

WE'RE READY FOR  
2022-2023 - ARE YOU?



FALL 2022  
Volume 27, No. 1

# WILDCAT NEWS

## HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### WILDCAT PLEDGE

We nurture and empower each learner's unlimited capacity  
to become a responsible citizen with a promising future.

**OUR CATS ARE BACK AND READY TO ROAR!**



**SCHOOL SPIRIT IS BETTER THAN EVER AT HANCOCK!**



# SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



## THANK YOU, BOARD MEMBERS!

The Hancock Central School District joined the New York State School Boards Association and public schools across the state in celebrating School Board Recognition Week from October 17-21.

We commend BOE President Gene Homer, Vice President Christopher “Jake” Geer Sr., members Todd Jacobs and Cliff Johnston, and Wayne Highlands representative Lothar Holbert for their ongoing commitment to our students, staff, families and community.

Thank you for upholding the Wildcat Pledge to nurture and empower each learner’s unlimited capacity to become a responsible citizen with a promising future.

## HANCOCK CSD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Gene W. Homer, President  
 Christopher “Jake” Geer Sr., Vice President  
 Todd Jacobs  
 Cliff A. Johnston  
 Lothar Holbert, Wayne Highlands Representative

## REMAINING BOE MEETINGS

All meetings will start at 7 p.m. in the Hancock Central School District Office, unless otherwise noted.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>2022</b>  | 5/8 ....Regular Meeting/<br>Annual District Meeting   |
| 11/14 ....Regular Meeting  |   |
| 11/28 ....Regular Meeting  |   |
| 12/12 ....Regular Meeting  | 5/16 ....School Budget<br>Vote and Board<br>Election,<br>MS/HS<br>Auditorium,<br>2-8 p.m.<br><i>*Voting will be<br/>followed by special<br/>meeting to adopt<br/>budget results</i> |
| <b>2023</b>  |   |
| 1/9 ....Regular Meeting  | 5/22 ....Regular Meeting  |
| 1/23 ....Regular Meeting   | 6/12 ....Regular Meeting  |
| 2/13 ....Regular Meeting   | 6/26 ....Regular Meeting  |
| 2/27 ...Regular Meeting  |   |
| 3/13 ....Regular Meeting   |   |
| 3/27 ....Regular Meeting   |   |
| 4/10 ....Regular Meeting   |   |
| 4/24 ....Regular Meeting/<br>DCMO BOCES<br>Budget Vote and<br>Board Election |   |

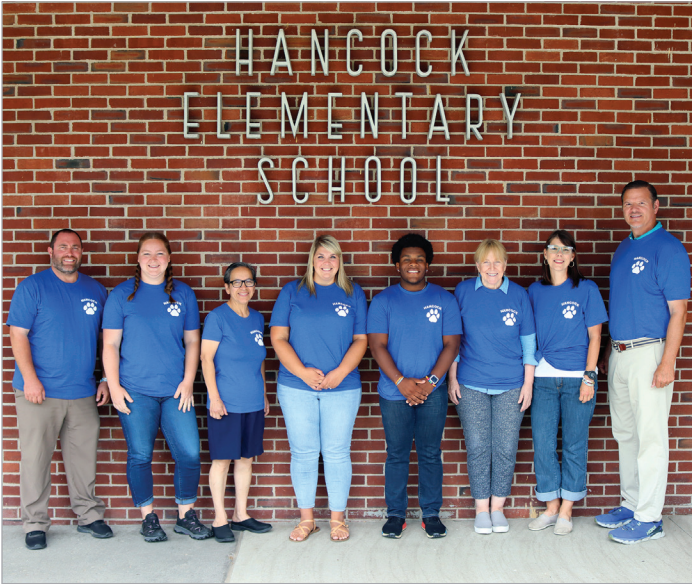
## VISIT US ONLINE!

Website: [www.hancock.stier.org/](http://www.hancock.stier.org/)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/HancockCSD/](https://www.facebook.com/HancockCSD/)  
 Twitter: [@HCSDWildcats](https://twitter.com/HCSDWildcats)  
 Sports Twitter: [@HCSAthDept](https://twitter.com/HCSAthDept)

# HANCOCK WELCOMES NEW TEACHERS!

Please join us in welcoming six new teachers to the Hancock Central School District for the 2022-2023 school year. Elementary School Principal/Director of Professional Learning and Staff Development Thomas Durkot (left) and Superintendent Terry Dougherty (right) posed with our newcomers during our August 19 orientation session at Hancock Elementary School. Our new teachers, from left to right, are Brooke Sherburne, Veronica Heesh, Ariel Kravetsky, Jackson Miller, Lori Rosendale and Kristin Webber.

HCS D thanks our mentors who helped the group prepare for the new school year, which officially started September 8 with the return of students. Mentors pictured in the back row of the second photo are (left-to-right) Denise Dirig, Patricia Gross, Marjorie Hull, Melissa Karcher and Kathi Herzog.



## FOOD SERVICES TO CHANGE IN DECEMBER

The Hancock Central School District would like to recognize Food Service Director Jo-Anne Smith for her decades of loyal service to our school community. Jo-Anne will retire December 1, when Hancock CSD will transition into the food services program offered by DCMO BOCES.

“We thank Jo-Anne for her years of service and wish her nothing but the best in her retirement,” HCS D Superintendent Terry Dougherty said. “We are equally excited to be joining the DCMO BOCES food services program and look forward to working with them to provide healthy meals to our students.”

More information on HCS D’s transition to the DCMO BOCES food services program is forthcoming.

## ADULT EDUCATION/HS EQUIVALENCY OPPORTUNITY

Are you interested in earning a high school equivalency diploma, or improving your reading, writing and math skills? There are free, self-paced classes available through Afton Central School’s Adult and Continuing Education program.

Two classes per week (total of six hours) are available at the following sites:

**Afton Central School:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-7 p.m.

**CDO Workforce Center, Norwich:** Mondays, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

**CDO Workforce Center, Oneonta (youths only):** Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Sidney Civic Center:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-noon

**Walton Elementary School:** Mondays and Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

For those unable to attend a class, there is program offered through the mail called GRASP (Give Ready Adults a Study Program). This program is designed for motivated people age 21 or older who work well on their own and possess good reading skills.

For more information about classes or GRASP, call June White, Director, at 607-639-2811 or 1-800-792-2145.

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL, WILDCATS!

Dr. Terrance Dougherty, Superintendent of Hancock Central School, released pertinent information concerning the school and plans for the 2022-2023 school year in early September. Personnel and the teaching staff are listed herein, as well as a schedule of the bus routes.

The Hancock Central School District Board of Education is comprised of President Gene Homer, Vice President Christopher “Jake” Geer Sr., Todd Jacobs, Cliff Johnston, and Wayne Highlands representative Lothar Holbert.

In addition to Dr. Dougherty, Hancock’s administrative staff includes MS/HS Principal Julie Bergman, ES Principal Director of Professional Learning and Staff Development Thomas Durkot, and CSE Chairperson/School Psychologist Kaila Gamble.



## TEACHING STAFF

Our teaching staff for the 2022-2023 school year is as follows:

### Hancock Elementary School

Pre-K/ELA AIS, Melissa Karcher; Kindergarten, Marjorie Hull; Grade 1, Kerrie Bass; Grade 2, Candice Milk; Grade 3, Kathryn Cooper; Grade 4, Roseann Prescott; Music, Loa Noyd; Art, Autumn Kellam; Special Education, Patricia Robinson and Heather Saxby; Library, Kristin Webber; Physical Education and Computers, Jackson Miller; Reading Specialist, Lori Rosendale; School Counselor, Lori Rajoppi; LPN, Cindy Alderman.

### Hancock Middle School

Grade 5, Kristen Rice and Roberta Vasconi-Smith; Grade 6, Gloria White; Grades 7-8 Math, Jodi Wormuth; Grades 7-8 English, Denise Dirig; Grades 7-8 Science, James Kelly; Grades 7-8 Social Studies, Karin Nyberg; Spanish, Veronica Heesh; Instrumental Music, Michael Massaro; Vocal Music, Loa Noyd; Physical Education, Devon Bedient and Brooke Sherburne; Special Education, Kristina Dufton, TBD, and Angie Hazen; Special Education Teaching Assistants, Brenda Smith and Tish Drumm; Art, Autumn Kellam; Middle School Computers, Chance Charles; Home & Careers, TBD; Technology, Ken Held; School Counselor, Joan Rice.

### Hancock High School

Social Studies, Kelly DaBrescia and Matt Davis; English, Denise Dirig and Patricia Gross; Math, Kim Makowski, Ann Mangefrida, and Kristy White; Instrumental Music, Michael Massaro; Vocal Music, Loa Noyd; Library, Kristin Webber; Science, James Kelly, Jeremy Mann and Thomas O’Boyle; Business, Kim Makowski; Special Education Teaching Assistants, Jackie Petriella and Brenda Smith; Art, Autumn Kellam; Health, Brooke Sherburne; Home & Careers, TBD; Technology, Ken Held; Foreign Language, Veronica Heesh; Special Education, TBD, Kathryn Herzog, Ariel Skotch, and Ann Mangefrida; Distance Learning, Matt Davis; Physical Education, Devon Bedient and Brooke Sherburne; Athletic Coordinator, Devon Bedient; School Counselor, Joan Rice; School Nurse and Attendance Officer, Jennifer Hunt; and Dean of Students, Judy Ellis.

## SUPPORT STAFF

Our support staff for the 2022-2023 school year is as follows:

The secretarial staff includes Tammi Wadeson, Superintendent’s Office; Vicky Kravetsky, MS/HS Main Office; Jennifer Brock, ES Office; Audrey Price, Health Office; Randi Appley, Guidance Office; Jennifer Gill, Business Office; Cindy Gill, CSE Office.

Others in support roles are Bonnie Robinson, HS/MS



Library; Brenda Sherburne, Special Education Aide; Barbara Christian, Betsy Poborsky, Michelle Rutledge and Amy Wormuth, ES Monitors; Tonia Hollen, IT Coordinator; Joshua Roenfeldt and Jason Moreno, PC/LAN Tech I.

Jo-Anne Smith returns as School Lunch Manager, with Stephanie Kuehn and Lisa Rieman on her cafeteria staff.

Jodi Newman is Transportation Director, with Kelly Czapnik as Automotive Mechanic and Gary Miller as Mechanic's Helper. Randi Appley, Brienne Cobb, Sara D'Elia, Melissa Newman, Linda O'Brien, Karen Soulier, Paul Vetrone, and Michelle Wormuth are our Bus Drivers, and Carolyn Rhinebeck is a Bus Monitor.

Jodi Newman also serves as Director of Facilities and Maintenance, with Greg Gill, Shaun Gotthardt, Jason Mead, Anthony Miller, Edward Mitchell and Shaun Shannon assisting as Custodians.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**School Meals:** For the 2022-2023 school year, all students – regardless of family income – are eligible to receive one breakfast and one lunch every regular school day at no cost to their families. Students can purchase additional items, including a second full lunch in grades K-4 for \$2.50 and in grades 5-12 for \$2.75. Students also can purchase a second full breakfast in grades K-12 for \$1.50.

**School Pictures:** All students must sit for the school photographer for an official 2022-2023 picture. Students/families are not obligated to buy a photo package from the studio, but current student photos are required to be on file at the district. School pictures were scheduled for September 20 (Grades 5-12) and September 27 (PK-4).

**Student Planners:** Students in grades 3-12 received a student planner to assist with organizing assignments and school-related events. Students in grades 5-12 have

hall passes printed in their planners to sign into and out of classrooms. All students received a copy of the Student Handbook, which includes the HCS Code of Conduct, on the first day of school. Students were to review the handbook with their parents/guardians and return a signed Statement of Understanding to their homeroom teacher by September 16. The Statement of Understanding is located at the back of the handbook.

**BOCES Opportunities:** Select high school students have the opportunity to pursue occupation-education courses on a half-day basis through a cooperative program with other schools at DCMO BOCES Harrold Campus on Route 206, between Trout Creek and Masonville.

**Distance Learning:** Hancock High School continues to offer distance learning courses that provide our students with the opportunity to earn college credits while attending high school.

**Student Arrivals/Departures:** Students may not enter HCS D buildings until 7:50 a.m. (breakfast is available at that time). For students in Grades 5-12, drop-offs and pick-ups are only allowed at the front of the high school. For students in PK-4, parents/guardians must park in the designated parent/visitor lot, in front of the playground or in the overflow staff/faculty lot for drop-offs and pick-ups. As per the fire code, parking in front of the Elementary School building is prohibited for any reason.

### REGULAR BUS ROUTES

School will begin at 8:05 a.m. during regular school days for the 2022-2023 school year. Bus routes are as follows:

- Bus #133:** Fishs Eddy, Klondike
- Bus #137:** Readburn, Tar Hollow
- Bus #132:** French Woods, Route 97, LaBarre
- Bus #140:** Sands Creek Road, Dry Brook Road, Bus Garage Stop
- Bus #135:** Silver Lake, West End, Peas Eddy Rd., Academy St.
- Bus #143:** Apex, Cadosia, Dug Road
- Bus #131:** Lordville, Stockport Road, Baudendistal Road
- Bus #136:** Special Education/DCMO

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To email HCS D teachers and staff directly, please use our online directory at <https://www.hancock.stier.org/Directory.aspx>. You also can send mail to HCS D at 67 Education Lane, Hancock, NY 13783, or call the following numbers for help:

- District Office:** 607-637-2511
- District Office Fax:** 607-637-1380
- MS/HS Main Office:** 607-637-1305
- MS/HS Health Office:** 607-637-1310
- Elementary Main Office:** 607-637-1219
- Elementary Health Office:** 607-637-1220

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL, WILDCATS!



# OH, WHAT A NIGHT!

Thanks to everyone who attended our HCS Curriculum Night and HES Open House on campus September 22!

We hope you all had a great time meeting teachers, visiting classrooms and learning all about the programs we offer, as well as the many options available to our students after they graduate!

Special thanks to the The Hancock Community Education Foundation for arranging visits from college/university admission recruiters and representatives of local trades and businesses for a special College and Career Night in the HCS cafeteria. And congratulations to our very own HCS students *Averonia Curtis* and *Hunter Oddo* on winning \$500 scholarships from the HCEF!



# DEDICATED TO HCS VETS!

Thank you to the Legacy of Honor and Hancock Legion Post 289 for dedicating a flagpole, flag and bluestone bench to U.S. veterans who have “walked the halls” at HCS before our September 24 home football game against Harpursville/Afton at Hancock Football Field.

Randy Whiting from the Legacy of Honor and members of Hancock American Legion Post 289 led the dedication, which was open to the public.

The Legacy of Honor pays tribute to the service and sacrifice of the Whiting’s son, SSG Justin R. Whiting, U.S. Army Special Forces. A Hancock High School graduate, Justin died for his country at age 27 on January 19, 2008, while serving in Iraq.



# QUEEN OF THE CATS!

Congratulations to our 2022 Homecoming Queen Sophia Schaffer!



Hancock's Homecoming Court included queen candidates (left-to-right) Makiryn Ostrander, Sophia Schaffer, Kaelin Cobb, and Aaliyah Fairbairn. Other members of our Homecoming Court were (winners in ALL CAPS): **King: Tyler Allen, Jakob Biedermann, ANTON LEONARD, and Aiden Smith.**

**Prince: Marco Avila, Corey Barnhart, Dante Perillo, Wyatt Persbacker, and LANDYN SHAFFER.**

**Princess: OLIVIA JOHNSTON, Kaycee Karcher, Estherlita Louis, Leigha Mead, and Amelia Waldron.**



Homecoming activities included an in-school pep rally, an after-school parade and a football game to cap our annual Fall Spirit Week. We also recognized seniors *Ronnie Ellis* (33) and *t(75)* for their contributions to the Deposit-Hancock football program before playing Spencer-Van Etten/Candor under the lights at the Hancock Football Field.







# 2022-2023 Hancock Cent

## THE WILDCAT PLEDGE:

We nurture and empower each learner's unlimited capacity to become a responsible citizen with a promising future.

## OUR VISION:

Striving for excellence as an innovative, advanced and reflective school community.

## CORE BELIEFS:

- Our Mindset: We do continuous growth because we can learn.
- Collaboration: We work together.
- Innovation: We embrace technology.

### I. PROGRAMS—PROMOTE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.

- Objective 1: Increase learning by ensuring engaging and rigorous curriculum, instructional, and assessment practices.
- Objective 2: Utilize data to inform instruction and improve learning.
- Objective 3: Enhance students' experience with project-based learning, such as STEAM or career pathways, to develop independent learning skills.
- Objective 4: Implement Integrated Career Readiness (ICR) model.
- Objective 5: Ensure a safe, supportive, and caring learning environment through increased social-emotional learning (SEL) awareness.
- Objective 6: Continuously improve the effectiveness of RtI and SST, PK-12.
- Objective 7: Develop effective interventions to increase student attendance, participation, and engagement.
- Objective 8: Implement the 2022-24 Strategic Action Plan.
- Objective 9: Enhance and expand the effective use of technology as an instructional tool.

### II. COMMUNICATIONS

- Objective 1: Create a comprehensive branding guide.
- Objective 2: Expand the districts social-media reach to additional platforms.

### III. DISTRICT CLERK/SUPERINTENDENT SECRETARY

- Objective 1: Assist new board trustees to understand procedures and work effectively.
- Objective 2: Explore additional ways to maximize the use of nVision system and its capabilities.

### IV. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION

- Objective 1: Create an inviting environment.
- Objective 2: Create a multi-modal transportation system.

### V. FOOD SERVICES

- Objective 1: Implement trauma-informed Food Service Program.
- Objective 2: Implement Community Supported Agriculture Program.

### VI. TECHNOLOGY

- Objective 1: Develop a plan to leverage existing and more effective resources that support learning.
- Objective 2: Look for opportunities to partner with other schools to understand how to best use resources.

### VII. SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK

- Objective 1: Learn more about the current state of the district's financial systems.
- Objective 2: Explore ways to leverage technology of technology with the rest of the district.



# Central School District Goals

whatever it takes to ensure  
because we believe each of us

work better together, always.  
praise creativity and advancing

- Integrity: We trust, respect, support and care for one another.
- Learning Environment: Our approach is engaging, learner-centered and adaptable to individual needs.
- Equity: We ensure equity and create access and opportunity for all.
- Student-Centered: We put students first.



## TRANSPORTATION

Inventory (sheet) of O&M equipment.  
Age and school-bus safety day.

Transition to BOCES-managed Food  
Program.

Implement in the 2022-2023 school year.

Plan for relationship building with staff  
to effectively connect faculty and staff with  
resources available through the RIC.

Identify opportunities to help faculty better  
understand how data can help them.

## WORK

Clarify the business official duties.

Implement to save time by more effective use  
of resources and better planning coordination  
of the central office.

## VIII. BUSINESS OFFICE

Objective 1: Develop a plan for transitioning to a new superintendent/business manager.

Objective 2: Create a master task/role chart listing who does what and who is the backup, and also internal control. Set up a retreat for all the people doing business-office functions to flesh out roles and responsibilities, clarify procedures, etc.

## IX. ATHLETIC COORDINATOR

Objective 1: Create an equipment inventory and scheduled replacement plan.

Objective 2: Learn nVision system as it relates to the role of Athletic Coordinator.



DCMO BOCES Printing Service

## Parents as Partners Webinar Series

2022-23

This webinar series provides families and staff in participating districts and companies access to all 10 live zoom webinars. Each session will be recorded and available for the entire school year. Each live webinar will take place at 6:30pm EST

### WAYS TO ADVOCATE FOR YOUR CHILD AND PARTNER WITH THE SCHOOL OCTOBER 18

When you have a child for whom school is challenging, for one reason or another, it is critical to have effective communication and a positive relationship with the school (teachers, administrators, mental health professionals, and others on the team). However, school meetings can feel intimidating and overwhelming. Parents and caregivers can feel as though their child is misunderstood, or they themselves can feel



### JENNIFER BASHANT

Jennifer L. Bashant, Ph.D., LMSW, MA, founder of Building Better Futures LLC, is an Educational Consultant and Trainer, with the mission to provide

## FREE WEBINARS CONTINUE IN 22-23!

The Hancock Central School District has again partnered with Building Better Futures to present Dr. Jennifer Bashant's Parents as Partners Webinar Series at no cost to Hancock families!

Parents as Partners webinars are absolutely FREE for all HCSD parents/guardians who register for them. Separate registrations are required for each 6:30 p.m. webinar (schedule below).

Those who register will receive a link to a recording of the webinar, regardless of whether they attend the live session. Each link will be active through June 30, 2023, giving those who registered anytime access to the webinars. Please note that these links are only for HCSD parents/guardians who register and may not be posted/shared on a website or social-media platform for public use.

Full webinar descriptions are available online at <https://www.jenniferbashant.com/parent-series>. For more information about Building Better Futures, visit <https://www.jenniferbashant.com/> online.

### Parents as Partners Schedule

The complete list of free webinars for HCSD parents/guardians follows. Just click the links under the dates to register for the webinars you would like to join or access at a later time.

**October 18, 2022:** Ways to Advocate for Your Child and Partner with the School  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_i1QSe-YTQ5CGG-07QFz52A](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_i1QSe-YTQ5CGG-07QFz52A)

**November 1:** Depression and Suicide  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_JJsyGc-5RBufecZrlkgQrA](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_JJsyGc-5RBufecZrlkgQrA)

**November 15:** Social Media Overload and the Epidemic of Loneliness  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_lR2Uw9hxSbSgLt4EOCp-5Q](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_lR2Uw9hxSbSgLt4EOCp-5Q)

**December 6:** Collaborate Rather than Dominate: A Process for Solving Difficult Problems  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_jmpNYNMkTpKpfsp-O4hUgg](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_jmpNYNMkTpKpfsp-O4hUgg)

**January 17, 2023:** Help Your Child Learn to Manage Strong Emotions  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_0JtBZXQrSKCeoWHJIVSYyg](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_0JtBZXQrSKCeoWHJIVSYyg)

**January 31:** Ways to Motivate and Engage Your Child  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_GIAWEiCZRPiENcIHDpIdng](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_GIAWEiCZRPiENcIHDpIdng)

**February 28:** Building Executive Function Skills  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_oEEMO2oGTU-NykYrDog\\_pg](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_oEEMO2oGTU-NykYrDog_pg)

**March 3:** Understanding the Impact of Childhood Trauma  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_sGdwS-xLTOK4OuqAebxMmw](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/wn_sGdwS-xLTOK4OuqAebxMmw)

# ALL STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR NO-COST MEALS IN 2022-2023

All Hancock Central School District students are eligible to receive one breakfast and one lunch at no cost to families every school day during the 2022-2023 school year.

No-cost meals are possible this school year as HCSD will participate in the USDA Food and Nutrition Service's National School Lunch and Breakfast programs. Additional meals and a la carte food items (milk, snacks, etc.) must be purchased on site or through online prepayments via MySchoolBucks.com.

Although no fees or forms are required for students to receive one no-cost breakfast and one no-cost lunch per school day, parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to complete and return the Community Eligibility Provision inserts in our 2022-2023 District Calendar. These CEP applications help determine the amounts of other funds that benefit HCSD students.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call 607-637-1320. You also can see school menus and more by visiting our Nutrition Services page online at <https://www.hancock.stier.org/NutritionServices.aspx>.



Mia Cotza



Dominic Rajoppi



Lillie Walker



Kennedy Stanton

## MORNING PROGRAM SCHOLARS!

Congratulations to the following Hancock Elementary School students for earning Scholar of the Month awards from The Hancock Community Education Foundation during our Morning Program on October 21!

**Mia Cotza, March 2022:** Nominated by teacher Kerrie Bass. She is the daughter of Massimo and Valentina Cotza of Hancock.

**Dominic Rajoppi, April 2022:** Nominated by teacher Kristin Rice. He is the son of John and Loriann Rajoppi of Equinunk, Pennsylvania.

**Lillie Walker, May 2022:** Nominated by teacher Kerri Bass. She is the daughter of Willie Walker and Brittany Butler of Hancock.

**Kennedy Stanton, October 2022:** Nominated by teacher Kathryn Cooper. She is the daughter of Aaron Stanton and Jennifer Swendsen of Susquehanna, Pennsylvania.

The Scholar of the Month Program is sponsored by Camp Hilltop and was established by the Hancock Community Education Foundation to encourage parents/guardians, as well as students, to begin saving as early as possible to prepare for college education costs.

Each award of \$100 is deposited into the child's student account and will be kept in trust for them until they graduate from Hancock Central School and enter a 2 or 4-year college. Eighty-seven percent of Scholar of the Month Award winners who have graduated from HCS have gone on to a college or trade school, or enlisted in the military.

For more information, visit [www.hancockeducationfoundation.org](http://www.hancockeducationfoundation.org) online.



# Instructional Calendar

JULY 2022						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST 2022						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER 2022 (17+2)						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER 2022 (19+1)						
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER 2022 (18)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER 2022 (16)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**KEY**

- No School—Vacation Day
- Offices Closed
- Staff Development Day
- Regents & State Exams

**JULY 2022**  
4 4th of July, Offices Closed

**AUGUST 2022**  
16-17 Regents Exams

**SEPTEMBER 2022**  
5 Labor Day—No School, Offices Closed  
6-7 Staff Development Day—No School  
8 First Day for Students

**OCTOBER 2022**  
7 Staff Development Day—No School  
10 Columbus Day—No School, Offices Closed

**NOVEMBER 2022**  
11 Veterans Day—No School, Offices Closed  
23-25 Thanksgiving Recess—No School  
24-25 Offices Closed

**DECEMBER 2022**  
23-30 Holiday Recess—No School  
26 Christmas (Observed), Offices Closed

**JANUARY 2023**  
2 New Year's (Observed)—No School, Offices Closed  
16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—No School, Offices Closed  
24-27 Regents Exams

**FEBRUARY 2023**  
20-21 Presidents' Day Recess—No School  
20 Offices Closed

**MARCH 2023**  
17 Staff Development Day—No School

**APRIL 2023**  
3-7 Spring Recess—No School  
7 Good Friday, Offices Closed  
19-26 NYS ELA Testing, Grades 3-8

**MAY 2023**  
2-9 NYS Math Testing, Grades 3-8  
23 NYS Science Performance Test, Grade 8  
29 Memorial Day—No School, Offices Closed

**JUNE 2023**  
5 NYS Science Written Test, Grade 8  
14-22 Regents Exams  
19 Juneteenth—No School, Offices Closed  
23 Rating Day, No Regents  
23 Graduation

JANUARY 2023 (20)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2023 (18)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH 2023 (22+1)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL 2023 (15)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY 2023 (22)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE 2023 (16)						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



## WE THE PEOPLE ...

...of Kathryn Cooper's third-grade class created a "Class Constitution" on September 16 – the day before the Constitution of the United States turned 235 years old.

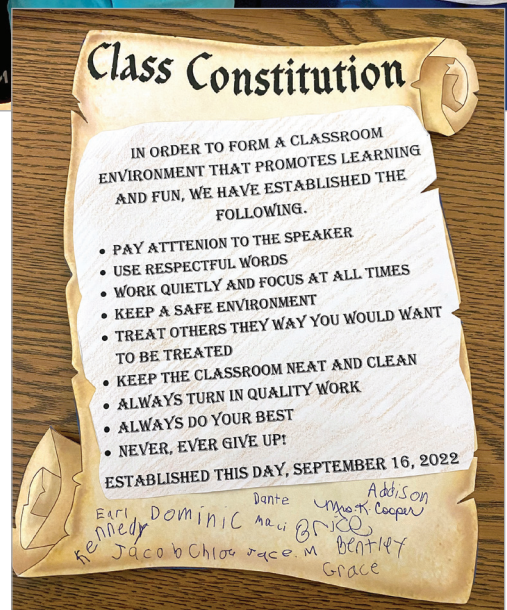
### Class Constitution

In order to form a classroom environment that promotes learning and fun, we have established the following.

- Pay attention to the speaker
- Use respectful words
- Work quietly and focus at all times
- Keep a safe environment
- Treat others the way you would want to be treated
- Keep the classroom neat and clean
- Always turn in quality work
- Always do your best
- Never give up

Established this day, September 16, 2022

Students also created flipbooks with information, interesting facts, and puzzles to learn all about the U.S. Constitution. Well done and thanks for setting a great example for everyone!



## NEW SCHOLARSHIP!

Sidney Federal Credit Union recently announced a new scholarship – The James Suriano & Wayne King Community Service Scholarship – for college-bound or current college students who are SFCU members.

Visit <https://sfcuonline.org/scholarship2023> for information on this scholarship. Applications must be submitted no later than January 7, 2023. The recipient will be announced in May.

More scholarship opportunities for Hancock Central School seniors are available on our online Scholarships page at <https://www.hancock.stier.org/Scholarships.aspx>.



## SAFETY FIRST!

Who says you can't have fun and learn important information at the same time?

Hancock students had a great time during our annual district-wide School Bus and Fire Safety Day on a gorgeous fall morning October 20.

We thank all of the local emergency responders who took time out of their busy days to teach and connect with our kids. Special thanks to HCSD Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation Jodi Newman and her crew for coordinating visits from members of the Hancock Fire Department, Hancock Police Department, Life Net of New York, New York State Environmental Conservation, New York State Forest Ranger Police (featuring Smokey the Bear), and Town of Hancock Ambulance.

Check out some of the action from a day to remember right here on campus!







## HCS D Emergency Closing Procedures and FAQs



# WHEN SEVERE WINTER WEATHER STRIKES



### Introduction

Winter weather in the Catskill Mountain Region and Northeastern Pennsylvania can be very unpredictable. When severe weather strikes our area, our number one concern is the safety of all Hancock Central School District students. Specific plans and protocols are in place to ensure that all students and staff members arrive at school safely.

### Decision-Making Process

The decision to close school is made by the Superintendent of Schools working in consultation with the District Transportation Supervisor and representatives from New York State, Delaware County, DCMO BOCES, and the Town and Village of Hancock. Information provided by various weather-service reports, newscasts, and computer simulations also factor into the decision-making process. The Superintendent of Schools and Transportation Supervisor will drive on primary and secondary roads in the District to evaluate travel safety as needed. Variables that factor into the decision include, but are not limited to, amount and type of snow or freezing rain, timing of first snowfall and anticipated end, ability to clear primary and secondary roads and District parking lots, building conditions, temperature, wind and wind chill.

Depending on a host of circumstances and factors, the District may elect to delay the start of school by two hours (until 10 a.m.); close for the day; dismiss early at 12:30 p.m.; or cancel all afterschool events at the end of the day.

### Communications Plan

In general, the decision to delay the start of school or to close for the day is made no later than 5:30 a.m. and is subsequently communicated to all stakeholders no later than 6:00 a.m. using the following communication methods:

**Cell phone/telephone:** Global Connect Call from 607-637-8000

**HCS D website:** [www.hancock.stier.org](http://www.hancock.stier.org)

**HCS D Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/HancockCSD>

**HCS D Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/HCS DWildcats>

**Radio:** WAAL, WDNH, WENE, WHWK, WINR, WNB F, WWYL, Magic 101.7, STAR 105.7

**Television:** WBNG, WBRE, WICZ, WNEP, WYOU, YNN

The same methods will be used to communicate early dismissals and afterschool cancellations.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### When is the decision made to close or delay school?

In general, the following timeline is used to frame school closing and delay decisions:

- 5:30 a.m.—Preliminary decision is made to close or delay school
- 5:45 a.m.—Media outlets are notified of closing/delay
- 6:00 a.m.—Decision to close/delay is communicated to all district stakeholders
- 10:00 a.m.—If school has started and weather conditions deteriorate, the decision to dismiss early is communicated at this time
- 12:30 p.m.—Early dismissal time when school has started and weather conditions have deteriorated
- 1:00 p.m.—If school has started and weather conditions deteriorate, the decision to cancel afterschool activities is communicated at this time

### Who makes the decision to delay or close school?

The Superintendent of Schools makes the decision to close school in concert with the District Transportation Supervisor, NYS and county officials, and Village and Town of Hancock officials. In addition, select television and weather forecasts factor into the decision-making process.

### If school is closed, are evening and weekend activities canceled?

If HCS D is closed due to inclement weather, all evening activities are also canceled. If school has started and weather conditions deteriorate, a decision to continue afterschool activities will be made no later than 1 p.m.

## As a parent/caretaker, can I keep my child home on inclement weather days?

Parents/caretakers are encouraged to use their best judgment to determine what is best for their children. Parents/caretakers must notify the District when their children will be absent.

## Are we going to have to make up snow days?

HCSD builds additional days into the school calendar each year to account for time lost to inclement weather. In the event this additional time is exhausted due to extraordinary weather conditions, HCSD's Board of Education retains the right to extend the school year by scheduling school during vacation holidays (such as the mid-winter break in February or the annual spring recess).

## What are some states of winter weather declared by the National Weather Service?

The National Weather Service may make the following declarations when severe winter weather is forecast to present a potential risk to travelers:

- **Winter Storm Watch:** Conditions are favorable for heavy sleet, heavy snow, ice storm, heavy snow and blowing snow, or any combination to meet or exceed local winter storm warning criteria in the next 24-72 hours. Criteria for snow is 7 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or 9 inches or more in 24 hours covering at least 50 percent of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger a watch (i.e., 5-8 inches of snow = watch).
- **Winter Storm Warning:** Heavy sleet, heavy snow, ice storm, heavy snow and blowing snow, or any combination is expected to meet or exceed local winter storm warning criteria in the next 12-36 hours. Criteria for snow is 7 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or 9 inches or more in 24 hours covering at least 50 percent of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger warning (i.e., 5-8 inches of snow = warning).
- **Winter Weather Advisory:** Sleet, snow, freezing rain, snow and blowing snow, or any combination is expected to meet or exceed local winter weather advisory criteria in the next 12-36 hours but stay below warning criteria. Criteria for snow is 4 inches or more in 12 hours or less covering at least 50 percent of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger advisory (i.e., 2-5 inches of snow = advisory).

## What are some states of winter weather declared by Delaware County?

Delaware County may make the following declarations when severe winter weather is forecast:

- **State of Emergency:** This declaration may be made by the County Chief Executive in the event that conditions are so severe as to require additional resources by the county. Included in the declaration of a state of emergency may be various "orders," which could include road closures for the entire county or for specific roads within the county. Road-closure orders are meant to keep non-essential persons off the roads and to help keep the roads clear of motorists so that highway departments can more effectively clear them. The Superintendent of Schools is charged with determining which district personnel are considered essential and thus authorized to travel on roads that have been ordered closed.
- **Travel Advisory:** Delaware County also may issue a travel advisory in conjunction with the State of Emergency declaration or as a standalone "order." A travel advisory is just that – an advisory to motorists to alert them that road conditions may be deteriorated and that travelers should use caution.

Unless otherwise stated by Delaware County, the decision to delay or close school remains at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.

## For More Information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

**Terrance P. Dougherty**

Hancock Central School District Superintendent of Schools

[tdougherty@hancock.stier.org](mailto:tdougherty@hancock.stier.org) | 607-637-1301



# HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

67 Education Lane, Hancock, New York 13783  
[www.hancock.stier.org](http://www.hancock.stier.org) • HS/MS office: 607 637-1305

## HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Christopher "Jake" Geer Sr., Vice President  
Todd Jacobs  
Cliff A. Johnston  
Lothar Holbert, Wayne Highlands Rep.

**CURRENT RESIDENT OR**

### Visit Us

Website: [www.hancock.stier.org/](http://www.hancock.stier.org/)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/HancockCSD/](http://www.facebook.com/HancockCSD/)  
Twitter: [@HCSWildcats](https://twitter.com/HCSWildcats)  
Sports Twitter: [@HCSAthDept](https://twitter.com/HCSAthDept)

**ECRWSS**

**BOXHOLDER**

## Call Me!

With Facebook, Twitter, texting and countless other communication tools at our fingertips, we certainly have embraced all of the advantages of new technology. Nonetheless, the best way to communicate within the Hancock Central School District is to call us.

When you need clarification, additional information, an answer to a pressing question, etc., or have any recommendations or concerns, the best practice is to call the Main Office of your child's school. Classroom or course-specific questions can be directed to your child's teacher via a call to the Main Office.

Email can be effective when reaching out to school officials. In most cases, though, it is best to use email to schedule a phone call or a face-to-face meeting. The dialogue that can be established with a phone call cannot be duplicated via text or email.

Parents should consult and follow this Communications Chart when attempting to contact the District about the following issues.

For Questions About	1st Contact	2nd Contact	3rd Contact	4th Contact
Academics	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Director	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Behavior	Teacher	Director of Pupil Personnel/ PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
BOE Policies	District Clerk	Superintendent	Board of Education	
Budget	Business Administrator	Business Manager	Superintendent	Board of Ed.
Building Use	PK-12 Principal	Supt. Buildings & Grounds	Supt. Secretary	Superintendent
Cafeteria	Café Manager	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Classroom Procedures	Teacher	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Co-Curricular	Advisor	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Facilities	Supt. Buildings & Grounds	Superintendent		
Health Office	Building Nurse	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent	
Scheduling	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Special Education	Teacher	Director of Pupil Personnel	PK-12 Principal	Superintendent
Transportation	Bus Driver	Transportation Director	Superintendent	

### Contact Information

Elementary School Office.....	607-637-1219	Elementary School Health Office.....	607-637-1220
Middle/High School Office.....	607-637-1305	Middle/High School Health Office.....	607-637-1310
CSE Office.....	607-637-1374	Transportation Department.....	607-637-5322
Food Service Office.....	607-637-1320	Buildings and Grounds.....	607-637-1313
Superintendent's Office.....	607-637-1301		