

# CCS NEWSLINE

*Helping to Strengthen Our Home-School-Community Connection*

Volume 1 - Issue 2 - January 2020



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## Cooperstown CSD Collaborates to WIN C.O.R.E. GRANT

Cooperstown Central School District collaborated with Milford Central School District and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to win an \$83,000 Grant. The Career Opportunities in Rural Education Initiative (C.O.R.E.) grant allows CCS to create pathways the building blocks needed for students to become more qualified to enter Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math (S.T.E.A.M.) fields, especially related to health care, manufacturing, hospitality and technology.



The overall goals of the grant for Cooperstown are to increase learning opportunities with structured support and quality instruction as part of our existing programs. We will pursue regional businesses to partner with us to make relevant job opportunities.

## Welcome Gregg Sanik, Interim High School Counselor



Gregg Sanik  
Interim High School  
Counselor

Gregg Sanik is serving as an interim high school counselor at CCS, filling a vacancy of counselor for grades 9 and 10. His educational career has included many responsibilities: classroom teacher, athletic coach, club advisor, school bus driver, and Principal. He ultimately retired as a superintendent of schools. This is Mr. Sanik's fourth such interim position as school counselor. He is a graduate from St. Lawrence University with degrees in Sociology and Education and Masters degree in Education and School Counseling from SUNY Oneonta. Please contact Mr. Sanik at [gsanik@cooperstowncsd.org](mailto:gsanik@cooperstowncsd.org) or call the High

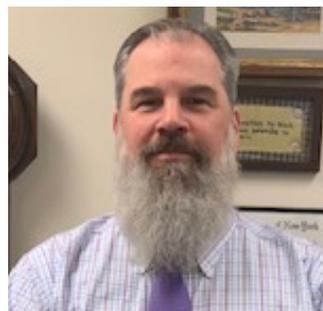
School Counseling Office at 607-547-5300.

## NHS Inducts New Members



The Cooperstown Central School Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted five seniors into the organization on Tuesday, October 22, 2019. Congratulations to Samantha Storey, Samuel Lytel, Natalie Fountain, Eric Kukenberger, and Anya McGoldrick.

## Welcome Kevin Kelly, Director of Pupil Personnel Services



Kevin Kelly  
District Director of Pupil  
Personnel Services

Beginning January 2, 2020, Kevin Kelly will become the district's Director of Pupil Personnel Services. In this newly developed role, Mr. Kelly will provide leadership and direction in all aspects of Special Education at CCS, including chairperson duties for both the Committees on Pre-School (CPSE) and Special Education (CSE). He will supervise and evaluate staff, provide support for principals, arrange professional development for teachers and support staff, and manage the overall Special Education Program for the District. He most recently serves as principal for grades PK-3 in the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District

and served for fifteen years as assistant principal at Northeast Parent & Child. Mr. Kelly is certified as an administrator in NYS (SUNY Albany) and earned his degree in elementary education from SUNY Oneonta. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Kelly very soon. For more information about the job description of Director of Pupil Personnel Services at <https://www.cooperstowncsd.org/>

## How Do You Get to Conference All State? PRACTICE!

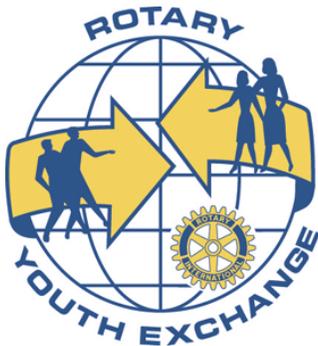


Lucian Lytel (l.) and Sam Lytel (r.)

Two CCS students have earned the honor to represent our school at the NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) Conference All-State, December 5th through the 8th at the elite Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester. Senior violinist Samuel Lytel and Junior violist Lucian Lytel both received perfect scores on their all-state audition solos last May, and ranked as the top students on their instruments in zone 8, which includes all of five counties and parts of three others. Sam performed in the symphony orchestra, while Lucian played in the string orchestra. This accomplishment highlights the discipline and work ethic, as well as the passion and artistry they bring to their playing. Not only are the brothers active in the CCS music program – band, chorus, jazz band, pit orchestras, musicals – but both have been members of the Little Delaware Youth Ensemble for several years, and have played in pit orchestras for Orpheus theatre productions multiple times. CCS is proud to be represented by these two students, and wishes them the greatest success in Rochester.



Leah (Germany) and "Celo" (Brazil), our Rotary Exchange Students at CCS for 2019-2020



## Students Impact Our Community as Volunteers



Logan Doucas, pictured right, along with fellow CCS students Peter Hochbrueckner (left) and Lucas LoRusso (middle) proudly volunteer as junior firemen at the Hartwick Volunteer Fire Department.

"I've always loved the thrill of the pager going off as my parents would rush us out of the house to answer a fire call," said Logan Doucas, a senior at CCS. Logan is one of several students who spend their time volunteering at local fire departments in Hartwick, Fly Creek and Cooperstown.

In particular, Logan remembers spending many Saturdays at the station, his parents loading up the truck, and being inspired by the adult volunteers around him. As soon as he turned 16 he joined the Hartwick Volunteer Fire Department. He recently spent his 16th birthday being initiated into the department. He has extensive training as a firefighter, and has dedicated many hours to bookwork, learning about engines, hose sizes and adaptors, tying knots, operating tools, and gear timing. Logan, an enthusiastic student welder in the BOCES vocational program and

Eagle Scout, plans on joining the Coast Guard after spending a year working in his family's B-B-Q businesses, Whispering Pines B&B and Ticked Pink B-B-Q. We salute Logan and all our students who are already important contributing members of society, even while they attend school full time.



Students participate in the 2019 "Youth Food Movement" at Origins Café.

Pictured at right: Mrs. Amy Parr, CCS NYS Master Teacher, and her science students use their chopping skills and dancing chops to make "Disco Soup", which was served at the recent Youth Food Movement conference dinner this year.



## Student Filmmakers Win Awards and Make Documentary to Celebrate Refugees



“Utica: A Town That Loves Refugees” was recently a featured selection at Glimmerglass Film Days. This documentary was made by CCS students in the Cooperstown Cinema Collective (CCC) portion of the CCS Literary Magazine Club (“Lit Mag”). The film won CCS students the 2018 Robert F. Kennedy Speak Truth to Power Video Contest, a Best Documentary award in the 2018 Rod Serling Film Festival, and was recognized by the New York State School Boards Association through an initiative called Champions of Change for Kids.

Pictured are JoAnn Gardner (left), the adviser to the CCC, and Peggy Parsons (right), Film Days Curator, with students who made the film: Rainer Gardner-Olesen, Kara Gildea, Ellie Pink, and Peter Weill. Student filmmakers not pictured: Eric Kukenberger, Sam Lytel and Lola Thompson.

## CCS Fosters Students’ Love of Reading

According to The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Position Statement on Independent Reading, “research supports that independent reading has the most significant impact on student success in reading” (Lewis & Samuels, 2002). At CCS Elementary School, students and staff are celebrating independent reading to complement the already rigorous curriculum. The entire school community is working together to achieve the NCTE goal of independent reading, which is “to build habitual readers with conscious reading identities.”

Some examples of independent reading initiatives at CES include:

**“Stealing Time to Read”:** Mrs. Gibson, CCS Library Media Specialist, celebrates our “Free Read” initiative at the beginning of each Library Class for 4th through 6th grades. Students arrive at the library and immediately settle into a space of their own to dig into a book of their choice for 10 minutes. Students bring their own book or check out a library book to explore their own interests. Staff in the library model comfortable reading for enjoyment during this time and support student needs as they learn to find a piece of literature that meets their needs and interests. Students are encouraged to carry free independent reading books with them at all times so they may “steal” a minute here and a minute there to read.



**“Mystery Readers in Kindergarten”:** Each Monday, Kindergarten students in Ms. Bellcourt’s classroom celebrate reading with a “Mystery Reader” who visits to share the joy of reading. Mystery Readers work with Ms. Bellcourt to select a book or passage and show their own love of reading that first began as children, too.

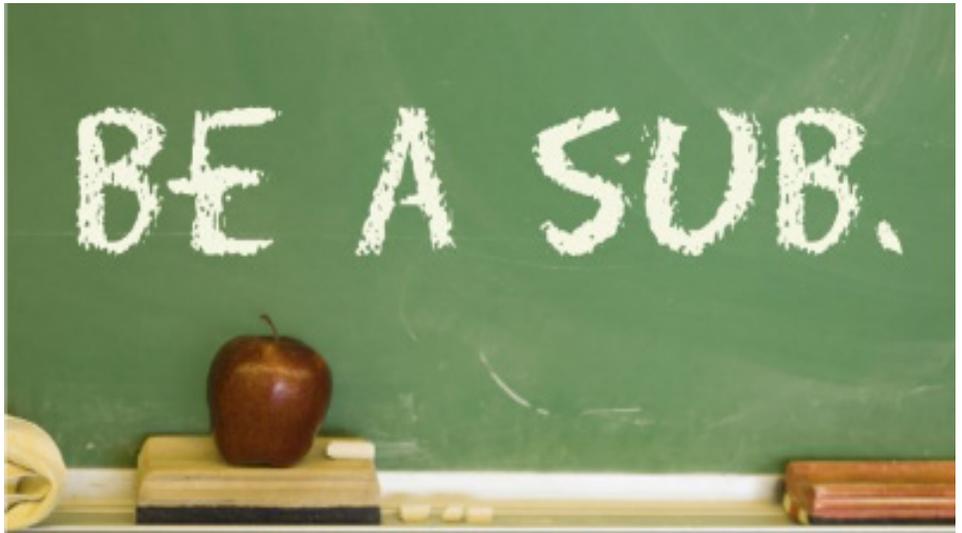
**“Principal’s Book Club” :** Mrs. Mecarriello began our monthly “Principal’s Book Club” meeting for 4th and 5th Graders. Students gather in a large round table format once each month to discuss the selected book. Together, students break down literature and share their ideas with our principal.

**“Student Mini-Libraries”:** Students in Mrs. Cole’s 2nd-grade classroom have curated their own mini-libraries located at each of their desks. Students bring their own books from home and add books from the classroom or school library to build their collection. The books they want to read are right at their fingertips whenever they get a chance to “steal time to read.”

**“My Reading Life” and “Staff Favorites” Conversation Starters:** Staff at CES have been encouraged to share their “reading life” with students in the form of bulletin boards around the building. Students can see a quick snapshot of what teachers have read and are currently reading. Thanks to our Parent Teacher Association (PTA), each teacher has been given a desk sign to share their Favorite Children’s books with students. Then, students may come to the library to borrow a copy of the book.

**CCS Clerical Staff Innovates to Improve Systems to Demonstrate Administrative Efficiency**

Have you ever wondered how the substitute teacher or substitute Teacher Aide just magically appears, as if it were a seamless and unnoticeable happening? Thank our innovative, caring, and smart secretarial staff. In particular, CCS uses a new system called “ReadySub,” which was researched and implemented by Mrs. Savoie and Ms. Senk at a time when the District was looking to save money and improve its substitute calling system. Given the challenge Mrs. Savoie and Ms. Senk found the alternative to the more costly BOCES Substitute Calling system, which took the task of securing substitutes out of the hands of our staff. This method required Ms. Senk and Mrs. Savoie to quickly fill in the gaps for positions that the substitute service couldn’t fill. They found an even more effective way to find substitutes with the ReadySub app, and for far less money and time. We are grateful to our support staff everyday for keeping our school running smoothly, safely, and with such kindness. Mrs. Savoie and Ms. Senk are just two examples of District employee excellence.



The Cooperstown Central School District is always searching to hire excellent substitutes for many roles, including Teachers, Teacher Aides, Montors, Licensed Teacher Assistants, Food Service, Bus Drivers, Cleaners, and more! Please go to [www.cooperstowncs.org](http://www.cooperstowncs.org) and fill out an application today! You can also call Wendy Lansing at 607-547-5364. Join one incredible team at CCSD, and become part of the learning!

**The Cooperstown Central School District**  
*needs*

- Professional
- Energetic
- Responsible Adults

*...are encouraged to apply!*

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS**

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHER AIDES**

**SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVERS and MONITORS**

Call Wendy Lansing,  
Secretary to the Superintendent  
@ 607-547-5364

**HAVE an IMPACT!**

*Spend meaningful time with the greatest students, faculty and staff anywhere!*

All levels needed

**ELEMENTARY  
JUNIOR HIGH  
SENIOR HIGH**

*No Prior Experience is Required*

## Students in Our Communities

So many CCS students go above and beyond for their communities. Throughout our towns they take initiative, volunteer and do great things beyond our school walls. Cooper Guzy and Devin Guzy are two such students. Devin and Cooper Guzy both worked to repaint every fire hydrant in the Village of Cooperstown recently. This extensive and sorely needed project was partly done out of love and admiration for the Cooperstown Volunteer Fire Department, but also because these students know the importance of giving back to their community. Devin is working toward earning the Golden Star in Girl Scouts and Cooper aspires to achieve his Eagle Scout status in Boy Scouts, the highest level of honor in each respective organization. Both students follow in the footsteps of their older siblings, who were also Eagle Scouts, and the entire family devotes many volunteer hours in training and firefighting for the Cooperstown Volunteer Fire Department (Devin and Cooper will join once they turn 16).



## Scrubs Club

Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown is pleased to announce the continuation of the Scrubs Club program. Scrubs Club's established curriculum is designed for high school students to build self-esteem and confidence while encouraging and preparing students to enhance their knowledge of healthcare related careers and occupations. Scrubs Club, as developed by the Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center, has proven to be a great fit for the student who is still discovering the path they will take following graduation. Students experience hands on activities, virtual tours of Bassett and thought provoking lessons, such as the importance of community involvement, teamwork and communication. The curriculum offers health career exploration on the main campus with professionals from many areas such as Public Health, Clinical Laboratory, Respiratory Therapy, and other departments as the educational support team. Bassett professionals are dedicated and passionate about their careers and want to relay and transfer as much knowledge to students as possible to support career development and choices. Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students participate one full school day each month at Bassett Healthcare in Cooperstown throughout the 2019-2020 school year..



## A Win for the Quiz Team

Quiz team secured a spot at the Small School National Championship Tournament during its first bout of the season at the Tri-State Tussle held at Delaware Valley High School in Milford, Pennsylvania. The quiz team operates with financial assistance from CCS, Cooperstown Foundation for Excellence in Education, PTA, and Friends Of Music and Art.



Pictured from left to right: Lucas Shaheen-Fritz, Brayden White, and Henry Wager

## 20TH Annual Jr. High Spelling Bee



Punya Phaugat is champion of the 20th Annual Cooperstown Jr. High Spelling Bee. She will compete in the regional bee at SUNY Oneonta, March 7th at 10:00am. Aidan Spencer took 2nd place, and Lily Shanker 3rd.

## Students Investigate Susquehanna River Water Quality



Seventh graders collecting macroinvertebrates in the Susquehanna River to determine water quality and build a diagrammed food web.