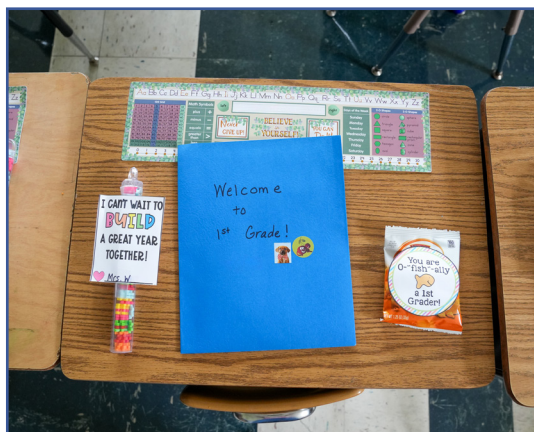




Griffin Spotlight

BVCS staff prepares for 2023-2024 school year

With the start of the new school year within reach, the faculty and staff at Boquet Valley become more and more excited to welcome students back to campus. While families and students have had time to rejuvenate over the last few months, BVCS has been anything but quiet.



Mountain View and Lake View Campus faculty and staff have been preparing the building and their curriculum for the 2023-24 academic year. There are freshly painted walls and waxed floors throughout certain parts of the buildings. The custodial staff have helped deep clean the buildings in preparation for the new school year.

Teachers and counselors decorated their classrooms and organized their materials. The overarching thing they are

looking forward to this school year is seeing the students come back.

"The best part of this job is getting to see and work with the students," Middle School Teacher Michelle Feely said. "Over the summer, I like to take time to reflect on how



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Superintendent of Schools Message: Joshua R. Meyer

*Dear Parents, Students, and
Community Members,*

The dawn of a new academic year is always filled with a mix of emotions - anticipation, excitement, and the hope of new beginnings.

As we open our doors to the 2023-24 school year, I'm filled with optimism about the journey that awaits us and the shared experiences we'll treasure.



First and foremost, it's my pleasure to introduce the new members of our dedicated team. We're thrilled to have Mr. Lee Kyler join us as the Principal of the Lake View Campus. Joining him is Ms. Megan Walls, who will serve as the Assistant Principal across both campuses. We've added several new faces this year, each bringing their own unique talents, passion, and dedication. You will see them featured individually on our social media pages. Please join me in giving them a warm BVCS welcome!

Our mission remains steadfast: to ensure each student is provided an education that maximizes their potential and positively affects their trajectory for success. To this end, we're thrilled to announce new district goals for 2023-24 that emphasize Academic Achievement, Employee Recruitment, and planning for the Future of our Facilities. We are also excited about

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Lake View Principal Message: Lee Kyler

I am both honored and humbled to introduce myself as the principal of the Lake View Campus for Boquet Valley Central School District. I want to express my genuine enthusiasm to work with the exceptional students, dedicated staff, and supportive parents and guardians that make up this incredible community.

As we prepare for this academic year, my foremost priority is to ensure that our students receive an exceptional education. I also firmly believe that a strong partnership between school, home, and community is crucial in achieving this goal. As we begin this new academic year, I want to share some of my key priorities and goals for Lake View Campus:

Collaboration and Communication: Open lines of communication between the school, parents, and the community are vital for our success. I encourage collaboration and seek your input, ideas, and feedback to create a strong partnership that promotes a well-rounded educational experience.

Cultivating a Culture of Respect and Kindness: I am committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive school environment, where all members of our community treat each other with kindness and empathy.

Academic Excellence: We will continue to strive for academic excellence, implementing innovative teaching practices, focusing on delivering high-quality instruction, and providing our teachers with the necessary resources and professional development to stay at the forefront of educational best practices.

I am genuinely excited about this journey ahead and eager to collaborate with you all to make the Lake View Campus an outstanding place for our students to learn and grow. Together, we can create a bright future for our children, instilling in them the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become responsible and compassionate citizens.



Mountain View Principal Message: Elaine Dixon-Cross

I am optimistic that you're relaxed, recharged and ready to begin another exciting school year. I have high hopes for a positive 2023-2024, with many educational milestones being met, and activities for students to participate in. I'm anticipating that this school year will be filled with increased academic rigor and exciting enrichment opportunities.

We will continue to participate in our OASIS programming, which extends our exciting enrichment and academic opportunities after school, on holidays and weekends. Our summer programming saw a tremendous increase in student participation, and we're excited for that trend to continue through the school year. The greater our participation numbers are throughout the school year, the more likely we are to be able to continue to offer these great programs for more years to come.

We will be offering monthly opportunities for families to participate in school initiatives and encourage you to be connected as we create and strengthen our partnerships and shared vision for our students, school and community. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at edixoncross@boquetvalleycsd.org or call (518) 873-6371.



Superintendent's Message continued...

our Outdoor Education Programming as well as our continued participation in the OASIS grant programming will provide invaluable opportunities and resources to our students.

This year will also see us intensify our community engagement initiatives. Ahead of our capital project vote in November, we're planning for engagement opportunities in September and October. Your insights, feedback, and active participation will be instrumental in shaping the future of our district facilities. As we embark on this new academic journey, let us remember that our strength lies in our unity.

Sincerely,
Joshua R. Meyer

Summer Programming provides new experiences, opportunities

As a new school year approaches, there are many exciting opportunities for students to take part in at Boquet Valley. However, these opportunities don't only happen during the school year. Over the summer, students who signed up for OASIS Summer Programming were able to continue expanding their skill sets. Over the course of six weeks, students were able to try new hobbies, meet friends and make memories.

"When students come here for programs, they can have positive experiences in a new environment while socializing with other students," OASIS Grant Coordinator Marcaill Miller said. "A lot of the activities students did this summer were STEM-related, and they went on field trips to places like the mountain coaster or Craig Gardens. They had a variety of experiences while being here this summer."

There was a lot of communication and coordination by Miller to have more than 20 programs this summer. She started reaching out to teachers in December 2022 to get a better understanding of the activities they wanted to lead. In January 2023, sign up forms went out.

This was Miller's first year overseeing the OASIS Grant. She said in the past the summer programming



had less than 20 students sign up, but this year there were roughly 80 students attending programs.

Each week hosted different programs for students to do, including crafts, soccer camp, archery, music and dance. Students in "Let's Get Crafty" had weekly themes of crafts to hone their artistic skills. One week was ocean themed. Pompom-shelled turtles and paper clip squid were the highlights for the students.

"Lego Stop Motion" explored the creativity and patience behind stop-motion videos. Students made movies with Legos, and at the end of the week, they had popcorn and juice while watching each other's work.

"Universal Ukulele" taught students how to play the ukulele in one week. They learned different chords and songs, and the week evolved to include two student drummers. At the end of the week, they performed for fellow students and family members. Some songs included, "We Will Rock You," "A Sky Full of Stars," and "Don't Worry Be Happy."

In "Capturing Moments," students worked on their photography skills. They learned how to take pictures with various cameras, what to capture in those photos, the differences between the types of photography such as portraits, action and landscape, how to edit photos and how settings,



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Summer Programming Continued...

like aperture and shutter, effect the moments they wanted to capture.

Soccer Camp was really popular amongst students. Students honed basic skills, learned new ones and amped up their game. They were dedicated to working hard and made significant improvements in just one week.



Another fun and collaborative week was for students to attend Morse Academy Irish Dance camp for a week. Griffins were bused to the camp in West Chazy, where



they were able to learn how to Irish Dance, make crafts, cross train and go swimming in Lake Champlain. On a hot day, campers walked next door to Happy Pike to cool down with some delicious ice cream.

"This summer was successful, but there are always areas to improve and grow," Miller said. "The teachers are amazing about finding solutions to the things that aren't working great, and they are always giving me feedback and trying to make the program better for the students."

Griffin Spotlight Continued...

the past year went and find new ways to improve learning for the kids."

Secretary Gwen Goff also shares in this excitement for seeing the students come back.

"I missed seeing the kids over the summer," echoed Goff. "They are so excited and eager to learn, and they truly make your day seeing them walking up and down the halls."

According to LVC Secretary Janelle Pulsifer, there have been several rooms changes for teachers and counselors to home, which will make a more natural flow for students. Counselors and School Support Services are also located in a new, centralized location for easy accessibility.

"Whether kids are having a great day or a rough day, I want my room to be a calm and comfortable place for them," LVC Counselor Shannon Baumann said. "I have brought in many intentional tools to help kids with different strategies to help them."

Baumann, new to BVCS staff, said her biggest



preparation for the new school year was getting her room comfortable. She painted the walls a calming blue, brought in plants and comfortable seating. There will be a small fish tank with a waterfall, so students can listen to the sounds of running water.

Boquet Valley is excited to welcome back former and new students, faculty and staff.

The 2023-24 School Year will be another opportunity for students to learn, make memories and accomplish goals with the support of BVCS staff.