



# FRONTIER NEWS

Fall 2018

HAMBURG, NY 14075



*Middle school student Kylie Sikorski shows classmate Tanner Smaczniak the Frontier Central Schools mobile app.*

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## Frontier Central Schools Premier's Mobile App

Many good things are happening at Frontier Central School District. Now parents, students, alumni and community members can keep up with school news and events using their smart phones.

The Frontier Central Schools App is available for free download in the Apple iTunes and Google Play stores. The mobile app is customizable to what schools interest you. After you download, you will be prompted to "follow" the schools from which you wish to receive news.

Once set up, the app has features including Top Stories, Infinite Campus, My School Bucks, Menus, Sports Schedules, Calendar, and more.

To download, go to your app store and search for "Frontier Central Schools." Look for the Falcon!

"There is no doubt Frontier is a top school district. Examples of our students' and staffs' excellence are apparent every day. This mobile app is one of the ideas we are embracing to increase communication and provide better service," Dr. Richard J. Hughes, Frontier Superintendent, said.

The mobile app also has a notifications feature that you will be asked to opt into upon downloading. These helpful notifications are one more way to easily stay informed of what is happening with the district or a particular school. These notifications will not replace emergency notifications and automated calls through Infinite Campus.



**Frontier Welcomes  
New Administration**



William Thiel  
Director of Finance



Danielle Kalinski  
Assistant Director of Pupil Services



James Helmicki  
High School Assistant Principal

**League of  
Distinguished  
Alumni**

Formed in 2014, the League of Distinguished Alumni honors the achievements of Frontier Central's most accomplished alumni whose successes will be forever known to students, alumni and the Frontier community at large. Nominations are made annually, and are due by the first week in February. Nomination forms are available in the High School Principal's Office and on the District website: [www.frontier.wnyric.org/Page/8646](http://www.frontier.wnyric.org/Page/8646).

**Message from the  
Superintendent**



Dr. Richard J.  
Hughes

Hello to all our Falcons and families!

The start of the school year has been a great one on so many levels. It's easy to see and feel the energy throughout our school district. Our excellence can be seen from the high expectations for learning happening in the classrooms to the shine of the floors and the visible smiles that greet our Falcons and families. I can't do anything else but smile and be grateful for being a part of the Frontier Nation.

The fall also saw a couple special examples of Frontier Pride. The first month culminated with an outstanding Homecoming. By the end of the week, there was no doubt that we all "Bleed Blue." The high level of participation, including over 900 High School students at the Homecoming dance, shows what we are capable of doing by working together. To cap it off, the community overwhelmingly approved the multi-use field proposition by just shy of 80%. This is the highest passage rate in ten years or more and the highest voter turnout since 2014. Thank you for the support you give all our Falcons!

There is no doubt that Frontier is a top school district, the best in the opinion of many, myself included. The road to excellence requires all of us to constantly strive to improve. Our students are growing into a future that is increasingly dominated by technology and our interconnection with each other. When most of our Seniors, the Class of 2019, were in 1st grade, Apple unveiled the iPhone. The iPhone and other similar technology has changed how we interact. No generation has been greater impacted by this change than our current students. I'm sure we can all agree; our children today are very different from those generations before. The access to unlimited knowledge at their fingertips, alone, has changed how they think.

Our challenge, as a school district and community, is to envision what the world could look like for the next generation of children, those currently in our primary grades. As I get a chance to talk with others in our Falcon community, I've heard many ideas on how we can do just that; from creating honors programs, integrating technology, having students apply their learning in meaningful ways and much more. One such idea is a robotics competition called RoboRave. It's based on the concept that today's play is tomorrow's pay. That doesn't only mean coding and computer science, but the problem solving and collaborative skills necessary for our world. Please check out the website at [www.roborage.org](http://www.roborage.org) and let us know what you think. We would love to be the first to bring this international educational and competitive experience to Western New York.

Another idea I have heard has been the creation of academies. Sometimes academies can be viewed as locking students into a set track of learning. Maybe, the idea of pathways that meander, crossover, and sometimes blend together is a better concept. I don't know what the answer is, but let's find ways to help our Falcons find and follow their passions. That's why we need all of your ideas as to what Frontier should look like for our current first graders, the Class of 2030.

We have been doing a number of things to gather your ideas. To help with communication, we launched a Mobile App that can be found in both the Apple iTunes and Google Play stores. I've met with each building to help facilitate and start the brainstorming process. This was followed by a "ThoughtExchange" to the greater Frontier community.

We want to hear more from you and your ideas. The only thing I ask is that we focus on the future; what could be. From there we can work together toward excellence, not just for tomorrow, but for the vision of Frontier 2030.

Richard J. Hughes, Ed.D.  
Superintendent



## Points of Pride

**On October 2, the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, proudly commended the following students and staff.**

The Board proudly commends Frontier High School student, Brandon Dunz, for being nominated to the all-tournament boys varsity volleyball team for the 2018 Eden Can-Am Tournament.



Left to right, board of education members, Davis Podkulski and Patrick Boyle; Athletic Director Rich Gray; commended student Brandon Dunz; Coach Nick Penberthy; and Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes.

The Board proudly commends Frontier High School student Brandon Frayne, for outstanding leadership and community awareness for his role in soliciting school supply donations.



Left to right, board of education members, Larry Albert and David Patton; Ralph Frayne, father; commended student Brandon Frayne; Michelle Frayne, stepmother; High School Teacher Matt Zielinski; and Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes.

The Board proudly commends Frontier High School employees Nancy Lamb and Beth Caligiuri, for donating their time and materials to decorate the restrooms at the high school.



Left to right, board of education member Martin Lalka, High School employees Nancy Lamb and Beth Caligiuri, board member Dr. Mary Ann Costello, and Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes.

## Telemedicine Begins Bright Future at the Middle School

As medical technology moves forward, those advances are being put to work to improve the health of patients, like students at Frontier Central School District. Frontier has been working with Mobile Primary Care to start a program that would provide students with access to health care, without having to leave school.



Middle school nurse Suzanne Andelora and student Jenna Hughes test out the telemedicine cart.

“In our middle school, 13.5 percent of students last year were considered chronically absent. That means they missed at least 10 percent of the school year; 18 days or more they were absent,” according to Middle School Principal Ryan Sikorski. “By increasing access to health care right in our nurse’s offices, we hope to be able to reduce the number of absences by seeing students become well faster.”

A Telemedicine doctor can determine pulse, blood pressure, swollen ear drums or throat and more with the use of the machine and Bluetooth tools. Telemedicine doctors are able to diagnose issues and prescribe an electronic script or a course of action and then send a note to the student’s primary care doctor.

“We have a busy nurse’s office at the middle school, seeing around 100 students per day. However, we also have many busy parents. This is a benefit to both students, who can be seen by a doctor and diagnosed more quickly, and to parents, who can teleconference in on the visit and not have to leave work to take their child to the doctor or urgent care,” Middle School Nurse Suzanne Andelora said.

“This exciting new initiative will begin in November. Our partnerships have allowed us to pilot this program in the middle school at no cost to our taxpayers. This is just the first step for how this technology can benefit all our Falcons in every school. We look forward to working with parents and students as we pilot new ideas like this one to positively impact our community,” Dr. Richard J. Hughes, Frontier Superintendent said.

## Points of Pride

**On November 6, the Board of Education commended the following students and staff.**

*Photos by student Kenzie Hauer*

The Board proudly commends middle school student Trent Wojciechowski for raising money for Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center and pediatric cancer research. The Board also commended middle school student Zachary George (not pictured) for fundraising for the Spinal Atrophy Research Team (SMART).



*Left to right, back row, middle school Assistant Principal Bill McDonagh, Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes and board of education member Patrick Boyle, front row, Trent Wojciechowski and his teacher Dawn Meyer.*

The Board commends middle school teacher Amber Chandler for being chosen as the 2018 National Educator of the Year by the Association for Middle Level Education.



*Left to right, board of education member Davis Podkulski, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Colleen Duggan, middle school teacher Amber Chandler, Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes and board member David Patton.*

*Frontier staff members from FCEA and FCRNA are pictured with board of education members Larry Albert and Martin Lalka and Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes.*

## Frontier Welcomes New Staff



*Left to right, kindergarten teacher Jenna Ferrara, fourth grade teacher Kaitlyn Quinlivan and second grade teacher Becky Carlson.*



*Left to right, special education teachers Michael Partridge and Emily Piegay, math teacher Michelle Maderer, counselor Therese Blind, special education teacher Jordan Mihalik, and science teacher Michael Delmont.*



*Left to right, teacher Danielle McDonald, teacher's aide Kim Chudoba and teacher Gabrielle Hesketh.*



*Left to right, art teacher Nicolette Juran and science teacher Michael Delmont.*



*Left to right, Teacher's assistant Mallory Harvey, French teacher Margie Carlson, social worker Lauren Ellis, social studies teacher Jacob Fischer and French teacher Abby Swartz.*



*Left to right, first grade teacher Lindsay Howard, art/STEAM teacher Vonessa Quinn and Speech teacher Meghan Gullo. Missing from photo is art teacher Nicolette Juran and fourth grade teacher Kayla Moore.*

In conjunction with New York State School-Related Professionals Day on Nov. 20, the Board recognizes its school-related professionals, including food service, buildings and grounds, maintenance, transportation, clerical, technology, nurses, daycare providers, lunch monitors, teacher aides, lifeguards and campus monitors.



*Left to right, fifth grade teacher Lynda Sentz and art teacher Jacqueline LaRocque.*

## Terrific Kids

We wish to congratulate the Frontier Terrific Kids in Grades 4 and 5 that are honored each month by the Kiwanis Club of Hamburg as being **Thoughtful, Respectful, Responsible, Inclusive, Friendly, Impeccable and Caring.**

### October 2018

#### **Big Tree**

##### Grade 4

Sarah Guishard  
Alexa McFarland  
Anna Palmowski  
Andrew Poleon

##### Grade 5

Hannah Fluker  
Luke Lanning  
Dylan Parsons  
Riley Ward  
Morgan Zwelling

#### **Blasdell**

##### Grade 4

Paige Cawthard-Gott  
Brok Eisenmann  
Ashley Codr  
Jenna Ward

##### Grade 5

Francisco King-Diaz  
Laney Wilk  
Carter Timmerman

#### **Cloverbank**

##### Grade 4

Hanna Adymy  
Blake Barbic  
Addison Camp  
Reilly Hinman

##### Grade 5

Troy Fix  
Aubrey Hahn  
Ariana Hardtz  
Aadyn Lockwood  
Nolan Sullivan

#### **Pinehurst**

##### Grade 4

Carter Amodeo  
Reagan Healy  
Reed Eckhert  
Abigail Brown  
Isabel Majchrowicz

##### Grade 5

Brayden Zent  
Madison Losel  
Bre Franklin  
Madison Wilson

### November 2018

#### **Big Tree**

##### Grade 4

Owen Cheng  
Tristyn Clark  
Kayleigh Hart  
Jordyn Sharp

##### Grade 5

Jonara Dean  
Julia Hodge  
Matthew Payne  
Kyli Socha  
Tyler Ward

#### **Blasdell**

##### Grade 4

Julius Juarez  
Christian Kinton  
Elaine Lu  
Abigail Papaj

##### Grade 5

Riley Coughlin  
Isabella Incorvaia  
Virginia Palmer  
Kaylyn Wylie

#### **Cloverbank**

##### Grade 4

Ella Gohn  
Patrick Kent  
Lydia Stone  
Owen Valencourt

##### Grade 5

Salina Bovo  
Trevor Clark  
Logan Knodel  
Bryan Ni  
Lilyanna Reese

#### **Pinehurst**

##### Grade 4

Ella Smiley  
Kyle Wiecznski  
Brooklyn Cross  
Tyler Wallace  
Griffin Davis

##### Grade 5

Skylar Morlock  
Thomas Passon  
Michael Nappo  
Hailey Westfall  
Michael Hanks

## Big Tree Elementary

### Big on Books

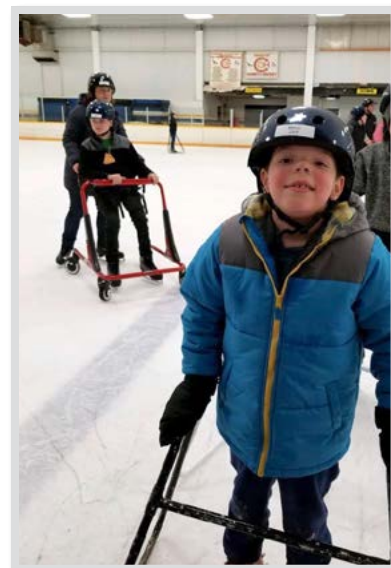
Family night opened the PTA's Scholastic Book Fair on Monday, Oct. 15. Students were also able to shop during the school week. All students at BTE are reading for Accelerated Reader points in the Renaissance Learning program. When they reach set goals they receive an award at the monthly Golden Apple Assembly. Big Tree Elementary's next book fair will be hosted by Follett Company from March 18-22, 2019. It is sponsored by the Big Tree Library.



Mrs. Kick and Big Tree students Justin Wentz, Marisa Tirado and Piper Donovan enjoyed time shopping at the PTA's Scholastic Book Fair.

### Learning on Ice

Big Tree Elementary Life Skills classes with the help from Spirited Athletes Bold At Heart (SABAH) have the opportunity to ice skate at the Riverside Ice Rink. They will be attending skating session at Riverside every Monday morning until March and end the season with a show. SABAH's mission is to enrich the quality of life for individuals challenged by a physical, cognitive and/or emotional disability. Skating with SABAH provides education, therapeutic recreation and promotes fitness along with developing social and communication skills.



Life skills students Mason Zierk ice skates at Riverside Ice Rink. In the background, Drew Haffner is assisted by Special Education teacher Mary Sullivan.

# Blasdell

## Fire Prevention Week

Blasdell Elementary first grade students learned about fire safety and prevention with a field trip to the Blasdell Village Fire Hall. Fire Prevention Week was observed Oct. 7-13, with this year's theme of "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware – a fire can happen anywhere." Firefighter Gill gave a presentation about what to do in the event of a fire in your home or at school. For example, dialing 9-1-1 to alert the authorities, putting a sheet under your bedroom door to keep the smoke out and running to a window to be seen by firefighters when they arrive.



Mrs. Bergerson and her first grade students learned about fire safety and prevention with firefighter Gill.

## A Day in the Life of a River

On Oct. 4, the students from Ms. Sienkiewicz's and Mrs. Christ's class at Blasdell Elementary had the great opportunity to participate in "A Day in The Life of a River" with Reinstein Nature Preserve at the Harlem Road Fishing Access Point. There have been many restorative campaigns taking place to save the watershed and local waterways. The students were able to join these efforts by testing water samples for nitrates, phosphates and dissolved oxygen; looking for macro-invertebrates; making observations of the environment around the Buffalo Creek; and taking air and water temperatures along with wind direction and speed. The data collected helps with seeing the progress made to make the waterways healthy and see what may still need to be done. This field trip was sponsored by a grant through Reinstein Nature Preserve.



A student takes the air's temperature during the field trip to Reinstein Nature Preserve.

# Cloverbank

## Safety First

Cloverbank students were visited by the Lakeshore Fire Company for Fire Prevention Week Oct. 7-13. Students were able to tour a fire truck and ambulance. Lakeshore firemen took the time to visit classrooms and demonstrate to students what to do in case of a fire. Students were given firemen hats and they practiced the safety tips. Cloverbank students and staff send a big "Thank You" to the Lakeshore Fire Company.



Cloverbank students practice Stop, Drop and Roll with a fireman from Lakeshore Fire Company.



Ms. Sienkiewicz's and Mrs. Christ's class helped test the waterway at Reinstein Nature Preserve.



Cloverbank students toured an ambulance during Fire Prevention Week.

## Partnership in Concert

Frontier Elementary and Middle school students will be the beneficiaries of a generous donor sponsorship enabling students to attend the Youth Concert Series of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO) at Kleinhans Music Hall. Fourth grade teacher at Cloverbank Elementary, Ms. Wendy Hall, pursued the collaboration with the BPO and is now coordinating the implementation of the sponsorship with the BPO's Education Department and the participating schools. The series includes concerts for pre-K to Kindergarten, first to fourth grades, fifth to eighth grades as well as middle and high school students. From learning about the basics of music to the importance of each position in an orchestra and the instruments they play, to the language of music, each lesson has an academic benefit as well as exposure to a classical art.



Ms. Wendy Hall's fourth-grade class at Cloverbank will be one of many to benefit from a partnership with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

## Pinehurst Evangola Ecosystem

On Oct. 11 and 12 fifth grade students at Pinehurst Elementary had a great field trip at Evangola State Park. Students were able to observe and analyze a pond ecosystem as well as experience hands-on learning of animal adaptations, which reinforces the current science unit. In addition, the field trip supports the science content featured in the novel *Night of the Spadefoot Toads* by Bill Harley, which is being read by the fifth grade.



Fifth graders learn about the ecosystem at Evangola State Park.



Fifth graders are shown tools used in researching a pond ecosystem.



Students learned about animal adaptations at Evangola State Park.

## Autumn and Apples

Kindergarten students in Nikera Kolacki's class at Pinehurst Elementary headed outside to look for signs of fall during the week of Oct. 8. Even though the temperatures rose to 80 degrees, students were able to observe the leaves beginning to turn colors and animals busily finding and hiding food. After enjoying a nature walk around Pinehurst's campus, they returned to the classroom to write and draw about what they found while enjoying homemade applesauce that they all helped to make. They also predicted and then counted the seeds in their apples as well as measuring each apple's circumference and weight.



Bryce Jablonski counts his apple's seeds.



Kindergarten students look for the signs of fall outside Pinehurst Elementary on an 80-degree day.

# Middle School

## The Voice

Frontier Middle School has a new club this year called The Voice. One of the editors described it this way: “The Voice is an online literary arts magazine that will be created for our school so that OUR voice can be heard.” Students can submit art work, poems, music and more. To submit their work, students will need to fill out a submission form, which can be found outside of Mrs. Chandler’s room 255, and hand it in with their work either attached or emailed to Mrs. Chandler. One of The Voice’s editors will have it online in no time. Students, if you want YOUR voice to be heard check out The Voice! The Voice will be online in December or January.



Middle School students have created a new club called The Voice, a student-run, online literary arts magazine.

## Acts of Kindness

Art teacher Lisa McCarthy was inspired by the quote, “Throw kindness around like confetti”. She shared her idea with Mrs. Drebot and a new initiative event at Frontier Middle School was born. Mrs. McCarthy created a bulletin board near the main office that encourages students to perform acts of kindness. Students take a slip and write what act of kindness they performed and return the slip. There was an overwhelming response for the month of September; over 50 acts were completed by students. Three participants were selected to receive prizes. Mrs. McCarthy will be continuing this endeavor throughout the school year.



Cassidy Karoleski was selected to receive a prize for her acts of kindness.



Avery White and Katie Spencer received prizes for performing acts of kindness.



# High School

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Frontier High School celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 with a multitude of activities for students. The World Languages Department took the opportunity to share the contribution of Hispanics in the United States. Activities included displays of famous Hispanics, a visit from the Lloyd's Taco Truck at the homecoming bonfire and movie day. Also, samples of Latin music and live music were provided by the Music Department, literature from Hispanic authors by the ELA Department and the Library Media Center and Art exhibits by Hispanic artists from the Art Department. Krista Baker and Lindsey Metzger, International Club advisors, also brought students on a field trip with Hamburg High School to Miniteca in Buffalo for some Latin dance and music. Also, as part of the Hispanic Heritage Month activities, Renee Kresse created a trivia contest and five students were rewarded.



The winners of the Hispanic Heritage Month Trivia Contest were (left to right) Standing - Maddie Niedbalski, Brinn Stworzydiak. Seated - Shannon Steindel, Payton Kuryak, Sarah Feeley. They received gift cards to Moe's.



International Club members and Hamburg High School students went to Miniteca in Buffalo to learn about Latin music and dancing.

## Planting Pride

Frontier High School National Honor Society students, accompanied by Principal Daniel Charland, Assistant Principal Jim Helmicki, faculty members Matt Gregoire and Nicole Beyette and several staff members from Lowe's coordinated the beautification by installing planters and trees at the front entrance of the High School on Sept. 22. Everyone involved worked tirelessly to plant trees and shrubs in the planters, as well as at the front entrance and on the front lawn of the high school. All of this was made possible by the Lowe's for Heroes grant.



National Honor Society members worked tirelessly to spruce up the high school's landscaping.



National Honor Society members, Jordan Prusiecki, Christina Shinnars, Christina Pierino, Samantha Dziulko, Marcus Rauscher, James Riggan, Connor Mann, Abby Caligiuri and Jamie Badawy planted trees and shrubs with the help of Lowe's staff.



National Honor Society members worked with Lowe's employees and school administration to spruce up the high school's landscaping.



Photos contributed by Nick LoVerde, Herrmann Studio  
716-632-0473, 246 Meyer Road, Amherst, NY 14226

# Frontier Community Supports for Multi-Use Field Project

On Sept. 27, the Frontier community voted on a proposition for a Multi-Use Field Project. A total of 1,795 voters took to the polls and approved the proposition by 79 percent; a vote of 1,425 to 370. It is also highest voter turnout in four years.

The proposed turf field will be used for football, soccer, lacrosse, practice space for baseball and softball and physical education classes. In extracurricular sports alone, this project will benefit 12.2 percent of students in fall sports grades 7-12 and 20.8 percent of students in spring sports grades 7-12.

The cost of \$1.8 million includes the drainage, the underneath sand base as well as the turf, fencing and netting. A digital scoreboard is not included, the project focuses on the field itself. Frontier receives state building aid at a 75% rate when borrowing for capital projects. An average family home is assessed at \$99,000. On a \$100,000 that is a \$3 tax increase. So for every \$1,000 assessed value it is a 3 cent increase.

Construction of the track and the new turf field are planned to begin in 2020.



Voters approved the Multi-Use Field Project by 1425 to 370.

## New Technology Benefits Students

At the beginning of the 2018-19 school year, Frontier Central School District's newest technology initiative put 1,460 laptops into the hands of students at every level. This is the first time the district has purchased mobile Windows devices for students.

In addition, Mac lab computers at the high school and middle school have been updated and elementary students will now have access to 400 new iPads.

"A total of 48 carts of 30 laptops will be available to students – 18 at the high school, 14 at the middle school and 4 at each of our elementary schools," Deborah Gromek, Coordinator of Technology Education, explained.

Middle and high school teachers will also have new equipment to start the 2018-19 school year. A total of 96 devices for general education and 50 for special education were distributed to staff. Both students' and teachers' old equipment will be assessed and whenever possible reused to replace obsolete technology in classrooms.

This initiative aligns with the district's 10-year Technology Plan to ultimately have a device in the hands of every student.

"Frontier has been recognized time and again as a top school district, but there is so much more we can do. We already have teachers using technology to further student growth, we are just looking to expand that. We want to support our staff that have new ideas of how to use technology in the classroom and assist students by addressing their 21st century needs," Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes said.

## TRANSPORTATION NEWS

### Early Dismissal Plan

Snow season is approaching. In order to minimize bus delays in the afternoon, the District may opt to implement the following early dismissal plan as needed. A robo call would be issued to notify parents.

- High School – 1 hour early release
- Middle School – ½ hour early release
- Elementary Schools – on time release

### After School Program – Early Dismissal

What happens if there is an early dismissal at the Elementary level?

The After School Program will remain open for all families currently enrolled and scheduled for that day. Further instructions, should they be needed will be sent out via the Remind App.

Read more about inclement weather days and the Before & After School Program at [www.frontier.wnyric.org/domain/740](http://www.frontier.wnyric.org/domain/740).





## Frontier Central District News

Published by the  
**Board of Education**

### Frontier Central Schools

5120 Orchard Avenue  
Hamburg, NY 14075

### Superintendent of Schools

Richard J. Hughes, Ed.D.

### 2018-19 Board of Education

Janet MacGregor Plarr, President

David Patton, Vice-president

Larry J. Albert

Patrick Boyle

Dr. Mary Ann Costello

Martin Lalka

Davis Podkulski

Frontier News, a publication of the Board of Education, will be published for distribution in May and July.

In November, January and March the newsletter will be available electronically on the district website at [www.frontier.wnyric.org](http://www.frontier.wnyric.org).



The newsletters are designated to disseminate information, as well as to celebrate the success of individuals and programs that support the District's mission goals.

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## Character Council Virtues

### October 2018

#### *Decisiveness vs. Procrastination*

Decisiveness is the ability to recognize key factors and finalize difficult decisions.

### November 2018

#### *Benevolence vs. Selfishness*

Benevolence is giving to others' basic needs without having as my motive personal reward.

### December 2018

#### *Contentment vs. Covetousness*

Contentment is realizing that true happiness does not depend on material conditions.



Glen Colton performed at Big Tree Elementary's Character Assembly that kicked off the school year.