

# WILDCAT NEWS

HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPRING NEWSLETTER  
SPECIAL BUDGET EDITION  
VOLUME 21, NO. 3

[hancock.stier.org](http://hancock.stier.org)



## 2018-2019 Spending Plan Represents a 1.97% Increase on the Local Tax Levy

### 2018-19 Proposed Budget

With this issue of the *Wildcat News*, we present the proposed 2018-2019 budget for the Hancock Central School District. Please review this information carefully. The annual budget hearing is set for Monday, May 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Middle/High School Auditorium, and the annual budget vote is slated for Tuesday, May 15, from 2:00-8:00 p.m. in room 203.

Inside you will find the highlights of the proposal compared with the current year's budget. The \$11,291,458 spending plan represents a 1.16% increase in expenditures compared to the current year. Furthermore, we estimate an average tax levy increase of 1.97% over the current year. **This proposed increase in the tax levy is well below our allowable tax cap levy limit of 2.0%.** Some residential tax rates may fluctuate because of the STAR program and changing tax equalization rates. Factors that have contributed to this fiscal outlook include the following:

- Ongoing fiscal prudence demonstrated by the Board of Education, Administrative Team, and the Business Manager.
- A continuing commitment to working cooperatively with our neighboring school districts to cut costs through BOCES.
- Savings in health insurance costs netted through negotiations with various collective bargaining units in the school district.
- Savings netted through restructuring of existing staff responsibilities, including the reorganization of the Business Office (superintendent assumes executive oversight with the retirement of Scott McDowall) and the Technology Department with the retirement of Bill Christian and replacing him via a BOCES service.

- Budget adjustments along non-instructional lines.
- Cuts in equipment and supplies.

The proposed 2018-2019 spending plan successfully balances fiscal responsibility and the maintenance of existing program offerings. If you would like a more detailed summary of the budget proposal, copies are available at the Hancock Central School District Offices, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please stop by to pick up a copy, or give us a call at 637-1301 and we will gladly mail a copy to your home.

Thank you for your ongoing support and continued commitment to our School District. We welcome your questions or comments about this proposal. Again, feel free to contact us at 637-1301 or attend the budget presentation on May 7.

Respectfully,  
*Terrance P. Dougherty, Ph.D.*  
Superintendent of Schools

### 2018-2019 Budget Hearing

MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018

7:30 P.M.

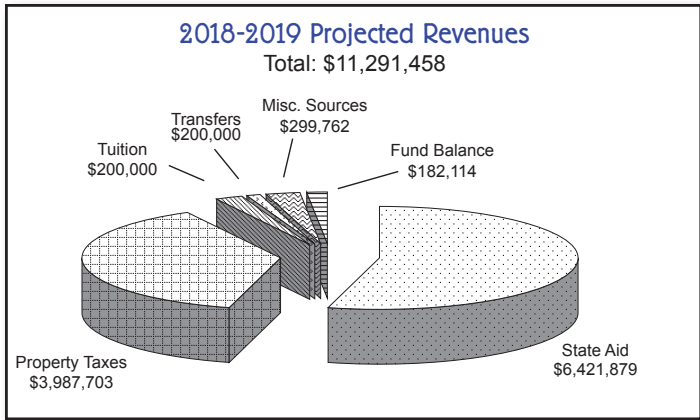
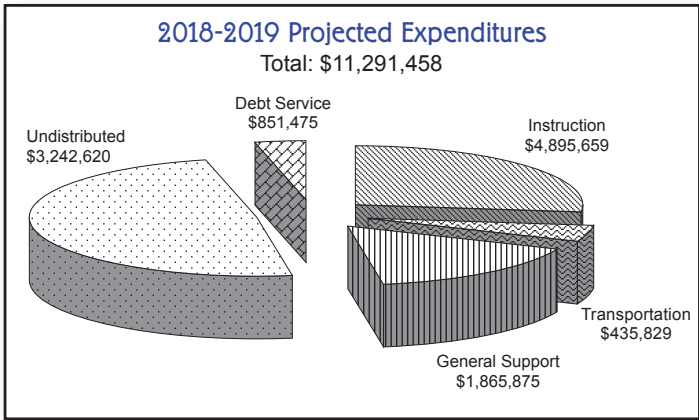
MS/HS AUDITORIUM

### 2018-2019 Budget Vote

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018

2:00-8:00 P.M.

ROOM 203



## Expenditures for 2018-2019

### INSTRUCTION

Current year	\$4,992,788
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$4,895,659</b>

Covers the expenses of the teaching staff, building administration, in-service training, instructional equipment, BOCES services, and programs for the handicapped. School libraries, occupational education, and summer school are included here. Attendance, health, guidance, social work, special education, co-curricular programs and interscholastic sports are all in this category.

### UNDISTRIBUTED

Current year	\$3,253,670
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$3,242,620</b>

Covers contractual employee benefits such as health insurance, Social Security, retirement system contributions, unemployment and workers' compensation, and interfund transfers.

### GENERAL SUPPORT

Current year	\$1,669,892
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$1,865,875</b>

Covers building maintenance supplies and equipment, in addition to all non-instructional personnel. Central administration, legal fees and Board of Education expenses are budgeted here.

### DEBT SERVICE

Current year	\$843,913
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$851,475</b>

This area includes principal and interest on the bond payments for the 2007 \$7.8 million renovation project.

### TRANSPORTATION

Current year	\$401,490
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$435,829</b>

This area includes all expenses related to the daily transportation of students.

## Revenues for 2018-2019

### STATE AID

Current year	\$6,272,146
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$6,421,879</b>

This area represents NYS aid in all categories including regular operating aid and building aid.

### PROPERTY TAXES

Current year	\$3,910,493
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$3,987,703</b>

This is the local share of the budget, to be raised through the school tax levy. A significant portion of this amount will actually be paid for many residents through the NYS STAR program.

### TUITION

Current year	\$260,000
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

This is primarily tuition from the Wayne-Highlands District for our Pennsylvania students. Other tuition receipts for special education placements are also included here.

### TRANSFERS

Current year	\$200,000
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>

This category includes transfers from our capital reserve account, and/or other reserves.

### APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE

Current year	\$282,114
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$182,114</b>

The appropriated fund balance consists of funds saved during the current year to be applied to the next year's budget to offset taxes.

### MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES

Current year	\$237,000
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$299,762</b>

Included here are funds received from interest and penalties on tax payments, refunds of prior years' obligations, and payment in lieu of taxes.

## Budget at a Glance

### EXPENDITURES

Current year	\$11,161,753
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$11,291,458</b>
Expenditure increase	\$129,705
Change of	1.16%

### REVENUES FROM LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES

Current year	\$3,910,493
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$3,987,703</b>
Property tax increase	\$77,210
Change of	1.97%

#### Managed expenditures support . . .

- ✓ Continuing implementation of the NYS standards
- ✓ Increased health insurance costs
- ✓ Contractual obligations for staff salaries
- ✓ State mandated retirement cost increases
- ✓ Support of existing instruction programs

## Tax Rate Changes

These are worst case estimates based on currently available State aid, assessment and equalization figures. Final figures could be significantly different.

### TOWN OF HANCOCK

Current year	\$101.57/\$1,000 assessed
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$103.58/\$1,000 assessed</b>
Change of	\$2.01 or 1.97%

Property in the Town of Hancock is currently assessed at 12.49% of market value.

### TOWN OF DEPOSIT

Current year	\$313.24/\$1,000 assessed
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$319.42/\$1,000 assessed</b>
Change of	\$6.18 or 1.97%

Property in the Town of Deposit is currently assessed at 4.05% of market value.

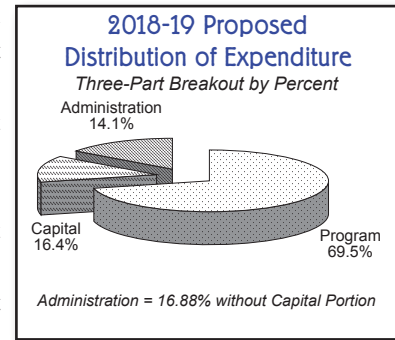
### TOWN OF TOMPKINS

Current year	\$322.80/\$1,000 assessed
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$329.18/\$1,000 assessed</b>
Change of	\$6.38 or 1.97%

Property in the Town of Tompkins is currently assessed at 3.93% of market value.

## Three-Part Budget Documentation

With the enactment of Chapter 436 of the 1997 Laws of New York State, a school district's proposed budget must be presented to the voters in a three-part format. Below, you will find the proposed 2018-2019 budget in that format along with comparative data from the current year's budget.



### PROGRAM

Current year	\$7,658,555
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$7,850,893</b>
Change of	\$191,991

The Program Component of the three-part budget includes all expenses related to the delivery of instruction including instructional salaries and benefits, transportation operating expenses, textbooks and instructional supplies, and instructional equipment. Interscholastic and extracurricular activities are also included here.

### CAPITAL

Current year	\$1,826,235
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$1,846,546</b>
Change of	\$20,311

The Capital Component of the three-part budget includes all expenses related to debt service, leases, tax proceedings, facilities expenses including maintenance personnel, custodial personnel and all maintenance supplies and equipment.

### ADMINISTRATION

Current year	\$1,665,583
<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>\$1,594,019</b>
Change of	(\$71,564)

The Administrative Component of the three-part budget includes building and central administrative and support salaries and related costs, staff travel, consultant fees, expenses of the Board of Education and all staff training expenses.

The Administrative Component is 14.12% of the total proposal. If the Capital Component is removed, then the Administrative Component is 16.88% of the remainder.

## NYS STAR Program Example

School Tax Billing • \$50,000 full value home  
 Non Senior Citizen school tax bill without STAR = \$646.83  
 Non Senior Citizen school tax bill with STAR = \$263.83  
 Senior Citizen school tax bill with STAR = \$0.00  
 (Senior Citizen annual income under \$60,000)

STAR Exemption: Hancock—\$383.00, Deposit—\$386.00, Tompkins—\$388.00 • All figures based on current year assessments and equalization rates.

## Board of Education Candidates



**CHRISTOPHER "JAKE" GEER**

My name is Christopher "Jake" Geer and I am running for a seat on the Board of Education for the Hancock Central School District. I have been married to my wife, Sarah, for 17 years and we have two teenage sons, Chris Jr. and Aaron. My wife and I purchased our home in the Town of Hancock in 2001 and have been

very blessed to have lived in Hancock all of our lives.

I am a 1992 graduate of Hancock Central School, which I attended from kindergarten through 12th grade. While living in Hancock, I have been employed with the Town of Hancock for the last 16 years and have served as the CSEA Union President for the last six years. As Union President, I have negotiated three labor contracts with the Town of Hancock.

I have been a firefighter for the Hancock Volunteer Fire Department for more than 20 years, spending several of those years as Chief and Assistant Chief. During my time as Chief, I applied for and was awarded several grants that helped to purchase necessary equipment at no expense to our taxpayers.

I also have been a Fire Commissioner for the Hancock Rural Fire District for the last eight years. We have kept our costs down and have not raised the Rural Fire District's taxes in more than three years.

Additionally, I have spent the last six years as President of the Hancock Youth Football League. During this time, I have had the pleasure of watching our children turn into young men and women who have learned the value of true sportsmanship.

When I decided to run for the Board of Education, I was asked, "Why run for the school board?"

The answer is simple: The students.

The Board of Education is responsible for making sure our students have high academic standards and the tools they need to achieve their goals. This can be accomplished through the Board of Education, students, parents, educators and community support.

Lawrence Mbogoni said, "It takes a whole village to raise a child." When one of those factors is missing, it is the students who suffer. As a parent of a child with a learning disability, I understand the importance of this unity. It all starts with the Board of Education. Morale is a priority when it comes to our educators and district staff.

I feel that my many years of volunteering in multiple programs have given me the resources and experience needed for our students' success. I have experience working with budgets and grants, which allows me to have an open mind pertaining to the budgets that impact our students, staff and parents for generations to come. I ask for your support because this is a Time for Change.



**MONIKA NOBLE**

My name is Monika Noble and I have lived in Hancock with my husband for the last 10 years. We have two children, ages 6 and 10, who both attend Hancock Central School.

At the beginning of the year, I was asked to fill a vacant seat on the Board of Education. Being a BOE member for a few short months made me realize that I would like to be more involved in decisions and developments within the school system. With two children in elementary school, I'm hoping my involvement will influence changes that positively affect the future of the district. This is the main reason I decided to stay on the Board.

I grew up in Poland, where I earned a master's degree in Economics. Today, I work for the Town of Hancock as a Budget Officer and Bookkeeper to the Supervisor. I have extensive knowledge in fund accounting as well as budgeting and the health insurance market. I'm hoping my financial knowledge will help me better serve the district as a Board member.

I'm very passionate about our community, too. That's why I'm on the Hancock Little League Board, a member of the St. Paul's Church Financial Committee and a member of the Hancock Fire Department Auxiliary. I look forward to continuing my service as a member of the Hancock CSD Board of Education.





## REBECCA SMITH

My name is Rebecca Smith and I am running for re-election to the Hancock Central School Board of Education.

I was born and raised in Hancock. I graduated from Hancock Central School in 1989 and went on to earn my bachelor's degree from SUNY Geneseo. When my husband, Jay, and I decided where we

would like to settle down, we chose to remain in Hancock. We loved growing up in this area, and wanted all of the advantages that a small town offers for our family. Our three daughters, Meghan, Rachel and Katie, have or will all be graduates of the Hancock Central School District as well.

During my career, I have been employed in the banking, insurance and financial industries, all within the local area. I have been the Operations Manager at Lourdes Primary Care in Hancock for the past seven years. A great part of my job is that I'm always looking for ways to bring more healthcare to the community. I love giving back to our community and being a part of opportunities to improve services and offerings for everyone. I also have been actively involved in my church, Girl Scouts and other various activities that are focused on community service.

Almost 10 years ago, I was asked to fill an open term on the Board of Education. At the time, all of my daughters were attending school in the district and I felt it would be a great way to give back. I come from a family that highly values education, and I wanted to be able to help increase the educational opportunities of all of the children of the district.

During my tenure, we have seen many challenges toward the goal of raising the level of education for our students. Many times, outside factors dictate what the district can and can't do. Locally, we are left to navigate these factors as best we can. The Board has always worked very well together, which has helped in trying to work through those changes.

The district brought college-course offerings to our students while I was on the board, giving me an opportunity to encourage and support a wonderful gift that costs our children little or nothing. I am very proud of this program, which increases our kids' competitiveness with students from larger areas when college-hunting; saves students and families' large amounts of money when it comes time for college; and gives our students a taste of what college workloads will be like.

Our community has lost so many opportunities, taking our youth away with the jobs as a result. Having better-educated young people might be a key to bringing those opportunities back to the area. It's my hope that the more advantages we give the next generation, the more the community will reap in return.

I humbly ask for your vote on May 15th and thank you for your continued support of the Board of Education and School District.

## Working Together

### SUMMER JOBS AVAILABLE

**Do you know anyone age 14-20 who lives in Delaware County and needs a summer job?**

If so, we can help!

With another increase in minimum wage, it seems harder than ever for young people to compete with adults for summer employment opportunities. That's where the Delaware County CDO Workforce comes in, offering a Summer Youth Employment Program for Delaware County residents ages 14-20 who are interested in a summer jobs in their own communities. A summer job can help youths earn money, explore fields of interest and learn valuable life skills.

The Delaware County Department of Social Services, Office of Temporary Disability Assistance, The O'Connor Foundation, and the Walton Fairground Board provide funding for Delaware County's SYEP, which enables youths to participate in paid-work experiences and educational workshops.

Applications for the SYEP are available at your high school guidance office as well as the Delhi and Sidney CDO Workforce offices. Completed applications must be received by June 8. Income and non-income slots are available, but opportunities are limited.

For more information, call the Delhi CDO Workforce at 607-832-5777, or the Sidney CDO Workforce at 607-832-5776.

## New Face



## JOSHUA ROENFELDT

The Hancock Central School District welcomes Joshua Roenfeldt as its new Field Service Technician.

Binghamton native and Johnson City High School graduate Roenfeldt joined Broome-Tioga BOCES in Binghamton as a software support specialist in January. He previously worked as a PC Repair Technician at Computer Emergency Room in Vestal.

Roefeldt will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of hardware, software and other classroom technology. He helps to replace Bill Christian, who retired March 31 after 20 years as the HCSD Technology Coordinator.



*The Hancock Middle School Chorus and the cast of "Annie" entertained guests of the Senior Rotary Luncheon on March 15!*

## Akshar All-Star

### HANCOCK JUNIOR HONORED BY SENATOR

Surprise, **Thomas Schoonmaker!**  
You're an Akshar All-Star!

Thomas is the latest recipient of the coveted red T-shirt from New York State Senator Fred Akshar, who stopped at the Hancock Central School District on April 11 to honor the junior for making a difference.

"Thomas, I struggled just to get through high school," Akshar said shortly after walking into the High School Spanish classroom of Danielle Gross, who taught the Senator at Afton in the 1990s. "You'll be leaving here as a member of the Honor Society, yes? As well as leaving here with a college degree? And that's on top of everything else you do. That's a pretty big achievement and you should be incredibly proud of yourself.

"You're a leader and you're clearly focused and driven," Akshar continued. "I think those traits will help you significantly as you move through your adult life. Don't rush it, but continue to do the things you're doing and I know that you'll be successful."

Thomas also participates in the Yes! Leads program and earned Scholar-Athlete and First Team All-Conference honors from the Midstate Athletic Conference for bowling this past winter.

The son of Heather and Jamie Schoonmaker of Hancock, Thomas became the 24th student from New York State's 52nd District honored by Akshar's student-recognition program, which started this past October. Akshar went on to recognize students in Waverly and Spencer-Van Etten later in the day.

According to the Republican Senator's website, [www.nysenate.gov/senators/fred-akshar](http://www.nysenate.gov/senators/fred-akshar), Akshar visits three-to-four District All-Stars each month, giving each a red #TeamAKSHAR T-shirt, a framed certificate and a challenge coin for showing "great leadership, compassion, school spirit or improvement amongst their peers."

After the presentation, Akshar took part in two question-and-answer sessions with HCSO high school students. Superintendent Terry Dougherty, High School Principal Lori Asquith, Board of Education President Terry Whitt, and BOE Vice President Rebecca Smith were among the HCSO representatives who attended Akshar's visits to Gross' Spanish Room and Matt Davis' United States History Room.



## Speech and Debate

### DYNAMIC DUO OFF TO NATIONALS!



There is no debate: **Lily Ogozalek** and **Emily Rubera** are that good!

The two Hancock Central School sophomores reached the finals in all of their categories during the Iroquois District National Qualifier for Speech and Debate, which ran February 23-24 at McQuaid Jesuit in Rochester. Students from New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont participated.

Lily competed in Dramatic Interp and Duo, and Emily represented Hancock in Duo and Congressional Debate. Their Duo piece was a parody of Harry Potter titled, "Gary Trotter and the Man Whose Name We Cannot Say Due to Copyright Infringement," by Patrick Bates.

Although Lily and Emily placed third overall in Duo—missing an automatic berth to nationals—they are still going to the National Speech and Debate Association national tournament this June in Fort Lauderdale, FL. McQuaid had multiple first-place finishes and relinquished its Duo spot to compete in the World Schools Debate category at nationals. By doing so, Lily and Emily moved up in Duo to No. 2, which also carries an automatic berth to nationals.

This marks the second straight year Lily has reached nationals. Last year, she competed in Birmingham, AL.

Coached by Monica Whitt, the girls also qualified to compete at the National Catholic Forensic League Tournament on Memorial Day Weekend in Washington, D.C. The two needed a top-three finish at the Leatherstocking Region District Tournament to advance to the NCFL event, which features private and public schools from across the country. Lily and Emily finished second at the district qualifier in early March at Mount Markham High School.

Congratulations to the girls for their strong finishes in a category with tough competition!

# National Circus Project

A TOUGH ACT TO FOLLOW!



Hancock Central School District students entertained more than 200 parents, grandparents and community members March 16 to cap a weeklong visit from the National Circus Project.

Students in grades K-9 who take advantage of the Hancock Community Education Foundation's free After School Program received a week's worth of training from the NCP before the big show March 16. The week began with an assembly of entertainment featuring performers from the circus.

The NCP is an arts-in-education group that promotes student participation in school arts and physical education activities by using *circus* as its theme. Students learn and practice physical fitness and motor skills through juggling, plate-spinning, *devil stick* manipulation and balancing on stilts.

The workshop was partially funded by the Arts Education Grant program, a local re-grant program of the Roxbury Arts Group. These grants are made possible with funds from the Decentralization (DEC) program of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA).



## State Selections

### LEGION PICKS FIVE FOR STATE PROGRAMS

Hancock American Legion Post 289 selected five Hancock Central School District students to attend weeklong American Legion state programs this summer.

**Thomas Letosky** and **Owen Wormuth** will represent Hancock at the American Legion Boys State, which runs June 24-29, at SUNY Morrisville State College.

**Erin Evanitsky**, **Riley Ostrander** and **Katherine Smith** were selected to participate in the Empire Girls State, set for July 1-7, at SUNY Brockport.

Letosky is the son of John and Linda Letosky of Hancock. Wormuth is the son of Bernard and Kara Wormuth of Hancock. The Boys State immerses high school students in citizenship and leadership training and teaches them practical aspects of government in New York State. They also will participate in physical fitness, teamwork and other activities under the guidance of American Legion counselors and the U.S. Marines.

Evanitsky is the daughter of Randy and Bridget Evanitsky of Lakewood, PA. Ostrander is the daughter of Eric and Tracie Ostrander of Hancock. Smith is the daughter of Jay and Rebecca Smith of Hancock. Girls State is a hands-on leadership program teaching patriotism and American government at the county and state levels. This program, accredited by the National College Credit Recommendation Service, is a non-partisan attempt to teach high school junior girls about government, politics and Americanism.

For more information on the state programs, visit the websites <https://nylegion.net/boys-state/> and <http://www.empiregirlsstate.org/>



*Hancock American Legion Post 289 selected five Hancock Central School District students to attend weeklong American Legion state programs this summer. From left to right, Erin Evanitsky, Riley Ostrander, Katherine Smith, Owen Wormuth and Thomas Letosky.*



## Annie Musical

### HANCOCK'S A HIT!

The Hancock Central School District treated the community to the musical *Annie* on April 6 and 7. The following students had parts in the musical.

#### Cast List

Annie, **Chiara Wormuth**

Mr. Oliver Warbucks,

**Patrick Esolen**

Miss Abigail Hannigan,

**Lily Ogozalek**

Miss Grace Farrell,

**Emily Rubera**

Rooster Hannigan,

**Harrison Layman**

Lily St. Regis, **Trinity Crawson**

#### Servants

Drake, **Nicholas Gross**

Mrs. Greer, **Katie Smith**

Mrs. Pugh, **Randi Thomson**

Annette, **Michaela Mirch**

Cecille, **Ashley Hanstine**

Maid, **Haylee Zartman**

#### Orphans

Molly, **Vanessa Horton**

Lucy, **Hailey Wormuth**

Pepper, **Hannah Mitchell**

Peggy, **Zaida Whitaker**

Tessie, **Mackenzie Allen**

Nancy, **Kailey Peterson**

Kate, **Daegan MacDowell**

Duffy, **Marietta Simmons**

Lulu, **Kelsie Newman**

July, **Addison Makowski**

Betty, **Lola White**

#### Hooverville

Lt. Ward, **Katie Smith**

Bundles, **Nicholas Gross**

Sandy Dog, **Andrea Cotza**

Homeless—**Ashley Hanstine,**

**Randi Thomson, Michaela**

**Mirch, Haylee Zartman,**

**Trinity Crawson, Cameron**

**Barringer, Harrison Layman,**

**Nick Gross**

#### The President and Cabinet

Pres. Roosevelt,

**Cameron Barringer**

Ms. Perkins, **Michaela Mirch**

Mr. Ickes, **Nicholas Gross**

Mr. Morgenthau,

**Harrison Layman**

Ms. Howe, **Randi Thomson**

Ms. Hull, **Haylee Zartman**

#### Radio Station

Bert Healey, **Cameron Barringer**

Wacky, **Harrison Layman**

Boylan Sisters—**Katie Smith,**

**Ashley Hanstine, Randi**

**Thomson**





## Preston Students

### HANCOCK, WAYNE HIGHLANDS EXTEND AGREEMENT

The Hancock Central and Wayne Highlands school districts will extend their contractual agreement to allow Preston Area School students to attend Hancock High School through the 2020-21 academic year.

Each district's Board of Education agreed to the extension, Hancock Central School District Superintendent Terry Dougherty announced Thursday, April 12. As a result, the Wayne Highlands School District will continue to pay tuition to the Hancock Central School District so students from Pennsylvania's Preston Area School may attend Hancock High School in New York.

The 2018-2019 agreement stipulates \$4,866 per student annually, with a surcharge of \$2,343 for every Pennsylvania student who attends BOCES. The per-student rate will increase to \$5,000 in 2019-2020, with the BOCES rate increasing to \$2,407. Additionally, HCSD receives State Aid for average daily attendance for every student who attends in any given school year—including the non-resident students from Pennsylvania.

Hancock is less than 10 miles north of Lakewood, PA, and therefore offers the closest high school option for Preston Area School students. The Hancock Central School District has welcomed students from the Wayne Highlands School District for more than 40 years. Since the 1994-95 academic year, the relationship has produced no fewer than 20 Pennsylvania students who graduated high school as valedictorian or salutatorian.

The support of Mr. Lothar Holbert has been vital to the success of this ongoing relationship. A Pennsylvania resident, Holbert is president of the Wayne Highlands School District Board of Education and a non-voting member of the Hancock Central School District BOE.

"We look forward to continuing our outstanding relationship with the Wayne Highlands School District for many years to come," Dougherty said. "In an era of great uncertainty and change in public education in New York State, Hancock remains grateful to Wayne Highlands for demonstrating tremendous loyalty and a steadfast commitment to providing flexible educational opportunities for families residing in the Preston attendance zone."

## Student Safety Summit

### HANCOCK, SENATOR TALK STUDENT SAFETY

Students **Lauren Sokal** and **Alyssa Makowski** joined Principal Lori Asquith in representing the Hancock Central School District during Senator Fred Akshar's School Safety Summit on March 23, at the Binghamton State Office Building.

A roundtable discussion focusing on school safety, gun control, mental health and school resource officers drew 120 students from schools districts throughout the 52nd Senate District.

"No topic was off limits," Akshar wrote on his website, [www.nysenate.gov/senators/fred-akshar](http://www.nysenate.gov/senators/fred-akshar). "These young men and women's ability to have meaningful, articulate and respectful conversations about important issues no matter whether they disagreed with one another was a breath of fresh air and a sign of what's absolutely right in our society and our community."

The summit served as a follow-up to the New York State Senate's passing of a package of critical school safety measures earlier in March. The package is intended to strengthen security and help keep students safe.

The website [www.nysenate.gov](http://www.nysenate.gov) recently posted that "the bills increase the ability of schools to hire qualified security personnel; create new state funding mechanisms for infrastructure investments that improve school safety; increase access to school-based mental health services; expand state actions and intelligence coordination to protect schools against attack; and strengthen penalties for crimes on school grounds."

Sokal, Makowski and Asquith had front-row seats during the summit, as seen a little more than a minute into Akshar's video diary of the event, and later posed for a selfie with the Senator.

To see the video, visit the website: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XejBwOtsIdk&feature=player\\_embedded](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XejBwOtsIdk&feature=player_embedded)

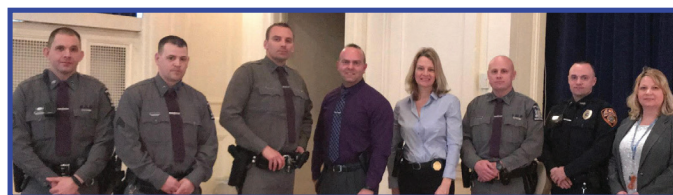
*Hancock Central School District students Lauren Sokal, left, and Alyssa Makowski flank Senator Fred Akshar while posing with HCSD Principal Lori Asquith on March 23 at the Binghamton State Office Building. The Hancock trio took part in Akshar's Student Safety Summit, a roundtable discussion focusing on school safety, gun control, mental health and school resource officers.*



## Committed to Safety

### HCS DISTRICT STAFF TAKES PART IN ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

HCS District staff members took part in an Active Shooter Training session with local law enforcement



April 9 in the High School Auditorium.

The purpose of the session was to help staff identify an active shooter and establish procedures to follow in the event of a crisis situation. Topics included behavior awareness, law enforcement response, lockdown procedures and how to react, among others.

The session was part of HCSD's commitment to school and student safety, which is in line with our Wildcat Pledge and Vision Statement.

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

**Vision Statement:** *Striving for excellence as an innovative, advanced and reflective school community.*

## Hancock Globetrotters YOUNGS HIT MOUNT EVEREST

Tyler and Kelsey Young got to the bottom of things during spring break.

The brother-sister duo recently returned to the Hancock Central School District after spending 14 days together on a family vacation to the Middle East. The Youngs burned nine of those days hiking to the Nepal side of the Mount Everest Base Camp, where the kids posed for a few snapshots while holding United States and Hancock Central School flags.

“This was kind of a last hurrah for our family vacations before Tyler goes to college,” said sophomore Kelsey, 16, a star athlete for the Wildcats cross country, basketball, and track and field teams. “Our vacations are all about cultural experiences and seeing other parts of the world.”

Kelsey was quick to point out that annual trips to places such as the Himalayas, Costa Rica, Peru and Switzerland—to name a few—are made possible by her parents.

“They know how to budget,” Kelsey said of father Scott and mother Ann, who run Camp Hilltop and Hilltop Alpacas, LLC, in Hancock.

Tyler, 18, said he was all-in for the family’s last vacation before he goes to college to study environmental biology.

“We visited a lot of religious sites along the way and the mountains were really pretty,” Hancock football and basketball standout Tyler said after describing a travel itinerary that included 12-hour flights, lengthy layovers, challenging hikes in high altitudes, and even a helicopter ride. “But your depth perception is totally gone. You’d look up and see an airplane and swear it was going to crash into the mountains. They’re so big, they don’t even seem real.”

So is there a life lesson lurking within this family trip?

“We can definitely see how easy we have it,” Kelsey said. “The people there work so hard and don’t have much to show for it, but they’re so happy. They do everything with a smile on their face.”



## Reading Challenge THE MAGIC OF BOOKS

The Hancock Central School District’s Quarter of a Million Minutes Reading Challenge had every student in the district reading every day from March 8 until April 13.

Magician David Moreland amazed the students with magic tricks, storytelling and audience participation on the opening day of the challenge to celebrate the wonderful world of reading and the magic found in books.

Reading logs were distributed and the total number of reading minutes for all classes were calculated each week and recorded on a school *thermometer* to chart the district’s progress toward 250,000 minutes of reading.



## Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!



Fourth-graders from the classes of Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Prescott (pictured) and many others helped Hancock Central School wish Dr. Seuss a Happy Birthday in March!

# Winter Sports

## HCSD STUDENT-ATHLETES HONORED

The following Hancock Central School District students earned Scholar-Athlete honors from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association for the 2017-18 winter sports season.

Boys—**Tyler Allen**, bowling; **Billy Gleim**, bowling; **Jackson Miller**, basketball; **Thomas Schoonmaker**, bowling; **Owen Wormuth**, wrestling; **Tyler Young**, basketball.

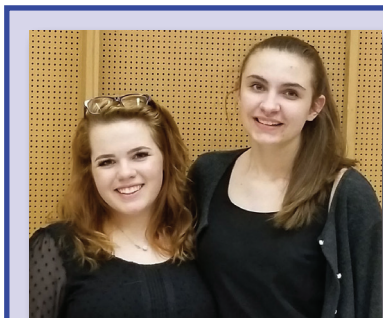
Girls—**Lana Evanitsky**, bowling; **Kaylee Gill**, basketball; **Brenna Gleim**, bowling; **Trinity Gotthardt**, basketball; **Ashley Hanstine**, bowling; **Mikayla Kravetsky**, basketball; **Alyssa Makowski**, basketball; **Malorie Rutledge**, basketball; **Kelsey Young**, indoor track and field.



*Hancock’s Midstate Athletic Conference Winter Scholar-Athletes for the 2017-18 sports season. From left to right, Jackson Miller, Basketball; Thomas Schoonmaker, Bowling; Kelsey Young, Indoor Track; Owen Wormuth, Wrestling; Alyssa Makowski, Basketball; Brenna Gleim, Bowling.*



*The following Hancock athletes earned First Team honors from the Midstate Athletic Conference for the 2017-18 winter sports season. From left to right, Ashely Hanstine, Bowling; Laycee Drake, Basketball; Brenna Gleim, Bowling; Thomas Schoonmaker, Bowling; Anton Leonard, Bowling. Drake also made the roster for Section 4’s annual Stars & Stripes basketball showcase.*



*Vanessa Tompkins and Lily Ogozalek participated in All-County Choir in March. To see a video of the performance, visit the Twitter post [twitter.com/LoaNoyd/status/975053452337385472](https://twitter.com/LoaNoyd/status/975053452337385472)*

Additionally, HCSD earned Scholar-Athlete Team Awards from the NYSPHSAA in Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Girls Bowling and Indoor Track And Field. The basketball teams featured players from Deposit.

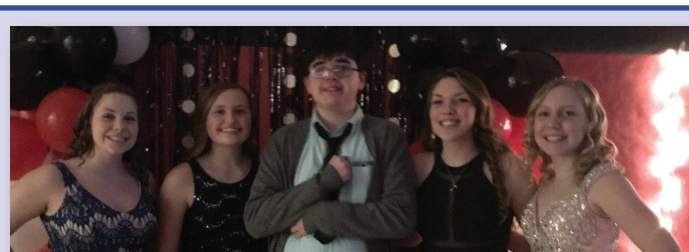
Congratulations to all of our winter NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athletes!



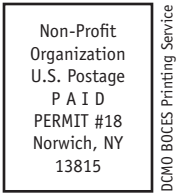
*Our 2017-18 winter athletes celebrated during the Hancock CSD Winter Sports Banquet in early March.*



*Hancock basketball players Tyler Young and Malorie Rutledge earned Second Team honors from the MAC this past winter.*



*Our kids were all smiles at the 2018 Hancock CSD semi-formal dance in March!*



**Board Members**

Terry Whitt, President  
Rebecca L. Smith, Vice-President  
Gene W. Homer  
Todd Jacobs  
Monika Noble  
Lothar Holbert, Wayne Highlands Rep.

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

ECRWSS  
BOXHOLDER

## Propositions

**PROPOSITION #1**

Shall the Board of Education of the Hancock Central School District be authorized to expend a sum not to exceed \$11,291,458 for the fiscal year 2018-2019 and to levy the necessary tax for the local contribution thereto?

**PROPOSITION #2**

Shall the budget for the Louise Adelia Read Memorial Library in the amount of \$82,827 for the fiscal year 2018-2019 be approved and the Board of Education of the Hancock Central School District be authorized to levy the necessary tax for the local contribution thereto?

**PROPOSITION #3**

Shall the Board of Education expend from the Capital Reserve Fund (transportation), last authorized by the voters in May 2017, a sum not to exceed \$200,000 for the purchase of one 20-passenger wheelchair bus type A, two 20-passenger Chevy van buses type A, one 28-passenger Chevy van bus type A and one Chevrolet Equinox?

**PROPOSITION #4**

**For Construction, Repair, Reconstruction of Capital Improvements and Acquisition of Equipment**

Shall the Board of Education establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of Education Law 3651 (1)? The purpose of the fund is for construction, repair, and reconstruction of capital improvements and the acquisition of equipment. The ultimate amount of the fund shall be \$400,000. The probable term shall be 5 years. The source from which funds will be obtained can include any or all of the following: unappropriated fund balances from the general fund as determined by the Board of Education, state aid related to expenditures from the capital reserve fund, interest income related to investment of monies in the fund, and any other additional monies thereafter authorized by the voters of the District or as otherwise may be lawfully approved.

HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL		2018-19 School District Budget Notice		
Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted 17-18	Budget Proposed 18-19	Contingency Budget 18-19*	
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 11,161,753	\$ 11,291,458	\$ 11,275,013	
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$ 129,705	\$ 113,260	
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.16%	1.01%	
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%		
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 3,910,493	\$ 3,987,703		
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ 0	\$ 0		
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$ 0	\$ 0		
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ 0	\$ 0		
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 3,910,493	\$ 3,987,703	\$ 3,971,258	
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 202,539	\$ 256,166		
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 3,736,817	\$ 3,796,901		
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 3,707,954	\$ 3,731,537		
I. Difference: (G - H) Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval **	\$ 28,863	\$ 65,364		
Administrative Component	\$ 1,676,963	\$ 1,594,019	\$ 1,591,539	
Program Component	\$ 7,658,555	\$ 7,850,893	\$ 7,849,814	
Capital Component	\$ 1,826,235	\$ 1,846,546	\$ 1,833,660	
Est. Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount			
	Desc: Bus Purchases	Desc: Capital Reserve for Construction and Repair		
\$ 383.00	\$ 200,000	\$ 400,000		
*Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2018-19 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.				
The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2018-19 by the qualified voters of the Hancock Central School District, Delaware County, New York, will be held at the Hancock Central School Auditorium in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Hancock Central School District, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.				
<sup>1</sup> The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.				
**Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements.				