

NAVIGATOR

VOLUME 24, No. 3

SUMMER 2020

Class of 2020 Top 10 Students



1. Naomi Fisher, *Valedictorian*
2. Peyton D'Anthony, *Salutatorian*
3. Sophia Woodis
4. Karli Gifford
5. Phillip Maas
6. Alanna Burlee
7. Liam Thompson
8. McKenna Dorman
9. Madison Kramer
10. Logan Walczak

Election Results

District voters **approved** the 2020-21 school budget of \$23,202,347 with 645 votes for yes and 191 for no.

Travis Bensink, Melissa Putney, and Zach Stahlsmith were elected to fill three vacancies on the Board of Education, effective July 1, 2020.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020

Message from Superintendent Dr. Joshua Liddell

As the 2019-2020 school year came to a close, our leadership team had to devise a plan to respectfully and safely honor our seniors that followed all applicable social distancing and NYSDOH graduation guidelines. In a total team effort, we were able to pull off an outdoor on-campus commencement ceremony that garnered a lot of positive feedback from parents, students, and staff. On a picture-perfect Friday evening, in front of their families, 66 Chautauqua Lake seniors walked across a stage and received their diplomas. The long-standing traditions such as our peony flower chain, individual senior commencement statements, and our valedictorian and salutatorian speeches were all part of the evening event. Our seniors and their families had closure to a unique year that saw our community and staff consistently rally to support them.



While graduation looked a little different this year, our seniors embraced it and made it their own.

and we are proud to state the class has representatives headed right into the armed forces to defend our great country. Our seniors are headed to colleges and universities such as Akron, Baldwin Wallace, Binghamton, Cornell, Geneseo, Georgetown, JCC, Ohio State, Penn State Behrend, SUNY Fredonia, RIT, and the University of Buffalo. The Class of 2020 has plans to study architecture, business, biology, criminology, engineering, international relations, machining, nursing, and psychology. This diverse group has a very exciting future ahead of them and we are proud of each and every one of them.

At commencement the following excerpt, from a recently published message to our seniors from Mayville alumnus Dr. Terry Clark, was shared:

"Life's setbacks can seem cruel at times, but they can also motivate and inspire. Hopefully, you can still appreciate and embrace the good that you've experienced, as well as the good you've created... Remember to say yes to hard work, to yourselves, to positive thinking, to perseverance, to doing the next right thing, and to contributing to the greater good."

Thank you again to everyone that has supported the Class of 2020 over the years. We feel confident that we have provided our graduates with the foundation they need to excel in an ever-changing environment. We are excited to see what the future holds for this dynamic and positive group of seniors!



The Class of 2020 celebrated with an outdoor, socially distanced commencement ceremony.

As freshmen, our seniors selected a quote to represent their journey through high school. We hope they keep this quote in mind as they continue to work hard in pursuit of their future goals.

"There are no short cuts to any place worth going." -- Beverly Sills

Our seniors have exemplified their quote by exhibiting resilience, strength, and a great work ethic. They have excelled on a variety of fronts including in the academic and athletic arena, as well as in our community. The graduates have varied career and college interests

FREE Nutrition Programs

To find open summer meal sites in your community, visit:

www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks

Or call the National Hunger Hotline at **866-348-6479** or Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) at **(716) 661-9430**.

Mayville Food Pantry

Located at 9 S. Erie St. in Mayville. Open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The food pantry supplies food to those in need, including fresh produce from its garden. Volunteer gardeners are always needed! The pantry serves the entire Chautauqua Lake Central School District area, not just Mayville.

Ripley Community Council Food Pantry

Located at the front of the Ripley Country Market, the pantry is open Tuesday 2 PM - 4PM and Saturdays 10 AM - 12 NOON. They are closed major holidays and Saturdays before Monday holidays. The pantry serves residents in the town of Ripley.

Westfield Community Food Pantry

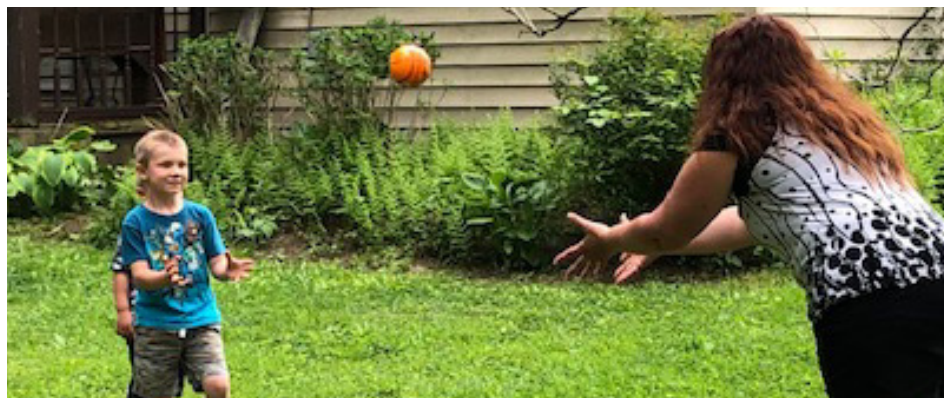
Housed in the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, serving individuals and families located in the Westfield community based on the guidelines for the Food Bank of Western New York. The pantry is open from 1 PM - 2:30 PM every Tuesday, or by appointment. Please check in at the church office.



ELEMENTARY END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Even amidst school closure, teachers and parents were able to engage in something special to celebrate the accomplishments of their Pre-K and Kindergarten students. Pre-K teacher Mrs. Majchrzak, Teaching Assistant Mrs. Hoitink, and Elementary Principal Mrs. Lundgren visited students at their homes to deliver an end of year treat. Students were thrilled to see their teachers in person, even from a distance.

Kindergartners received a similar visit from their teachers to celebrate their graduation! Students were presented their graduation certificates and cap and gown pictures. A special thanks to Mr. Bland, Ms. Norlander, and the Kindergarten team for all their efforts to maintain this tradition and give families their special graduation picture.



Mrs. Hoitink "launched" a special treat and tossed a ball to Pre-K student Miles Alonge to help him "bounce" into Kindergarten.



Molly Freay and Jackson Lovely (with the help of Mr. Morrison) proudly hold their Kindergarten graduation certificates and photos.



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For information, please contact CLCCC at 753-5851 or email childcare@clake.org.

Leadership Transition

Big changes are coming to Chautauqua Lake Central School. After 16 years with the district, Superintendent Benjamin Spitzer has announced his retirement, effective June 30, 2020.

“I will miss working with the fantastic staff, students, parents, and Board members,” says Mr. Spitzer. “I have enjoyed the challenge of developing and implementing the innovative ideas that have made Chautauqua Lake a destination district.”

Dr. Joshua Liddell will take over as CLCS superintendent on July 1, 2020. He has worked in the district for more than 10 years, where he served as the Secondary School Principal and Supervisor of Athletic Programs.

“I am extremely proud and blessed to be selected as the next Chautauqua Lake Superintendent,” said Dr. Liddell. “Mr. Spitzer has been an excellent mentor and together we have worked to ensure that the district is well-prepared for the upcoming leadership transition.”



Meet The New Secondary Principal

We are proud to welcome Mrs. Rachel Curtin to the Chautauqua Lake family as the newly appointed Secondary Principal.

“Mrs. Curtin is an excellent fit for the Chautauqua Lake family and will be a great addition to our leadership team,” said Dr. Liddell. “For the past



seven years, she proudly served as the Elementary Principal at Albion Central School District., where she was responsible for over 800 Pre-K-5 students and 97 faculty and staff. Her commitment to collaboration and fostering leadership within the school community led to improvements in areas such as literacy, family programs, and student safety.”

Mrs. Curtin calls Chautauqua County, specifically Ripley and Mayville home. She earned her Bachelor of Music, Masters of Music, Music Education, and Certificate of Advanced Study in School Building and School District Leadership from the State University of Fredonia. SUNY Fredonia awarded her the Dr. Estelle M. Crino Educational Leadership Scholarship for Promising Women Leaders in 2017. She taught middle and high school music in Jamestown, then Silver Creek for 18 years..

“It is such an honor to be part of a district that has a student-first mindset and an array of diversified student opportunities,” said Mrs. Rachel Curtin. “I’m looking forward to transitioning into this new role and leading with respect and empathy. I promise to value every student for not only who they are today, but also for who they will be in the future.”

2020-21 Calendar Under Construction

The 2020-21 district calendar is under construction, with events to be added throughout the summer months. As always, dates are subject to change.

The one-page calendar for 2020-21 may be viewed or printed now at www.clake.org. The one-page calendar includes these key dates:

- Thanksgiving Recess: **November 25-27**
- Winter Recess: **Dec. 23 - Jan. 1**
- Spring Recess: **Mar. 29 - Apr. 9**
- Staff Development Days: **Sept. 1, Sept. 2, Sept. 3, Jan. 9, and Mar. 19**, as well as half-days for Staff Development on **Jan. 29 & Feb. 1** (early dismissal at approximately 11 AM)

First Day of School: In the Fall, Chautauqua Lake students start school on **Tues. Sept 8**.

These dates will be **added back to the calendar** in the following order if needed: **Apr. 9, Apr. 8, Apr. 7, Apr. 6, and Apr. 5**.

CLCS Mission Statement

Chautauqua Lake Central School, in partnership with family and community, will provide educational opportunities for all students to achieve their highest potential in a safe, caring environment that prepares them to live, adjust, and enjoy life in a changing world.

Reopening Committee

Chautauqua Lake has established a committee to develop potential procedures and plans for the reopening of school this Fall. The CLCS Reopening Committee is made up of over 40 individuals with representation from key stakeholder groups such as teachers, administrators, parents, students, counselors, community members, support staff, coaches Board of Education members, buildings and grounds, transportation, cafeteria staff, local health care experts, and our school nurses. The committee also has CLCS staff members who are part of the Regional Reopening Sub-Committees to ensure we are receiving any applicable guidance put forth from our E2CCB region. Our committee is presently and proactively analyzing different reopening models and awaiting additional guidance from the state. The group's mission statement is:

"The Chautauqua Lake Reopening Committee will focus on the health, safety, and well-being of all our Pre-K-12 students and staff when making reopening decisions. We will work collaboratively to develop creative and effective solutions to ensure educational and social equity. Following NYS Education Department, NYS Department of Health, and federal CDC guidelines, we will produce the best and safest possible instructional environment we can with the tools and resources that are available."

The Reopening Committee will be staying abreast of any and all new information coming forth from New York State and will be continually meeting to develop a plan throughout the summer months. If you have any specific questions or feedback, please reach out to our building principals or the district office.

New District Goals

Dr. Liddell is excited to announce that new district goals were developed through a collaborative process that included representatives from administration, secondary and elementary teachers, special area and learning support teachers, support staff, students, parents and coaches. The goals have been reviewed and approved by the Chautauqua Lake Board of Education. The district goals will set the foundation for our annually established building-level priorities and individualized faculty and staff goals, which will be shared in the Back to School Navigator.

GOAL 1: SCHOOL CULTURE & CLIMATE

All students and staff will contribute to a supportive and positive environment that promotes integrity, tolerance, and respect for self and others. A focus will be placed on constructive community interaction and strengthening student transitions.

GOAL 2: STUDENT SAFETY & QUALITY OF LIFE

All students and staff will model and encourage safe, socially appropriate skills and healthy lifestyles. A balance of social, emotional, physical, and mental awareness aligned learning activities will lead to a comprehensive understanding of independence and empathy.

GOAL 3: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & LEADERSHIP

All staff will provide highly effective, engaging, differentiated instruction and extracurricular activities in which students will actively participate to their fullest potential. Students will graduate with the life skills, leadership qualities and technological abilities necessary to succeed in their future endeavors.

GOAL 4: REAL-WORLD APPLICATIONS & CITIZENSHIP

All staff will develop curriculum and instruction that enables students to explore, learn, and grow as individuals. Students will engage in hands-on learning experiences that reinforce a successful transition to college and/or career while properly preparing them to be good citizens.

GOAL 5: COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATION

All students and staff will engage in activities that promote collaboration and foster positive communication and growth. Opportunities will be provided for students to work together using active listening and effective communication skills that embrace diverse perspectives.

GOAL 6: INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS & OPPORTUNITIES

All students will participate in programs that are dynamic and relevant to the demands of the outside world. The staff will actively design and integrate opportunities and partnerships that employ relevant learning experiences for students while furthering our destination district status.

Best Wishes to Our Retirees

This year, we bid farewell to three exceptional Thunderbirds, Mr. Benjamin Spitzer, Mrs. Carol Majchrzak, and Mrs. Alison Huihui. We thank Mr. Spitzer, Mrs. Majchrzak, and Mrs. Huihui for their many years of service to CLCS and wish them the best in their retirement!



Superintendent Mr. Benjamin Spitzer is retiring after 16 years with Chautauqua Lake Central School.



Mrs. Carol Majchrzak dedicated 36 years to CLCS.



Mrs. Alison Huihui spent 10 years with the district.

Navigator is a publication of the
Chautauqua Lake
Central School District

www.clake.org

Board of Education 2020-21

- Travis Bensink
- Michael Ludwig
- Andrea Munsee-Wellman
- Melissa Putney
- Kenneth Shearer
- Zach Stahlsmith
- Amy Webb

- Dr. Joshua Liddell, *Superintendent*
- Megan Lundgren, *Elementary Principal and Director of Special Education*
- Rachel Curtin, *Secondary School Principal*
- Beth Olson, *Business Administrator*
- Derek Svenson, *Director of Technology*
- Heidi Martin, *District Clerk*
- Patrick Quinn, *K-12 Assistant Principal*
- Jennifer Shearer, *Cafeteria Manager*
- Jim Morrison, *Transportation Director*

No Pesticides Requiring Advance Notification Used

Chautauqua Lake Central School District practices Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management. IPM utilizes common sense practices to control pests by taking advantage of various pest management options including the judicious use of pesticides.

As part of its Integrated Pest Management program, the district may periodically use pesticide products requiring notification under State Education Law Section 409-h. This law requires that all employees and persons in parental relations to CLCS students be offered an opportunity to be informed of pesticide use and be sent summaries periodically throughout the school year.

As this newsletter was sent to press, no pesticides requiring such notification had been used during the 2019-20 school year.

If you have questions about the IPM Program or pesticide use at Chautauqua Lake Central School, please contact the Director of Facilities at (716) 753-5825.

Summer Information

The past few years, we've been happy to announce Elementary students' teachers for the following school year on their final report card. Because of all the uncertainty surrounding what school will look like this Fall, we have elected to hold off on making those announcements and issuing supply lists. Instead, students will receive a summer mailing that includes an introductory letter from next year's teacher and a supply list. We will try to get that information out to you as soon as we are able.

In regards to summer school, we surveyed parents regarding their feelings about virtual programming. We had nearly 250 responses. Thank you all for your input! The overwhelming response was that, "our kids need a break." We heard you and therefore will not be holding virtual summer school. There were however, many positive comments about our Summer Kids' Academy. Because hands-on projects and outdoor activities are such a large part of why students love that program, we did not feel that a virtual Summer Kids' Academy would suffice.

Congratulations Graduates!



A Message to Our Graduates

Congratulations to each and every one of you in the Class of 2020! It was a long road to get here, but you did it and we are incredibly proud of you. Your perseverance has paid off!

Although your time at Chautauqua Lake Central School may be over, you will always be a Thunderbird. It's time to spread your wings and fly. We wish you all the best wherever your path may lead. We will miss you here at CLCS, but we know you will be doing great things in the world. We can't wait to see all that you accomplish!

And while your high school education may be finished, we hope you never stop learning and growing. Take the lessons you've learned at CLCS and let them guide you as you begin to chart a new course for your future.

Good luck, congratulations, and thank you for all that you've done. It was a pleasure having you in school. You will always be a part of our Thunderbird family.

CLCS Leadership Says Goodbye to Class of 2020

Board of Education President Amy Webb, Superintendent Benjamin Spitzer, and Secondary Principal Dr. Joshua Liddell bid the Class of 2020 farewell on Friday, June 26, 2020 during three outdoor, socially distanced commencement ceremonies.



Snapshots from Commencement



Fly High Thunderbirds!



**Congratulations
Seniors**

Chautauqua Lake Central School
100 N. Erie Street
Mayville, New York 14757-9798

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School Safety Tip Line	753-5803
Superintendent's Office	753-5808
Elementary School Office, Pre-K-6	753-5841
Secondary School Office, 7-12	753-5881
Counselor, Pre-K-6	753-5846
Guidance Office, 7-12	753-5887
Health Office	753-5819
District Registrar	753-5910
Student Services Office	753-5877
Transportation Department	753-5901
Cafeteria Office	753-5824
Business Office	753-5874

www.clake.org

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER

For Families Residing in Ripley

We make every effort to mail our calendar and newsletters to every family with students enrolled at Chautauqua Lake. This mailing list is separate from any first class mailings you may receive from your child's school office. If you know of a family with a student enrolled at CLCS who does not receive these publications, please notify us by calling the District Office at (716) 753-5808.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER, THUNDERBIRDS!



Reminder to Parents: Schedule Summer Exams

Health examinations must be completed on the approved NYS Education Department Student Health Examination Form. If you have already had a physical exam completed for the 2020-21 school year on a different form, the school will accept it.

The following are the mandated years for health exams and screenings:

- Health examinations will be required in grades Pre-K or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11
- Vision screening for distance and near vision acuity will be required within 6 months of admission to school and in grades Pre-K or K, 1, 3, 5, 7 and 11
- Hearing screening utilizing pure tone testing will be required within 6 months of admission to school and in grades Pre-K or K, 1, 3, 5, 7 and 11
- Scoliosis screening will be required in grades 5 and 7 for girls and grade 9 for boys



The NYS School Health Examination Form can be downloaded from the Health & Safety section on the district website at www.clake.org.

Please ask your health care provider to fax proof of a current physical exam to (716) 753-2085. If we do not have a current physical on file for the required grade level or for sports participation, during the school year we will schedule your child for a physical with the school physician, Dr. Robert Berke, or one of his associates. **If you do not want your child to receive their physical at school, please call the Health Office at (716) 753-5819.**



Attention New Graduates:

Your family should have received a notice from the Cafeteria Manager Jennifer Shearer regarding funds in your meal account and offering several choices:

- Transfer remaining funds to a younger student's account
- Donate the money to a fund for meals for students in need
- Request a refund check

Questions? Call the Cafeteria Office, (716) 753-5824.