



News about...

Fall 2015

Urban **US** Suburban

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Participating Districts:

Brighton
Brockport
East Irondequoit
East Rochester
Fairport
Hilton
Kendall
Penfield
Pittsford
Rochester
Spencerport
West Irondequoit
Wheatland-Chili

Coordinated by



A letter from the Co-Chairs of the Parent Advisory Council...

Welcome back everyone, and a special welcome to our new families. We just celebrated 50 years of success, and it is through your ongoing support and parental involvement that we were able to achieve this wonderful milestone. As we begin another school year, many things have changed, and we have grown as a family. We added five new districts (East Irondequoit, East Rochester, Hilton, Kendall and Spencerport) to the Urban-Suburban Program, which means more children will benefit from these opportunities.

Parents, please remain involved by checking your email messages frequently for updates from your child's school district, as well as the Urban-Suburban office. We encourage you to either purchase a school district calendar or obtain one from your respective district; this is an essential tool to help you learn of all upcoming events in your child's school. The district's website is also a great resource to use for planning the academic school year. Many districts utilize portal tools (grades 6-12) to communicate the academic progress of your child. You may have already received information from the school; if not, don't hesitate to ask your child's counselor for the information.

Please encourage your children to make new friends so that they will feel comfortable in their daily setting. We also encourage you as a parent to P.R.O.B.E. into your child's day:

Prepare – Prepare yourself to listen to the details of your child's day.

Respond – Respond in a way that your child knows you care about their daily activities.

Overcome – Help your child overcome any fears or roadblocks they may have encountered.

Boost – Boost your child's confidence by giving them encouraging words.

Encourage – Encourage yourself because you have the courage and are making a difference.

We look forward to seeing you at our open house on September 28th and 30th at 7 p.m. Please do not hesitate to contact any PAC member with individual questions or the Urban-Suburban office. We sincerely hope that you have a good year with lots of learning along the way.



Felix Davenport, Fairport



Lieselle Taylor, Pittsford

Save the Date: Back to School Breakfast

Each year, the Urban-Suburban Program hosts a back to school breakfast at our participating high schools (and select middle schools) to celebrate the start of the new school year. We invite alumni, parents and friends of the Program to join us. To confirm your attendance, call our office at 249-7047.

September 10: East Rochester Jr/Sr High School - 7:15 a.m.

September 15: Penfield HS - 7:30 a.m.

September 16: Mendon HS - 7:30 a.m.

September 17: Brockport HS – 9 a.m.

September 18: Twelve Corners MS - 7:30 a.m.

September 22: Wheatland Chili HS – 7:30 a.m.

September 23: Minerva Deland – 7 a.m.

September 25: Johanna Perrin MS – 8 a.m.

October 1: Fairport HS - 7 a.m.

October 2: Sutherland HS - 7:30 a.m.

October 7: Irondequoit HS – 8 a.m.

October 9: Brighton HS – 7 a.m.



Senior Night

The Urban-Suburban Program hosts the second annual meeting for all graduating seniors and their parents on Monday, September 21; 5:30 p.m. at Wilson Foundation Academy, 200 Genesee Street, Rochester, New York. The goal of the meeting is to provide pertinent information on college admissions and the Urban-Suburban scholarship application process. Also featured will be a panel of Urban-Suburban alumni to share their experiences and speak about topics, including:

- College application process
- Urban-Suburban scholarship application process
- HEOP/Financial Aid
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's)
- SUNY colleges vs. Private colleges
- Networking, advocacy & your elevator speech

Please note: This is a *required* meeting for all graduating seniors; a senior class photo will also be taken.



Parent Group Meeting Dates 2015-16

Brighton

September 30
November 9
January 21
March 23

Brockport

September 30
November 19
January 21
March 23

Fairport

September 30
October 28
January 22
March 23

Penfield

September 30
November 17
January 13
March 23

Pittsford

September 30
November 10
January 13
March 23

West Irondequoit

September 30
November 5
January 28
March 23

Wheatland-Chili

September 30
November 12
January 28
March 23

New Districts (5)

September 28
December 10
February 10
March 22

*Note: Please **MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR**. These are the dates for parent meetings; however there may be conditions beyond our control that occur during the school year that cause some dates to change. If you have any questions, please contact the Urban-Suburban office at 249-7045.

2015 National Urban League Youth Leadership Summit

The 26th Annual National Urban League's Youth Leadership Summit was hosted at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, with special sessions at Dillard High School, Urban League of Broward County, and the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center. The Summit is designed to give students a wider sense of possibilities, preparation for the future and expose them to the kinds of investments a student can make in order to be ready for college, work and life.

Each year the Case Competition is held during the Youth Summit. This year, Project Ready students were called on to focus on the "T" in STEM – Technology. Students were challenged to become scientific thinkers and to design an engaging, impactful computer program that would provide all Project Ready students who are planning to attend a two-year or four-year college, or looking to obtain a certificate from a professional program, with the practical strategies and tools necessary to successfully transition from middle school to high school and beyond. The finalist included Chicago Urban League, Urban League of Greater Hartford, Minneapolis Urban League and Urban League of Rochester. Two Urban-Suburban students, Trenton Wynn (Penfield High) and Edmund Poole (Brockport High), participated. Trenton was a member of the performance team and Edmund provided technical support during the presentation.



Trenton Wynn (left) and Edmund Poole

Welcome Students to New Urban-Suburban Participating Districts



Spencerport Central School District



East Irondequoit Central School District



East Rochester Central School District



Hilton Central School District

Did You Know?

Brighton

Two Assistant Principals named at Brighton High School

Brighton Central School District Superintendent Dr. Kevin McGowan has announced the selection of Mr. Thomas Mitchell and Mr. Michael Pincelli as the new assistant principals at Brighton High School. The selections were made following a thorough and rigorous interview process that included the involvement of parents, students, teachers, administrators, staff members and the Board of Education.

“It is clear that both Tom and Mike have a clear focus on providing students with a safe, engaging, challenging and enjoyable learning experience each day,” Dr. McGowan said. “They are incredibly committed to supporting the great work being done by all other staff members and are very eager to begin getting to know all of our staff and students.”

Mr. Mitchell most recently served as the dean of students and instructional coach at Midlakes High School and Middle School in the Phelps-Clifton Springs Central School District. He has been teaching social studies at Midlakes Middle School since 2006.

Mr. Pincelli most recently served as an instructional coach and English teacher at Rush-Henrietta Senior High School. He also served as the Rush-Henrietta Central School District’s theatre director since 2008 and was an administrative intern in the summer school program the past two years.



Mr. Thomas Mitchell



Mr. Michael Pincelli

Fairport

Fairport welcomes new Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Fairport Central School District appointed Ms. Kerstin Wheeler as the new Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. The position was held by Mr. Brett Provenzano, who assumed his new role as Fairport Superintendent on July 1st.

Wheeler comes to Fairport from the Avon Central School District, where she served as the Director of Pupil Services since 2003, adding responsibility for Curriculum and Instruction in 2006. Prior to that, she worked in other districts as a Special Education Coordinator, Special Education teacher and Spanish teacher.

“Every child comes to school with their own unique gifts and abilities,” said Wheeler. “As educators, we must ensure all students are prepared for their future in a nurturing and supportive environment in which they acquire the skills, understandings and dispositions they will need in order to contribute positively to a global society.”



Jefferson Avenue Elementary announces new Assistant Principal

Amy Busby joined the team at Jefferson Avenue as the new assistant principal on August 1. Busby comes to Fairport from Wayne Finger-Lakes BOCES where she was a staff developer and coach working with 15 component school districts. Prior to that, she served as an acting Assistant Principal for the Williamson Elementary School for one year, and has also taught Kindergarten, 3rd and 5th grade at the Phelps-Clifton Springs School District.

“I am excited to join the Fairport school community,” said Busby. “I strongly agree with the Board of Education’s belief in educating the whole child. All children truly do have potential, and that potential can be shown in and out of the traditional classroom. I look forward to working with Mr. Greene, his staff, and the families of Jefferson Avenue Elementary to help the children be the very best they can be.”



Did You Know?

Jason Lehmbeck appointed Assistant Principal at Fairport High School

Jason Lehmbeck was appointed assistant principal at the White House at Fairport High School. Lehmbeck taught physical education at Minerva DeLand School for the past 18 years and is also a coach in the District's athletic program. In 2013, he was named the Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year by The New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance.

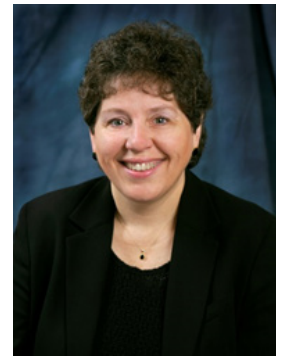
"Jason brings a wealth of experience to our building, having taught physical education and coached in the district for 18 years. We are confident that he will make a positive impact on our building leadership team and Fairport High School as a whole," said Robert Clark, principal, Fairport High School.



Penfield

Penfield Appoints New Assistant Superintendent for Personnel

The Penfield Central School District appointed Barbara Gregory as the new Assistant Superintendent for Personnel. Ms. Gregory comes to Penfield from the Fairport School District, where she served as Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations since 1998. She previously served as an Assistant Director of Personnel in the Greece Central School District.



Pittsford

Jennifer Marren Appointed Sutherland High School Assistant Principal

The Pittsford Central School Board of Education appointed Jennifer Marren as the new assistant principal for Sutherland High School; she will replace the retiring John Weymann.

Marren brings sixteen years of teaching experience to PCSD. Jennifer has served as a secondary social studies teacher at West Irondequoit, Greece and Penfield Central School Districts. She also has served as a Family Literacy Specialist at the Rochester City Schools. Most recently, Marren served Penfield Schools as a Secondary Humanities Specialist where she oversaw the development and implementation of curriculum and instruction for secondary humanities.

Dr. Mark Balsamo named Park Road Elementary Principal

The Pittsford Central School Board of Education appointed Dr. Balsamo as principal of Park Road Elementary School. Balsamo began his career as a social studies teacher and taught at Pittsford Middle School prior to embarking on his administrative career at the Greece Central School District. During his eleven-year principalship at West Ridge Elementary School in Greece, he was responsible for 450 students, Pre-K to fifth grade. Under Balsamo's leadership, West Ridge received recognition as a NYS Reward School in the 2013-14 school year. He has also been an effective leader in helping his team achieve significant progress in curriculum mapping, RtI and Special Education.

Did You Know?

Pittsford Board Appoints Calkins Road Middle School Assistant Principal

The Pittsford Central School Board of Education appointed Michael Falzoi to assistant principal at Calkins Road Middle School. Falzoi previously served as the middle-high school principal for the Dansville Central School District since 2008, and as assistant principal from 2006-2008. Prior to his administrative posts he taught social studies.

Falzoi began his new job at Calkins Road Middle School on Monday, August 31, 2015.

Wheatland-Chili

Wheatland-Chili Welcomes New Secondary Principal

At a Special Meeting of the Board of Education held on Monday, July 6, 2015, Eric Windover was appointed as the new Principal of Wheatland-Chili Middle/High School after an extensive search and selection process that involved multiple stakeholders.

Mr. Windover began his career in education as a science teacher with experience teaching living environment and middle school science. He has taught in North Carolina, as well as at Lyons Central and Rochester City School District. He arrives at Wheatland-Chili from Roxbury Central Schools, having served there as the PreK-12 Principal for the past seven years.



Student Corner



Edmund Poole, a senior at Brockport High School, received a Certificate of Completion for 120 hours of participation at the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) through Rochester Tooling & Manufacturing Association/Rochester Technology and Manufacturing Association at MCC Applied Technologies Center. Congratulations, Edmund!

Samari Brown

is an 8th grade student at Barker Road Middle School in Pittsford. This summer she had the opportunity to spend a week at Camp Cory with the YMCA. Camp Cory is located in the Finger

Lakes region and provides an overnight camp experience for student's ages 7-15 years old. Samari's French teacher told her about the camp and recommended that she attend. While there, she enjoyed learning camp songs, taking high ropes and archery classes and building camp fires. Through this experience she met new people who were from as far away as Spain. Her favorite moment was bonding with her cabin mates. Camp Cory was a great outdoor experience for Samari and she hopes to return next year.



Alumni Spotlight

Greg Jefferson Irondequoit High School Class of 2001

On September 11th 2001, I remember being in class when someone came running in to tell us that the “Twin Towers” had just been struck by two aircrafts. At that exact moment, I decided I wanted to do something to make a difference. I initially wanted to join the Marines, but later decided to join the Navy and volunteer for submarine service. Next thing I knew, I was an 18-year-old recruit getting off the bus for boot camp in Great Lakes, IL.

After graduating boot camp, I transferred to Groton, CT for submarine school and training to become a Torpedoman. After 6 months of training, I reported to my first submarine, the USS San Francisco (SSN 711), which was home ported in Norfolk, VA. Soon after reporting, the submarine changed its home port to Guam. I didn’t even know where Guam was at that time! Once I found out that Guam was a tiny island in the South Pacific Ocean, my outlook quickly changed. After growing up with Rochester’s harsh winters, the warm sun, sandy beaches, and palm trees that Guam had to offer were all welcomed sights! I enjoyed Guam so much that I decided to do two tours of duty there.

However, while serving on the USS San Francisco, something tragic happened that forced me to take a hard look at my life. The ship was involved in an accident while underway that resulted in the death of one of my shipmates, Petty Officer 2nd Class Joseph Ashley. When this happened, I had the option to leave submarine service, but ultimately decided to stay because I felt I owed it to my fallen brother.

In 2005, I took follow on orders to a submarine tender, the USS Emory S. Land (AS-39), home ported in La Maddelena, Italy. This was by far my favorite duty station as I quickly fell in love with the Italian culture.

After that tour, I returned to Guam in 2007 to serve on the USS Houston (SSN 713). Around this time is when I had my first son, Gregory Trevon Jefferson.

After this sea tour, I decided to take a well deserved shore tour in sunny San Diego, CA that excluded any time at sea. This tour had its challenges as my father passed away within a year after reporting for duty. However this tour also allowed me to be present for the birth of my second son, Jude Savor Jefferson, and allowed me the opportunity to be promoted to the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

I soon felt the sea calling me once again and reported to the USS Albuquerque (SSN 706), home ported in San Diego, CA, to serve as the ship’s maintenance and material coordinator (3MC). I am still serving in this capacity today.

During my naval career, I have had the opportunity to visit many places including Hawaii, the Philippines, Japan, Australia, Korea, Oman, Diego Garcia, Spain and Africa. I have some words of advice to pass along to current students that I learned first hand throughout my career. First, never stop challenging yourself, whether it is professionally or personally. Lastly, you never know your full potential until you are faced with adversity. That’s when you will show yourself and the world who you really are.



Visit the Urban-Suburban Program Web site at:
www.monroe.edu/US

A program of

