caezza & Jacob Donlin.

WMS All-County Orchestra

6th Grade

Margaret Farrelly & Ileen Wichelns- Violin 1
Kaylin Piza-Taylor & Haven Stetson- Cello

7th Grade

Olivia Marshall- Violin 2
Megan McNamara- Violin 1

8th Grade

Erin Hager, Shayna Kent, Sophia Klin, Jeannie Sebesta- Violin 1



Pictured (l-r) back: Olivia Marshall, Shayna Kent, Erin Hager. Middle: Sophia Klin, Kaylin Piza-Taylor, Haven Stetson, Megan McNamara. Front: Ileen Wichelns, Jeannie Sebesta. Not pictured: Margaret Farrelly.

7-9 WMS All-County Chorus

Grade 7

Anthony Capozzi, Isaac Karp, AJ Massey, Trevor Terry, Joshua Schull

Grade 8

Sophia Klin and Matthew Kovach



Pictured left (l-r) back: Joshua Schull, Isaac Karp, Matthew Kovach, Anthony Capozzi. Front: Sophia Klin, AJ Massey, Trevor Terry.

10-12 All-County Band

Amber Donahue – flute
Ashley Donahue – clarinet
Ethan Wetzel - alto saxophone
Gordon Huang & Chris King – trombone
Liam Lynch & Allison Westbrook – percussion

10-12 All-County Orchestra

Maura Hager - violin II
Seth Boyd & Molly Hawley - cello
Jonah Capani - bass

10-12 All-County Jazz Band

Noah Wenzinger - trumpet

10-12 All-County Chorus

Soprano
Chelsea Bolles
Vonica Pierre-Louis
Meredith Starks

Alto
Hannah Schultz

Tenor
Stephen Shea

Bass
Jonah Capani



Pictured (l-r) back: Seth Boyd; Liam Lynch; Chris King; Ethan Wetzel; Chelsea Bolles; Stephen Shea Middle: Molly Hawley; Allison Westbrook; Ashley Donahue; Amber Donahue; Meredith Starks Front: Gordon Huang; Vonica Pierre-Louis; Hannah Schultz Not Pictured: Jonah Capani; Maura Hager; Noah Wenzinger.



Bruce L. Fields Binghamton Central High, Class of 1969

Bruce Fields received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania, a Doctor of Medicine and Masters of Theology from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and a Doctor of Philosophy from Marquette University.



Dr. Fields is chair and associate professor of the Biblical and Systematic Theology Department at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Prior to joining Trinity, Dr. Fields was on staff for six years with Campus Crusade for Christ where he served in a variety of roles including Athletes in Action, the Indian ministry in Colorado, and the staff of the University of Michigan. He has also taught courses on New Testament and theology at Trinity. His areas of expertise include the Epistle to the Philippians and liberation and black theology.

Dr. Fields and his wife, Mary Ellen, live with their four children in Chicago. In his spare time, he enjoys playing basketball, tennis, and the guitar. He also coaches basketball and baseball. ■

David Gill Binghamton North High, Class of 1981

David Gill holds a Bachelor of Education from the University of Scranton, a Master in Math Education from Binghamton University, and a Certificate of Advanced Study in School Administration from SUNY Cortland.



Gill started his education career at his alma mater, teaching math. He then joined the Chenango Valley School District in 1986 as a math teacher. His career at the district expanded to include the role of math department chairperson until 2005 when he was offered the position of middle school principal, which he held until his appointment in 2010 as assistant superintendent of schools. In January 2012, Gill was appointed interim superintendent and remained in this role until his appointment in February 2014 as superintendent.

David is married to Christine and has four children – Chelsey, Tyler, Callie and McKenna. He likes to stay active in the community and is a member of Hillcrest Rotary. ■

Angel Desai Binghamton High School, Class of 1990

Angel Desai received her Masters of Fine Arts in Acting from New York University in 1997.

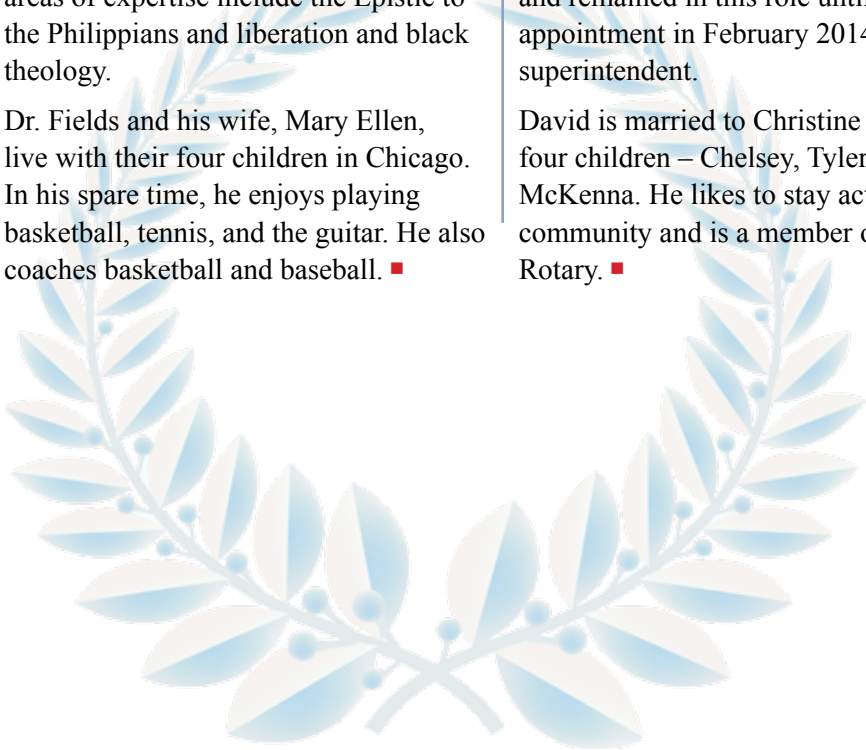


She made her Broadway debut in the Tony® Award-winning 2006 revival of “Company” in which the actors played the score while performing/acting the show. Off-Broadway credits include “The Tempest,” opposite Mandy Patinkin, and the world premiere of “The Architecture of Loss,” among many others.

Her regional credits include The Cleveland Playhouse, The Sundance Festival, and New York Stage and Film. TV credits include recurring roles on “Damages” and “The Event,” guest spots on “The Good Wife” and “Kings,” and recurring roles on “Dollhouse” and on all three “Law and Order” shows. Her film credits include “The Clique,” “The War Within,” and “Black Knight.”

She is a founding member of the Asian American Performers Action Coalition (AAPAC), which works to address the inequities in Asian representation on New York City’s stages.

Angel is a lifelong musician, singing jazz for nearly 20 years, from her time as a solo vocalist with the BHS Jazz Combo, then with the Oberlin Jazz Ensemble, up through performances in several New York City venues with the Angel Desai/Oscar Perez Quartet. She also volunteers with the 52nd Street Project, a non-profit organization for at-risk children in the Hell’s Kitchen neighborhood. ■



Student athletes ready for the college ranks

Ramil to play for Hoyas

She's a tall, strong presence on the basketball court with a commitment to dedication and hard work. In November, Jodi-Marie Ramil made another commitment: to play division one basketball at Georgetown University.

The 6-foot-2 player is a four-year varsity letter winner who also played for a New Jersey-based AAU team.

In addition to Georgetown she received interest from NC State, Syracuse, Seton Hall and several others.

She plans to study in the medical field. She is the daughter of Brem and Mike Ramil, who is the Binghamton Patriots football coach. ■



McGovern signs with Mansfield



She has played varsity softball since eighth grade and senior Leah McGovern plans to continue for four more years at Mansfield University. Leah, flanked by her high school coach Joe Marcinelli, mother, Bunny, and sister, Allison, signed a letter of intent. One person who was not present was her father, Tom, who passed away in June.



Hoping to attend a university close to home so she could be near her family while also playing the sport she loves for an outstanding organization, Mansfield is a perfect fit for Leah, who knows here dad would be proud.

Leah plans to major in accounting. ■

Students earn Area All-State honors

Five Binghamton High School students, members of the Rod Serling School of Fine Arts, were selected to the 2015 Area All-State 10-12 Music Festival. Rehearsals began in January with two public concerts at Ithaca College. Students were chosen based on teacher recommendation and NYSSMA solo scores from April 2014. ■

Congratulations to:

Band:

Amber Donahue & Ashley Donahue

Mixed Chorus:

Chelsea Bolles & Stephen Shea

Orchestra:

Natalie DeBoer



*Pictured (l-r):
Stephen Shea,
Chelsea Bolles,
Natalie DeBoer,
Amber Donahue,
Ashley Donahue.*

Patriot Pride



MacArthur
rising above the flood

THE RISE OF MACARTHUR CONTINUES

Work continues at the new MacArthur building site, even through the cold winter months.

Both the interior and exterior of the new building are seeing extensive work. The north and middle wings of the building are enclosed. Shortly, contractors will start putting up the wood siding.

Inside, mechanical elements, including plumbing, electrical, heating and ventilation work, are being installed. Interior walls are up and the floors poured. The main structure and south wing are also progressing well. Next, the windows and bridges that connect each classroom wing to the main structure will arrive and be installed.



To see real-time work as it happens, visit the district website to view our webcams and for more updates. ⁿ



Quality Facilities



Binghamton City School District
 164 Hawley Street, P.O. Box 2126
 Binghamton, NY 13902-2126

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The Rod Serling School of Fine Arts at Binghamton High School
 presents...

The Sound of Music

Music by **Richard Rodgers** Lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein II**
 Book by **Howard Lindsey & Russel Crouse**

Suggested by
 "The Trapp Family Singers"
 by Maria Augusta Trapp

Directed by
Ariana Zbrzezny Koniuto

Helen Foley Theatre
 March 6 and 7 at 7:30 PM · March 8 at 2:00 PM
 \$8 General Admission · \$6 Students and Sr. Citizens

Tickets may be purchased at the box office 1 hour prior to curtain
 BCSD Gold Passes accepted at all performances
 Call (607) 762-8202 for Box Office or additional information
 produced by special arrangement with R&H Theatricals Inc.

For the past several months, students in the Rod Serling School of Fine Arts have been rehearsing for their performance of **"The Sound of Music."** Elementary, middle and high school students will play various Von Trapp family members. There are 35 cast members, 12 crew and stage hands, and 25 musicians in the orchestra. The musical is directed by Ariana Zbrzezny Koniuto. ■

The Binghamton City School District

DISTRICT ART SHOW 2015

Thursday, March 12, 2015
 5:30 - 7 pm
 BHS Art Gallery
 2nd floor of Binghamton High School

Do You Have Questions ?
Would you like to know more about what is going on in the school district? Do you have questions about MacArthur, the budget, IB or other hot topics?

If you do, please consider organizing a **"Community Coffee Hour"** at your home. Superintendent Dr. Marion Martinez has attended several informal coffee hours in the community where small groups of 6 – 10 parents have gathered together to have an informal chat about district issues, opportunities and operations. If you would like to host a coffee hour, please contact the district office at 607-762-8100 x 318 or browns@binghamtonschoools.org.