

Maple Hill High School Students and Teacher Honored by Southern Rensselaer County Rotary Club

Elaina Champigny (Grade 9) - Elaina has made a wonderful transition to the high school making us proud with her strong start of achieving Principal's list in the first quarter. She is eager to learn, conscientious and an overall positive presence in the classroom. While dedicated to making the most of her education, Elaina is also dedicated to helping and serving others. At school she is a staff member of the Yearbook and also an active member of SADD. Elaina has also been a long-time member of Girl Scouts. She achieved her Silver Award last year by creating a mentoring program for elementary students. She recruited and organized mentors to work with our younger students to help them achieve more success in school.

Rebecca Roe (Grade 10) - Rebecca is a hard working sophomore at Maple Hill High School, both in and out of the classroom and she is a valuable member of our Tennis team. Aside from leading by example with her outstanding academics and character, Rebecca is an active member of her class, working for her peers as Class President both last year and this year. Rebecca is a member of Key Club and SADD at Maple Hill, valuing the importance of our decisions and choices and giving back to the school and local community through service. She is a wonderful role model who offers a great deal to those around her and we look forward to seeing what's to come from Rebecca.

Hunter Pomykaj (Grade 11) - Hunter is a quiet leader at the high school. He is an example for others through his hard work, his willingness to put himself out there and through his desire to serve others. Hunter participates for the high school in Cross Country, Wrestling and Track and is a key member of our Drama Club. Since his freshman year, Hunter has served with our Key Club, always holding a leadership role. This year he is Co-President of Key Club. To raise money for groups in need as well as to raise awareness, Hunter has helped at the Kiwanis Chicken barbecue, worked with the Bells of Life campaign to benefit Albany Med's Neo-Natal unit and has and will participate in the Suicide Prevention Walk.

Rachel Jung (Grade 12) - Rachel is a senior who has made quite a mark on Maple Hill during her years. She is an involved student and excellent role model for her peers with a strong sense of character and responsibility. With her commitment to service, leadership, and her outstanding academic record, Rachel was inducted into the National Honor Society and continues with active participation in numerous clubs and activities such as SADD and Key Club. She has taken on leadership roles in both, acting as President and Secretary respectively. Rachel has remained active with the Girl Scouts, giving to her community and displaying excellent citizenship. She balances all of her service activities and academics with her participation in competitive Dance, serves on our Yearbook as Editor-in-Chief and has been a part of Drama productions throughout. She has also been recognized with three prestigious junior awards for her scholarship, involvements and service. Rachel is truly a giving and admirable young lady.

Kaitlyn Castle (Educator) - Kaitlyn is a Special Education teacher who consistently goes above and beyond not only for her own students but for the entire student body. Kaitlyn is an outstanding teacher who is truly dedicated to helping her students overcome any obstacle to achieve success. Kaitlyn makes herself available every day after school to provide extra help to students and additionally tutors students outside of school. Kaitlyn is a Class advisor for the sophomore class. She not only guides this class through class meetings, fundraising, and organization of special activities, she also is the first one to volunteer when requests from other groups go out for chaperones for dances, class trips and other school events. Beyond the school walls, Kaitlyn has been a volunteer for Equinox and also has volunteered her time when Albany Medical center has held events to benefit children with cancer. Her dedication and service to her students is unquestionable. Her work helps them to succeed academically and also ensures that they have safe social events to enjoy. Service above self truly exemplifies who Kaitlyn is.