



PIONEER CONNECT

Summer 2022

PIONEER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, YORKSHIRE, NY

CLASS OF 2022 GRADUATES 173

George C. Crawford Auditorium housed a packed audience June 25 to celebrate the graduation of 173 members of the Class of 2022.

Acting Principal Katelyn Welker welcomed the diploma candidates, their families and well-wishers. She shared a message of keeping hopeful in challenging times and encouraged the seniors to aim high in their goals.

Acting Superintendent Nicholas Silvaroli drew lessons from his family in his message to the graduates. Student speakers included Mindy Isaman, class president; Colin Hughes, salutatorian; and Zachary Holmes, valedictorian.

Faculty speaker Bob Schooley urged the seniors to keep inspiring each other and their families as they venture forth from Pioneer.

As in recent years, the ceremony was shared with the world via YouTube on PioneerTV.

More coverage on pg 2



THE LIST OF GRADUATES (*INDICATES AVERAGE OF 90 OR ABOVE):

Collin J. Addesa
 Aidan Ameis*
 Hailey M. Andrews
 Devin James Arnold
 Adam H. Ashworth
 Katelyn Nicole Benz
 Dylan Besch
 Zachary Tyler Bickel
 Thomas Bijhouwer
 Tyler T. Bley*
 Ashley L. Bliss*
 Layla Rose Boyer*
 Kayla A. Bray
 Jack D. Buncy*
 Olivia F. Buncy
 Brooke C. Burley*
 Emily Annette Campbell
 Kayla Chapman
 Hailey J. Chojnicki
 Daytona Michael Cirbus
 Brenden Taye Clayton
 Riley J. Cockle*
 Alexander M. Coder
 Erika Ashley Conhiser*
 Zachary A. Coppola*
 Macie Sky Cornman
 Paige D. Cummings
 Scott W. Davis
 Tyler B. Day*
 Jason Peter DeMarco
 Jack A. Devitt
 Justin Dobosz
 Rhiley Ann Doezema
 Michael F. Domster
 Robert F. Donohue
 Mark A. Drennan
 Kaley N. Dugan
 Austin C. Duncan
 Kaylyn Marie Dziedzic*
 Merissa Ella Morgan
 Dziekonski
 Adrienne L. Eck*
 Makia Elizabeth Eisenhauer
 Jud J. Ellis

Logan T. Ellis
 Samuel L. Evans
 Aaron Matthew Fisher*
 Trynity Michelle Folts
 Myah J. Fox*
 Bobby J. France
 Evan M. Frazier*
 Alanna N. Gasper
 David G. Geiger
 Mary L. George*
 Olivia R. George*
 Samantha Anne George
 Jonathan M. Green
 Malachi J. Green
 Janette Grizer
 Kerin M. Gust
 Tyler Richard Hall
 Porsha M. Harrington
 Kaylee Marie Hartman*
 Danielle D. Haws*
 Brennen James Hediger
 Abigail Margaret Heitzman*
 Grace Heppner*
 James Dennis Hobson
 Evan Michael Hodge
 Jenna Rae Hoffman
 Zachary Edward Holmes*
 Autumn Hooch
 Brody Norman Hopkins*
 Colin James Hughes*
 Mindy L. Isaman*
 Jesse G. James
 Jenna J. Jandzinski
 Jasiah L. Jarocinski
 Krysta Lee Jedrzek*
 Bradley E. Jones*
 Ryan R. Karp
 Garrett Michael Keem
 Sophia J. Kehl*
 Derrick Michael Kibler
 Dylan Edward King
 Caleb Anthony Kinmartin
 Daniel M. Kirsch
 Katelyn A. Kittleson

Ellinor Louise Kless
 Christian Edwin Kolasny*
 Kasey W. Kraft
 Alyssa M. Kuhn*
 Jack Liam Lacy
 MacGregor Charles Laird
 Meredith R. Lake
 McKenzie Elizabeth Landis*
 Ellianna Grace Lang*
 Leilah Raine Latham
 Andrew J. Lefever
 Travis J. Leiser
 Savannah Nicole Lingle*
 Riley Joseph Lorkowski
 Nathan Robert Lyons*
 Madison Elaine Marcheson
 Patrick J. Marsh
 Arianna Marie Martz*
 Haley Marie Maston
 Madison Grace Matuszak*
 Amelia Liberty Maul*
 Lydia A. Maul*
 Zachary B. May
 Xavier T. McCluer
 Emily J. McCormick
 Chloe Michele McCutcheon*
 Sidnee L. McElheny
 Emily C. McIntosh
 Braydon Gregory Miller*
 William Riley Miller
 Kristin Marie Morris*
 Shayla Mae Murphy
 Lauren Lee Murray*
 Hannah Nappo
 Liberty R. Nappo
 Cody D. Noel
 Wyatt A.P. Nowak
 Jayden Jahianee
 Okhamvilaysack
 Kamrin B. Owens
 Shaylyn Beth Owens*
 Tristen Owens*
 Samantha Marie Parsell
 Vincent Gage Paulsen*

Mouay Phommatha
 Holly A. Plauman
 Steven James Plewa
 Parin Praipong
 Karlie K. Putt*
 Sidney O. Reed*
 Deanna Lee Rogers*
 Payton Elizabeth Romance*
 Tanner Andrew Roth
 Garett Lloyd Rumfola
 Faith Erin Ruppert*
 Heidi Marie Schallberg*
 Grace Schmidt
 Adam Schmit
 Quinn K. Schwab
 Jason J. Scrivani
 Benjamin P. Shephard*
 Madisen Leigh Sonner*
 Hailie J. Sopic
 Stella Belle Souter
 Breanna Lee Spencer
 Ayden Patrick Starkweather
 Katelyn M. Steward
 Lucas Edward Sutherland
 Kezrah Kae Tatar*
 Malaki D. Tatko
 Kelsea Arin Tingle
 Victoria May Trevett*
 Kara Elizabeth Valvo
 Celina R. Velasquez
 Keilana Elyse-Claire Wahl*
 Caden Mark Waite
 Jay D. Ward
 Maria Renee West
 Alyssa R. Westfall
 Thomas Henry Westfall
 Alexia R. Wierzbic
 Zoey Elizabeth Will
 Tanner Jerome Williams*
 Jake Alan Wiseman
 Beth F. Wolfer*
 Amanda Anne Woodruff
 Seth D. Wright
 Wesley Douglas Yocum



BOCES ANNOUNCES 2022 CAREER TECH GRADUATES

Thirty-six members of the Pioneer Class of 2022 were among the Career Tech graduates announced as the Ellicottville BOCES Center held commencement on June 17 at Franklinville. In addition, several Pioneer students won annual awards and are listed at the end.

ANIMAL SCIENCE: Erika Conhiser, Meredith Lake, Samantha Parsell

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY 1: Jesse James

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY 2: Malachi Green, Derrick Kibler, Travis Leiser, Jason Scrivani, Malaki Tatko

COLLISION REPAIR TECHNOLOGY: Kayla Chapman, Brenden Clayton, Bobby France Jr., Kasey Kraft, Thomas Westfall

COSMETOLOGY: Ellinor Kless, Shayla Murphy, Kelsea Tingué

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Riley Lorkowski

CULINARY ARTS: Kristen Calteaux, Steven Plewa

EARLY CHILDHOOD: Trynity Folts, Alexia Wierzbic

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS: Daytona Cirbus, James Hobson, Dylan King, Tanner Roth

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY: Zoey Will, Wesley Yocum

MEDICAL ASSISTING: Hailey Andrews, Kaley Dugan, Madison Marcheson

POWER EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY: Adam Ashworth, Mark Drennan

WELDING & METAL FABRICATION: Janette Grizer, Patrick Marsh, Wyatt Nowak

AWARD-WINNERS:

UNITED BOCES TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AWARD: Erika Conhiser

LILLENSTEIN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP: Shayla Murphy

SGR INDUSTRIES SCHOLARSHIP: Kasey Kraft

RANDOLPH AUTO SUPPLY/OUTSTANDING COLLISION REPAIR STUDENT: Kayla Chapman

RANDY BRADLEY MEMORIAL AWARD: Brenden Clayton

PERFECT ATTENDANCE: Erika Conhiser

RETIRED STAFF CALL IT A CAREER

Pioneer School District took time to honor retiring staff during an employee send-off on June 24.

The following teachers/administrators have retired:

- Yvonne Gillette – 21 years – Special Education
- Ann Pajak – 28 years – Associate Director of Special Education
- Deb Pytlak – 27 years - Art
- Barb Smith – 28 years – Elementary Teacher
- John Hochmuth – 26 years, Physical Education

These non-instructional staff have retired:

- Barbara Mejak - 29 years - Teaching Assistant
- Connie Roll - 18 years - Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Deborah Welch - 14 years - School Secretary
- Barbara Knight - 22 years - Teacher Assistant
- Louise Ann Walden - 26 years - Teacher Aide
- Patricia Noeson - 30 years - Teacher Assistant
- Julie Mitrowski - 14 years - DEMO Accounting
- Elizabeth Zuidema - 27 years - School Secretary
- Patricia Pierce - 28 years - School Nurse



Ann Pajak retired as Associate Director of Special Education. She was joined at her celebration by (clockwise from upper left) Acting Superintendent Nick Silvaroli, Mrs. Pajak, Assistant Middle School Principal Kerry Slocum, Director of Buildings & Grounds/Maintenance Nick Titus, Special Education Director Jean Vallance, Middle School Principal Melissa Prorok, and Assistant Middle School Principal Cheri Minehan.



Some of Pioneer's retiring staff paused for a pic on their final day. From left: Barb Smith holding the likeness of John Hochmuth, Deb Pytlak, Pat Noeson, Pat Pierce, Betty Zuidema, Annie Walden...



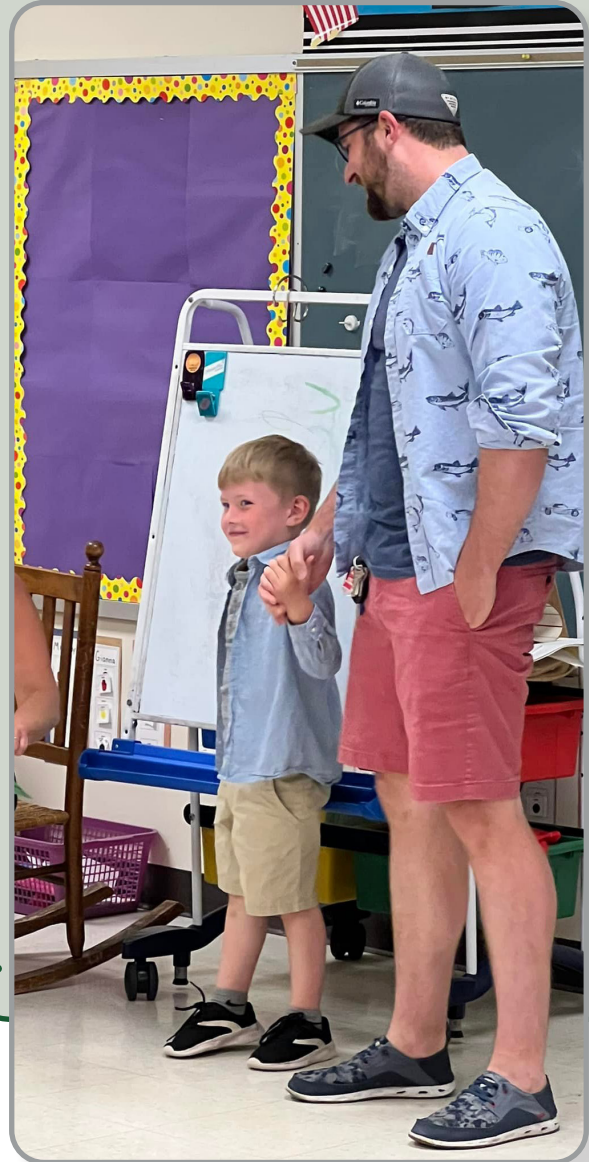
TIME CAPSULE PART OF HS RENOVATIONS

As part of ongoing renovations at Pioneer High School, a time capsule was placed in the entry wall. The capsule holds pieces of memorabilia from the freshmen through senior classes as well as the high school faculty, staff and construction crew members. It will be opened in 25 years. Shown are Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds/Maintenance Nick Titus, Assistant Principal Michael Jansma, Acting Principal Kate Welker, Acting Superintendent Nick Silvaroli and Construction Manager Dan Drozda.



DONUTS FOR DADS

One of the year-end activities at Arcade Elementary was a Donuts for Dads session in the classroom of Mrs. Cheryl Galvin.



DELEVAN FLAG DAY: A TRADITION CONTINUES

Sometimes it is sunny. Sometimes it rains. But this year the weather was picture-perfect for Flag Day celebrations at Delevan Elementary on June 14.



ARCADE KINDERGARTEN CLASS RECOGNIZED FOR ORNAMENTS

by Jamie Cook-Ruhland, kindergarten teacher

We all have things in our classrooms that are amazing and that no one really gets to see or experience. Over the last several years I've had so many ways that I've been blessed in my classroom. There is nothing like being a teacher and the experience of raising your children and seeing the growth that they make every year.

Every year my classroom creates some ornaments for our military. Each year we send them to a different military base. I love the caring and kindness that it teaches my kids. We also create cards that go with the ornaments to help bring a little home at a time when they are missing family.

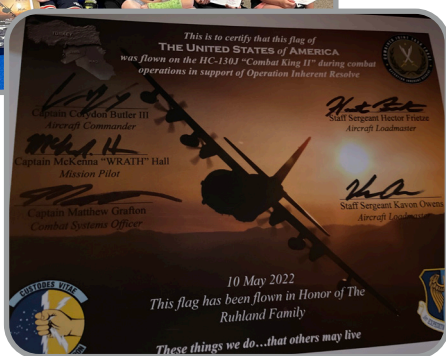
This past year we made beaded ornaments that were candy canes and snowflakes. The kids used their fine motor skills to show their kindness. I am so proud of them.

We don't always hear back from the bases and hospitals we send to, but this year was different. During the first week in May we received a gift that made me very emotional. We received a flag that was flown in combat operations in the Middle East recently in honor of our family. This family includes the students in our classroom.

We are so honored and blessed to have this amazing symbol to remind us how important it is to care for our country and our military family.



Students of Mrs. Jamie Cook-Ruhland were recognized with certificates and a flag flown in their honor from a military base. This was in honor of the holiday ornaments they created.



G.L.A.M. DAY AT DELEVAN

After months of planning, Delevan Elementary held its first annual G.L.A.M. Day/Evening on June 3. The 3-4 Chorus presented a concert (shown below). Other activities included a nature trail walk, Scholastic Book Sale, and an art exhibit. G.L.A.M. stands for Gym, Library, Art and Music.



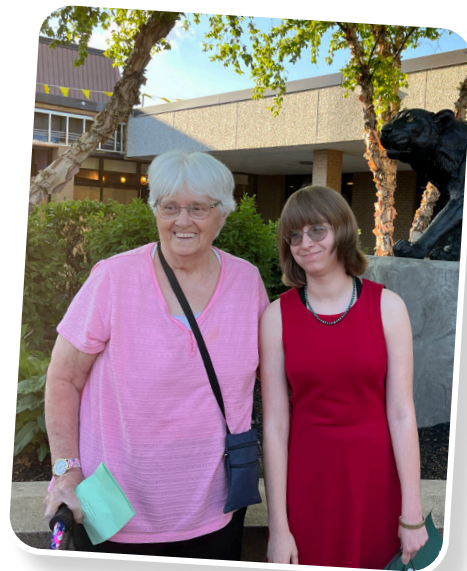
PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL CELEBRATES 8TH GRADE RECOGNITION

On June 23, Pioneer Middle School celebrated the achievements of its 8th grade during Recognition Night. Awards were given for outstanding students in each academic subject, as well as for overall excellence. Then the students and parents were treated to a slideshow of memories compiled by Ms. Amy Faust.

A video of the slideshow can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRdX2BqTaGs>

The overall ceremony can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61cP3rLPD0c&t=2483s>

Afterward, students and their families posed for pictures outside Pioneer High School (see above), where in the fall they will be welcomed as the Class of 2026.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Melissa Nocera-Collins, President
Edward McCarthy, Vice President
Justin Baker, Mark Kless, Linda Rule, Darla Schwab,
Denise Urbino, Wendy Warner Regan, and Angela Wiseman

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Benjamin Halsey, Superintendent of Schools
Nicholas Silvaroli, Assistant Superintendent
William Weidner, Director of Athletics
Michael Irizarry, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology
Jean Vallance, Director of Special Education
Mark Schultz, High School Principal
Melissa Prorok, Middle School Principal
Mellisa Devitt, Arcade Elementary Principal
Tiffany Giannicchi, Delevan Elementary Principal
Jeannene Wagner, Director of Human Resources

ECRWSS Postal Patron
or Current Resident

IT'S ATHLETICS' WALL OF FAME TIME AGAIN!

Pioneer Central School District is seeking nominations for the 2022 Class of the Athletic Wall of Fame.

Nomination forms are available at the Athletic Office at Pioneer High School. You may also call Athletic Director William Weidner at 716-492-9351, or contact him at wweidner@pioneerschools.org.

Nomination forms will be accepted until Thursday, August 11.

Nominations may be made based on the following criteria:

- Graduate of Pioneer, class of 1970 to present
- Five years removed from graduation
- Athletic performance during four years of High School, or
- Coaching performance during career, or
- Booster activities and commitment to Pioneer Athletics

The successful inductee(s) will be honored on Friday, September 23, during the Homecoming football game. During that night, the successful candidate will:

- Be a guest of honor at a VIP tent with food for family and coaches
- Lead the Prowl (lead the team onto the field)
- Participate in pre-game ceremonial coin flip
- Have anecdotes and statistics shared about them throughout the contest
- Participate in t-shirt toss



A scene like this one awaits the 2022 Athletics Wall of Fame inductees.