## Message from the Superintendent

Believe it or not, spring is right around the corner. Even though winter seems never-ending, our Falcons and staff have been very busy working to improve every day in and outside the classroom. One such example is the Snow Day Reading


Dr. Richard J. Hughes presents Cloverbank student, Chloe with a gift card for Snow Day Reading.

## Challenge

that was answered by almost 150 of our Falcons on January 31-February 1. Four of the readers were randomly selected to win a gift card. Thank you to our Falcons for participating.
Our students are challenging themselves and seeing success even when things don't go as planned.

Setbacks are not failures as long as we continue to work to get better and push ourselves and each other. Our Girls' Basketball team has been to the last two Section VI Finals but did not come away with a victory. On their third consecutive trip to the final, the team beat Williamsville North 52-33 to win Frontier's first ever Section VI Championship. They could have taken it easy in the off-season. Instead they put in the time and effort to become the champs. Success comes from working hard every single day. Congratulations to our team and Coach Mihalik for pushing ever forward!
Recently we held a ThoughtExchange with the community, staff and students to gather input on what are the most important things to prepare our Falcons for the future. The responses were great and can be found on our website at www.frontier.wnyric.org/ ThoughtExchange. The overall themes came down to providing our Falcons


The Frontier Girl's Basketball Team finally brought home the win in the Section VI Class AA finals after being second place for the past two years.
with greater and more challenging opportunities while we provide them
 and our families with support. This got us thinking about possibilities. As a follow-up to the ThoughtExchange, I have been meeting with all of our buildings, departments and administrators to ask them to help answer a short, simple question, "What if?" This has worked well to get the creative juices flowing. I am blown away by the information we have gathered already. A couple from the huge brainstorming sessions are: What if we created STEAM and other pathways focused on student interest and skills? What if students were able to accelerate at earlier grade levels? What if students were better able to explore and connect with career possibilities?
The list goes on and on. Once we finish gathering ideas, we will work with our buildings and departments to prioritize which ones we can accomplish sooner versus which those that will take more time and greater planning in concert with our community. I can't help but be excited about where we are and where we are going. The journey is that much more enjoyable when surrounded by all the great people we have in our Frontier community "Working Together for Excellence."

## Go Falcons,

Dr. Richard J. Hughes
Superintendent of Schools
@DrRichardHughes on Twitter


## Ot Ebrating the Holidays





## Points of Pride

On January 8, the Frontier Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, proudly commended Frontier bus driver Tom Host and Blasdell second grade student Paige Wylie. Mr. Host generously bought a gifts for the students on his route and distributed them dressed as Santa Claus. Paige was recognized for her artistic talent and creativity in designing the cover of the Frontier Central School District Calendar and Back to School Guide.


Pictured from left to right, Cloverbank Principal Renee Kumiega, Transportation Supervisor Tim Blevins, payroll clerk Laura Haas, bus driver Tom Host, Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes and Board of Education President Janet MacGregor Plarr.


Pictured from left to right, back row, teacher Mrs. Sue Haertel, Blasdell Elementary Principal Linda Dansa, Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes and Board of Education President Janet MacGregor Plarr. Front row, second grader Paige Wylie.

On February 12, the Frontier Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, proudly commended student Jenna Schifano and five students who attended the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) All-State Music Festival. Jenna Schifano was commended for initiating the conversation that led to the approval by the board of education for Frontier Central School students who are attending a BOCES Career and Technical Education program to earn credits to fulfill graduation requirements. Students Leah Cocco, Matthew D’Orlando, Lauryn Koeppel, Benjamin Renzoni and Noah Webster were commended for representing Frontier at NYSSMA's All-State Music Festival.


Pictured from left to right are, front row, Jenna Schifano, back row, Board of Education Members Martin Lalka and Davis Podkulski, James Szelest and Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes.


Pictured from left to right are, front row, Lauryn Koeppel and Leah Cocco, back row, Board of Education Member Larry Albert, Noah Webster, Matthew D'Orlando and Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes.

On March 5, the Frontier Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, proudly commended Cloverbank's fifth grade class, Cloverbank teacher Suzanne Gicewicz Touris and her class, Cloverbank fourth graders, Cloverbank Student Council and Cloverbank teacher Sara Suranyi and the Builder's Club.
The fifth-grade class was commended for making valentines and writing letters for hospitalized veterans at the VA Hospital.

Mrs. Gicewicz Touris' second grade class was commended for collecting items for KidsPeace, a charity dedicated to serving the mental health needs of children, families and the community.

Fourth graders Skyler Aumiller, Blake Barbic, Ja'Quan Green, Caelyn Hartman, Jessica Kyser, Frank Ricci and Kendall Taylor were commended for being chosen to have their 100-word stories published in Spooky Sagas - New York Mysteries.
Student Council members were commended for collecting, organizing and donating hygiene items to Buffalo's Good Neighbors, a local nonprofit.

Mrs. Suranyi and the Builder's Club were commended for making and donating blankets for the Warm Up WNY Blanket Drive to benefit patients of Oishei Children's Hospital.

## 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, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Responsible, Inclusive, Friendly, Impeccable and Caring.

January 2019

| Big Tree | Cloverbank |
| :---: | :---: |
| 4th Grade | 4th Grade |
| James Jividen | Aiden Bishop |
| Jayden Common | Brayden Hohl |
| Morgan Wattie | Ryan Lavelle |
| Benjamin Wizner- | Frank Ricci |
| Reska | 5th Grade |
| 5th Grade | Lily Bosiacki |
| Alexis Simpson | Arianna Kyser |
| Isabella Cleveland | Alexa Kraus |
| Evan Newby- | Tim McCann |
| McKinnie | Aaron Stewart |
| Sawyer Sullivan | Pinehurst |
| Jacob Gonzalez | 4th Grade |
| Blasdell | Katelyn Comstock- |
| 4th Grade | Wooten |
| Chloe Gill | Jackson Esford |
| Mia Marsiglia | Carter Cook |
| Graycen Ferrentino | Alexis Capodicasa |
| Rylee Garvey | Ayden Beutler |
| 5th Grade | 5th Grade |
| Haneya Haji- | Maddox Burger |
| Ramazan | Mia Sauer |
| Kacey Karnavas | Hailey Jones |
| Avery Hill | Max Bush |
|  | McKenzie Seagra |

## February 2019

## Big Tree

 4th Grade Kylee Andruszko Cameryn Jensen Kendall Riggs Edward Robertson5th Grade Deon Nguyen Emily Klute Ava Zbock Jordan Patterson Ella Girdlestone
Blasdell 4th Grade Brayden Manns Geoffrey Giles Benjamin Clark Cassidy Locher 5th Grade Kayla Kowal Isabelle Pinkert Shamus Hill
Cloverbank
4th Grade
Kendall Smith
Caelyn Hartman
Brianna Andreson
Leanna Hahn
5th Grade
Colin Porebski
Sofia Schmidt
Sidney Clark
Caroline Paluch
Samantha Kelley
Lauren Jablonski
Pinehurst
4th Grade
Everett Mullins
Max Jennings
Gianna Conti
Miles MacRae
Maddison Zent
5th Grade
Mia Comstock-
Duggan
Brooke Heeter
Kyle Pirone
Lillian Green
Max Philarom

## March 2019

Big Tree
4th Grade
Elizabeth Hollander
Thomas
Lewandowski
Luke Orcutt Mackenzie Stack
5th Grade
Adrianna Alvarado
Robert Heffle
Zerenidy Huch
Andrew Pavlovich
Sean Vanderlip
Blasdell
4th Grade
Madison Taboni
Brooke Bzibziak
Alyssa Kazuta
5th Grade
Tessa Wert
Travis Antonelli
Luka Cvijanovic
Lucas Pitirri

## Cloverbank

4th Grade Skyler Aumiller Andrew Dvornski Ava Pienta Emily Tarasek Peter Gage 5th Grade Adam Wozniak Gianna Casciano Isabel Reynolds Owen Calabrese David Maciuba Pinehurst 4th Grade Gianna Fuller Caitlin Grieser Christopher Tredo Keira Keaton Olivia Bellagamba 5th Grade Gavin Lepsch Trevor Kumiega Sydney Pierino Brayden Dunz Paige Sikorski
Frontier Central School District Budget Vote 2019 Timeline
Activity ..... Date
Applications for Absentee Ballots Available ..... Now
First Publication of School Budget Vote Legal Notice ..... April 3-5, 2019
Second Publication of Legal Notice ..... April 10-12, 2019
Board of Education Adopts 2019-20 Proposed Budget ..... April 16, 2019
Property Tax Report Card on SED Website ..... April 17, 2019
Third Publication of Legal Notice ..... May 1-3, 2019
Budget Hearing ..... May 7, 2019
Budget Newsletter Mailed to Residents \& Available on Website ..... May 8, 2019
Final Publication of Legal Notice. ..... May 8-10, 2019
Absentee Ballot Applications to be Mailed Back to District Clerk ..... May 14, 2019
Deadline for Mailing Six-Day Budget Notice ..... May 15, 2019
Absentee Ballot Applications for In-Person Ballots Due ..... May 20, 2019
Annual Budget Vote \& Election ..... May 21, 2019
Absentee Ballots Due by 5:00 PM ..... May 21, 2019

## Big Tree News

## Visit from Chuck E. Cheese

A big-eared visitor made an appearance at Big Tree Elementary recently. Students received a visit from Chuck E. Cheese himself to promote "Turning Fun into Funds". On February 15, Big Tree's PTA hosted a school fundraiser from 3-9pm at Chuck E. Cheese Family Fun Center in Blasdell. Twenty percent of the sales generated from the event came right back to the elementary school! Chuck E. Cheese high-fived students in their classrooms and in the hallways, stopping for some pictures.


Students high five Chuck E. Cheese.

## Healthy Choices Poem Winner

One talented Big Tree Elementary fifth-grader was recently recognized for his work at the Healthy Choices Art \& Poetry Contest Awards Ceremony on December 6 at the Hamburg Fair Grounds's
State Police Building. Gage Cleri, a student in Mrs. Gehen's class,


Reading teacher at Big Tree Elementary, Mrs. Gow, stands beside her student, Gage Cleri, who won first place for his healthy choices poem.
took home the first-place ribbon for his poem, which demonstrated his healthy choices instead of drugs and alcohol.

Over 300 students in kindergarten to 12th grade submitted poems and artwork for the contest. Gage was one of only 28 students across Western New York awarded for his submission.
The contest and ceremony is held annually by WNY United Against Drug \& Alcohol Abuse Inc. as part of their mission
to increase awareness of the problems associated with drug and alcohol abuse, educate community stakeholders on these issues and mobilize a broad cross section of individuals and groups to participate actively in proven strategies to prevent substance abuse.

## Blasdell News

## Candygrams for a Cause

Blasdell Elementary Student Government members worked diligently to create approximately 700 candygrams that they sold to students and staff from February 4-14. Students created candygrams during meetings, but the dedicated members also gave up recesses and Fun Friday time to create more candygrams. Student Government members came up with the messages and illustrations on our candygrams and added a delicious red heartshaped lollipop.
All proceeds benefited the Kids Wish For Kids program through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The program allows K-12 students to raise funds and helps grant wishes for kids with life-threatening medical conditions.


Pictured from left to right, back row, Isabella Incorvaia, Rory White, Riley Coughlin, Malachi Adams, Regan Darling, Keiton Chudoba, Jack Salerno and Graycen Ferrentino. Front row, Francesca Caligiuri, Kaylyn Wylie, Chloe Gill, Paige Cawthard-Gott, Reese White, Avery Papucci, Brok Eisenmann.

## 100 Days of School



Mrs. Shea's kindergarten class is pictured wearing
Article continued on next page.

## Cloverbank News

## Reading Super Stars

At Cloverbank Elementary, encouraging our students to be independent and avid readers is one of our goals. Following that goal, Mrs. Amy Gottstine's first-grade class read 509 books for a book challenge for the month of January!

That means each of the 22 students in Mrs. Gottstine's class read over 23 books that month. They received an ice cream party for their reward!

In addition, one student in Mrs. Gottstine's class, Chloe, read during the snow days on January 31-February 2 and was drawn as one of four gift card winners by Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes.
"I was so impressed by all of our Falcons who shared their snow day reading with me. I delivered each of the gift cards in person and Chloe promised she would keep reading over mid-winter break," Dr. Hughes said.

100 Days of School at Blasdell Elementary continued from page 6


Students in Mrs. Young's class played 100 days-themes math games.
Students and their teachers at Blasdell Elementary School reached the 100th day of school on February 15. To celebrate the achievement, they participated in several 100-days themed activities.

Students in Ms. Young's second-grade classroom participated in science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) activities like cup stacking and pattern blocks.

In kindergarten classes, each student decorated a 100-days themed t-shirt. Some shirts had spots, butterflies, stars, eyes and witty sayings, including "Eye survived 100 days," "We've bugged Mrs. Shea for 100 days," and "Thumbs up! I'm 100 days smarter."

The teachers also got involved by wearing matching blue shirts with the zeros in " 100 " made by wearing plaid apples.

The class set a new reading goal of 700 books for the month of March.


Three students read toward their goal.

## STEM Lessons in Hockey Practice

Cloverbank Elementary School fourth and fifth graders recently visited the KeyBank Center to watch a Buffalo Sabres practice and learn about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts though The Future Goals Program.


Fourth and fifth grade students from Frontier's Cloverbank Elementary learned about STEAM and watched the Buffalo Sabres practice.

Frontier students were some of the 2,500 in attendance for the fourth annual event. They heard from former NHL players Kevyn Adams and Martin Biron, broadcaster Brian Duff, Equipment Manager Dave Williams and Director of Game Presentation Kelsey Schneider on how hockey teaches fundamental STEM concepts.
The program, like the Frontier Central School District, is committed to sparking student interest in STEM topics and helping students become college, career and life-ready.

## Pinehurst News

## Valentines for Veterans

Valentines for Vets was a huge success at Pinehurst Elementary on February 8. Pinehurst's first and second-graders were joined by State Senator Chris Jacobs and Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes as they colored, cut and glued Valentine's Day cards to be handed out to veterans in the area. When asked, most students had a close relative that served in the U.S. military and were eager to share what they knew. The air was filled with love, excitement, and thank you to those who serve.


Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes visits Pinehurst during the Valentines for Veterans program.

## Jump Rope for Heart

On February 12, Pinehurst kicked off Jump Rope for Heart. After weeks of fund raising, the entire school participated in ten stations throughout the day that taught the kids how to stay healthy and fit through fun learning. Activities included Healthy BINGO, hulahoops, and rock wall climbing, just to name a few. As the students excitedly transitioned from one station to another you could tell it was a great day for sneakers, sweat and support. like hula-hooping.


Students learned healthy lessons while having fun,


Pinehurst students enjoyed the physical activities including jump rope.

## Middle School News Potter Road Field Trip

Mr. Eagan from the Frontier Middle School student services center put together a special field trip for the entire eighth grade.

On January 24, 360 students and 20 teachers were given the opportunity to go to Erie 1 BOCES' Potter Career and Technical Center in West Seneca. Eighth grade students were offered 12 different programs for high school students including animal science, sports science, welding and game programming. The students chose three programs that they were interested in seeing on that day. They were able to talk to instructors, learn about the expectations of the curriculum and do some hands-on activities.
"The administration and faculty of the Potter Center were incredibly welcoming to us. We look forward to making this an annual event," Mr. Eagan said.


Eighth grade students try out the culinary program at Potter Career and Technical Center.


Students engage in a science activity at the Potter Center.

## Blind Date with a Book

"How did your 'date' go?" asks the card placed inside each of the pink, red and white wrapped books on the table in the Middle School Library. February marked the sixth year for the library's Blind Date with a Book event.
"We wrapped 120 books and labeled them with their genres on the front and a descriptions on the back," Middle School Librarian Rachel Brew explained.
Once students have read their blind selections, they fill out a card asking them about their experience and to summarize the story. Those entries are gathered and drawn from in March to select the winner of a Barnes \& Noble gift card.
"As the students move into seventh and eighth grade, I see them look forward to it each year!" Mrs. Brew added.

In March the library will challenge teams of three to five students in the Battle of the Books. This fun book knowledge-based competition asks team members to read four books and a graphic novel and answer questions accurately before another team can buzz in.

This challenge has been brought back to Frontier Middle School after several years. New this year, the winning team from the middle school 'battles' will go on to represent Frontier against teams from other local school districts in April at Pioneer Central School District.


Librarian Rachel Brew and students Owen Fallis and Zachary LaRosa check out the Blind Date with a Book event in the library.

Follow the Frontier Central School District Personnel Department on Facebook

www.facebook.com/FCSDPersonnel

## High School News

## Student Star Awards

Congratulations to the 2019 Hamburg Chamber of Commerce Student Star Award recipients from Frontier High School. The purpose of the event is to recognize many of the outstanding Hamburg area students who significantly impact their school or community. The annual award dinner was held February 11 at Ilio DiPaolo's Restaurant.

Students are selected for their creativity, communication skills, work ethic, perseverance, and a wide range of other character traits that shape our young people into productive and committed members of the business world and our community. This year's winners were:

John England Brandon Frayne Madelyn Horucy Brennen Kilcoyne Thomas Kowalski Alyssa Lorka<br>Joel Mercado Brianna Sikorski Francis Slazyk

Key note speaker Heather Sidorowicz, president of Southtown Audio Video, gave amazing advice to the 27 students honored from five schools. She encouraged students to build their character for success and to "write their own story" based on her own personal and professional journey.


Back row, High School Principal Daniel Charland, Assistant Principal James Helmicki, John England, Francis Slazyk, Thomas Kowalski, Brandon Frayne, assistant principals Courtney Charleston-Smith and David Smaczniak. Front row, Alyssa Lorka, Brianna Sikorski, Madelyn Horucy, Brennen Kilcoyne and Joel Mercado.

## Musical: Chicago

"Chicago" is a dazzling musical featuring a revival of the Roaring '20s through the story of Roxie Hart, a housewife who dreams of fame. Add in a murder and the cast of characters that follow Roxie on her journey on death row and you have the magic that comes from competing for the spotlight on several different stages: showbusiness and the courtroom. Memorable musical numbers include: "Cell Block Tango," "Mr. Cellophane," "All That Jazz," "When You're Good to Momma" and "We Both Reached for the Gun."

The cast and crew gave an impressive performance each evening to a full house. Frontier is tremendously proud of the magnitude of talent that our students exemplified. Congratulations to each and every person involved ... Bravo!


The cast of "Chicago" poses for the finale during their final dress rehearsal

## Coach Gary Domzalski's Last Game

Coach Gary Domzalski has led the Frontier Falcons Boys Basketball team for 32 seasons to regional titles and section championships. In that time, he imparted lasting lessons and his passion to his players. He is known as a "player's coach" and a role model to the student athletes under his guidance.

He was surrounded by his players and his family on February 13 when he was honored for his dedication to the team and his athletes over the decades. Athletic Director Rich Gray


Athletic Director Rich Gray presents Coach Gary Domzalski with a commemorative ball after the game against Lancaster on February 13. presented Coach Domzalski with a commemorative basketball.
"We are honored to have had him as a coach for our athletes for all those years. He leaves behind big shoes to fill," Mr. Gray said.

## Girls Basketball Team Are Section VI Champs

Frontier's Girls Basketball team has had an incredible season, entering the Section VI Class AA postseason as the No. 1 seed. On February 26, the Falcons beat the Lancaster Legends in the quarter final game. On March 1, they moved on to face the Jamestown Red Raiders at Kenmore West in the semi-finals, coming out on top 37-20. Then, on March 6, the team brought home the Section VI Class AA championship, defeating Williamsville North. Notable team members were the dynamic duo of junior Claire Kruszka and senior Kennedy Izzo, who both reached the 1,000-point milestone this season. Kennedy also surpassed the school's points record.


Frontier brought home the Section VI Class AA Championship in girls basketball.


Frontier Seventh-Grader Brings Home State Title
In her first trip to the New York State Public High Schools Athletic Association gymnastics championship, Frontier seventh-grader Lea Philarom won the all-around title. Lea scored 38.125 points, which included a tie for second in floor exercise (9.525), second place on balance beam (9.55) third on bars (9.550) and a vault score of 9.50 .

Her score, along with her teammates, allowed Section VI to regain the championship from Section III (Syracuse) in Cold Spring Harbor on Long Island. This marks the fifth championship for Section VI in seven years as well as a points record of 187.905, 1.126 more than the previous record set by Section XI (Suffolk County) in 2003.


Lea Philarom won the NYSPHSAA Gymnastics all-around title.

## 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.
2017-18 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, and March the newsletter will be available electronically on the district web site at www.frontier.wnyric.org.
The newsletters are designed to disseminate information, as well as to celebrate the success of individuals and programs that support the District's mission goals.
Public Relations Office: (716) 926-1798
Editor: Nicole Gugino Design by: Erie 1 BOCES

## Character Council

January 2019

## Joyfulness vs. Self-Pity

Joyfulness is maintaining a good attitude, even when faced with unpleasant conditions.

## February 2019

## Gentleness vs. Harshness

Gentleness is showing consideration and personal concern for others.

## March 2019

Attentiveness vs. Distraction
Attentiveness is showing the worth of the person or task by giving my undivided concentration.

## Alumni Spotlight

At Frontier Central School District, we know our Falcons have spread their wings following graduation to go on to make an impact in our community and beyond. In an effort to bring recognition to our deserving alumni, the district has begun the online Alumni Spotlight on our website, www.frontier.wnyric.org.

This spotlight features a Frontier alumnus who has demonstrated a personal or


Ensign Bailey J. McGowan visited the high school after being featured on the district's Alumni Spotlight. professional achievement or community impact. During the pilot of this feature, the district has put the spotlight on Lissa Marie Redmond and Gina Fava, two authors who published new works, Nicole Radon, a musician who performed at New York Fashion Week, and Ensign Bailey J. McGowan, MBA, a "hometown hero".

Ensign McGowan was nominated for the Alumni Spotlight by her mother, Kathleen McGowan after she was named a Hometown Hero by Country 106.5 WYRK. A 2008 Frontier High School graduate, Bailey furthered her education at the University at Buffalo and Canisius College.
She wanted a job that allowed her to travel - a lifelong dream - and becoming a U.S. Navy supply officer has allowed her to fulfill that dream. Her first deployment was to Osaka, Japan. But, prior to shipping out Ensign McGowan visited her alma mater to encourage current Falcons to follow their dreams and consider all options, whether that's the military or college.
"Frontier is a premiere school district and has been doing great work for a long time. We are proud of our alumni and know that they have gone on to make impressive accomplishments. We want the world to know that these wonderful people in our community are part of our Falcon family. Please consider submitting yourself or an alumnus you know for this recognition," Superintendent Dr. Richard J. Hughes said.
To be featured in the online Alumni Spotlight, please submit the form available at www.frontier.wnyric.org/AlumniSpotlight or call the district office at (716) 926-1700 for assistance.

## Drug Forum Dates

Monday, March 25, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at Frontier Middle School Aud

Monday, April 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at Hamburg High School Auditorium

## PLEASE NOTE:

Frontier parents may fulfill this requirement by attending forums offered at Frontier Middle School, Frontier High School or Hamburg High School.

