



News about...

July 2018

Urban **US** Suburban

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Message from the Director

Greetings Students, Families, Alumni and Partners,

Summer is well underway and I hope you have taken time to celebrate this past year's accomplishments with Urban-Suburban.

This 2017–18 school year we celebrated adding a new district, new staff, enrollment of over 800 students, unprecedented partnership achievements, 43 Graduates and the list goes on.

The accolades are due to you. These accomplishments could not have occurred without the commitment and dedication of staff, students, families, alumni and partners.

Thank you for your unwavering partnership and support of Urban-Suburban.

Enjoy the splendors of summer.

Sincerely,
Felicia A. Smith, Program Director



Participating Districts:

Brighton
Brockport
East Irondequoit
East Rochester
Fairport
Hilton
Honeoye Falls-Lima
Penfield
Pittsford
Rochester
Rush-Henrietta
Spencerport
Webster
West Irondequoit
Wheatland-Chili

Coordinated by:



Tawanda Johnson Celebrates 29 Years of Service

On July 6, 2018 Mrs. Tawanda Johnson celebrated 29 years of service with the Urban-Suburban Interdistrict Transfer Program.

Mrs. Johnson recounts how she started with the program in 1989 on a two week temporary work assignment right out of data processing school. The initial assignment entailed her covering a staff vacation, but the staff became ill and was unable to return to work.

Mrs. Johnson was offered the position and the rest is her-story. Mrs. Johnson is truly an invaluable asset to the organization.

We thank and congratulate her as she celebrates 29 years of dedicated service to Urban-Suburban families, collaborating districts and community partners.



Congratulations to the Urban-Suburban 2018 graduating class!

The 2018 graduating class will soon begin the next phase of a magnificent journey. Many will pursue a post-secondary education, while others will go into the military or enter the workforce. Whatever path is chosen, we wish them nothing but success.

Brighton High School



Curtis Arline*
Monroe Community College
Major: Communications



Alona Miller
Finger Lakes Community
College
Major: Nursing



Keith Scott Jr.
Monroe Community College
Major: Undecided



Makalah Sizer**
Nazareth College
Major: Business



Miyah Sizer**
Monroe Community College
Major: Physical Therapy



Gilberto Torres*
The College at Brockport
Major: Criminal Justice



Trinity Wilson*
Xavier University of Louisiana
Major: Pre-med/Neuroscience

*** Urban-Suburban Scholarship Award Recipient**
◇ Monroe One BOCES Scholarship Award Recipient
◆ Urban-League of Rochester Black Scholar

2018 graduating class (continued)

Brockport High School



Cory Gross*
University at Buffalo
Major: Engineering



Anajah Jackson
Monroe Community College
Major: Biology



Amiya Johnson
Monroe Community College
Major: Nursing



Jasmine Torres*
SUNY Fredonia
Major: Music Therapy



Brianna Williams
Monroe Community College
Major: Undecided

East Rochester High School



Tai'Jmeir Gray
Finger Lakes Community College
Major: Nursing

Fairport High School



Irvin Baulkman
East Georgia State College
Major: Business



Xavier Colon
Entering the Workforce



Alona Davis**
Monroe Community College
Major: Health Information Technology



Amaya Powell**
Nazareth College
Major: Nursing



Aaryanna Santiago
Entering the Workforce

Penfield High School



**Frankie
Gissendanner**
Ryder University
Major: Sports Management



Tabonnie Nesmith**
Nazareth College
Major: Legal Studies



Jordin Watson*
Binghamton University
Major: Biochemistry/
Pre-Pharmacy



Brenna Wilcox*
Monroe Community College
Major: Nursing

Pittsford Mendon High School



Tyler Corbitt**
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Chemistry



Elliott Poole

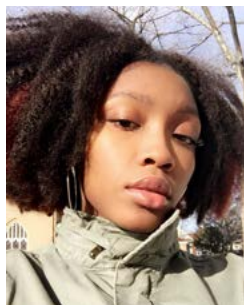


Marquan Walker



Harmonie Williams**
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Psychology

Pittsford Sutherland High School



Mardasia Ashford
Buffalo State College
Major: Criminal Justice/Law



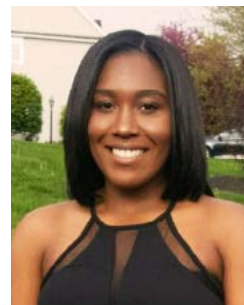
Ali Brooks
Morgan State University
Major: Nursing



Nubia Cromartie**
Nazareth College
Major: Physical Therapy



Lacy Holloway, Jr.
Utica College
Major: Biology



Julissa Valdez*
SUNY Geneseo
Major: Pre-Med/Biology

West Irondequoit High School



James Anderson◊
Monroe Community College
Major: Economics



Zaria Austin
The College at Brockport
Major: Social Work



Mahogany Barnes
University at Albany
Major: Forensic Anthropology



Kania Barnes-Johnson♦



Olissa Bruce
Monroe Community College
Major: Veterinary Medicine



Chyna Dyck*
SUNY Fredonia
Major: Childhood Education



Quintyn Holloway
The College at Brockport
Major: Pre-Law



Lul Jeylaani♦
Monroe Community College
Major: Human Services



Taylor Jones



Domineer Williams*
The College at Brockport
Major: Information Technology

Wheatland-Chili High School



Destiny Brumfield
Niagara Community College
Major: Baking & Pastries



Jordyn Gross*
Albany State University
Major: Nursing/Biology

* **Urban-Suburban Scholarship Award Recipient**
◊ **Monroe One BOCES Scholarship Award Recipient**
♦ **Urban-League of Rochester Black Scholar**

Class of 2018 Receives \$19,500 in Urban-Suburban Scholarships

As a result of the annual pledges and proceeds from the 3-on-3 Basketball Scholarship Tournament, \$19,500 was raised for the Urban-Suburban Scholarship Fund.

On May 5, the Urban-Suburban Scholarship Committee convened and awarded \$19,500 in college scholarships to 15 students. The awards ranged from \$500 to \$2,000. Scholarship recipients must be Urban-Suburban students in good standing, scheduled to graduate in the year the application was submitted, have at least a "C" average, and plan to attend college the September or January following their high school graduation. Scholarship awards are sent directly to the designated college in August of each year.

In addition, the Monroe #1 BOCES Educational Foundation awarded (1) \$1000 college scholarship to a graduating senior in the Urban-Suburban Program. This scholarship can be received directly by the student and used to assist with out-of-pocket college expenses, such as books. The Educational Foundation continues to designate this scholarship annually.

All scholarship recipients were recognized at the annual Urban-Suburban awards ceremony and their respective schools' awards ceremonies in May and June. This year's Scholarship Committee consisted of ten volunteers: eight current program parents and two district representatives. The program seeks new volunteers each year, affording current high school parents of the program an opportunity to learn about the Urban-Suburban scholarship and application process. In order to be a committee member, parent volunteers must have a student in grades 9–11. It is never too early to sign-up. If you are interested in serving on the scholarship committee for the Class of 2019, please contact Felicia Smith at (585) 249-7046.



Seated (L to R): Kimberly Felton—West Irondequoit/Penfield Parent; Ana Rivera—Fairport Parent; Essence Simmons—East Irondequoit Parent; and Catherine Houser—West Irondequoit Parent.

Standing (L to R): Scott Steinberg—West Irondequoit HS School Counselor; Brian Kurdziel—East Irondequoit Principal; Ronald Wilcox—East Rochester Parent; Gwendolyn Brisbon—Brighton Parent; Shelia Cotton—Penfield Parent; and Damaris Torres—Fairport Parent.



ROCHESTER HBCU COLLEGE FAIR

Historically Black Colleges and Universities



October 24, 2018

 Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY



/Rochesterhbcucollegefair



@rocmyhbcu



@rocmyhbcu



Kicks for Campers Update

written by Jeanne Strazzabosco

Thank you for supporting KICKS 2018! We had a beautiful night on the fields at Thornell Farm Park and Mendon HS. I wanted to share some very good news and thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

YOU helped send 20+ more beautiful children to Camp Cory this summer where their lives will be forever changed.

YOU helped raise over \$12,000 so we can offer full scholarships to our new campers and offer plenty of financial aid to our returning campers.

Fun FACTS:

- **KICKS united** kids, families and community members from the greater Rochester Community!
- **Every Pittsford School** was represented on the field. KICKS was an All District Event!
- **576** children and adults from Pittsford and our greater Rochester community **played kickball!**
- **2 ROCKidsCONNECT teams** played in the tournament for a 2nd year!
- **47** Pittsford staff members and parents **volunteered to coach!**
- **100+** Pittsford & Urban-Suburban parents, community members, retired teachers and community leaders from our greater Rochester community **volunteered!**
- **The Partnership** among Pittsford Schools, The Urban-Suburban Program and YMCA Camp Cory is unique, continues to thrive while uniting kids, families and communities!
- And this year we added a new partner—**The Town of Pittsford!**

Save The Date!
KICKS for Campers 2019
Saturday, May 11, 2019

To see the Kicks for Campers 2018 video created by Pittsford Central School District please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-Ahloo-ff0&feature=youtu.be>

Urban-Suburban Hosts its 8th Annual Award Ceremony

On May 30, 2018, the Urban-Suburban Program held its 8th Annual Awards Ceremony. The ceremony recognizes the academic accomplishments of our students in grades 6–12, including graduating seniors and scholarship recipients. This year, 505 students received an award.

Students received awards based on the following criteria:

- Core Honors Awards:** Average grade for three marking periods of 80–89% in math, science, English and social studies/history.
- Academic Achievement:** Average grade for three marking periods of 90% to 94% in math, science, English and social studies/history.
- Academic Excellence:** Average grade for three marking periods of 95% or more in math, science, English and social studies/history.
- Perfect Attendance:** Maintained perfect attendance for first three marking periods.
- Principal's Award:** Recipient participates with students, faculty and staff in an effort to reduce minority group isolation; works to the best of his/her ability to achieve academic excellence; and demonstrates he/she is a responsible citizen.
- Scholarship Awards:** Be in good standing with the Program; maintain at least a "C" average; be accepted at, or made plans to attend, an institution of high learning.

The ceremony also presented the Special Service Awards to honor friends of the Program for their service and commitment. This award acknowledges someone who has given unwavering dedication and commitment to the students, parents, administrators, school faculty and staff of the Program. This year, we recognized seven individuals who have made significant contributions to the Program.

- Valerie Barclay—Monroe One BOCES
- Eboney Barnes—Parent Advisory Council Member
- Frankie Gissendanner—Parent Advisory Council Member
- Carol Hill—Monroe One BOCES
- Cherrial Poole—Parent Advisory Council Member
- Diane Smith—Monroe One BOCES
- Donna Walz—First Student Inc.

The Urban-Suburban Program would like to thank everyone that was a part of making this night a success. Special thanks to Nazareth College for hosting this year's ceremony at the Callahan Theater of Nazareth College Arts Center.

Congratulations to all of our award recipients!

(Award Ceremony Photo Gallery on following pages)

Award Ceremony Photo Gallery



Award Ceremony Photo Gallery



Award Ceremony Photo Gallery



Award Ceremony Photo Gallery

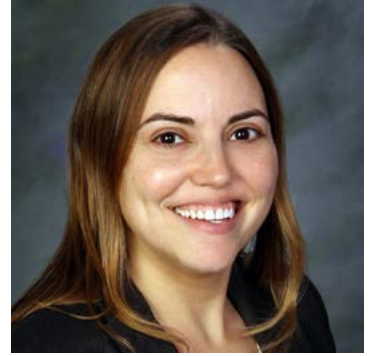


District Updates

Pittsford

MHS principal appointed

The Pittsford Central School District Board of Education has appointed Melissa Julian as Principal of Mendon High School. The appointment follows a thorough search and interview process. “I am confident that Ms. Julian will carry on the tradition of exceptional leadership modeled by Mr. Karl Thielking who is retiring after serving as MHS Principal for 18 years with the highest level of integrity, vigor and care,” said Pittsford Central School District Superintendent Michael Pero.



Julian looks forward to returning to a role that allows her to work more directly with students and make a meaningful impact on their lives. “I am excited to work with the Mendon High School students, staff and community. To follow a principal who has been highly successful for the past 18 years is an honor and a challenge, and I look forward to working with all of the stakeholders to collaboratively continue Mendon’s legacy of excellence,” said Julian.

Having served as Pittsford’s Director of Technology since 2015, Julian began her new role as MHS principal on July 2, 2018. Prior to joining the Pittsford Central School District, Julian served as the Executive Principal at Cicero North Syracuse High School with 2,100 students in grades 10–12 and a staff of 200. She began her administrative career at Cicero North Syracuse as Dean of Students and served in other administrative roles prior to being appointed Executive Principal.

Julian started her career as an English teacher and taught at the middle and high school levels. During this time she served as the advisor for multiple student clubs and organizations. She earned a Bachelor’s Degree in English and Textual Studies and English Education, as well as a Master’s in Instruction Design and Evaluation from Syracuse University. She received her Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Administration from SUNY Oswego.

Spencerport

New Cosgrove assistant principal appointed

The Spencerport Board of Education has appointed Telcie Pincelli as the new assistant principal at Cosgrove Middle School, effective July 1.

Pincelli fills the open position left by Mike Sorbera, who accepted the special education coordinator position for the district in April. Pincelli first joined the Spencerport School District faculty in 2006, as an elementary classroom teacher (2006–2015). For the last three years, she has served as a K–5 instructional specialist, providing professional development and instructional support to faculty. During this time, she has also been working toward her administrative certification from SUNY Brockport.



“We are very excited to welcome Mrs. Pincelli as part of the leadership team at Cosgrove,” Superintendent Dan Milgate said. “We have had the good fortune to know and work with her for the last 12 years, and her instructional expertise, leadership qualities and collaborative nature will be a wonderful addition in this new capacity.”

Welcome!

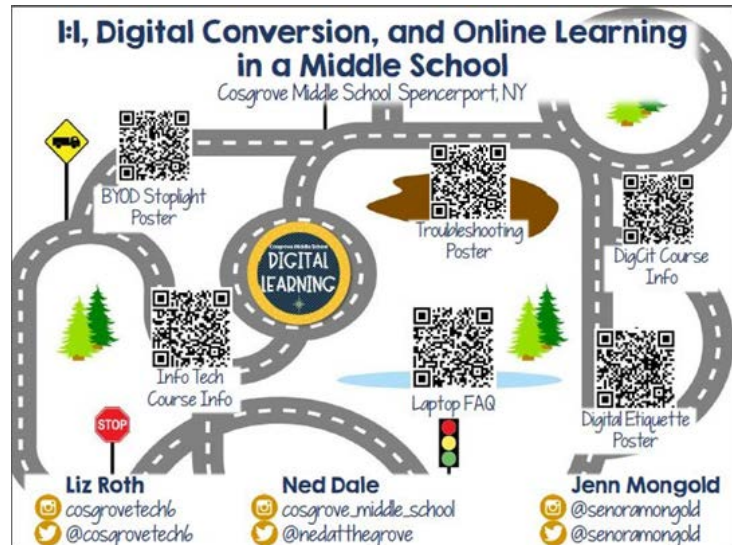
Meet and Greet in our elementary schools

The Spencerport Elementary Schools will each host a Meet and Greet for students and families on Tuesday, September 4, 2–3 p.m. Bernabi, Canal View, Munn and Taylor provide this one-hour opportunity for students and families to meet their teachers prior to the start of school on September 5.

Spencerport Central School District continues its 1:1 laptop initiative

The 1:1 laptop initiative in grades 6–8 will be expanded to the high school for the 2018–2019 school year. The 1:1 initiative has been an ongoing effort for the past several years, in which the district has focused on extensive staff development to integrate technology into the learning process and use a blended model for instruction.

Incoming students must complete an online user agreement and decide if they want a protection plan. Details on these agreements may be found on our website at spencerportschools.org. Students also take a course on digital citizenship which was developed by our Cosgrove faculty.



Webster

New WCSD director of elementary education

Erin Land has accepted the position as the new WCSD director of elementary education. Mrs. Land has worked in many leadership positions within WCSD over the past 18 years. She has served as the principal of Klem Road South Elementary School since fall 2012. Prior to that, she was Klem South's assistant principal (2009–2012). Mrs. Land was also WCSD's co-director of the district's former teacher center (2006–2009), helping to transition the center to the current Professional Development Center (PDC). While co-director of the PDC, Mrs. Land also served as the district's K–12 library curriculum coordinator. From 2001–2007, Mrs. Land was a school library media specialist for both Webster Schroeder High School and Klem South. She began her career with WCSD in the fall of 2000, when she was hired as a fourth grade teacher at Klem South.



New principal of DeWitt

Mark Schichtel, former assistant principal at DeWitt Road Elementary School, has accepted the position as the new principal of DeWitt. He will take over for Debra Reed, who has retired. Mark has served as assistant principal for the Pandas since 2013. He has more than 20 years of experience in education at a variety of levels and positions, including serving as WCSD's director of science and technology from 2010–2013.



Christian Zwahlen named principal at Iroquois Middle School

Mr. Christian Zwahlen is the new principal of Iroquois Middle School. Mr. Zwahlen most recently served as an Elementary School Assistant Principal in the Rochester City School District. In addition, he served on the NY State Education Department's Office of Curriculum & Instruction ELA Curriculum Advisory Panel, with a specific focus on the Next Generation Learning Standards.

Prior to the above experiences, Mr. Zwahlen served as an ELA Instructional Coach in the Rochester City School District and as a model teacher/classroom for EngageNY's Danielson Model video series. He also taught as an ELA teacher for nine years.

Mr. Zwahlen holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Boston College and a Master of Science in Education with a specialty in Adolescent English from SUNY Brockport. He earned School Building Leader and School District Leader certifications from the University of Rochester.



Kelly Santora named principal at Listwood and Southlawn Schools

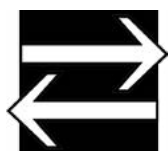
Mrs. Kelly Santora is the new principal of Listwood and Southlawn Schools. Mrs. Santora most recently served as principal of Oakfield-Alabama Elementary School. Prior to her career at Oakfield-Alabama, Mrs. Santora was the Coordinator of Instructional Services for the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership where she specialized in designing and implementing professional learning opportunities for teachers in multiple districts. She also taught as a classroom teacher for seven years in first, third, and fourth grades.

Mrs. Santora holds a Bachelor in Science in Childhood and Special Education from SUNY Geneseo and a Master in Education from Indiana Wesleyan University. She earned her School District Leadership and School Building Leadership certifications from the University of Rochester.



Visit the Urban-Suburban Program Web site at:

www.monroe.edu/US



A program of



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EDUCATIONAL SERVICES