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SCHODACK

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



SEPTEMBER 2010

OVERVIEW

School Year Starts Tuesday, September 7

Schodack students return for the 2010-11 school year on Tuesday, September 7 with some significant changes including a new superintendent, high school principal and fifth grade moving to CES.

Superintendent Robert Horan, who started July 1 after five years as MHHS Principal, noted there will also be changes at the state level, including higher proficiency standards for state exams and uncertainty about state education aid.

But Mr. Horan stressed the district will keep the community informed of the impact of any changes. He encouraged community members to contact the district whenever they have a question or concern.

"Many in the community may know me already but if you don't, please know my door is always open," Mr. Horan said. "We want to hear from you whenever you have a question or concern."

Ron Agostinoni succeeds Mr. Horan this year as MHHS Principal. Mr. Agostinoni thanked the community for the warm welcome he's already received (see page 7). He noted one initiative he'll explore this year is more opportunities for students to earn high school and college credit through college in the high school courses.

"I'm looking forward to the new year and continuing to meet more parents and students," Mr. Agostinoni said. "I encourage parents to stop by my office whenever they're here."

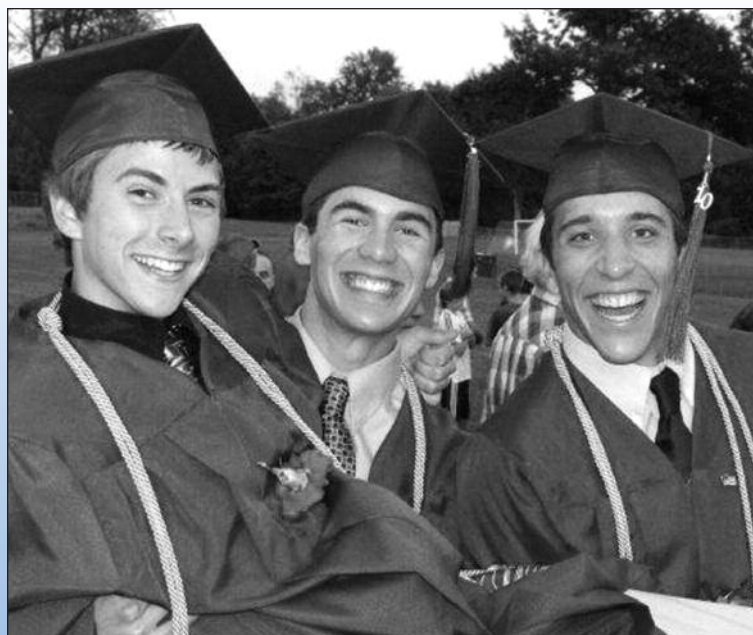
At CES, fifth grade moves from MHMS as last year's fourth graders stay in their elementary school. Principal Jason Chevrier explained the move keeps fifth grade in an elementary setting.

The move also provides the school greater flexibility in scheduling, which is essential after the unfortunate staffing reductions the district was forced to make last year to reduce spending. As CES reallocates its resources to continue its focus on the delivery of academics, CES will make a change to Morning Program, offering it once a month (see page 2).

"Morning Program is a great program and I understand parents may be disappointed that we'll be offering it once a month," Mr. Chevrier said. "But this change will help us focus our resources on academics and what's ultimately best for our children's education."

At MHMS, Wildcat Pride – the school's character education program – will continue to be a focus. With the school now grades 6-8, Principal Michael Bennett explained MHMS will look more to a junior high school model that promotes independent learning to prepare students for high school.

"The one thing that won't change is the education we're providing students," Mr. Bennett said. "It continues to be about our students and providing them the best education we can. We'll continue to take that student-centered approach at the Middle School."



Congratulations Class of 2010!

The Schodack CSD community celebrated the achievements of its newest class of alumni on June 25 as the district held its 55th Annual Commencement Ceremony for 95 members of the Class of 2010.

Robert Horan, High School Principal at the time of the event, told parents he knew exactly how they were feeling watching their children graduate as his son also graduated.

"I can honestly say that I am just as proud of each and every one of you as I am of him," Mr. Horan told graduates. "You've really made it tough for those that have to follow in your footsteps. To tell you the truth, I honestly don't want to see you leave."

Graduates went on to such colleges as Brown University, Clarkson University, Cornell University, Emerson College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and SUNY Binghamton.

To read more and see more photos from commencement, visit the school website, www.schodack.k12.ny.us. Congratulations to our newest alumni!



Changes to CES Morning Program

In an effort to spend more time and resources on the delivery of academics, Castleton Elementary School will hold Morning Program once a month this year instead of each day.

“I certainly understand that parents may be disappointed by this change. This was a difficult decision to make because I know how much parents enjoy seeing their children during Morning Program,” said Principal Jason Chevrier. “But I think this change will help our children academically and ultimately is best for our entire student body.”

Mr. Chevrier explained that as a result of the unfortunate staffing reductions the district was forced to make last year to reduce spending, the school has to determine how to best utilize the talents of its faculty in a different way to ensure delivery of the

high-quality educational programs the community expects.

“I am confident that we will once again have a great school year filled with student successes and outstanding events while building a sense of community within our school,” Mr. Chevrier said.

Mr. Chevrier stressed that parents will still be able to see their children during the Monthly Morning Assemblies scheduled each month.

“The Monthly Morning Assemblies will provide opportunities to showcase students, promote a positive and safe learning environment and provide students the opportunity to present in front of a large audience,” Mr. Chevrier said.

If parents have any questions or concerns, they are encouraged to contact Mr. Chevrier at 732-7755.

TAX LEVY SET FOR 2010-11

The Schodack CSD Board of Education set the tax levy for the 2010-11 school year at its August 19 meeting at \$10,482,894, a 0.18 percent decrease from the 2009-10 tax levy of \$10,501,739.

The projected tax rates (per \$1,000 of assessed value) are \$18.83657 for town of Schodack residents and \$18.836519 for town of Stuyvesant residents.

While the school district is collecting slightly less money in total property taxes, many residents will see an increase in taxable assessed value, and therefore a higher percentage increase in school taxes, due to a decline in the BASIC and Enhanced STAR exemptions.

The STAR exemptions are set entirely by New York State and the school district has no control over any changes to those exemption levels.

New Online Cafeteria Payment System

This school year, parents can deposit money in their children’s school meal accounts through a new secure online payment system.

To use the new system, visit the school website, www.schodack.k12.ny.us, and click on the “Food Services” link on the left side of the screen. On the Food Services webpage parents will find a link to the online payment system and instructions.

The new online system also provides parents the ability to view their children’s account balance and print out a copy of their eating history report, including dates and times that students purchased a breakfast and/or lunch within the past 30 days.

Parents who prefer to use the existing system of paying by check can continue to do so. Parents are asked to continue to make checks out to “Schodack Central School District” and write your child’s full name on the check.

If you have any questions, please contact Food Service Director Tom McNay at 732-4269.

Fleck Named BOE President

ANDREW FLECK was reelected President of Schodack Central School District’s Board of Education at the Board’s July 1 organizational meeting.

This is the second year Mr. Fleck has been named Board President. Susan Megna was reelected Vice President of the Board.

Three new Board members who were elected by voters in May were also sworn in. Christine DiGiulio, Lisa Lafferty and Bruce Romanchak all began three-year terms on the Board.

For upcoming meeting dates and other information about the Board of Education, visit the school website, www.schodack.k12.ny.us.

Answer to Question About Maple Hill MS

With the move of fifth grade to Castleton Elementary School, Schodack CSD has received questions from community members about the future of Maple Hill Middle School.

“I want to assure our community that we have no plans to close Maple Hill Middle School at this time,” said Superintendent Robert Horan. “We value the school and its role in our students’ education. We’ve started some initiatives that we hope will reverse enrollment trends and help the entire district.”

During last year’s budget discussions, the possibility of eventually closing the Middle School was discussed as the district grappled with how to reduce spending while enrollment continued to decrease.

But Mr. Horan emphasized that the discussion was only part of an overall look at all cost saving options, including vacating a corridor of the Middle School this year to save on custodial and energy costs as fifth grade faculty and staff move to CES.

To help address declining enrollment the district is actively encouraging more families to move into the district. On



Aug. 31, the district invited realtors into Schodack schools for a walkthrough to highlight the outstanding programs and opportunities for students and community members. A village wide garage sale and farmer’s market is also planned for Sept. 11 at CES with realtors committing to hosting open houses throughout the district that day.

Principal Michael Bennett assured parents that the district believes strongly

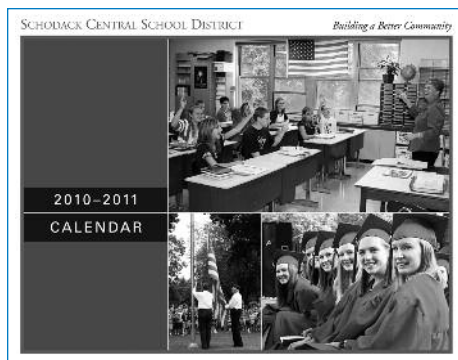
in the Middle School and will do everything it can to preserve it.

“The role of the Middle School in education and what happens here as our children grow and build a sense of self is vital,” Mr. Bennett said. “If we get to a point we have to discuss the future of the school and alter how we educate our students, we will have strong community engagement to hear the thoughts and concerns of our community.”

District Calendar Available Online

Schodack Central School District’s 2010-11 school calendar is now available on the school website, www.schodack.k12.ny.us, in an easy to print format.

Please note, due to the district’s efforts to cut costs, the calendar will again not be mailed to residents this year. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause; however we feel this is a prudent cost-saving measure given the current cost of mailing and printing.



If you would like a calendar and do not have access to a computer, please stop by any one of Schodack schools’ main offices to pick up one of a limited number of printed copies. You can also contact the District Office at 732-2297 if you need one mailed to you.

District Switches to Automated Phone System

The Schodack CSD has switched to an automated phone system this year that helps callers reach the office they need more quickly anytime of the day.

The new system, which is a feature of the school’s telephone system and does not require any additional expense, allows callers to reach frequently requested offices such as the nurse’s office, the guidance office or the transportation department by selecting from a short menu.

Parents and community residents still call the same number for each school building that they have used in the past. For callers who would prefer not to use the automated system, they will be transferred to the building’s main office automatically if they do not select an option.

Superintendent Robert Horan said the new system is necessary as the district has less clerical staff due to reductions in that area in the 2010-11 school budget. But Mr. Horan noted the system should make it easier for callers to reach the office they need, even before school opens if they want to leave a message with the nurse’s office, for example, to report their student will be out sick before going to work.

“This will make better use of our resources and it doesn’t cost the district a penny,” Mr. Horan said.

The Schodack Central School District provides continuing education

General Information and Registration

Eligibility — Registration is open to all residents of the Schodack Central School District. Nonresidents may enroll in courses on a space-available basis.

Senior Citizens — District residents who are age 60 or older may attend many courses tuition free or at a reduced rate. Courses that are not free or offered at a reduced rate are noted in the course description. All materials fees are the responsibility of the participant.

Continuing Education is self-supporting, with no bearing on the district's tax rate. It is only through the continuing support of the community that this program is possible.

Fees — All course fees must be paid by the first course meeting. Registrations are binding because financial commitments are made based on the number of registrants for each course. We are sorry, but no refunds will be made unless the class is canceled due to insufficient enrollment or the class is filled to maximum capacity. Each class must meet a minimum enrollment. If a course is canceled due to insufficient enrollment, or over-enrolled, notifications and refunds will be sent by mail.

Registration must be made in advance. Mail registrations are due by Sept. 10. On site registration is held Thursday, Sept. 9, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Maple Hill High School lobby.

Early-Start courses — Please call or send in registrations now for early start courses.

To register, please fill out a separate registration form provided for each course, enclose tuition and any materials fee (if noted in the course description) with a check payable to **Schodack Central Schools to:**

**Director of Continuing Education
Maple Hill High School
1216 Maple Hill Road
Castleton, NY 12033-1699**

You will be notified only if a class is canceled.

Sports, Fitness & Fun!

** Please check with your physician prior to beginning any new physical activity*

YOGA I

Yoga I is for beginners who are looking for an introduction to yoga or people with experience who prefer a slower, more gentle class. This course is taught by White Lotus-certified Hatha yoga teacher Ellen Sadowski. Yoga I classes meet for eight weeks on Tuesdays from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. beginning Sept. 21 (no class Nov. 2) in the CES auditorium (old gym). Tuition is \$60. No senior discount. Participants should wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat.

YOGA II

Yoga II combines a range of postures from gentle to challenging. This class is designed to help you create a practice of stretches that strengthen the body and calm the mind. Students who want to further develop the style and pace that Ellen uses in her yoga classes should sign up for this class. Yoga II classes meet for eight weeks on Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. beginning Sept. 16 (no class Nov. 11) in the CES auditorium (old gym). Tuition is \$60. No senior discount. Participants should wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat.

CARDIO KICKBOXING

Cardio-kickboxing is a workout that's fun for everyone! This class incorporates kickboxing-style cardio movement and toning exercises into a power-packed 45-minute class. The class is taught by Aileen Flach, who holds a BS in physical education and adult fitness. Classes meet for eight weeks on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30 until 8:15 p.m. in the CES auditorium (old gym). Classes begin Monday, Sept. 13 (no class Oct. 11) Tuition is \$60. No senior discount.

OVER 30 BASKETBALL

There are a limited number of openings in Over-30 Basketball, which meets at 7 p.m. in the Middle School gym on either Monday or Wednesday evenings. The Monday night basketball program begins Oct. 4; Wednesday night begins Oct. 6. The cost of the course is \$50. Please call to register, as space is extremely limited. Coordinators for this program are also needed. If interested please call Theresa Hovish at 732-7701.

HALL WALKERS

Walk in a safe, warm place — Maple Hill Middle School! The middle school is open from 6:45 to 7:45 a.m., Monday through Friday, when school is in session, for district residents who wish to walk. The program is free and self-monitoring — walk when you wish, at a pace that is comfortable. Walkers no longer need to sign in and out, but will be issued a special visitor's badge to wear while in the building. To register and receive a badge, call Theresa Hovish at 732-7701.

AEROBIC DANCE AND FLOORWORK

Tone, strengthen and flex your body as you dance your way to better health. Also floorwork with optional pilates and miniball movements. Learn daily stress reducing and energy lifting techniques. Classes meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Middle School gym. Classes begin Sept. 14 (no class Nov. 2, 9 and 11). Tuition is \$60. Register directly with instructor Debi Filkins at 708-9238.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

Join other intermediate players for an evening of fun and competitive volleyball play. This course offers no instruction, coaching or officiating — warm-ups and games will be self monitored. Players should play at an intermediate to advanced-intermediate level to participate and must wear kneepads. Volleyball meets for 10 weeks on Sundays from 6:45 to 8:45 p.m. in the High School gym beginning Sept. 19. Participants must pre-register by calling 732-7701 as class size is limited. Tuition is \$45 plus a \$2 materials fee.



opportunities to promote lifelong learning in the community.

Beginners Dancing, Cake Decorating and More!

BEGINNERS BALLROOM DANCING

If you want to "Dance With the Stars" here's your chance to learn how to dance in a relaxed, comfortable setting that's affordable. Learn American style smooth ballroom dances consisting of Foxtrot, Waltz, Tango, and Viennese Waltz. Singles and couples are welcome. Karen Mason of Learntadance Dance Studio is an experienced ballroom dance instructor. Classes meet for eight weeks on Tuesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Middle School cafeteria. Classes begin Sept. 14 (no class Nov. 2). Tuition is \$50. No senior discount. Register for Beginners Swing and Latin Dancing as well and receive 50 percent off the second class.

BEGINNERS LATIN DANCING

If you want to "Dance With the Stars" here's your chance to learn how to dance in a relaxed, comfortable setting that's affordable. Learn American style rhythm dances consisting of East Coast Swing, Rumba, and Cha Cha. Singles and couples are welcome! Karen Mason of "Learntadance Dance Studio" is an experienced ballroom dance instructor. Classes meet for eight weeks on Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. in the Middle School cafeteria. Classes begin Sept. 14 (no class Nov. 2). Tuition is \$50. No senior discount. Register for Beginners Ballroom Dancing as well and receive 50 percent off the second class.

INTRODUCTION TO CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

This class explores the basics of Mandarin Chinese, the most widely spoken language in the world. Students will also learn about the simplified writing character system that is taught to all Chinese students in mainland China. Schodack Chinese Language and Culture Instructor Mark Hoyt teaches the course. Classes meet for four weeks on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the High School distance learning lab. Classes begin Sept. 29. Tuition is \$40.

CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE II

This four-week course is a continuation of Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture class. Students will continue to explore the Mandarin form of communication. Some basic knowledge of Mandarin Chinese is required. Schodack Chinese Language and Culture Instructor Mark Hoyt teaches this course. Classes meet on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the High School distance learning lab. Classes begin Nov. 3 (no class Nov. 24). Tuition is \$40.

NEW YORK STATE POINT AND INSURANCE REDUCTION PROGRAM

The NYS Department of Motor Vehicles approved six-hour program is based on film presentations followed by discussion of driving strategies. Principal vehicle operators completing the course will receive a 10 percent insurance cost reduction and up to 4 points subtracted from their driving record for three years. By law, individuals **MUST ARRIVE PROMPTLY** and attend both nights in order to receive the certificate. Courses are taught by Peter R. Mackay. Two night sessions are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 26 and 28, Jan. 11 and 13, and June 7 and 9 in MHHS Room 136. Tuition is \$40. No senior discount.

NEW COURSE!

BEGINNERS CAKE DECORATING

This fun and easy class will teach you how to level and ice a two layer cake and make an assortment of flowers to decorate your cake. The course is taught by Karen Casey. Enrollment is limited. Classes meet for three weeks on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. starting Sept. 21 in MHHS Room 203. Tuition is \$45. No senior discounts. Instructions and equipment lists will be provided at sign up. List of supplies: Tips: #3, #104, #101, #12 and #7 flower nail.



ABSOLUTE BEGINNER GUITAR

This course is for people who've either never played guitar or tried to tackle the instrument and gave up. We'll cover the basics, with the twin goals of getting you playing real songs as soon as possible and giving you a strong foundation for continued learning, either on your own or with an instructor. We'll cover topics like tuning, hand positions, practice habits and techniques, the essential chords, and basic reading (both notation and tablature). Course materials include an instruction book with companion DVD and a binder containing a number of instructor hand-outs and reference sheets.

Students will need to bring their own guitars to class. Instruction is almost exclusively on flat-picking, and 6-string (steel strings) acoustic guitars are the preferred instrument, but other guitars (electric with small practice amps, or nylon-strung classical acoustics) are acceptable. Classes meet for eight weeks on Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. in the High School Chorus Room. Classes begin Sept. 15. Tuition is \$70. No senior discount. Ages 13 and above.

DRIVER EDUCATION AND FIVE-HOUR PRE-LICENSING

We are attempting to start another Driver Education and Five-Hour Pre-Licensing program but they are currently still being developed for the Fall. Please visit the Continuing Education webpage on the school website, www.schodack.k12.ny.us, as we'll update information there once these programs are running. Or you can call Continuing Education Director Theresa Hovish at 732-7701. Thank you.

Would you like to take a course you don't see offered? Would you like to teach a course?

Please contact the Director of Continuing Education with your ideas! Call Theresa Hovish at 732-7701, or e-mail at thovish@schodack.k12.ny.us.

Free Financial Courses!

All one-night financial planning workshops offered at Schodack are taught by licensed financial advisors with the Halliday Financial Group in Albany. Workshops are all strictly educational – there will be no soliciting for any investments. All workshops are held in the High School distance learning lab, Room 113. Tuition is now free to all Schodack CSD residents. All participants must pre-register. For more information or to register, contact Theresa Hovish at 732-7701. For information about workshop topics, e-mail Frank Guiffre at fguiffre@hallidayfinancial.com.

UNDERSTANDING STOCKS, BONDS, & MUTUAL FUNDS

Learn the basics of stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, the true backbone of most portfolios. Discover how to use the internet and daily newspapers to track your investments. This course will help you understand the differences and the similarities of various types of investments. It will also show you how proper asset allocation will lower your overall risk. Understand the benefits of using mutual funds to build a balanced portfolio and help plan for a successful retirement. This course is strictly educational and there will be no attempt to promote any specific investments. Workshop is offered Tuesday, Nov. 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

THE GOOD...THE BAD...THE ANNUITY

The Annuity or “personalized pension” as it is commonly referred to have been an investment vehicle long since insurance companies have been around. Years ago, the word “annuity” made people cringe. To this day the stereotype of high fees, illiquidity, and bad investments still linger. But there’s hope! The more recent annuities are now more revised, highly regulated, lower fees, and offer income guarantees. Learn about these new annuities compared to their ancestors and how the revisions of today can be carried forward with your older annuities. Topics discussed (but not limited to) will be: how an annuity works, fees of an annuity, the guarantee of income, the most updated revisions, the tax advantages of this investment, and how you can pass this legacy along to your loved ones. Workshop is offered Thursday, Oct. 7 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

WOMEN & INVESTING: TURNING OBSTACLES INTO OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that women control more than half of the financial assets in the U.S.? Let’s face it, men and women think differently. Women make decisions about money differently too, as they should! Men and women have different financial needs based solely on their difference in gender. This seminar is designed to help women identify these needs and overcome the unique obstacles we face when planning for our financial futures. The class is taught by a woman in the business of helping secure the financial dreams of fellow women. Please e-mail instructor Logan Hibbs at Lhibbs@hallidayfinancial.com for more information on course topics. Workshop is offered Tuesday, Oct. 26 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

PUT YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Have you figured out how to triple your income during retirement? Most retirees derive their income from three primary sources: Social Security retirement benefits, qualified retirement plans and individual savings/investments. Traditionally, retirement was spent relaxing with minimal financial concerns. Retirement is now often defined by activities such as travel, returning to school, volunteer work or the pursuit of favorite hobbies or sports. With proper planning, these needs can be met. We will show you ways to determine how much retirement will cost and provide strategies during your accumulation years to reach that goal. This course will define specific retirement plans and offer strategies in order to meet your goals to live a long, comfortable retirement. Feel free to email instructor Frank T. Guiffre at fguiffre@hallidayfinancial.com for more course information. Workshop is offered Thursday, Nov. 30 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Continuing Education **Registration Form**

Please use a separate form for each course. Payments may be combined. Make check or money order (no cash through the mail, cash is OK at on-site registration) payable to Schodack Central Schools and mail to: **Director of Continuing Education, Maple Hill High School, 1216 Maple Hill Road, Castleton, NY 12033-1699.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email (optional): _____

Telephone (home): _____ (work): _____

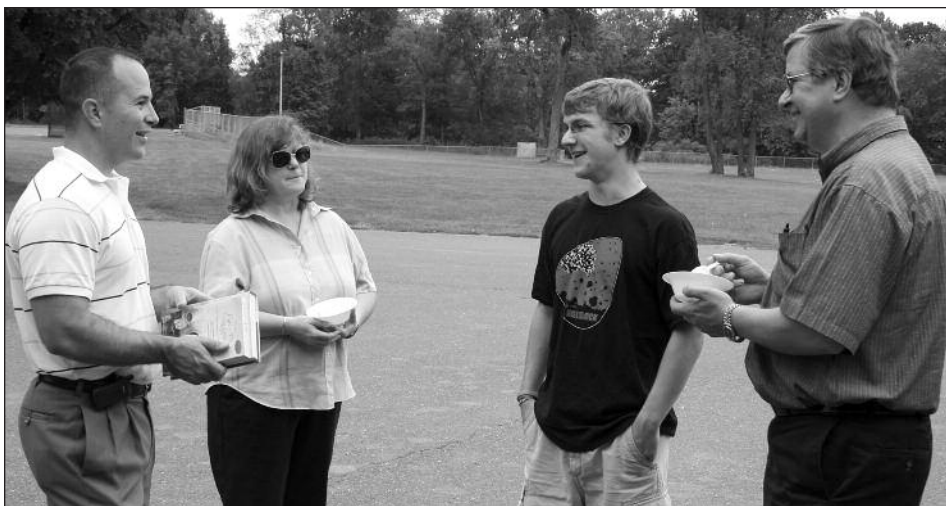
Course Title: _____

Tuition: _____ Fees (if any): _____ Total: _____

Resident of Schodack Central School District: Yes No

All information must be completed (address, including zip code, etc.) before this registration can be processed.

Parents Meet New MHHS Principal



Parents and students enjoyed an opportunity to meet new High School Principal Ron Agostinoni and some free ice cream as the district held an Ice Cream Social on Aug. 18.

"It was nice to meet students and parents and see how much they care about their school district," Mr. Agostinoni said.

Mr. Agostinoni started July 1, succeeding Robert Horan who is now school superintendent. Mr. Agostinoni previously served as Assistant Principal at Cairo-Durham Middle and High School. Prior to that position, he served as Assistant Principal at Saugerties High School. He also has worked as a teacher during his 12-year career in education.

At the Ice Cream Social, Mr. Agostinoni chatted with parents about their students and discussed the upcoming school year. The free ice cream was popular with students and parents alike on the humid evening.

Parent Carol Nato said her son, Eric, had already met Mr. Agostinoni at the end of last school year when he visited. While her son told him good things, Ms. Nato said she wanted to meet Mr. Agostinoni herself.

"I wanted to come and see who my son's new principal is. If I have a concern, it's good to know who I need to speak with," Ms. Nato said. "This is great. And the ice cream is good too."

SIGN UP FOR e-newsletters

In an effort to provide our community with more news about their schools, Schodack eNews will again feature eNewsletters this year.

The eNewsletters feature stories about student and faculty success, announcements of upcoming events, and challenges facing Schodack schools. To receive the eNewsletters, just visit the school website at www.schodack.k12.ny.us and sign up to receive Schodack eNews.

We currently have more than 700 subscribers to Schodack eNews who receive announcements about upcoming tests, student concerts and other school news in their e-mail inboxes.

With the cost of printing and mailing continuing to climb, we hope our community finds these eNewsletters to be an effective way to learn about your schools at no cost. However, since we realize not everyone has access to the internet, we will continue to mail all district residents print newsletters throughout the school year to ensure our entire community receives information about its schools.

Top Ten Scholars of Class of 2010 Recognized
The Top Ten Scholars of the Class of 2010 were honored during a reception before the July 7 Board of Education meeting where students were recognized for outstanding achievement in academics.

Question About 2010-11 School Year?
If you have a question this summer about the 2010-11 school year, please visit the school website: www.schodack.k12.ny.us, where we will continue to provide resources for parents.

GSB Says Goodbye to Doug Hamlin
Garden Stream Elementary School gave a warm send-off to Doug Hamlin as he leaves the district to attend college. It was really a good way to say goodbye to our school leader for the last 14 years," said Principal...

Online Calendar Added to Website

Need to check when the school concert will start or what day the parent teacher conferences will be held?

Check the website, www.schodack.k12.ny.us, where a new online calendar lists the event dates for the entire school year in an easy to use scrolling format.

The new calendar function features a district calendar with all events on the main homepage and school specific calendars on the elementary, middle school and high school homepages featuring events just for those schools.

The calendar utilizes the free Google calendar function which allows users to sync school events to their own Google calendar if they already use that service.

Ask a Question at "Have You Heard?"

Do you have a question about Schodack schools? Wondering if a rumor you heard is true?

Visit "Have You Heard?" on the school district's website, where residents can submit questions with answers posted for the entire community to read.

"Have You Heard?" was modeled after similar services offered by school districts such as Shenendehowa and Averill Park, which have proved popular with residents looking for answers to common questions.

Just visit www.schodack.k12.ny.us and click on the "Have You Heard?" logo. Please note, for individual or private concerns, residents are encouraged to contact the school or district office directly by phone.



Opportunities for Parents

From open houses to parent-teacher conferences, Schodack schools offer opportunities for parents to meet with teachers about their children's education in the first few months of school.

Here is a list of upcoming events. For a full list of events, including parent group meetings such as the PTO, download the district calendar from the school website, www.schodack.k12.ny.us, or call your child's school.

Castleton Elementary School

- Sept. 7 & 8 . . . K & New Parents Coffee Hour, 9 a.m.
- Sept. 15 Grades K-2 Parents Night, 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 16 Grades 3-5 Parents Night, 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 5 – 7 K Parents Luncheon with Teachers, noon
- Nov. 4 Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Maple Hill Middle School

- Oct. 5 Grades 6-8 Parents Night, 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 14 Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Maple Hill High School

- Sept. 23 Back to School Night, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 21 Parent Teacher Conferences, 5:30 – 8 p.m.
- Nov. 18 College Financial Aid Information Night, 6:30 p.m.

PAVING PROJECT IMPACTS SOCCER FIELDS

A paving project at the school bus garage will mean players and spectators attending soccer games will have to park in the Middle School parking lot through the end of September.

“We apologize for any inconvenience this creates for our community,” said Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Matt LaClair. “We’ll mark a path to the fields so our community can easily get to the soccer fields.”

The paving project is part of the Capital Project but was delayed due to the high bids the district initially received. The district rebid the project and received lower projections, agreeing to a \$310,000 bid.

The project will involve tearing up the current pavement, leveling the site to improve drainage, installing a subbase and paving the lot. A new concrete floor will also be installed in the bus garage’s maintenance shop.

“The current parking lot is deteriorating and needs to be replaced. This will improve safety and ensure we meet all county and state regulations,” Mr. LaClair said. “The new lot should last well into the future, likely 15 to 20 years.”

If residents have any questions, please call Mr. LaClair at 732-2831.



Schodack Central School District
1216 Maple Hill Road
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033

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Castleton, NY 12033

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