

# BRIDGES

Mount Morris Central School District

*Dare to be Excellent!*

*At Mount Morris Central School District  
we are building the future, laying the foundation  
of lifelong learning, opening minds to explore,  
to create, and to achieve excellence.*



WWW.MTMORRISCSD.ORG

Spring 2017

## Dreams, Passions, and Next Steps

### Student Spotlight: Nicholas Torcello... *Be a Leader Not a Follower*

When it comes to student leadership, Nick Torcello started early. Torcello has been an active member of the Student Council dating back to elementary school where he held the positions of Treasurer and Vice President. Torcello remembers meeting about once a month, organizing the viewing of movies after school for students, and having a lot of help from the teachers involved.

Fast forward eight years and Torcello holds the position of Vice President of Mount Morris' High School Student Council, having worked the ranks of Secretary and Treasurer in previous years.

"I want to help out and to make a difference," said Torcello.

Some of the milestone events that the Student Council is responsible for planning are Homecoming, Winter White Out, the Semi-formal dance, and the 7-12 student picnic at Letchworth State Park.

"The Student Council organized the Winter White Out last year with Principal Chenaille, who was an unbelievable help. We did our best to tackle it on our own this year," said Torcello.

When initially planning for the 2017 Winter White Out that took place in January, Torcello explained that the first plan of action was to determine what went wrong last year. It was determined that student voices needed to be heard more.

"We sent out Google forms to every student so that they could tell us what they wanted," said Torcello. "It was important to us for every student to express what they wanted and I believe that we are doing a good job in making a baseline for the school that every student has a voice."

Torcello has a dream of creating a school culture that brings the school together as a family and to make sure that everyone's voice is heard in the process.

Torcello went on to explain that the student body really comes together during these events and with the promotion of more events to come, the end goal is to have no absences at all.

Torcello explained that plans are in the works to potentially have a "Lock In" where students can spend the night at the school playing various games and activities. If approved, the event will take place in March.

Torcello is Vice President of the Student Council, a member of the National Honor Society, Junior Class President, and plays Varsity Basketball and Soccer. Having already looked at some colleges, Torcello plans on a major of Computer Science.

Torcello carries several leadership characteristics with him every day, literally listed on his phone, that he is determined to live by. Torcello explained that the one that he believes the most in is "Be a leader, not a follower."

"I don't need to be remembered for anything after I graduate Mount Morris," explained Torcello. "I just want the students to remember the great memories we created and to have the council members after me continue the work we have done and make this school better every day."



*photo provided  
by Judi Wheeler*

*"I want to help out and to make a difference," said Torcello.*



# Mount Morris Central School

30 Bonadonna Avenue ♦ Mount Morris, New York 14510

*Dare to be Excellent!*

**Gregory Bump**  
Superintendent of Schools

Phone (585) 658-2568  
Fax (585) 658-4814  
Email gbump@mtmorriscsd.org

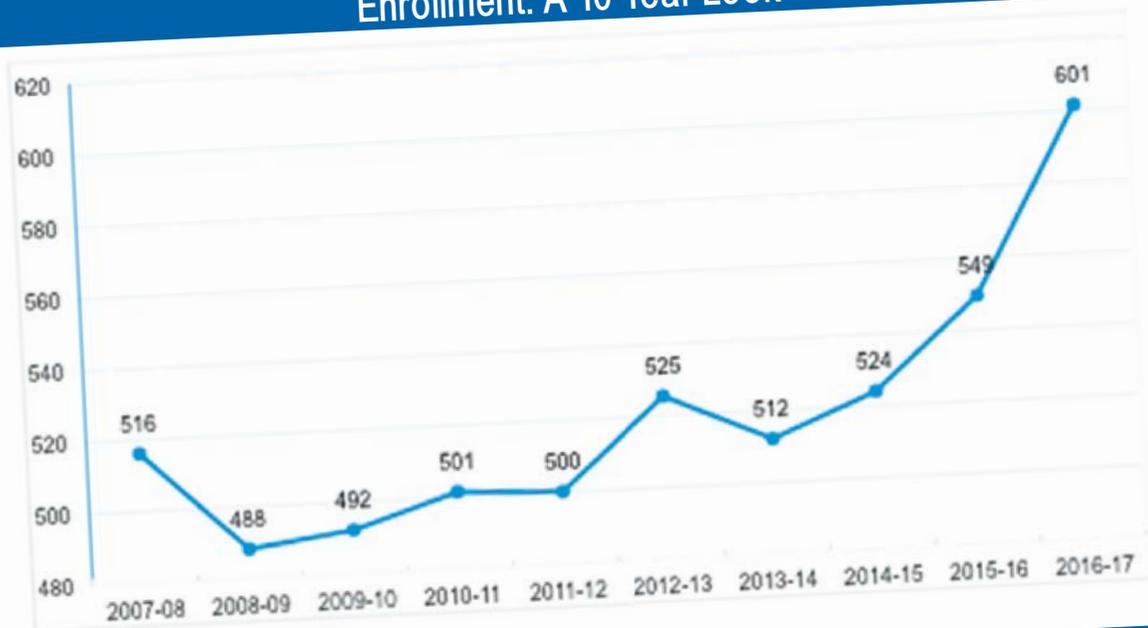
## Tomorrow's Leaders Today

Our district has a successful history of cultivating leaders. Our recently inducted Distinguished Alumni are the product of this tradition. Our district recently celebrated 30 years of sending students to Washington D.C. as part of the nationally recognized leadership development program Close-Up. The District's participation in Boys State goes back decades.

In honor of this successful tradition, we have reintroduced both Girls State and HOBY (Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership). Girls State is a leadership development program that is designed by the New York State American Legion Auxiliary. The program is accredited by the National College Credit Recommendation Service and it will be held at SUNY Brockport. HOBY will be held at the University of Rochester and is dedicated to "training and nurturing the young leaders of tomorrow." The reintroduction of these programs will allow our students to cultivate and grow their leadership skills at a state and regional level.

This year, our Elementary Student Council is proud to have twenty-two members, and our High School Student Council attended the NYS Council on Leadership and Student Activities. It is great to see that both of these groups are active, strong and growing. Our Odyssey of the Mind teams have grown from two last year to four this year and our new Mock Trial team will compete at the Wyoming County Courthouse acting as the prosecution.

### Enrollment: A 10 Year Look



## Student Spotlight: Lillian Bacon... *Mending the Bridge between Students and Staff*

Lillian Bacon, a Mount Morris Senior, is not your ordinary Student Council President. While she has been involved in Student Council since elementary school, she was never an active member with a title, until this year, when she was elected President.

Throughout her academic years at Mount Morris, Bacon always helped with the planning of school events alongside the Student Council but never ran for office because, to her, it was not something that was just meant to be put on a college application.

"I have never thought of Student Council as an accomplishment to add to a college application, it was never about that," said Bacon. "I just wanted to be the person that everyone comes to for help. I can mend the bridge between students and the faculty."

When attending a student leadership conference in the fall, Bacon was inspired by the leadership roles she witnessed and wanted to immediately apply them to Mount Morris Central School.

"The Winter White Out was our next big event and, because of what we learned at the conference, we worked very hard to decide how to mix what the students wanted and community building," said Bacon.

When speaking of the Winter White Out, Bacon explained that the intent was a day of fun and community building to get students out of their comfort zones and to not only

build on the school but also to build on each other.

The biggest complaint about Winter White Out each year is the team selection process. Since students don't get to choose teams, they often feel the day won't be fun. This year, Bacon and Nick Torcello went into every English class to help students understand why teams are an important part of the day.

"I really hope that from now on the Winter White Out becomes something kids look forward to," said Bacon.

One such student approached Bacon the day of the Winter White Out and complimented the event explaining that he now understands why it was set up the way it was and he believed this year was the best yet.

Bacon is a stellar student that participates in numerous extracurricular activities such as: dance, soccer, yearbook club, National Honor Society, Student Council, and drama club.

"I want to leave here inspiring others to be the best version of themselves that they can be," said Bacon. "We all have so much in common but we are just too afraid to find out what it is."

Looking forward, Bacon has applied to King's College, Regent University, Stony Brook, University of Buffalo, Purchase College, and Liberty College with an

aspiration to major in Pre-Law and International Security and Relations with a minor in U.S. History.

Bacon's dream is to either become a lawyer, work at a U.S. Embassy, or teach U.S. History in other countries.



*photo provided by Judi Wheeler*

As for the rest of the school year, the Mount Morris Student Council is set to plan the annual Semi-Formal Dance to be held in February and the 7-12 student picnic at Letchworth State Park. The Student Council is also looking to hold a school "Lock-In," where students can stay overnight at the school and participate in a variety of activities. If approved, the event will take place in March.

"The most important part to me is the bridge that we as students are building in an attempt to change the school atmosphere. Your talents and ambitions can make this school a better place," said Bacon. "We may not be the sectional winner, or the first place winner, or even the biggest school for that matter, but we are Mount Morris and I think that is the best part about us."

## Annual Budget Hearing is May 9, 2017, in the MMCSA Auditorium with the Regular Board of Education Meeting to Follow

Two (2) Board of Education seats will be vacant. Both of the seats will be for a term of three (3) years. District residents interested in serving on the Board of Education must file their nominating petitions by 4:00 pm, Monday, April 17, 2017. Petitions are to be delivered to the District Office and must have at least 25 signatures of qualified voters. Petition forms may be obtained from the District Office on business days between 9 am and 4 pm. This year's budget vote and election will be conducted between noon and 9 pm on Tuesday, May 16.

*To qualify for membership on the school board, an individual:*

- Must be able to read and write.
- Must be a qualified voter of the district, that is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, or older, and not adjudged to be incompetent.
- Must be and have been a resident (but need not be a taxpayer) of the district for a continuous and uninterrupted period of at least one year immediately before the election.
- May not have been removed from any school district office within the preceding year.
- May not reside with another member of the same school board as a member of the same family.
- May not be a current employee of the school board.
- May not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office.



# Mount Morris Central School

30 Bonadonna Avenue • Mount Morris, New York 14510



## Rebekah Chenaille

Jr./Sr. High School Principal

Phone (585) 658-3331, Option 2

Fax (585) 658-4814

Email [bchenaille@mtmorriscsd.org](mailto:bchenaille@mtmorriscsd.org)

*Dear Mount Morris Students,*

You know those moments you have when pride overwhelms you and you fight back tears?

From where I stand, here inside Mount Morris High School, that's the feeling I have-- often. I feel blessed every day to be here modeling the work of school leadership and gradually handing the work over to each of you. As for leading the student body—there is no better leader than you!

Here is my vision for our school: Mount Morris Junior Senior High School is building the future, laying the foundation of lifelong learning, opening minds to explore, to create, and to achieve excellence. I know it sounds a lot like the District Mission. Ok, it is the District Mission. Imagine a school where, every day, you come and think about your future. You connect what you are doing right now to the future you dream about. As a student, you get to learn a little bit about everything and when the learning is intriguing—you want to learn more. School should be a place where you get to explore new things, take risks, build, and most importantly excel.

When you think about that vision, ask yourself, if we aren't excellent, what holds us back? That's where leadership begins. Some people believe that leaders are born. Leadership in that belief system is a talent that few have, causing them to stand apart. Others believe that leadership is a skill—a set of experiences that allow you to grow and inspire others to do the same. I happen to believe that leadership is a skill. It can be taught and everyone can learn it. I also believe there are people born with a disposition to lead. In the end, leadership (regardless how you come by it) is an essential skill. Leaders don't sit back and wait for things to come to them. Instead they run after greatness. Leaders don't let others get ahead of them. They strive to keep the pace. Leaders inspire. They give hope for a future. They take risks. They set an example. They wake up every day and plan to reach the top even if no one pushes them.

Winter White Out was an awesome day because student leaders asked questions, listened, and worked hard to make the day great! It was awesome because student leadership cheered all day. As a leader you decided to make the day great and it was. That's why leadership matters. Not one of us should ever sit back and wait for someone else to get the work done. Instead we should all use our leadership skills to inspire, challenge, explore, create, and in the end we are excellent.

My favorite part of the day was right at the end when we were in the auditorium laughing at the slide show filled with photos (captured by Judi Wheeler) of our day together. We were all in the same room (physically and figuratively). We were all happy. Those moments are priceless. I have never felt more proud of you than I did in that moment. Keep growing as a leader. You are getting really good at it!

*Dr. Becky Chenaille, High School Principal*

*Dare to be Excellent!*

# Student Leadership Conference Promotes School Culture

by Omar Hussain, Mount Morris High School Student Council Advisor

In the fall, a student leadership team representing Mount Morris attended a three-day conference in Sullivan County. The conference, organized by the NYS Council on Leadership and Student Activities (CLSA), was held at Honor's Haven, a sprawling event center in the Catskills. The leadership team that attended, along with two advisors, spent a lot of time reflecting on what we could bring back to our school with one goal in mind – improving school culture. Riding there as part of a caravan with 96 students from Livonia during a snowstorm (that would drop nearly a foot across Livingston County) was crazy. Taking eight of our students to a conference none of us had ever attended seemed like a bit of a gamble. By the time we loaded back onto the bus after three days, however, the idea seemed brilliant, nothing seemed intimidating, and the gamble paid off.

The purpose of the conference was to share ideas about promoting positivity and community-building through student-led activities. Over the past four years, we have held various culture-building events at Mount Morris, but none have had as much student input and feedback as our annual Winter White-Out. That was what we shared at the conference. Advisors talked to advisor peers, and students talked to leadership peers. We shared our vision of making school a place students want to come to everyday – where kindness and collective goals bring us all together. We shared what we felt our strengths are, and we observed everything that the other 400+ students and advisors in attendance talked about doing well. Out of that conference came a lot of the organization and structure that would build our recent White-Out Event.

A major takeaway from the event was that we as advisors should not be scared to release control to our student leadership team. In each of the large-group sessions, all 400+ students were in an event center that could have fit 1,000 more. There was music blasting from speakers placed throughout the room, and students either sat talking to friends or danced to the various beats. It was beautiful. Students leading students in song, dance, and positivity. When it was time for the next presentation to begin, adults remained removed from the action while student

leadership from CLSA led the show. Over the three day conference, there were several whole group sessions, but there were also many breakout sessions aimed at equipping students with ideas to increase student body morale and participation. In addition to student leaders hosting breakout sessions, the State Conference included three guest speakers. Each of the speakers shared stories that inspired, motivated or else connected to our students. One of those speakers, Lamarr Womble, had a significant impact. By the end of his presentation, our Student Council leadership team demanded that we bring him to Mount Morris. It was around this same time, a few hours into our first evening, that I realized the gamble had paid off – we branched out, four hours east, and we would return home with goods.

As a first-year Student Council advisor, the thing that impressed me most about

our Blue Devils at the State Conference was how quickly and confidently they made our school voice heard and observed. We danced. We hugged. We made new friends. Our President and Vice President, Lillian Bacon and Nick Torcello, presented on Winter White-Outs past during a huge roundtable session. Listening to Lillian and Nick share what they felt we do well at Mount Morris put a smile on my face and pride in my heart. Seeing the two of them and the rest of our leadership team (Gabbi Rowley, Carmen Cruz, Joelle Provino, Eladio Soto, Colin Brickwood and Jesse Bacon) simultaneously making an impact while being impacted made it an easy decision for me to do what the good folks at CLSA did: release control. This year's White-Out was a result of that release. I was around to advise when needed, but this year's event was a result of students taking leadership by the Blue Devil horns.

## Coaches vs. Cancer 2017

The annual Coaches vs. Cancer game was held on Saturday, January 21, 2017, as the Mount Morris boys' basketball teams hosted York for this annual event. All funds collected will be used to fund research through the local chapter of The American Cancer Society and benefit local families battling cancer. This year the t-shirt was designed by Joey McCart.



Photo Provided by Laura Hamilton

Each year the event grows to be more and more successful, and that is because of the amazing people in these two wonderful communities: Mount Morris and York.

Since its birth eight years ago, the annual Coaches vs. Cancer game has raised approximately \$44,659. Due to the significant amount of money that has been raised, Mount Morris has been recognized as a "signature school" for the Coaches vs. Cancer Foundation. York has been Mount Morris' annual opponent and has contributed greatly to this important cause. Money raised from this event goes directly to fighting cancer.

The Coaches vs. Cancer event organizers included Marcie Monegro, Darlene Ferraro, Donna Todd, Jesse Hamilton, and Laura Hamilton.

# College and Transition Process

In January, several Mount Morris graduates returned to their alma mater to discuss the process of choosing a college and then transitioning into it to current Mount Morris Seniors as they look at taking their next step – college visits.

Sarah Curran, Mount Morris Guidance Counselor, has been coming in to Omar Hussain's English classes to help students with their preparations for college.

Mount Morris High School Principal Becky Chenaille, asked a group of Mount Morris graduates that are currently enrolled in college to come back to Mount Morris and speak to Seniors about college dos and don'ts.



“The goal is to talk about the college process as well as the transition process,” said Chenaille. “Our next step is college visits.”

Mount Morris Central School is pleased to announce that it has been the recipient of the Community Schools Grant. This grant money will fund future college visits.

The alumni shared how important it is to choose the right college *for you*. While the price tag is a factor, it shouldn't be the deciding factor.

As the alumni spoke of the highlights and lowlights of their college experience thus far, seniors listened patiently and asked questions such as, what are your study methods, why did you change your major, and how are you going to pay for this?

One study method was agreed upon by the majority – don't memorize. Apply what you've learned.

“When I was transitioning into college, my biggest fear was keeping myself motivated. You have to know what you have to do and make yourself do it. No one is there to do it for you,” said Liam Gardner, 2016 Mount Morris graduate, currently attending SUNY Plattsburg with a major in Childhood Education.

“I chose SUNY Plattsburg because of all of the opportunities it affords to all majors,” said Gardner.

## Redefining Student Leadership

# Passion for Leadership

The chance of being born a human being is one in 400 trillion. Lamarr Womble, Motivational Speaker, Dream Director, and School Culture Expert led with this statistic during a motivational speech that he gave to Mount Morris Junior and Senior High Schoolers to kick off the 2017 Winter White Out event.

Womble explained that as a Dream Director, his goal is to build a school culture of bringing people together and being unified overall.

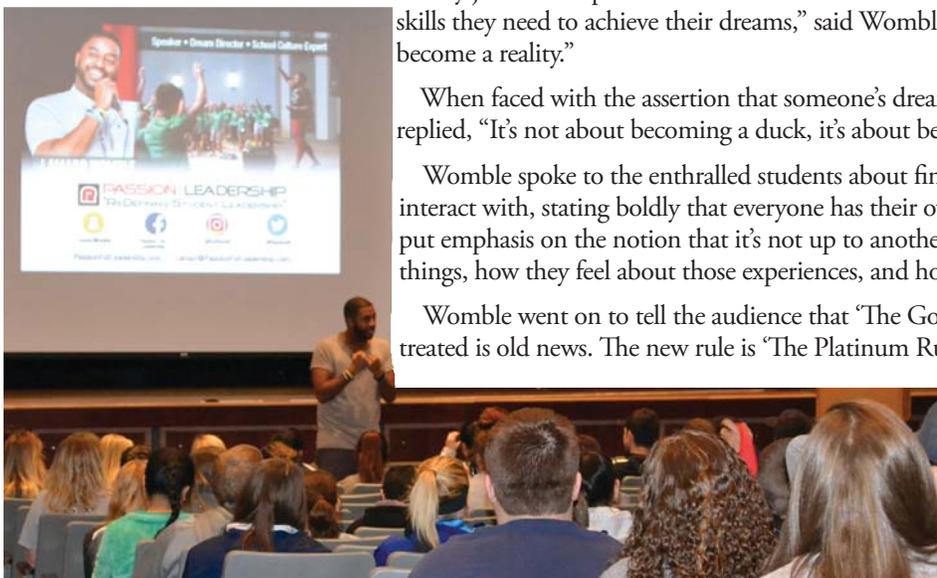
“My job is to help students build the mental skills they need and then help them build the tangible skills they need to achieve their dreams,” said Womble. “I build mindsets that allow a dream to become a reality.”

When faced with the assertion that someone's dream was to become a duck as a child, Womble replied, “It's not about becoming a duck, it's about believing that you can become a duck.”

Womble spoke to the enthralled students about finding common ground with everyone that they interact with, stating boldly that everyone has their own experiences and none are the same. Womble put emphasis on the notion that it's not up to another person to tell someone how they experience things, how they feel about those experiences, and how they show it to the world.

Womble went on to tell the audience that ‘The Golden Rule’ treat people how you would like to be treated is old news. The new rule is ‘The Platinum Rule,’ treat people how they want to be treated.

“You have a one in 400 trillion opportunity to be a human being, so love the people that love you and love the people that don't love you – that makes you a better person,” said Womble.



# Students Represent Mount Morris at All-County

**Back row:** Brandon Fleming, Grace Rowley, Gabbi Rowley, Carmen Cruz, Ian Lin, Joelle Provino; **3rd Row:** Emma VanGorder, Melania VanAernam, Leah Gebrig, Liz Young, Alyssa Cornelius; **2nd Row:** Hope Rowley, Shayla Brown, Chloe Mike, Matthew Hartigan, Emily Mike; **Front Row:** Anna Lin, Arianna Dent, Emelia Clester, Tyler Gaddy

Mount Morris Central School was well represented at the Genesee Valley School Music Association (GVSMA) All-County Festivals this winter.

Carl Irwin, MMCS Instrumental Music Teacher, and Stephanie Lasselle, MMCS Vocal Music Teacher, selected students based on their musical ability to perform with the elementary band and chorus, as well as the junior high band and chorus. Chorus students in grades 10-12 and Band students in grades 7-12 had to audition at the Solo Festival held at Warsaw Central School on January 14.

Leah Gebrig, Chloe Mike, Emily Mike, Tyler Gaddy, and Emma Van Gorder were selected to perform with the elementary band at All-County Festival 1 held at Keshequa/Nunda Central School on January 27-28.

Participating from the elementary chorus were: Emelia Clester, Cadence Stroud, Matthew Hartigan, Anna Lin, Rayshana Torres, Arianna Dent, Shayla Brown, and Melania VanAernam.

Students selected to participate in the Sr. High All County Band were: Monique Nichols, Grace Rowley, and Joelle Provino.



*by Jesse Hamilton, Mount Morris Athletic Director*

The Mount Morris Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held in January and celebrated its eleventh year. Created in 2006, the Mount Morris Blue Devils Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of outstanding athletes, coaches, administrators, and anyone who made a significant contribution to Blue Devil Athletics. The goal is to reconnect or maintain a relationship with inductees and their families with Mount Morris Central School. The Hall of Fame also looks to enhance the appreciation for the history of Blue Devil Athletics.



Alumni from all over the country come back for this special occasion.

## The 2017 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees:

- Debbie Chichester (Class of 2000)
- Coach David Mead
- Patrick Muscarella (Class of 1968)
- Jodi Steen (Class of 1995)
- \* Gordon Zangerle (Class of 1932)  
*accepted by Jake Zangerle*

*Photo Provided by Jesse Hamilton*

# 2017 Winter White Out



Mount Morris' Winter White Out celebrated its first year and the student input that occurred in 2017.

According to Chenaille, when the idea was born for the Winter White Out Homecoming in the fall, and the 7-12 school picnic in the spring.

"Academics are essential, but so is culture," said Chenaille.

The 2017 Winter White Out was a jam packed event. It was a day of fun, games, and activities. On this particular day, the common ground was winter.

Activities included athletic events such as kick ball, basketball, and Kan Jam, board games, and a scavenger hunt.

"This year was a very big deal to me," said Chenaille. The Student Council Leadership Team took complete control of the event.

In the fall the Mount Morris Student Leadership Team was speaking. According to Chenaille, the team immediately began planning for the Winter White Out.

"The goal with the Winter White Out was always to have a completely student voiced event."

The Winter White Out also allows teachers to connect with students. They may find ways to relate to one another.

"With the help of the Winter White Out, we are able to have a day of fun and activities."

# White Out



s third year in January. Three years ago when High School Principal, Becky Chenaille created this event, she never could have imagined the

n three years ago, people were hesitant about losing a day of instruction due to examinations that take place near that time. However with  
nic towards the end of the school year, the winter lacked in cultural interaction with the students.

Chenaille.

day of activities. The morning consisted of team building exercises with the goal of working on the culture of the school. Students were placed  
rse set of students from different grade levels. These teams were designed to show that students can find a common ground with everyone, and  
rinning the games your team was competing in.

ball, flicker ball, crazy ball, basketball, water polo, and indoor soccer. Also included were non athletic events such as Trivia Crack, Heads Up,

Chenaille. "In its infancy, the Winter White Out was coordinated by me with a small amount of input from the students. This year, the Student  
and coordinated this event from start to finish."

p Team, headed up by Lillian Bacon and Nick Torcello, attended a state conference for student leadership where Lamarr Womble was  
diately chose Womble to kick off the 2017 Winter White Out by giving a motivational speech to the student body.

ays to encourage student voice," said Chenaille. "I could not be more proud of Nick and Lillian for putting this event together. 2017 really is

ompete with and against their students. This competition helps build a different relationship between teacher and student in a way that they

re attempting to create a group of people that are one," said Chenaille.



# Mount Morris Central School

30 Bonadonna Avenue Mount Morris, New York 14510



**Rachael Greene**  
Elementary/Pupil Services Principal

Phone (585) 658-3331  
Fax (585) 658-4814  
Email [rgreene@mtmorriscsd.org](mailto:rgreene@mtmorriscsd.org)

*Dear Mount Morris Families,*

I feel so proud to say that Mount Morris Elementary School is a place that fosters student leadership. During the summer of 2014, teacher Shannon Drumma and I met to re-envision student leadership through a re-launch of the Mount Morris Elementary Student Council. Our goal was to promote a sense of pride for our students by engaging in service projects and student events for elementary-age students. We felt that it was important for our students to have a voice and that the student council should serve as a liaison between the student body and the school staff.

This year, the Mount Morris Elementary Student Council has 22 members, made up of students in grades 4-6. Members are selected through an application process. During the first few weeks of school teachers take time to discuss the mission of the Mount Morris Elementary Student Council with the students. Teachers introduce the application to students, which allows students to explain why he or she would like to be part of Mount Morris Elementary Student Council. The application also requires that students submit a recommendation from his or her current teacher. The applications are reviewed and discussed with a group of teachers and selections are made.

This year's student council members voted on the cabinet positions: President-Jack Lonsberry, Vice-President-Gabrielle Pagano, Secretary-Mia Valentin, and Treasurer-Aiden Stanley. The group has focused efforts on assisting with school events like Grandparent's Day, going caroling at Murray Hill, making cards for veterans, and showing appreciation for the Mount Morris Elementary teaching staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. The group will also be hosting Afterschool at the Movies and selling candy grams during the week of Valentine's Day. One new item on the agenda is to introduce an elementary spirit week.

The co-advisors, teachers Shannon Drumma and Kaeliegh Hendrickson shared that there are so many student leadership opportunities offered now that were not present in years past that some students have a hard time deciding what clubs they want to be a part of. I guess that is a great problem to have! Mount Morris Elementary School now offers opportunities like Odyssey of the Mind, Girls on the Run, and Page Turners. These organizations offer great experiences for students to work collaboratively and stretch their thinking.

This has been such great focus for our work here at Mount Morris Elementary School. Allowing students to explore clubs and activities where each and every student has a chance to shine...I couldn't be more proud!

*Dare to be Excellent, lil' Blue Devils!*

With Warm Regards,  
*Rachael Greene, Principal*

A Commitment to Excellence ~ A Tradition of Success

# Lego Robotics in the Library



Photos Provided by Rachael Greene



The Mount Morris Central School District has become one of the focus schools for a Learning Technologies Grant received by Genesee Valley Educational Partnership (GVEP) this past year. This grant has allowed GVEP School Library System to purchase many new technology resources for implementation throughout the region.

To initiate Mount Morris' involvement in this grant process, Ms. Patty Martire, with the assistance of SLS personnel, have been introducing fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students to Lego Robotics. Each class was introduced to the robots by working in groups to build "Milo the Science Rover" and learn about how science rovers can be used by scientists to learn about areas where it isn't possible for scientists to go, like Mars or the deep ocean. Students went on to learn how to program Milo to move forward and stop. Some students were even able to go beyond the basic programming commands and code Milo to make noises, change colors, or move forward and backward.

Ms. Martire plans to continue to work with the Lego WeDo robotics kits in these grade levels to further integrate this new technology into the science curriculum.



**A FREE Book in the Mail Each Month to Every Mount Morris Central School District Child Under 5!!**

The Mount Morris Parent Teacher Student Association (MMPTSA) has partnered with the *Imagination Library Program* to provide a FREE book in the mail each month to every MMCSD child under the age of 5.

Families may register by e-mailing the following information to [freebooks@mtmorriscsd.org](mailto:freebooks@mtmorriscsd.org).

- Parent(s) Name
- Child's Name and Gender
- Child's Birthdate (Month/Day/Year)
- Mailing Address
- Phone Number

New for  
2016-17  
School Year

## Parents:

All kids entering 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade must have the **meningococcal vaccine**.

**Without it, they can't start school.**

### About the Vaccine:

- It's not a new vaccine. It's been recommended for a decade.
- Most parents already choose to vaccinate their children.
- What's new is that the vaccine will be **required** for school entry as of Sept. 1, 2016.

### About Meningococcal Disease:

- It causes **bacterial meningitis** and other serious diseases.
- Teens and young adults are at greater risk.
- It comes on quickly and without warning.
- Its symptoms are similar to the flu.
- Every case of this disease can result in death or long-term disability.

**Check with your doctor. Even kids who have had a shot before may need a booster to start school.**

To learn more, visit [health.ny.gov/immunize](http://health.ny.gov/immunize)

**Immunization is Protection.**



# Mount Morris Celebrates 5 Years of P.R.I.D.E Awards

P.R.I.D.E. stands for Prepared, Respectful, Involved, Dependable, and Ethical, all characteristics of a Mount Morris Blue Devil.

Each month, Rachael Greene, Mount Morris Elementary School Principal, hosts the PreK-6 Pride Assembly. Throughout the month, teachers nominate students in their classrooms to receive Pride Awards based on characteristics they have shown throughout the month. The Pride Assembly is designed to introduce a new word for the next month, define what the word means, and celebrate the award winners. Students that win the Pride Award are given a certificate and a trophy.

The following are the winners of the Mount Morris Pride Award:

## September

### General Pride

- ★ Ceci Rivera
- ★ Jordan Manthey
- ★ Lillian Mallaber
- ★ Tyler Gilbride
- ★ Riley Hare
- ★ Vanessa Best
- ★ Ryan Forshee
- ★ Anelyz Baez Pizzaro
- ★ Rishi Patel
- ★ Eli Clester
- ★ Natalie Lopez Limbarido
- ★ Mason Merrill
- ★ Ben Casper
- ★ Edgard Gerena
- ★ Cooper Davis
- ★ Angelica Caceres Pou
- ★ Emelia Clester
- ★ Jasmine Follett
- ★ Isaac Sufi
- ★ Leah Gehrig

## October

### Ethical

- ★ Michael Congdon
- ★ Masen Browne
- ★ Scott Lonsberry
- ★ Chloe White
- ★ Peyton Tidd
- ★ Gianna LaPiana
- ★ Addyson Barnhardt
- ★ Anabelle Sanderson
- ★ Lyon Sparks
- ★ Saydi Henry
- ★ Damien Michaels
- ★ Tatyana Rodriguez
- ★ Dominic Lapiana
- ★ Alexis Roberts
- ★ Holly Lin
- ★ Emmaleigh Hunter
- ★ Emma Brickwood
- ★ Lance Warren
- ★ Taylor Freeman
- ★ Ethan Provino
- ★ Addison Coniglio

## November

### Respectful

- ★ Xavier Megliore
- ★ Anthony Tidd
- ★ Trinity Tidd
- ★ Avery Privitera
- ★ Cameron Zingaro
- ★ Owen Henry
- ★ Luis Diaz-Pena
- ★ Yariel Diaz
- ★ Quinn Whiteside
- ★ Shawntez Brown
- ★ Maia Forbes
- ★ Samantha Martin
- ★ William Perez
- ★ Abigail Provo
- ★ Morgan Luick
- ★ Jadyer Torres Ocasio
- ★ Sarina Johnson
- ★ Alysecia Young
- ★ Emma VanGorder
- ★ Melania VanAernam

## December

### Commitment

- ★ Victoria Ramirez
- ★ Carson Reifsteck
- ★ Teaghan Gilg
- ★ David Kelley
- ★ Paula Garcia Guadalupe
- ★ Anna Waldron
- ★ Donovan Zuhlke
- ★ Yeriel Diaz-Pena
- ★ Quinn Whiteside
- ★ Ethan VanAernam
- ★ Ben Canary
- ★ Estefania Quilo
- Ilascas
- ★ Morgan Fowler
- ★ Caleb Vazquez
- ★ Nathaneil Englert
- ★ Elena Barrios
- ★ Bryson Constantino
- ★ Nicaille Perez Silva
- ★ Chloe Mike

## January

### Perserverance

- Alex Rivera
- Madelyn O'Dell
- Madison Lewis
- Daryel Santaella
- Deanna Luckenbach
- Annabella Madera
- Yariel Diaz
- Dillan Hotchkiss
- Jeremiah Roberts
- Evan Mann
- Maya Kleisley
- Chantel Lopez
- Adiari Camacho
- BobbiJo Nuttall
- Ethan Martin
- Gadge Savastano
- Sean Rodriguez
- Corbin Gaddy
- Peter Martin
- Izaiah Martinez Serrant

## February's Word is Empathy

# Mount Morris Elementary 100 Book Challenge

Challenge accepted! Mount Morris Elementary students have been competing in the 100 Book Challenge since September. The goal is to have every student read for 30 minutes in school, and 30 minutes at home. Every 15 minutes read is one step. Every 100 steps is considered a milestone, and the student will receive a medal as well as a folder to keep track of their upcoming steps taken.

Mount Morris Elementary is proud to announce that since September, our Elementary Blue Devils have reached approximately 114,000 steps. That computes to 28,500 hours of reading!

*Mount Morris students that made the Top 10 Readers List include:*

- ★ 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kayleah Rodriguez
- ★ 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Denishka Valentin
- ★ 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Edgard Gerena
- ★ 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Elizabeth Moses
- ★ 5<sup>th</sup> Place: Izaiah Martinez-Serrant
- ★ 6<sup>th</sup> Place: Owen Henry
- ★ 7<sup>th</sup> Place: Saydi Henry
- ★ 8<sup>th</sup> Place: Eliza Lonsberry
- ★ 9<sup>th</sup> Place: Morgan Yencer
- ★ 10<sup>th</sup> Place: Anna Lin



*Photo Provided by Rachael Greene*

*Congratulations Blue Devils.  
Keep on reading!*

# Mount Morris Central School Kindergarten Registration 2017-18

## March 13-31, 2017: Initial Registration

If your child will be age 5 prior to December 1, he or she is eligible for kindergarten. Our initial kindergarten registration will be taking place from March 13-31, 2017. You can stop in to our office to pick up a registration packet, or you can call (585) 658-3331, option 4 and we will mail the registration packet to you. You can also download our registration packet from our website at [www.mtmorriscsd.org](http://www.mtmorriscsd.org).

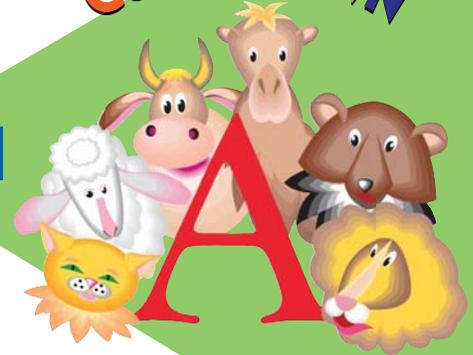
## April 4, 2017: Kindergarten Orientation

We will be having our kindergarten orientation on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the HS Library. This will be the time to turn in completed registration packets along with a copy of the child's birth certificate, immunization records, and any applicable documentation such as preschool records. You will also be able to sign your child up for a screening appointment.

## May 18-19, 2017: Kindergarten Screening

Please make your screening appointments at kindergarten orientation, or call (585) 658-3331, option 4, after April 4, 2017.

# KiNDeRGaRtEn CoUNTDowN



# PRE-K REGISTRATION

## Pre-K Registration 2017-18

It's time to register your child for one of the 18 available spots in next year's Prekindergarten classroom. The program is a full-day program for students that meet the age requirement. The school day is from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. during the 2017-2018 school year.

## January 2, 2017 – April 5, 2017: Registration

Visit our office at Mount Morris Central School for a registration packet. Students must be four years old by December 1, 2017 to be eligible for a Prekindergarten placement in the 2017-2018 school year. All completed registration packets must be turned in to Mrs. Howe in the front office or via email or mail prior to April 5, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. Packets can be emailed to [EHowe@mtmorris.csd.org](mailto:EHowe@mtmorris.csd.org) or mailed to 30 Bonnadonna Ave., Mt. Morris NY 14510.

## April 5, 2017: Lottery Selection

Be sure to complete a registration packet to be considered for the random lottery selection. There are spots open for 18 students. Because this is a random selection, all completed registration packets will be entered into the drawing. The random lottery selection will take place on April 5, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the High School Library.



## Elementary Student Council Brings Holiday Cheer to Murray Hill

In December, Mrs. Greene and Mrs. Keyser traveled with 20 members of the Mount Morris Elementary School Student Council to the Livingston County Skilled Nursing Facility at Murray Hill in Mount Morris for some holiday caroling. Student Council members created cards for the residents and offered songs and holiday cheer as they traveled through each neighborhood of the nursing home. Residents were overjoyed, and even tearful, as they listened to the young voices spread the true meaning of the season.

Many Student Council members had a chance to visit family and friends for a special holiday hug.



# MM STUDENT COUNCIL SPIRIT WEAR



PAGANO ASSOCIATES

 <p>Beanie \$10 Embroidered</p>	 <p>Hooded Jacket \$68 Embroidered</p>	 <p>Umbrella \$25</p>	 <p>Hooded Fleece \$36 Screen Printed</p>
 <p>Soft Shell: Men \$40 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Soft Shell: Ladies \$40 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Golf Shirt: Men \$16 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Golf Shirt: Ladies \$16 Screen Printed</p>
 <p>Baseball T: Men \$16 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Performance T: Men \$16 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Performance T: Ladies \$16 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>V-Neck T: Ladies \$10 Screen Printed</p>
 <p>Shorts: Men \$12 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Shorts: Ladies \$12 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Quarter Zip: Men \$40 Screen Printed</p>	 <p>Quarter Zip: Ladies \$40 Screen Printed</p>



**PAGANO ASSOCIATES**

To order contact:  
Pagano Associates  
98 Main Street Mt. Morris NY 14510  
585-658-1335  
sales@paganoassociate.com  
www.paganoassociate.com



# Mount Morris Central School



## Distinguished Alumni Nomination Form

The Mount Morris Central School District wishes to recognize some of our many distinguished alumni. We believe these distinguished alumni can serve as role models for today's students so they may have a better understanding of the power of learning.

The nomination form and any substantiating materials should be delivered, mailed or faxed to:

Mount Morris Central School District  
Attention: Sarah Williams  
30 Bonadonna Avenue  
Mount Morris, New York 14510  
Fax Number: (585) 658-4814

All nominees must have graduated from Mount Morris High School at least ten years prior to nomination. Selection criteria are outlined on the nomination form.

Nominations are due May 1<sup>st</sup> will be retained for consideration in future years. The Induction Ceremony is scheduled for the last Friday in September.

A selection committee, which includes representatives from the District and the community, will review all nominations and select the inductees. The inductees will be notified during the Summer and invited to attend the Induction Ceremony to be held on the last Friday in September.

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a description of the nominee's achievements since graduating from Mount Morris. These achievements may be included in one or more of the following areas. Additional sheets may be used.

- Community or Civic Involvement
- Job-related and Entrepreneurial Achievements
- Honors, Awards, and Affiliations
- Personal Achievements/Accomplishments
- Educational Achievements
- Other Additional Qualifications

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Nominations are due May 1<sup>st</sup>.**

# THE WIZARD OF OZ



This Spring, the Mount Morris Drama Club will be following the yellow brick road as they perform L. Frank Baum's "The Wizard of Oz."

NOTE: Actual play dates are different than those listed on district calendar

The Wizard of Oz  
MMCS Auditorium  
March 31 at 7pm & April 1 at 1pm and 7pm

*Dare to be Excellent!*

MOUNT MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL

**BOARD OF EDUCATION 2016-2017** David DiPasquale, President • Ann Hunt, Vice-President •  
Erinn Brickwood • Todd Fowler • Stephanie Gehrig • Peter Privitera • Thomas Young

**Administration** Gregory Bump, Superintendent • Dr. Rebekah Chenaille, 7-12 Principal • Rachael Greene, Elementary  
Principal • Mike Cox, Business Administrator • Leah Shea, Newsletter Editor