



PIONEER CONNECT

May/June 2022

PIONEER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, YORKSHIRE, NY

48 JOIN NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

For the first time in 2-1/2 years, the Pioneer High School chapter of the National Honor Society held a public induction ceremony, adding 48 new members.

New inductees included members who were to be inducted in 2021 and the new round of inductees for 2022. The last time the NHS held a ceremony was Dec. 16, 2019. Last year's induction was cancelled due to Covid-19.

Membership in the National Honor Society is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a high school student. The Pioneer NHS chapter strives to give practical meaning to the society's standards of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Faculty advisors of the NHS are Brooke Neamon and Stephanie Hogan. Officers include Sophia Kehl (president), Faith Ruppert (vice president), Chloe McCutcheon (secretary), Chloe Raiber (treasurer), and Sidney Reed (historian).

The 2021 inductees:

Aidan Ameis, Walker Bekiel, Brittany Bliss, Alyssa Boldt, James Carmody, Jordan Dodge, Hannah Drennan, Brooke Eastman, Kyler Felber, Olivia George, Vanessa Giboo, Seth Higgins, Ellianna Lang, Savannah Lingle, Arianna Martz, Lillian Milligan, Lauren Murray, Shaylyn Owens, Vincent Paulsen, Kailey Place, Chloe Raiber, Sidney Reed, Heidi Schalberg, Benjamin Shephard,

Elizabeth Stahl, Andrea Tingue, Sydney Wilton, Jackson Woolley

The 2022 inductees:

Ashley Bliss, Riley Bliss, Mckenzie Huntsberger, Dylan Hutchinson, Theresa Kolasny, Maddie Koziol, Mckenzie Marcheson, Cameron Marrs, Messina Maul, Morgan Mucha, Logan Papke, Madalynn Pataye, Chloe Phetteplace, Cole Rhodus, Evelyn Salzler, Landon Schultz, Samantha Shaver, Olivia Stromecki, Kezrah Tatar, Addison Vacinek



Newly minted members of the National Honor Society are applauded for their achievements.

BUDGET, CAPITAL PROJECT APPROVED; KLESS ELECTED TO BOE

Pioneer School District voters approved the 2022-23 General Fund budget and \$28 million in new capital improvements during polling conducted May 17.

Mark Kless topped incumbent Mary Lou Merlau, 949-506, for a five-year term on the Board of Education.

Next year's budget totals \$62.4 million and increases spending 5.03 percent. The tax levy increase is 2.98 percent.

The capital improvement project would help complete current renovations in the high school auditorium, replace the HVAC system at Delevan, and fund upgrades at the turf stadium.

COMMENCEMENT IS JUNE 25

Commencement for the Pioneer High School Class of 2022 is Saturday, June 1, at 1:00 p.m., inside George C. Crawford Auditorium.

Graduates will receive their diplomas from Superintendent Ben Halsey and members of the Board of Education. Among the speakers will be valedictorian Zachary Holmes and salutatorian Collins Hughes.

More info will be coming home soon with the seniors.

FALL SPORTS SIGN-UPS

For students entering grades 7-12, fall sports signups have begun at Pioneer's Family ID site:

<https://www.familyid.com/programs/pioneer-fall-2022-sign-ups>

Students will then be contacted with information on physicals.

A note about the fall schedule: Homecoming is Sept. 23, and Spirit Week is Sept. 19-24.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION WORKSHOP SAVE 10% ON INSURANCE PREMIUM POINT REDUCTION

(DMV APPROVED EMPIRE SAFETY COUNCIL POINT/INSURANCE REDUCTION PROGRAM)



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2022 Summer Class Schedule

Location: Pioneer Central High School, 12145 County Line Road, Yorkshire,
NY Dates: Monday/Tuesday Evenings 6:00-9:00PM (6 hours total)

June 6 & 7, 2022
September 12 & 13, 2022

-Classes begin PROMPTLY at 6:00PM Per DMV regulations. Late arrivals will not be admitted.
-Relax, there is no formal exam to pass. Just attend and participate.

\$35 tuition per person. Exact amount Cash or check payable to WNY Safe Drivers

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ZACH HOLMES IS BIG 30 ACADEMIC ALL-STAR

The year-end accolades for the Pioneer High School Class of 2022 have begun. One of these is the Big 30 Academic Scholarship, awarded to valedictorian Zachary Holmes.

Zach is the son of Edward and Melissa Holmes of Delevan. He plans to study Microbiology at Niagara University.

The Big 30 Academic Scholarship Banquet was held May 12 at the Old Library in Olean. Over the last 33 years, more than \$60,000 in scholarships has been awarded to the top academic students from high schools in the Southern Tier and Northern Pennsylvania.



PANTHER SCULPTURE NOW GREETES VISITORS AT HIGH SCHOOL



The Pioneer High School Art Department designed the panther statue and worked with Visual Impact Signs.

The entrance to Pioneer High School is in the process of getting a new look under the current Capital Improvement Project. Along with those upgrades, another fresh element is being added to welcome visitors.

The district's first-ever life-sized panther statue has been added to one of the gardens at the high school entrance. It was designed by a high school art class and crafted by Visual Impact Signs of East Aurora.

Art Teacher Stacey Lechevet said, "One of the units that I teach is Public Art. The current renovations project provided a great opportunity to discuss ideas for art at the entry to the school. We had worked with other organizations in the past designing large sculptures for the school.

"We decided that a panther would be a great addition, and the class began gathering ideas for how they'd like it to look. I received a CoSer grant from Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES, and after researching different businesses in the area to work with, we chose Visual Impact Signs as the best fit," Mrs. Lechevet said.

Visual Impact Signs owner/artist Erik Zimmerman has crafted a number of sculptures in the area.

"Covid and supply chain issues caused a little bit of a lag in production," Mrs. Lechevet added, "but now it's complete. We hope our next project will be sculpted benches for the courtyard."

Mrs. Lechevet credited former school nurse Pat Pierce for advocating for the new icon with inspiration from retired choral teacher Elwyn Roll. Former Tech Department staffer Shane Hausauer (son of Technology Manager Ed Hausauer) also had a hand in crafting the panther statue as an employee of Visual Impact Signs.

33rd Annual
Academic
BIG 30
*Scholarship
Banquet & Awards*

*Old Library, Olean, NY
May 12, 2022*

*Sponsored by
The Big 30 Area NY & PA Principals
and the Olean Times Herald*

STATE FFA CONVENTION BACK AFTER COVID PAUSE

As the school year comes to an end, Pioneer FFA members joined over 2,000 agriculture students, teachers, and guests in Syracuse for the 97th New York FFA Convention.

Starting May 12, 25 students from Pioneer attended convention in Syracuse. This is the first time since 2019 that the convention was in-person. Members competed in such events as Veterinary Science, Agriculture Mechanics, Conduct of Chapter Meeting, Parliamentary Procedure, Quiz Bowl, Tool ID, Marketing Plan, Agricultural Sales, junior Creed, junior People in Agriculture and senior People in Agriculture. FFA members spent the weeks prior to the convention organizing, preparing, and practicing for the competitions.

FFA members competed in a variety of career and leadership development events. Michael Jewert placed first in senior People in Agriculture. In Agricultural Mechanics, Pioneer's Conner Woloszyn placed third, and Seth Higgins placed seventh individually. In Agricultural Sales, Karlie Putt placed fourth overall and Jake McCormick placed tenth. The Parliamentary procedure team placed third respectfully.

While at the convention, students participated in workshops, motivational sessions and award ceremonies. Seth Higgins and Conner Woloszyn were on hand to receive the State Empire Degree, which is the highest award a member can receive on the state level. The trip was a success and members were happy to be back in person with FFA members from across the state.



ABOVE: Seth Higgins and Conner Woloszyn receive the State Empire degree, the highest state honor a member can receive. They are joined by FFA advisors Jon Clayton and Kelsey O'Hare.



Seth Higgins and Jeremy Hibsich compete in the Ag Mechanics contest.



NICK SILVAROLI, WNY SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR, TAPS KRISTIN MORRIS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

Pioneer School District Assistant Superintendent Nick Silvaroli has been recognized as Business Official of the Year by the Western New York Chapter of the Association of School Business Officials (WNY ASBO).

In addition, Mr. Silvaroli was granted an opportunity to present a \$1,000 scholarship to a Pioneer student. He selected senior Kristin Morris, who was also recognized at the May 13 awards event.

The awards event was held at Acqua Restaurant in Buffalo. Mr. Silvaroli has been overseeing Pioneer's fiscal affairs since 2006.

Mr. Silvaroli said this about Kristin in accepting his award:

"I am honored to present Kristin Morris with a \$1,000 scholarship from the Western New York Association of School Business Officials. I wanted to recognize a well-balanced, business-minded student, who not only performs well academically but is hard-working and leadership-oriented (trusting, high integrity, team player, good listener, cares about others, etc.). With the assistance of our high school business department and administration, it was clear Kristin is the right candidate. In addition to outstanding academics, Kristin also excels athletically, serving as captain of our girls' varsity soccer and basketball teams.

"Kristin is also a member of the National Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America. She will be studying Accounting at Medaille College (and playing soccer) – and aspires to become a Certified Public Accountant.

"Please join me in congratulating Kristin Morris on this well-deserved honor!"

Kristin is the daughter of Dale and Brandy Morris of Sardinia.

WNY ASBO stated that "Mr. Silvaroli is always willing to share his knowledge and expertise with his fellow business officials. Nick is co-president of the Allegany-Cattaraugus ASBO Chapter, where he creates agendas that focus on the most relevant issues for discussion at the time. He works diligently to strengthen relationships with business partners and reaches out to work with other ASBO Chapters, like ours. In the past, he has facilitated joint local ASBO chapter meetings. He's been a strong ambassador for the field of School Business Administration, often recruiting candidates to our profession. Nick has served as a mentor to many new business officials over the years. He's the "go-to guy" in his region and a friend to many in our chapter."



G.L.A.M. Night

Join us for a FAMILY FUN evening
at Delevan Elementary

Friday, June 3rd
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

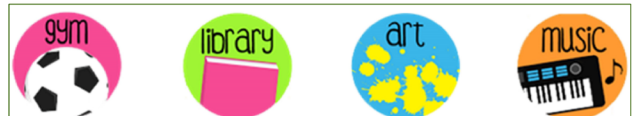
Gym: Grand Re-Opening of the school's
Nature Trail

Library: Shop the Scholastic Book Fair

Art: Student Art Show

Music: Third and Fourth Grade Chorus
Concert starting at 5:30

Ice cream for purchase from Everyday's a Sundae
Bring a lawn chair for the concert performance



This is a rain or shine event!

COLOR OBSTACLE COURSE COMING UP JUNE 18

A family fun event that was last held before Covid-19 is finally coming back to the Pioneer School District—with a twist!

A Color Fun Run was held at Arcade Park for several years from 2015-2019. Now a Color Obstacle Course is being planned in the back field at Arcade Elementary School on Saturday, June 18, starting at 10AM.

Registration is free and online. Simply fill out this form so we can take a head count:

<https://forms.office.com/r/m7gVTcZdpX>

Any questions may be addressed to Lauren Julicher at 716-492-9300 ext. 3043.



STUDENT COUNCIL OFF & RUNNING AT ARCADE

Arcade Elementary is excited to share that it now has a Student Council running in the building. This is an exciting opportunity for the current third graders to have a voice in how the school shows spirit for next school year.

According to advisor Colleen Raiber, “We presented ideas for Student of the Month character traits to Principal Devitt for the 2022-23 school year. We are also forming a Safety Patrol (title to be determined) to help students when entering and exiting the building and navigating in the morning. We look forward to many more endeavors to help Mrs. Devitt and the teachers run the school and keep doing so much learning and growing.”

The current representation are third graders, and at the end of the year next year there will be new third graders nominated by their teachers and given the opportunity to participate in Student Council for the following school year.

Joining Mrs. Raiber as Student Council advisor is Mrs. Jessica Zymowski.

Members of Student Council are Anson Bennion, Kyren George, Brycen George, Madeline Hamman, Kate Marrs, Emerie Flynn, Olivia Dubuque, Liam Rianelli, Callen Pierce, and Zachary Kersch.

“We are excited to see what we can do as we start this new venture,” Mrs. Raiber said.

HEROES FOR SUPER ALEX

Delevan Elementary students recently dressed as super heroes in support of Super Alex Heldwein.



CHICKEN COME HOME TO ROOST

The chickens have returned!

Arcade Elementary's chicken coop is once again repopulated. Four lovely hens have taken up residence thanks to Mrs. Rachel Clayson and the Pioneer High School Agriculture Department.

According to teacher Mark Kehl, "the children were so excited that they were running and yelling, "The chickens are back, the chickens are back!"



UKULELE CLUB SOUNDING OFF AT ARCADE

In the months of March, April and May, a small group of 4th graders have been learning to play the Ukulele at Arcade Elementary.

The Ukulele Club met this spring on Tuesday afternoons under the leadership of Mr. Jeremy Wilton. Students learned ukulele technique, the names of the strings, parts of the ukulele and some foundational chords.

The club members were able to strum along with some popular favorites from the radio and also strum and play some fun folk songs as well. Some of the members are planning on playing their ukuleles for the UPK students.

"The ukuleles were purchased by the Music Department and have been so much fun to learn to play!" Mr. Wilton said.



INTRAMURALS HELP SOME DELEVAN STUDENTS GET ACTIVE

The Delevan Elementary Physical Education intramural program has been a great success in 2021-22. These students have demonstrated great dedication in meeting once a week before school to join teachers Mr. Courtney Taylor and Mrs. Lisa Selbert for various sports and activities.



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DELEVAN NATURE TRAIL LOOKING SPIFFY, THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS

Delevan Nature Trail Clean-up is underway! On April 30 staff members from Delevan Elementary, along with their family members, were joined by National Honor Society members Tristen Kay Owens, Shaylynn Owens and Evelyn Salzler to start work on the trail. The path was cut back, downed trees were cleared out, benches were scrubbed, and garden beds were weeded. There were two full bags of garbage that were taken out as well. Next, under the guidance of Mr. Clayson and Ms. O'Hare, high school students will be out to repair the access bridges, bleachers, and dock.

All Pioneer families are invited to the Nature Trail Grand Re-Opening on Friday, June 3, starting at 5:30 pm, as part of Delevan Elementary's G.L.A.M. Night (Gym, Library, Art, Music). G.L.A.M. Night continues until 7:00 pm. Come check out all the work that has been done on the trail, sit and listen to the third and fourth grade chorus concert, swing by the Scholastic Book Fair, and enjoy the art show. All are welcome (rain or shine)!



APPEAL AIMED AT PUTTING BOOKS IN THE HANDS OF YOUNG READERS



How amazing would it be to provide a book for each student at Delevan Elementary School?

YOU CAN HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN! For just a \$2 donation, you can purchase one paperback book for a Delevan student. With only a \$5 donation you can purchase a hardcover chapter book.

We are looking for sponsors for all 382 students at Delevan. Who knows? With enough sponsors, we might be able to purchase two books for every student!

All purchases will be made at the Scholastic Book Fair, held on G.L.A.M. Day on June 3. Donate today by visiting:

https://shop.scholastic.com/ewallet/fund?lang=en_US&walletId=5427441

Thank you for contributing to our students' love of reading!