### Class of 2018

#### Valedictorian & Salutatorian

The Richfield Springs Central School (RSCS) District Class of 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorian have been named.

Dhara Patel, the daughter of Nutan and Umesh Patel of Richfield Springs, is the Class of 2018 Valedictorian.

Dhara is a member of National Honor Society, Foreign Language Club, Newspaper Club, Yearbook Club, Drumline and Students Against Destructive Decisions. Additionally, she is a College for Every Student Scholars of Distinction Mentor, blood drive volunteer for National Honor Society and a former book keeper for the Junior Varsity and Varsity Girls Basketball teams. She also played Modified Soccer, Varsity Soccer, Varsity Softball and is currently on the Varsity Track and Field team.

Outside of school, Dhara works at the Glimmerglass Opera in Cooperstown during the summer, where she assists the elderly and disabled. She also is a junior volunteer at Bassett Hospital.

Dhara plans on attending the University of Rochester in the fall to major in Biology and Pre-Med. After undergraduate school, Dhara aspires to attend medical school to become a physician.

"It’s so amazing to receive such an honor," said Dhara when asked about what it meant to be named valedictorian. "I feel like all of the hard work I’ve put into my school work and tests has paid off… my parents, siblings and friends are all so proud of me and my accomplishments.”

Gabriella Hudziak, the daughter of Anne and Kyle Hudziak of Whitesboro, is the Class of 2018 Salutatorian.

Gabriella is Class Secretary and President of Yearbook Club. Additionally, she is a member of National Honor Society, Creative Writing Club, Baking and Cooking Club and a founding member/writer of the Tomahawk, the school newspaper. She also was on the Varsity Cheerleading team and in several theatre productions.

In her spare time, Gabriella is a volunteer at her local library and for the Richfield Springs Central School District’s Backpack Program.

Gabriella plans on attending Utica College in the fall to major in Communications and Media. She hopes to someday work at a radio station.

“It feels so cool,” said Gabriella when asked about what it meant to be named salutatorian. “It was a big surprise for me, but one I’m super happy about!”

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**CONGRATULATIONS DHARA AND GABRIELLA!**
Superintendent’s Message

It’s hard to believe that another school year is coming to an end and summer, hopefully a beautiful one, is on the horizon.

As is the case every spring, the district is buzzing with activity. The Spring Concert is May 8 and the annual Athletics Banquet is May 29. Also, please come out to support our student-athletes at home baseball/softball games, or go on the road to support the track and field team. Due to all of the snow, the spring sports season is off to a late start, so there are still plenty of opportunities to catch a game or meet.

As always, school safety and security are top priorities. We would like to remind everyone visiting the campus during the school day to sign in at the main entrance. Also, please remind your children to not open any side doors for visitors. After several school safety and security discussions at a number of venues, we are adding several new measures including new locks, additional card key readers and camera locations – just to name a few.

In other safety news, the 2017-18 Capital Outlay Project will fund the replacement of our fire alarm system and smoke detector heads throughout the campus, which will take place over the summer. If you have any suggestions that you would like to share on the topic of school safety and security, or any other topic, do not hesitate to call or send me an email at tpiatti@richfieldcsd.org.

The annual school budget vote and Board of Education election will take place on Tuesday, May 15 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the gym. Please enter at the side entrance by the basketball court. The 2018-19 $12,141,231 proposed budget represents a 3.32 percent spending increase from last year’s budget, but only a 1.99 percent increase in the tax levy, which is within the property tax cap. We believe we have put together a very responsible budget with the intent to not only maintain, but grow the academic programs at Richfield Springs, along with continue to address our infrastructure. Please know that an increase in State aid is projected for the upcoming year and is much needed to fund our schools. It is recommended that in order for a school budget to be “healthy,” it must allocate at least 70 percent of total funds for Program – expenses directly related to educating your children such as the cost of textbooks, supplies, athletic programs and other extracurricular activities. The 2018-19 proposed Richfield Springs budget allocates almost 74 percent of total funds for Program.

Many of the purchases for equipment and supplies are done on a rotational basis. The longest running example of this is our bus purchase rotation. Each year, we purchase two new buses. With our ten-bus fleet, plus the school vans, no vehicle is over six years of age. This keeps the trade in value high and the repair costs low. This year’s buses being purchased will be gas powered. Our instructional technology, including our laptop program, is also on a rotation – about four years – which happens to match the life of most warranties.

There are many other highlights in the proposed budget. We are adding a special education teacher and teaching assistant to the high school. This will allow us the opportunity to keep more of our students in their home district with their peers. This is actually a cost savings measure, too, as it will cost less to educate our children on our campus, as opposed to sending them to programs at BOCES or at other remote locations.

Last, but not least, the 2018-19 Capital Outlay Project will fund the purchase and installation of a new sound system for the auditorium/elementary gym. This purchase directly impacts our students and supports our growing music and drama programs.

Thank you for supporting our school. Together in success!

Tom Piatti
Superintendent of Schools
Richfield Springs Central School District

"Thank you for supporting our school. Together in success!"

IMPORTANT NOTICES

SPRING CONCERT
The Spring Concert will be held on Tuesday, May 8, at 7:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY DAYS
In the event that no other emergency days are used, school will not be in session on Friday, May 25, 2018.

CALENDAR CHANGE
In order to meet state regulations for instructional time, June 19, 2018, and June 20, 2018, will be full days of school. June 21, 2018 will be the only half-day.
A MESSAGE FROM THE
Board of Education

Richfield Springs Central School is an extraordinary school district. If you have not visited the campus lately, stop by to watch a concert or a sporting event – or come out for the Memorial Day Parade down Main Street. You’ll notice students, staff, family and community members providing encouragement and support. In the classroom, you’ll find teachers, assistants and aides working together, delivering a well-rounded, rigorous educational program – building confidence and the skills needed for success in a 21st Century global society. These attributes are not new – leadership took this same approach when I attended RSCS in the 1970s and 80s. The small class sizes contribute to a dedicated and connected approach for teaching and learning.

While reviewing the newsletter, you’ll find that the District is striving to maximize all the resources available to deliver an exceptional educational program at every level. Students in grades 5-12 each use MacBook Pros throughout the day, the building is Wi-Fi accessible, and the faculty have worked hard to incorporate the use of technology in the classroom to augment the educational experience. Our administrators and staff are prudent with the use of taxpayer money – and are consistently focused on achieving academic success.

To Dhara Patel and Gabriella Hudziak’s families: Congratulations on your students’ achievements. Our Class of 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorian worked extremely hard to earn these distinctions and the support from family, friends and RSCS staff should be commended as well. All the members of the Class of 2018 should be proud of their accomplishments. One hundred percent of the students who started the school year are on track to complete it in June and graduate. When your students present their Community Service presentations to the Board, we let them know how proud we are of their accomplishments and how much we look forward to them continuing their experiences into adulthood.

Until the end of the school year, the students of RSCS will be on a fast track completing the remaining requirements for graduating and moving up. Not only that, but they will also be competing on the baseball and softball fields, at track meets and the Sherburne Pageant of Bands; performing for the annual spring concert; and marching in the Memorial Day Parade, along with all the end of year celebrations and recognitions. It’s an exciting time of the year when there is a lot to show off in the District. Please come out and support our students – they truly appreciate it!

Respectfully,
Scot Mondore
Board of Education President

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION MAY 3
ATTENTION: ALL PARENTS OF 5 YEAR OLDS

If your child is turning five (5) years old on or before December 1, 2018, they are eligible to attend kindergarten during the 2018-2019 school year.

Kindergarten registration/screening will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2018. Please call Mrs. Bailey at 315.858.0610, ext. 2331 to receive a kindergarten packet and to set up an appointment for screening.

At the kindergarten registration/screening on May 3, 2018, please bring your completed packet along with your child’s birth certificate, updated physical (immunization record), proof of residency in the RSCS district, custody papers (if applicable) and photo identification. These items are necessary to complete your paperwork.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN MEETING MAY 10

There will be a Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) meeting on Thursday, May 10, at 6:00 p.m., in the Large Group Instruction Room. If you are interested in having your child attend RSCS Pre-K in September, call Mrs. Bailey at 315.858.0610, ext. 2331 to register and request a registration packet.

Your child must be four years old on or before December 1, 2018.
PROPOSITION | BASIC BUDGET

Resolved, that the Board of Education is hereby authorized to expend the sum of $12,141,231 as General Fund Appropriation budget for the 2018/2019 school year and to levy the necessary tax. This represents a 3.32% budget increase and tax levy increase of 1.99%.

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018
BASIC BUDGET • TWO BOARD SEATS

PROPOSED 2018 | 2019 BUDGET INCLUDES:

- Special Education and Title I Services
- Addition of (1) Special Education Teacher position
- Addition of (1) Teaching Assistant position for Special Ed.
- BOCES programs including Occupational Ed., Special Ed., staff development etc.
- Programs for at-risk and advanced students
- Adult Education courses and programs
- Purchase of two buses
- Summer academic and recreational camp program
- A $100,000 project that will be aided by NYS
- $6,000 to assist in funding the Public Library for its operation and to levy the necessary tax

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS
All voters must have ALL of the following qualifications:

- Be a citizen of the United States
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be a resident of the school district for at least 30 days preceding budget vote/BOE election
  (Owning a home in the district does not make the owner a resident; home must be permanent residence).
- Not otherwise prohibited from voting (ex., mentally incompetent or convicted felon).

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

And further notice is hereby given, that applications for absentee ballots will be obtainable during school business hours from the District Clerk beginning Friday, April 27, 2018; completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Completed absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

BOARD VACANCIES | Board of Education Election

Two, 3-year term vacancies are to be filled on the Board of Education. Last incumbents are Scot Mondore and Bruce Watson. Petitions were received from Scot Mondore, Julie Gavalo and Nancy Duevel.
Administration  
The administrative budget includes those expenses directly related to the functioning of the Board of Education, District Clerk, Superintendent's Office, Business Office, BOCES Administrative charges and Supervision. The administrative budget is increasing by 2.3%, and makes up 12.83% of the budget.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adopted Budget 2017-2018</th>
<th>Proposed Budget 2018-2019</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Education</td>
<td>$34,365</td>
<td>$30,365</td>
<td>-$4,000</td>
<td>-11.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Administration</td>
<td>$191,481</td>
<td>$198,700</td>
<td>$7,219</td>
<td>3.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>$320,072</td>
<td>$307,898</td>
<td>-$12,174</td>
<td>-3.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>$78,500</td>
<td>$77,120</td>
<td>-$1,380</td>
<td>-1.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Items</td>
<td>$318,758</td>
<td>$317,995</td>
<td>-$763</td>
<td>-0.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision and Training</td>
<td>$293,600</td>
<td>$316,290</td>
<td>$22,690</td>
<td>7.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Benefits</td>
<td>$286,109</td>
<td>$309,613</td>
<td>$23,504</td>
<td>8.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,522,885</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,557,981</strong></td>
<td><strong>$35,096</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.30%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program  
The program budget includes those expenses directly related to the teaching of students. Those include teachers, assistants, aides and other professional salaries, BOCES charges, supplies, textbooks, special education costs, health, guidance, co-curricular activities and athletics. This area also includes transportation expenses directly related to the functioning of the bus garage and the operation of the bus fleet. The program area shows an increase of 3.6%. Program accounts for 73.91% of the budget.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adopted Budget 2017-2018</th>
<th>Proposed Budget 2018-2019</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-service Training</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Regular School</td>
<td>$3,041,877</td>
<td>$3,170,979</td>
<td>$129,102</td>
<td>4.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Apportionment Programs</td>
<td>$1,632,854</td>
<td>$1,636,959</td>
<td>$4,105</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Schools</td>
<td>$6,250</td>
<td>$6,250</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Media</td>
<td>$545,473</td>
<td>$558,458</td>
<td>$12,985</td>
<td>2.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupil Personnel Services</td>
<td>$339,856</td>
<td>$355,895</td>
<td>$16,039</td>
<td>4.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupil Transportation</td>
<td>$564,459</td>
<td>$587,750</td>
<td>$23,291</td>
<td>4.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Service</td>
<td>$51,000</td>
<td>$41,000</td>
<td>-$10,000</td>
<td>-19.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Benefits</td>
<td>$2,471,458</td>
<td>$2,607,426</td>
<td>$135,968</td>
<td>5.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PROGRAM</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,662,227</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,973,717</strong></td>
<td><strong>$311,490</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.60%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Capital  
The capital budget includes Operations and Maintenance expenses including salaries, fringe benefits, utilities and supplies directly related to the cleaning and maintenance of the District's building and grounds. This portion of the budget also includes principal and interest costs related to previous capital improvement projects. The District receives 82% building aid from NYS for this. Purchases for buses are reimbursed by NYS at 70% over five years. $100,000 transfer to Capital Fund will provide enhancements with same year 82% aid. The capital budget is increasing by 2.81%, constituting 13.26% of total budget.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adopted Budget 2017-2018</th>
<th>Proposed Budget 2018-2019</th>
<th>$ Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operation &amp; Maintenance of Plant</td>
<td>$834,968</td>
<td>$816,000</td>
<td>-$18,968</td>
<td>-2.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of Buses</td>
<td>$166,500</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
<td>$53,500</td>
<td>32.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund of Property Taxes</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Benefits</td>
<td>$244,191</td>
<td>$254,207</td>
<td>$10,016</td>
<td>4.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonds</td>
<td>$209,928</td>
<td>$209,326</td>
<td>-$602</td>
<td>-0.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to Capital Fund</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CAPITAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,565,587</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,609,533</strong></td>
<td><strong>$43,946</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.81%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018|2019
BUDGET OVERVIEW

General Fund Appropriations by components 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$1,557,981</td>
<td>12.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>$8,973,717</td>
<td>73.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>$1,609,533</td>
<td>13.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,141,231</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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General Fund Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property Tax</td>
<td>$3,391,437</td>
<td>$3,458,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Aid</td>
<td>$6,901,889</td>
<td>$6,882,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$305,041</td>
<td>$382,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earnings</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Balance/Reserves</td>
<td>$1,106,332</td>
<td>$1,356,332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Penalties</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$11,750,699</td>
<td>$12,141,231</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students work on iPad with Mrs. Shaffer.

Student at College Construction and Career Day.

BUDGET REVENUE
Proposed Budget Q&A

Q: What is the increase in the local property tax levy?
A: Less than 2 percent, or 1.99 percent.

Q: Does the STAR Program still exist?
A: Yes, the School Tax Relief Program, which is known as STAR, provides a partial exemption from school taxes. All New Yorkers who own & live in their home and earn less than $500,000 are eligible for a STAR exemption on their primary residence. Exemption amounts are shown below. The equalization rate, set by the State, and assessments set by township, will affect the exemption value. Enhanced STAR provides a larger exemption on the primary residence for people over 65 years of age and who earn less than $86,000. This exemption requires an initial application through the local assessor. If you or your spouse recently turned 65, or if your income fell below $86,000 due to changing circumstances, please apply.

2018-19 RSCSD STAR Maximums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipal Name</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Enhanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town of Columbia</td>
<td>$316</td>
<td>$684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Exeter</td>
<td>$333</td>
<td>$659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Otsego</td>
<td>$319</td>
<td>$697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Richfield</td>
<td>$319</td>
<td>$664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Springfield</td>
<td>$319</td>
<td>$664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Warren</td>
<td>$317</td>
<td>$659</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q: How are your dollars spent?
A: By state law the budget is divided into three categories:
- Program: 74% - This category includes expenses for the instruction and transportation of students.
- Capital: 13% - This category includes capital improvement and operations and maintenance costs.
- Administration: 13% - This category includes costs for administration, supervision and legal services.

Q: How is education at RSCSD funded?
A: State aid covers approximately 57% of our expenses. Property taxes cover an additional 29% (with STAR paying 4% and local property owners paying 25%) and other sources cover the remaining 14%.

Q: How much State Aid will we receive next year?
A: Based on the current estimates, we are expected to receive approximately $6,882,419 in State Aid. However, at the time of this printing, state aid figures are not finalized.

Q: What is the difference between the State Aid we received last year versus the State Aid we will be receiving this year?
A: The District anticipates receiving $19,470 less aid for the 2018-2019 school year. General aid is increasing 2%, while building aid is decreasing. Going forward, with the voters having graciously approved a $5.5 million project with no local tax impact, this aid will start to increase, off-setting all costs for this project.

Q: What does this mean in terms of local tax levy?
A: The Board of Education establishes the final tax levy each August, prior to the printing of our tax bills. Based on the anticipated State Aid, the tax levy increase for 2018-2019 is 1.99%. Our tax levy is less than it was four years ago.

Q: How much State Aid will we receive next year?
A: Based on the current estimates, we are expected to receive approximately $6,882,419 in State Aid. However, at the time of this printing, state aid figures are not finalized.

Q: How do our school taxes on true value compare to other school districts?
A: Richfield Springs CSD continues to enjoy one of the lowest, if not the lowest, tax on true rate in the Herkimer County BOCES region.

Q: What has been done to reduce the budget to its present level and limit its taxes?
A: The current NYS laws include a new calculated tax levy cap for each school district. Richfield Springs’ calculated cap for next year is 2.01%, while our proposed tax levy is 1.99%. If a contingency budget happens, then the tax levy increase would be 0.00%. Certain items would need to be “cut” from the budget, according to State law. This reduction could hurt various educational and extra curricular programs like the summer program, sport programs, and class offerings.

Q: What is a contingency budget?
A: A contingency budget is a budget that includes the minimum funds necessary to operate and maintain schools and educational programs, preserve the property of the District and to assure the health and safety of the students and staff. Ordinary contingent expenditures are determined by the Board of Education and are subject to certain regulations.

Q: What would the District have to do to develop a contingency budget?
A: The current NYS laws include a new calculated tax levy cap for each school district. Richfield Springs’ calculated cap for next year is 2.01%, while our proposed tax levy is 1.99%. If a contingency budget happens, then the tax levy increase would be 0.00%. Certain items would need to be “cut” from the budget, according to State law. This reduction could hurt various educational and extra curricular programs like the summer program, sport programs, and class offerings.

Q: Why do we replace buses every year?
A: The District has had a replacement program in place for over 29 years. Currently, our transportation aid from NYS is 70.6%. We receive the aid the following year for five years. This allows for lower repair and maintenance costs and improved safety for our students. The budget includes purchasing 2 full-sized gasoline buses. By trading in older buses earlier, the district receives a higher trade-in value, too.
Representatives from area schools met with United States Representative Claudia Tenney on March 5 at the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES in New Hartford. The purpose of the meeting was to lobby for zero cuts in federal funding to Central New York schools.

As many are well aware, state and federal mandates continue to place a strain on local school districts and unfunded mandates drive up taxes. Other topics discussed were school security, the economic challenges of rural schools and the need for flexibility in using aid from the federal government.

*Pictured from L-R: Tom Shypski (RSCS Board of Education), Tony Bailey (RSCS Board of Education), Congresswoman Claudia Tenney and Bruce Watson (RSCS Board of Education).*
Students Participate in 8th Annual Youth Art Month Show

The artwork of 20 Richfield Springs junior-senior high school and elementary school students was selected for the 9th Annual Youth Art Month Show. For the entire month of March, the artwork was displayed at Bassett Healthcare in Herkimer. There was a special reception for the student artists, their parents and members of the community at Bassett on March 20 from 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Congratulations to all!

The following elementary school students had artwork displayed:

- Kindergarten – BreAnne Dye
- Kindergarten – Adalyn Ruffles
- 1st grade – Alana Carter
- 2nd grade – Brianna Riley
- 2nd grade – Liam Hickey
- 3rd grade – Camdon Seamon
- 3rd grade – Hunter Ought
- 4th grade – Sophia Spencer
- 5th grade – Tanner Schaffer
- 6th grade – Laken Dyn

The following junior-senior high school students had artwork displayed:

- Molly Bobnick - Color Pencil Tesselation
- Emily Bond - Acrylic Painting
- Courtney Cox - Color Pencil Tesselation
- Alicia Gee - Acrylic Painting
- Isabella Hudziak - Color Pencil Drawing
- Patty Johnson - Watercolor Painting
- Skyler Oakley - Color Pencil Drawing
- Gabrielle Rhyde - Acrylic Painting
- Liv Streit - Watercolor Painting
- Hunter Ward - Watercolor Painting

PRINCIPAL’S LIST
(Average 95+)

Grade 7
Kalen Barnhart
Maura Buck
Jordan Dilberto
Emily Diotte
Lauren Johnson
Margaret Worobey

Grade 8
Molly Bobnick
Courtney Cox
Isabel Martinez
Roberta Schafer-Gilbert

Grade 9
Sydney Burdick
Brooke Connolly
Dylan Dyn
Darren Panko

Grade 10
Orion Hazleton
Jayce Horender
Isabella Hudziak

Grade 11
Jacob Calta
Mashayla Davis
Jyllian Larkin
Liv Streit

Grade 12
Peyton Coones
Alexis Fahy
Gabriella Hudziak
Jessica Klem
Samantha Kurkowski
Dhara Patel
Jennifer Seamon
Bailey Waid
Hunter Ward
Victoria Young

HONOR
(Average 90.00-94.99)

Grade 7
Clay Bobnick
Isabel Pino Luz
Tselote Woldemichael

Grade 8
Claire Collins
Kalie Evangelow

Jaiden Gee
Elaina Johnson

Grade 9
Izabella Allen
Cole Bobnick
Katherine Kodz
Amy Seamon
Damon Thomson

Grade 10
Hannah Elkins
Holly Malinowski
Hunter Oldick
Julie Smith

Grade 11
Darien Gavalo
Kari Oakley
Jedediah Panko
Jacquelynn Thomson

Grade 12
Sarah Calta
Faith Graml
Patricia Johnson
Gabrielle Rhyde
Ashley Teachout

MERIT
(Average 85.00-89.99)

Grade 7
Hannah Bartl
Aliza Burdick
Amanda Burdick
Brett Clements
Jasmine Cool
Alexandria Gee
Brogan Graves
Joelle Griffith
Ethan Helin
Alexandria Kodz
Edith Mendez

Grade 8
Robert Boss
Alex Brown
Caroline Furner
Matthew Oldick

Grade 9
Samantha O’Connor
Brady Young

Grade 10
Christina Bourassa
Victoria L. Graml
Madison Landers
Haley Sheldrick
Rae Smith

Grade 11
Nicole Connolly
Markus Hammont
Trenton McLean
Alicia Pomeroy
Carlie Sapara
Jenna Ubner
Matthewos Woldemichael

Grade 12
Carl Burdick III
Joshua Misencik
Stephanie Sheldrick
Patrick Twomey
Dominick Uriah
Second Annual “Battle of the Books” Highlights the Fun in Reading

The Internet, smart phones and tablets -- it’s so easy to become immersed in today’s new and ever-changing technology.

But for one group of area students, “old fashioned” reading is still relevant and enjoyable.

On March 27, Richfield Springs Jr./Sr. High School hosted the Second Annual “Battle of the Books” featuring students in book clubs from six different school districts -- Richfield Springs, Dolgeville, Holland Patent, Waterville, Clinton and Mount Markham. The friendly competition pits the schools against each other in a round robin tournament. Teams are asked questions about a variety of books and can earn one point for naming the correct book title and another point for naming the correct author. One point is deducted for each incorrect answer.

“It’s an effort to promote reading and get kids excited about meeting other kids that like to read,” said Cindy Staley, librarian at Dolgeville Middle School and High School who served on the panel tasked with asking questions. “We want to make reading more fun and exciting.”

Before the start of summer, students belonging to a participating book club are given a list of 15 to 20 books to read. The questions for “Battle of the Books” -- most of which contain direct quotes -- are generated from the books. The Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES School Library System provides four copies of each book to every book club, which are shared amongst students.

In this year’s “Battle of the Books,” Dolgeville defeated Richfield Springs in the high school final and Clinton defeated Holland Patent in the middle school final. On top of each team member receiving a new book as a prize, Dolgeville High School and Clinton Middle School will move on to compete in the “Central New York” finals in Albany on April 18. There, they will be cheered on by their fellow area book clubs and will get to meet Joseph Bruchac, the author of more than 120 books for children and adults.

In Richfield Springs, the 10 high school students in book club also participate in a half year course worth one credit with English teacher Mrs. McCartney. Students, busy reading the books made available before the start of summer, either meet in person or through Google Classroom.

“I like how it pushes them out of their comfort zone,” said Mrs. McCartney, who believes the additional reading not only improves reading ability, but writing skills as well. “I ask my students to pick something to read that they think they are going to hate and like.”

Both McCartney and Staley hope “Battle of the Books” will grow to include even more schools in the years to come.
Class of 2018

Clark Scholarship Recipients

The Richfield Springs Central School District Class of 2018 Clark Scholarship recipients were announced on April 12.

The following seniors were awarded a scholarship based on their academic performance throughout high school:

Winners

Sarah Calta - Washington State University, Colorado State or Oklahoma
Peyton Coones - Siena College
Alexis Fahey - Utica College
Gabriella Hudziak - Utica College
Jessica Klem - Nazareth College
Samantha Kurkowski - Herkimer College
Dhara Patel - University of Rochester
Jennifer Seamon - Broome County Community College
Patrick Twomey - Herkimer College
Bailey Waid - Hartwick College
Victoria Young - Marist College

The Clark family, known as one of the most philanthropic families in the area, has been awarding scholarships through the Clark Foundation since 1961. Currently, the Clark Foundation’s scholarship program awards nearly $4 million annually to roughly 900 students in 12 school districts in northern Otsego and southern Herkimer counties.

According to the Clark Foundation, a scholarship is renewable each year of a student’s undergraduate program provided the student maintains at least a 2.0 grade point average each year of college. Each year, scholarship recipients are also required to forward their college transcripts for the fall and spring semesters to the Clark Foundation and annually meet with foundation staff to discuss their progress and the renewal of their awards.

Students who are not awarded a scholarship as a graduating high school senior can become eligible for a scholarship in college by obtaining at least a 3.0 grade point average for two consecutive academic semesters. College recipients must still have graduated from one of the 12 school districts served by the Clark Foundation’s scholarship program.

Kindergarten Celebrates the 100th Day of School

The Richfield Springs Central School District’s kindergarten classes always look forward to celebrating the 100th day of school!

The students create a writing piece about what it would be like to be 100 years old. It’s an all hands on deck project! Ms. Greenman helps students type out their responses on a computer and Mrs. Shaffer uses an app to take the students’ pictures that actually makes the students look like they are 100 years old!

This year, the students really enjoyed recording their written pieces. The best part was listening to each recording.

Athletic Banquet - May 29 -

The RSCS Sports Boosters would like to remind all athletes and parents that this year’s Athletic Banquet is on Tuesday, May 29! Tickets will go on sale the first week in May. If interested in purchasing a ticket, please see Mrs. Spytko. The deadline to purchase tickets is Thursday, May 24.

We hope to see all of our athletes and their parents at the banquet!
Richfield Springs
Central School District
93 Main Street
Richfield Springs, NY 13439

Board of Education
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Thomas Shypski
Bruce Watson
Tony Bailey

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO VOTE ON
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018