



Griffin Spotlight



BVCS Students learn HOPE

Boquet Valley Central School was ecstatic to welcome Sweethearts & Heroes to the Mountain View and Lake View campuses. Students began the day with a presentation from Founder Tom Murphy and HOPE Expert Rick Yarosh.

The presentation highlighted the importance of empathy and hope, and what happens to hopeless people. The dynamic presentation taught students about bullying and suicide, and how to spring into action when they see it happening.

The presentation focused

on the five Bully Buttons. One button was about perspective. Mountain View student, Trent, was brought to the stage to demonstrate this. He had to balance a pole on his two fingers for 10 seconds without dropping it, and he could win \$100. The catch was that he could only look at the bottom of the pole.

He dropped it after a few seconds. Then Murphy had Trent change his perspective to only looking at the top of the pole. Trent could've balanced it for days. This lesson was about how students need to change their

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Superintendent of Schools Message: Joshua R. Meyer

*Dear Parents, Students, and
Community Members,*

May is upon us and with that, the start of the end-of-the-year activities. Our students will be busy with a variety of activities, including band concerts, the National Honor Society induction and the NYS 3-8 Math exams. We also have our annual budget vote and Board member elections. Additionally, we look forward to honoring Memorial Day at the end of the month.



I am pleased to share that our district continues to focus on the whole student, and we were thrilled to welcome Sweethearts & Heroes to our campuses. Our students have also been busy with a variety of extracurricular activities, including sports, music and college visits. We are proud of the dedication and hard work our student-athletes have put into their sports and want to congratulate those who have received additional recognition.

As we move forward, we remain committed to providing our students with the best educational experience possible. We will keep you updated on our initiatives and projects. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a successful end to the school year.

Sincerely,
Joshua R. Meyer

Mountain View Top 5

Hamilton Field Trip

1. Our seventh-grade students had the opportunity to attend the Broadway tour of Hamilton at Proctors Theater and visit the miSci, a hands-on science museum in Schenectady. They finished the day with pizza!

Cool Tech

2. In the Technology classroom at BVCS, the Drawing and Design for Production class is learning 3D modeling in the Onshape CAD program. Students then 3D print their designs on the Makerbot 3D printer. Students are currently finishing up their puzzle cube project, where they had to design a 5-piece puzzle that assembles to form a cube.



Congratulations, Athletes!

3. BVCS is proud of all the hard work and dedication student-athletes do. Recently four students were awarded for being chosen as All Stars or All State players. Congratulations:

- Abbey Schwoebel: MVAC D-I MVP, NYSSWA Class D second team all all-state
- Ella Lobdell: MVAC D-I first team all-star, NYSSWA Class D

fourth team all-state

- Jackson Hooper: MVAC D-I first team all-star, NYSSWA Class D honorable mention all-state
- Ben Burdo: MVAC D-I honorable mention all star

New Drum Set

4. Students unpacked the new blue and gold BVCS Music Department drum set. Students will be playing this set when they go to their online lesson with Bob Halek, a Skidmore College professor. This is a collaboration set up through our educational partner, We are Instrumental, a non-profit



organization supporting Northern NY schools through instrument drives, enrichment activities, professional development and virtual lessons with Skidmore College.

All music students, faculty and the BVCS Superintendent of Schools are rocking the new drumset!

College Visit to Potsdam

5. College, Career, Military, oh my! Students in grades 9-12 had the opportunity to attend SUNY Potsdam Exploration Day on April 4. The students went on a tour of the campus and then were broken into groups to learn more about the different majors that SUNY Potsdam offers. The students enjoyed lunch in the Union Center before attending an afternoon workshop. They all had a great time.

Lake View Top 5



Upcoming Celebrations

1. Celebrations are coming. Be on the lookout for information from teachers regarding Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and 5th Grade celebrations.

State Testing

2. Our students completed their state assessments. Kudos to the entire school for the efforts and focus on the test, and to those not testing who were so well behaved and supportive.

Star Wars Music

3. Star Wars week (May the 4th be with you) coming to our

music classroom as Mrs. Mero will lead inspirational lessons using the famed theme.



Fluffy Friends

4. Kindergarten students visited the local SPCA, students had a great time and learned about the care of animals. Several of

our 5th grade students have taken on the opportunity to help the SPCA.

Spring Hatchings

5. First-grade students continue their opportunities with nature and will now be examining the hatching process of chicks in their classroom.



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perspectives on challenges in life to get through it.

Yarosh spoke about his time in Iraq and what it felt like to be hopeless. He experienced severe burns on his body, which changed his appearance and how he lived forever. But he was given hope from a young girl, and he decided to keep pushing. HOPE to Sweethearts & Heroes means "Hold On, Possibilities Exist."

"I see so many students every year, but the best part is knowing I am connecting with them and giving them hope through everything we do," Yarosh said.

The end of the presentation brought three students on stage for a Bully Drill. Sweethearts & Heroes believes that if we teach students how to do skills like math, then we should give students strategies and skills on how to stop bullying and be empathetic.

Throughout the rest of the school day, students

participated in Circles with Murphy and BRAVES Program Director Pat Fish. Circles are designed for listening, sharing and creating communities through security and shared vulnerability.

Students did an icebreaking activity, and then dove into answering questions. There are guidelines in Circle, so students can share as much or as little as they want. It was an opportunity for students to see what other people are going through in a safe environment.

It was an incredible and hands-on experience. We hope students learn from Sweethearts & Heroes, and they also become catalysts for positive change.



Lake View Principal Message: Daniel Parker

Please be sure to pay attention to information coming home as we have events planned for students across all grade levels, including celebrations for Pre-K, Kindergarten and 5th Grade. Our first-grade students will be observing our yearly hatching of chicken eggs. As we head into May, our students have been doing a great job of focusing on their academics and being supportive throughout our testing cycle. The turn in weather will also lead us to a number of field trip opportunities as we continue through the end of the year.



Mountain View Principal Message: Elaine Dixon-Cross

We understand the importance of well-rounded students, which is achieved through academic and extra-curricular involvement. Students are working hard at excelling their State Testing and should continue studying to succeed during Regents Exams. We want students to be their best! Each day we will continue to explore ways to improve our academic success, strengthen our Griffin pride and traditions, and create meaningful middle and high school memories. As a reminder, our teachers, counselors and administrative team are available to provide assistance.



Students Succeed Beyond Academics

It is hard to believe how quickly we ran through Session 5 and now here we are in May!

Students at both campuses have been busy striving to reach academic success by working with their teachers, planting violets, learning more strategies to improve their chess score, challenging themselves to make it around the track at the Westport Fairgrounds, and so much more.



Mountain View students learned all about local food and how to turn it into scrumptious snacks. Cornell Cooperative Extension, one of OASIS' partners, purchased local food from farms like Juniper Hill and Triple Green Jade Farm and then taught our students how to make pasta, mashed potatoes and sweet potato cookies, just to name a few.



A highlight from the Lake View consists of a lot of string and even more patience as students learned all about bracelets and how to make them. These students set goals, problem solved and taught others. Thank you to Mrs. Barber and Ms. Mero for their leadership!

