



Superior Central Newsletter

Home of the Cougars

March 2023

Volume 27, Issue 3

www.superiorcentralschools.org



FROM THE OFFICE OF MR. BILL VALIMA

Superintendent/Principal 6-12

It's hard to believe that it is already March. Hopefully Spring is right around the corner. I always enjoy writing this newsletter because I get to focus on the success for our students!

In the beginning of February, our middle and high school band students had the opportunity to participate in Solo/Ensemble. Twenty-three students were awarded Division I honors (the highest) and Nineteen students were awarded Division II honors.

From February 15th – 19th, 39 of our high school students took part in the Michigan Youth In Government conference held in Lansing. If you have not heard of MYIG, it is a state conference in which student throughout the state come together to form a mock government. We are one of a few organizations who are granted full use of the State Capitol for two days. It is a wonderful opportunity for our kids. At the conference, Maddie Begovac was selected to attend the National Conference on National Affairs in North Carolina this summer. Maddie also successfully passed her bill through both chamber of the legislature and it was signed by the Youth Governor. Successfully passed bills at the conference are passed on the actual State Legislature for consideration.

Over the weekend our middle school Science Olympiad team competed at the Regional Competition at Northern Michigan University. Our middle school team finished in 2nd place and now move on to the State Competition at Michigan State University in April! Our high school team placed 4th. This year, the State Science Olympiad Organization has decided to invite any student who finished 1st at Regionals to attend the State Competition. This means that many of our high school students will be moving on to the State Competition.

Congratulations to all of our academic extracurricular students on their success!

This is the time of the year when we start planning our Sinking Fund projects for the summer. As you might know, last summer we updated the high school gym with new bleachers and a redesigned floor. This summer we will be moving back up to the roof to replace the gym room and about 15,000 square feet of old roof. The last 9 years of sinking fund have made a huge impact on the district. I hear from visitors all the time how nice our school looks. I want to thank you all again for supporting our Sinking Fund "renewal" this past fall so that we can continue to make improvements to our facility.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Sophie Valima and Maddie Begovac on being named Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Class of 2023. Their hard work and dedication to their studies should be commended.

Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to work with your children. As always, if you have any questions or concerns feel free to call me @ 439-5532 x 244 or email me @ bvalima@superiorcentralschools.org.

Sincerely,

Bill Valima



Continuing and Expanding the LIFT-UP Project

You may remember that during the previous school year the students of the Agriculture and Forestry (Ag/F) class participated in MSU's LIFT-UP (locally integrated food teams of the upper peninsula) program where these students identified different means to increase the amount of locally grown produce served in our cafeteria. This program is facilitated through a collaborative effort between MSU and MARESA. After careful planning and itemizing costs, we were granted the maximum amount of \$2000 to implement our plan. The projects completed by the end of last year were:

- *Creating indoor growing systems for growing various greens during the winter months
- *Transferring waste heat from the boiler room to the hoop house through an underground insulated pipe
- *Creating a series of posters to be used as an educational tool to promote healthy eating habits
- *Installing an automated system of drip irrigation in the hoop house to increase produce and labor efficiency

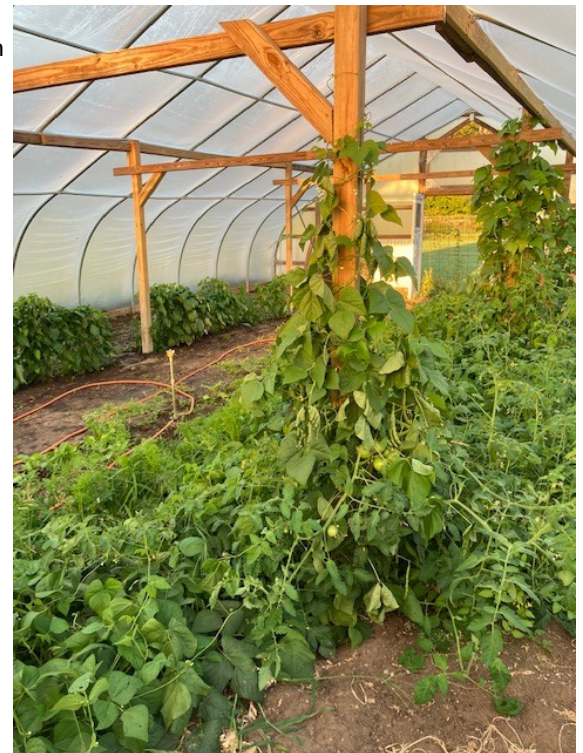


One of the goals of the LIFT-UP project is to be student driven with as little adult intervention as possible. This requires a great deal of discussion and planning from the students because any plan proposed must fall within our budget and must be accomplished by year's end. As a teacher, I feel these experiences are invaluable so I was very happy to hear that not only would the project be extended to another school year, the amount of grant money available would be increased to \$5000.

This October saw the Ag/F students brainstorming another round of ideas with even loftier goals than before and it was not until January that we were ready to submit the proposal to the review committee. All of the committee members had a few questions and concerns, but in the end approved the student's four-part plan.

This year's projects are as follows:

- *Expand the indoor growing systems to increase produce production, increase the productivity of our "spring starts", and include elementary classes who wish to participate
- *Till a large area of ground just south of the hoop house to grow root crops during the summer in preparation for the upcoming school year. A student hire would be responsible for the care of these crops throughout the summer.
- *Build a polycarbonate wall to section off the east 12 feet of the 48-foot-long hoop house to create a smaller area to be heated from the boiler room waste heat. This area will be used for hardening spring starts and possible elementary class projects.
- *Work with Full Plate Farm in Dukes to grow a year's supply of potatoes for the cafeteria. The Ag/F students will travel to the farm in the spring to plant all of the potatoes and the next year's class will again go there in the fall to harvest, wash and crate this crop. During the summer, the workers of Full Plate Farm will tend the developing potatoes and Superior Central will purchase this crop at a reduced rate due to the amount of labor the students will provide.



This is a lot to accomplish in the remaining school year so we will begin work very soon. Look to future newsletters for updates.

Mr. Bliss



SUPERIOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS HONOR ROLL

2022-2023 Second Quarter

Congratulations to the following students for being named to the Honor Roll for the second marking period.

An * denotes all A's

UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms. Thompson's 3rd Grade: Mason Bahrman, Nora Beaupied, Clara Brown, Theresa Butler, Parker Hughes, Hayden Karvinen, Lizabeth Lindgren, Lydia Mallory, Henry Miller, Mercer Pasanen, Kruz Saile, Laney Slifka, Kennedy Stuer, Kinlee Tyner*

Miss Freitas's 4th Grade: Riley Gohl, Grace King, Anthony Knaus, Henry Mallory, Evelyn McGlone, Nebraska Schafke, Ellie Slifka, Matthew Taskey

Mrs. Hill's 4th Grade: Mason Heyrman, Elias Hughes, Clay Johnson, Ainsley Karvinen, Blake Pederson, Josyia Perron, Lane Porter*

Ms. Stebelton's 5th Grade: Emma Beaupied, Joy Brown, Edey Burdett*, Jaxon Klyk, William Kolpack, Larissa Lindgren, Harrison McDougall, Oliver Rondeau, Caleb Simon

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

6th grade: Kristy Brown, Liza Helminen*, Aubrianna Kroupa, Jerry Kulik, Charli Nordness, Violet Porter*, Gisela Schultz*

7th grade: Marlene Johnson, Meredith Kempker, Lillian Lindgren, Conor McDonald*, Lilly Simon, Emma Stoliecki, Steve Suhs, Aiyana Taskey*

8th grade: Connor Blomgren, Anthony Brown, Teagan Hall, Rory Hancock, Aidan Korpi, Zander Mullins, Kianna Perron, William Spranger*, Elijah Valima, Gavin Vining

9th grade: Rowan Allender*, Joseph Augustyn, Jamie Brown, Gwenyth Charlebois, Adrianna Frusti, Isaac Gleason, Roi Helminen, Clay Horne, Jenna Hoy, Jack Kasten, Morgan Martin, Kiera McDonald*, John McDougall, Cody Moore, Janessa Perron, Danica Purdy, Gracie Trader, Dustin Tyner

10th grade: Ruth Johnson, Samantha Johnson, Kate McGee, Sierra Moore, Nikolas Pasco, Calla Porter*, Abbagale Stoliecki, Derick Tyner

11th grade: Craig Adams, Alice Hancock, Jason Kanerva, Liam McDougall, Elijah Penney, Clara Rondeau, Breanna Swajanen

12th grade: Emily Augustyn, Madisen Begovac, Wyatt Kulik, Natalie McGee*, Riley Moore, Adair Porter, Evelyn Smyth*, Lucas Swetich, Brylee Tyner, Sophia Valima*



Kindergarten Round-up

Who: Child who will be 5 on September 1, 2023

What: Screening and registration for Kindergarten beginning Fall 2023

When: Friday April 14, 2023

Where: Superior Central Elementary School

How: Call 439-5531 x 201 for an appointment



What to bring: Original birth certificate, proof of residence & immunization records



Superior Central Sports Boosters



Did you know that all proceeds from the Superior Central Concession Stands goes right back into our athletic programs? The Superior Central Sports Boosters uses the money made from the concession stands to fund necessary uniform and equipment purchases that aren't covered under the athletic fund. In the past year, Superior Central Sports Boosters has helped fund a new volleyball net system, new football helmets and reconditioning of older helmets, new weight room equipment, and new uniforms for Track and Field and Volleyball.

In order to continue to run the concession stand and support our athletes, we need help from you! Anyone in the community can be a member of Superior Central Sports Boosters. With more volunteers, the concession stand can continue to support extra needs for our teams.

Our current officers are:

President: Jennine Mallory

Vice-President: Sally Richard

Secretary: Trudee Tyner

Treasurer: Erin Hancock

For more information on meetings or volunteer opportunities, email boosters@superiorcentralschools.org or look for us on Facebook at Superior Central Sports Boosters.



Keep collecting your
Tadych's MarketPlace Foods receipts.

Bring them to school.

We earn 1% of your purchase

To help us purchase supplies for the school and students.



News from Superior Central Board of Education

Greeting from the School Board as we enjoy longer days and the race to spring. To catch up on our last election, I want to most sincerely thank Sally Richards, Jennine Mallory, and Lindsey Crick for their excellent service on the board. It was great to have young members of the community that were willing to serve with new ideas and perspective. After the election we enthusiastically welcome Matt Rondeau, Nicole Aho, and Josh Trader as new members to the board and re-election of Skip Rutter and Ben Bartlett to the board. It is also critical that we recognize the support the community has demonstrated by passing a second 10 year sinking fund. These are the funds (about \$200,000 per year) that the school has used to make facility improvements. Most of these facility upgrades have been planned, but the funds have also “bailed” out the school when the heating boilers and sanitary system pumps failed unexpectedly. We still have some roofs to re-roof, classrooms to up-grade, a parking lot to repair, and who knows what other surprises that could not be covered by our modest maintenance budget. Thank you for your support of YOUR Superior Central Schools.

We welcome your attendance at our regular board meetings, usually, 3rd Monday, 7pm in Library and invite your public comment. In addition to the regular board meetings, we have been scheduling a “Focus Forum” at 6 pm before the board meetings. The purpose is board education around a particular topic; February’s topic is Academics and Testing and the March topic will be Athletics, Sports, and Extracurricular with an opportunity for the public to also participate in the sessions. The regular board meeting focuses on the business of running the school and the forums provides more opportunity for discussion and board, staff, and public interaction. We welcome your attendance.

Thank you for your election support, your attendance at sporting and other events, and by sending your children to Superior Central Schools. There’s a saying that it “takes a village to raise a child”. Maybe, but I know for sure that it takes a community to support a school to educate that child. Thanks for being part of Superior Central Schools.

Ben Bartlett – School Board

Superior Central 2022-2023 Yearbooks

Now on Sale

\$40

Full color hardcover yearbook with all grades.
Pictures for a lifetime of memories!
Order forms available in the offices



Deadline April 3rd

Board of Education

Please take notice that upcoming meetings of the Board of Education of the Superior Central School District in Eben Junction, Michigan are scheduled as follows:

<u>Regular Meeting</u>	Monday March 20, 2023	Monday April 17, 2023	Monday May 15, 2023
	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM

Regular meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month. Work sessions as needed. All meetings are 7:00 PM

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in these meetings.

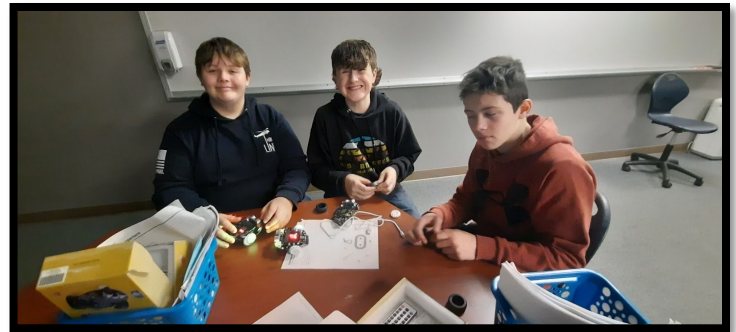
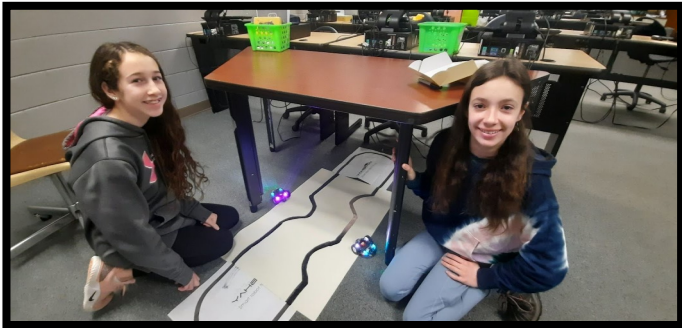
Request must be received at least five days in advance of the meeting.



ROBOTICS IN TECH 7

By: Holly McDonnald

This year, the 7th grade Tech class received a grant to purchase robotic chips and cars to learn computer programming with engineering and math components. The students assembled mini robotic cars and learned how to program the cars to use sensors to stay on a track and avoid obstacles, similar to technology used in real-life automobiles. The students enjoyed making the cars travel specific distances, code infra-red remote controls, turn, stop, and reverse depending on certain programming parameters. During the semester, the students used mini robotic chips called Micro:bits to make various STEM projects, including "Fitbit" step counters, random algorithm board games, engineered pets based upon specific specifications, and designed fidget cubes.



A Milestone in Building Boats

The Natural Resources and Watercraft Design Class first began in the fall of 2015. With 10 students our goal was to incorporate the study of our natural resources with the building and use of one 13 ft. pirogue per student. Then in the spring of the year, use those boats on a local body of water as we continued our environmental studies. It was a great learning experience for all of us. The students had never built a boat before, and I had never built boats with a group of students before. However, on a beautiful late May day, every student launched their pirogue onto the Au Train Basin and we spent 3 amazing days paddling, listening to guest speakers, eating camp food by the fire and paddling our boats. To this day it was by far the nicest weather we have ever experienced on our spring trip.

During the course of that first year I was never thinking about the future of the class. The funding for building materials for that first class came from a Lake Superior Watershed Partnership grant and a contribution from Renewable World Energies. Thankfully, financial assistance came from the community the following year and this unique class found its way onto Superior Central's schedule once more. This assistance continues to this day and I am very thankful that our community sees the value of this program.

This year's current class is composed of 19 students and besides continuing our environmental studies, are of course building individual pirogues. I am very happy to say that the construction of these boats is complete and we begin building paddles and painting the boats this week. This is significant to me because it marks the passing of our 100th boat built at Superior Central. To be specific, 108 since 2015.

Since 2015, each of these students should be proud of the skills they acquired and the work they invested to create their craft. I hope they find as much enjoyment from their use and time outdoors as I have.

Mr. Bliss





SUPERIOR CENTRAL SCHOOL CALENDAR of EVENTS

2022-2023



March	23	Elementary Literacy Night
	24	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
	24	End of 3 rd marking period
	27-31	No School - Spring Break
April	3	School Resumes
	7	11:48 dismissal—no lunch served
	10	No School
	14	Kindergarten Roundup– call the Elementary office for appointment
May	4	Elementary Spring Sing—1:00
	6	Prom
	18	MS/HS/5th grade Concert– 7:00
	26	11:48 dismissal – no lunch served
	26	Graduation 7:00 PM
	29	No School – Memorial Day
June	1-2	1:30 dismissal – MS/HS Exams
	2	Last day of School (provided we do not exceed 6 snow days)
	5	All day Teacher Professional Development

Doors open at 7:55 School Day begins at 8:15 A.M. and ends at 3:11 P.M.

Happy 100th day



School Closing Announcements

WMQT 107.7 FM WLUC TV 6

Superior Central app www.superiorcentralschools.org

