

## Help for Pets

The seventh grade will be collecting donations for the Dutchess County SPCA from Feb. 21st – 24<sup>th</sup>. Students are invited to donate \$1 for the opportunity to bring in a stuffed animal from home to carry throughout the day on Friday, Feb. 24th.

Here are some of the items needed:

- \*all brands of canned dog and cat food
- \*used & new blankets, sheets & towels
- \*paper towels
- \*washable toy
- \*dog leashes & slip leashes
- \*collars



The seventh graders are just finishing up the Mathathon for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Students volunteered to complete nearly 300 math problems in a booklet or on a CD-ROM on their own time. Their parents checked their work and answers, totaling up the number of correct answers. At press time, students were working diligently to collect pledge money based on the number of correct answers they had, the benefits of this activity have been numerous. Students had an opportunity to review seventh grade math skills in a fun format. Students were able to hop other children across the country by collecting pledges and spreading the word about the hospital. In about four weeks, all participants will receive at least one prize such as a T-shirts, tickets to Six Flags, or a duffle bag. Thank you to all who helped these students support St. Jude's.

## Important Dates

- February 20—President's Day No School**
- March 10—12 High School Musical**
- March 13—PTA Meeting 6:30**
- March 15—High School Sports Awards 6:30 pm**
- March 24—Middle School Career Day**
- April 5—Science Night 6—9 pm**
- April 10—14 Spring Break**

# From The High School Principal

The holiday seasons flew by us and already we're into the 7<sup>th</sup> week of the new year. That's hard to believe! The warmer than normal January weather certainly has made old man winter's bite less severe. I know for many of us, these warm spells help make the winter months pass quickly. The January thaw is always tough on those skiers out there. And so it goes, the weather in New York is as variable as the winds. The winter Regents Exams came and went and we were lucky this year to have no snow days affect that testing schedule as happened last year. The spring semester is in full swing and it seems that the students and teachers alike are diving into the responsibilities of the new semester with added resolve, vigor and intensity. It won't be long before the geese start their return trip. The days are already getting noticeably longer and the crocuses have already started to peak through the once frozen ground. The signs of change are everywhere.

There are some changes happening within the halls at the High School too. We will be adding a Math Lab this semester with Mr. Harvey being available every day during 1<sup>st</sup> period and on A days during 3<sup>rd</sup> period. Mrs. Dinsmore will be available every day during second period and during 7<sup>th</sup> period on B days. Dr. Montero, who joined us earlier this year, will be available 5<sup>th</sup> period on A days and 8<sup>th</sup> period on B days. The teachers in the math department have worked out a schedule to offer additional support in all levels of High School Math and have created a schedule so that there is someone available after school every day Monday-Thursday as they work to provide as much support as they can for all of our students. Students should also be aware that there is a supervised study hall every day after school from 2:15-3:30 for those who would like to have a quiet place to get their work done. In the best interest of our students and in an effort to ensure success for everyone this study hall may become mandatory for those students who continue to have persistent academic difficulties. Also, most teachers are available after school at least one day during the week so I would encourage all of our students to take advantage of their time and expertise when they are here.

Please remember that our next report card pick-up night will be April 20, 2006. That doesn't mean that you can't call or stop by any time to check on your child's progress whenever you have the time or the interest. Teachers can also be reached via email by using their first initial from the first name followed by the next seven letters from their last name followed by @wsd.dcbooces.org. You may reach me at: [ksauer@wsd.dcbooces.org](mailto:ksauer@wsd.dcbooces.org) or by calling the High School Main Office at 373-4106.

As the winter sports seasons begin to wind down we have other activities gearing up. The musical, *OKLAHOMA* is currently scheduled to take place March 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> and the students and teachers involved in this great production have been hard at work rehearsing, making sets, and attending to every detail that is involved in producing a quality theatrical production. Mock court is in full swing and the spring sports participants are excitedly awaiting the beginning of March so they can dust off their gloves, cleats, or track shoes and take advantage of some of the best outdoor facilities and panoramic views found anywhere. Spring sports will start practice on March 6<sup>th</sup> for JV and Varsity and March 13<sup>th</sup> for Modified sports. If you haven't seen a High School athletic contest or play in a while then come on out and support our students. They work hard and we really appreciate it when people take the time to come and support them.

# From The Middle School Principal

1. **New Staff Members:** The middle school now has two new special education staff members Robyn Kendziera, and Kari Thomas. Mrs. Kendziera has been serving as a long-term substitute in the Arlington School District and currently lives in Poughquag, NY. Ms. Thomas is a graduate of Webutuck and currently lives in Amenia. Ms. Thomas has spent the past five years working at Maplebrook School in Amenia, NY. Please join me in welcoming them to EBMS.
  2. **Middle School Advisory Period:** The middle school is currently using the ten-minute advisory period to complete school wide math or English activities that support the EBMS building goals. These activities include current events, order of operation problems, and interpreting quotes. Each advisory group submits their answers to the MS office, where one lucky winner is drawn per grade level. The winners receive a gift certificate to the school store.
  3. **Middle School Athletics:** The EBMS modified boys' and girls' basketball teams have been very competitive this sporting season. The girls recently beat Marlboro and tied Highland. I have been impressed with the high level of sportsmanship displayed by both teams.
  4. **Middle School Clubs:** The middle school faculty and staff is currently in the process of exploring a number of clubs and opportunities for our students next year. If you have any thoughts or ideas please feel free to email me at: [srichard@wsd.dcbooces.org](mailto:srichard@wsd.dcbooces.org). This discussion has already led to the creation of two new clubs anticipated to begin this year. They include a cooking club supervised by Jason Thomas and a literary novel debate club supervised by Julia Heenan and Kari Thomas.
  5. **ELA Exams:** The middle school ELA exams were completed by grades 6-8 in January. The exams went off without a hitch. Everyone is eagerly awaiting the results. I would like to thank all of the parents that helped supply our students with breakfast items on test day. I would also like to thank Food Town and Hudson Valley Fresh for their donations.
- High Honor Roll:** We had a total of forty-two students make the High Honor Roll last semester. I would love to see this list continue to grow!

Scott Richards  
EBMS Principal

Successful people have learned to make themselves do the thing that has to be done when it has to be done, whether they like it or not. *Aldous Huxley*

Research is abundant that underscores the fact that students who are involved in supervised activities after school develop improved social skills and make better choices. Many students and latch key kids have expressed a desire for more opportunities to be with their peers after school. Living in a rural community provides us all with a challenge and unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our students. On February 21st at 2:15pm in the High School Library, we will come together to discuss where we as a community can go in developing after school activity clubs for our students. Your input is important and valued. If you have any suggestions but cannot attend this first meeting, please bring them to my attention at 373-4106 extension 15.



Thank you;  
Tom Marshall  
Dean of Students

## Building for Excellence Team NEWS

The BET is a committee of parents, staff, students and community members. This committee plays a crucial role in developing and implementing on going improvements to the school. All are welcomed. The High School BET meets on the first Monday of the month at 3:30. The BET goals for the 2005 -2006 school year are:

1. Increasing graduation rate

Eugene Brooks Middle School

2nd Marking Period  
January 2006

High Honor Roll

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Rachel Ackerman, Kaylyn Baillargeon, Katharine Boeding, Jeanne Boyd,  
Brian Christofel, Evan Clune, Shane Corcoran, Victoria Cullinan, Allison Flinn, Kyle  
Kelleher, Jesus Lopez Espinosa, Matthew Matteo, Meagan McCoy, Taigh Panzer, Jen-  
nifer Pelkey, Shayne Robert, Emanuel Rosales, Lauren Schultz, Danielle Stoetzner,  
Madelaine Trotter, Adam Wheeler

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Alyssa Biscoglio, Bridget Boyd, Tawney Hall, Elizabeth Johnson, Shane Lyle, William  
McCoy, Jessica McGarry, Gina Napolitano, Alura Penny, Gwendelynn Platt, Nicole Zill

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Katherine Afzal, James Boeding, Jamie Clinton, Alicia Flinn, Stephanie Murphy, Kara  
Panzer, Kelly Roussel, Kaitlin Ruppel, Kayla Russell

Honor Roll

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Cobi Adrian, Austin Casale, Shayn Clair, Alexandra Coffin, Caitlyn Coon,  
Brooke Dahoney, Andrew Giordano, Mark Hart, Marquis Hines, Ronald LeJeune, Tho-  
mas Nethercott, Arlene Rivera, Marissa Russo, Tyler Salmons, Amber Smith, Zackery  
Stramm

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Adam Alexander, Alyson Carpenter, Jenifer Dean, Joseph Frank, Aisha Hart, Amanda  
Havens, Justina Jordano, Adam Rebillard, Desiree Rivard, Andrew Schultz,

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Katherine Chamberlin, Carissa Dahoney, Adam Koskowski, Patrick McCaffrey, Richard  
Peck, Kaelan Reynolds, Kyle Zuluaga,

Merit Roll

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Victor Amarillas, Elias Andrade, Sybrina Angot, Breanna Battisti, Joseph Cestone,  
Cassandra Danna, Antonius Inge, Samantha Murphy, Justin O'Dell, Leslie Robertson,  
KC Sniffen

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Patrick Argentina, Emma Brinson, Benjamin Carroll, Gianna Murtagh, Richard Robin-  
son

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Jazmine Bennett, John Bergfels, Tasia Koski, Heather Miles, Brianna Seabury

# Northeast Community Center Happenings

## **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)**

The North East Community Center will provide tax preparation services by trained volunteers from January 24 until April 15, 2006 by appointment only. If you have an income of \$38,000 or below, you are eligible for this FREE service. Returns with rental or pension income, interest, or business owners can not be completed at this time. Call the NECC for more information and to schedule your appointment. Intake and bi-lingual volunteers are needed to assist with intake. 518-789-4259.

## **4H Outdoor Adventure Club**

The North East Community Center and the Cornell Cooperative Extension 4H program is launching its new Outdoor Adventure Club. Leaders and members are needed. Meetings are tentatively scheduled at the center for every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month beginning in February. Training provided can lead to licensing through the State of New York as a professional guide. Call Shonda at 518-789-4259 for more information and registrations forms.

## **HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!**

Ever dream of visiting Brazil, Thailand, Germany, France, Korea, Ecuador, or other far away lands? Why not start your trip from your own home? Webutuck High School and the North East Community Center invite local families to *travel* to far off places and share our beautiful country by hosting a young person from another country for the 2006-07 school year.

Shonda Sheppard, Director of Children's Programs with the North East Community Center, is currently interviewing local families to host teenagers from dozens of different countries who hope to spend 10 months living and studying in the Millerton/Amenia area.

A host family provides a bed, a place to study, an extra place at the table, and a warm, supportive environment. Students are between 15 and 18 years old, come with medical insurance, personal spending money, and basic English. Private rooms are not required and all types of families are welcomed, including single parents, young couples, and retirees. Contact Shonda at 518-789-4259 or [ShondaNECC@taconic.net](mailto:ShondaNECC@taconic.net) for more information as students are arriving in August!

# 7th Grade News

While studying genetics, Mrs. Gillette's 7<sup>th</sup> grade class learned about the classic rivalry in the history of genetics between physicist Max DelBruck, and biologist George W. Beadle. In 1958, Beadle was awarded a Nobel Prize. At the very moment Beadle was to receive his award, he received a ladder-like model of toothpicks constructed by none other than Del-Bruck. DelBruck used four different color toothpicks to represent each of the four nitrogen bases. He then assigned a different sequence of three to represent each letter of the alphabet. Along with the model came a note stating "if you can't decode this ladder then get off the stage." So at that very moment, Beadle decoded the message now known as the 'Riddle of Life'. The riddle states, "I am the riddle of life. Know me and you will know yourself."

One of the science students was quite intrigued by this story. Our school's very own Alura Penny created a model of her own. It is nine feet long, and made out of 138 colored Popsicle sticks. Alura states that she enjoyed doing this project and we enjoyed having her do it. If you would like to see this colorful model, it resides in Mrs. Gillette's 7<sup>th</sup> grade science class.

Written by: William McCoy

## Help Your Child Succeed

**Use rewards and consequences to encourage change.** Rewards are most effective when you want to encourage a change in attendance, effort, or behavior. A reward for improved effort, or for a specific achievement, can be very motivating. Of course, for most children, a parent's approval is still the best reward. Make it a point to recognize effort and to acknowledge each academic success, even if it's just a good grad on a quiz.

Students need to understand that, in life, there are consequences for poor performances and behavioral. Because logical consequences make more sense, and they are more effective, try to make consequences logical whenever possible. For example, a logical consequence for routinely being late to school is a revised nighttime schedule (e.g., no TV, computer or phone calls after 9:30). Never take away a positive activity (sports, school plays, music lessons, scouting, etc.) as a consequence.

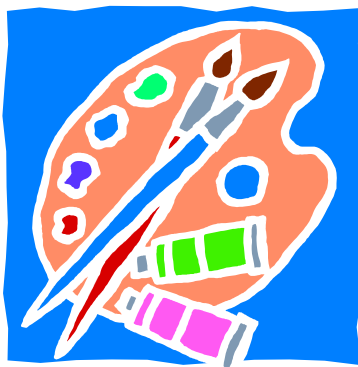
**Attend all parent programs.** When you attend an orientation, open house, or report card pick up, you learn important information about your child's school: you also show your child that you are interested in his/her academic progress.

**Listen.** Talk to your child about what's happening in school and be a good listener. Listen, not only to the words your child uses, but also pay attention to your child's body language, attitude, and mood. Parents who find it difficult to talk to their teenagers often find that it's easier to talk when they're doing something else, like cooking, watching sports, shopping, or taking a walk. Driving in a car is also a good time to talk. You have a captive audience, and being in a car takes away the need for eye contact.

*"High School Parent Guidebook, Woodburn Press"*

## Webtuck Graduate has Art Show

Christopher Bjorn Michaud, who graduated from Webtuck in 1999 is having an art show at The North Pointe Cultural Arts Center in Kinderhook, NY from February 12—March 18, 2006. The opening reception will be on Friday, February 17 from 5:30—7:30 pm.



Webutuck High School  
4<sup>th</sup> Marking Period January 2006  
High Honor Roll

9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Kayla Caldarelli, Katelyn Cullinan, Matthew Kravchuk, Keely McCaffrey, Luis Pajuelo, Camille Roccanova, Michael Schneider, Lauren Trotter

10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Elizabeth Agustin, Beatriz Aldana, Maureen Boyd, Gavin Carroll, Jason Clinton, Jennyrose Eastwood, Jamie Farese, Noemi Fernandez, Shannon Garvin, Justin Giordano, Amber Hall, Tara Howard, Terran Mace, Christopher Matteo, Lizett Pajuelo, Vikie Reiske, Michael Reynolds, Meghan Schneider, Jonathan Schultz, Kaitlyn Schultz, Dustin Smith

11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Eliyah Afzal, Kristi Fisher, Brianna Keasbey, Bryan Klippel, Kristin McClune, Jessica McCoy, John Midwood, Charles Porteus, Kiera Rosa, Diana Torres

12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Joffre Andrade, Ashley Bennett, Laura Coon, George Fernandez, Alyson Finelli, Chelsi Ann Flood, Alana Garvin, Brian Hoffman, Emiliana Kim, Caitlin McCaffrey, Brian Merritt, Michael Ruppel

Honor Roll

9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Allyson Gregory, Leigh Keefer, Jaime Laliberte, Jesus Mendoza, Andrew Watson

10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Courtney Collier, Stacy Decker, Mark Funk, Cortland James III, Autumn Killmer, Abigail Murphy, Betsy Murphy, Faithann Pfeifer, Marco Reyes, Colleen Trainor, Kayla Zuluaga

11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Andrew Durant, Hope Duval, Brittany Goddard, Alexander Kravchuk, Elaina Krebbers, Luke Laliberte, Colin Lyle, Siobhan Rooney, Ashley Sniffen, Mary Weinstein

12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Christen Bowies, Susan Boyd, Michael Brinson, Amanda Cade, Ashlee Martin, Steven Scott, Helena Short, Mitchell Trainor

Merit Roll

9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Marlene Aldana, Rachel Alonso, Janine Cawley, Kyle Finelli, Joan Herald, Patrick Ivain, Rhea Jensen, Richard Katan, Connor Lynch, Laura McClune, Keven McGarry, Michael Moore, Andrew Rebillard, Jessica Rinaldi

10<sup>th</sup> Grade

Jonathan Brinson, Cary Farrar, Joseph Kulikowski, Brittney Lamere, Alex Price, Bethany Rogers

11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Stephen Bradley, Nicole Ducillo, Adam Grey, Courtney Herman, Lori Keeler, Pamela Miller, Christopher Porteus, Maxwell Powell, Alex Reda, Alyssa Smith, Kelsey Stahovec, Alan Veach, Lawrence Watson, Amanda Zuluaga

12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Melissa Caul, Kyle Evanko, Kaitlin Gregory, Marie Herow, Thomas Hudock-Armstrong, Jaclyn McGhee, Ashley Sherman, Luke Smith, Marc Smith

## CLOTHING CLOSET

So you are thinking, everyone has a clothes closet right? However, everyone who performs in the music program does not always have access to the black dress pants or the white shirt that they need. So we've started a clothes closet for the music program for both the middle and high school.

If you, or anyone you know has a shirt, a pair of pants, a tie, a pair of shoes that you could donate - please contact us. If you have a child in the show and you have a need - please contact us! The fact is that as fast as the growth spurts come - and as much as these 'dress clothes' are used it is just silly not to utilize our resources - EACH OTHER!

You can contact Paula Jackson at 373-7867 or at [PJTAYR18@AOL.COM](mailto:PJTAYR18@AOL.COM) (<mailto:PJTAYLOR18@AOL.COM>), or you can contact Mr. Hahn in the music department for more information. Requests can be sent for clothes, and donations of clothes can be arranged by contacting us.

Our goal is to help every child have pride in their performance, to allow them the opportunity to feel confident and prepared when they get on stage.

It's important to know that four great girls from the high school chorus are helping to put the closet into motion! So please pass the word!

Dress pants, ties, dress shirts, black shoes, skirts - any type of clothing worn on stage in concert performance is collected - so next time your cleaning that closet please remember ours!

Donations can be sent with your child to school, or you can contact the number above. Laundry service will be taken care of on donation—if you are willing to give it—WE are willing to clean it!!

Thank you for your support.





## News from the Sixth Grade

During the fall semester, the sixth grade team has had the pleasure of working with our student teacher, Ms. Holder. She came to us from SUNY New Paltz and received her degree in elementary education on December 17, 2005. She was an Honor Chord recipient and proved to be a tremendous asset to the sixth grade team. We gave her a festive send-off with a memory book created by the students. We certainly wish her the best!

As you all know by now, our second addition came from the high school. Dr. Montero comes over to the middle school to help us with our math program. He has taken over the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-Algebra program and thus enabled the staff to reduce our 6<sup>th</sup> grade math class sizes from 24 to 17 and provide more of an individual instructional plan.

The middle school conducted a food and supplies drive to help needy families in our area. Students and staff brought in items that were taken to Astor Head Start in Millerton where they were given to families on an as needed basis.

The sixth grade also held their annual Fall Fundraiser. This fundraiser is used to support activities in the sixth grade and to add to their class account. Any unused funds will travel with them as they continue through the middle school.

ELA classes explored poetry in the fall. Students worked on the “Construction of a Poem”. This process included several steps and the results seen were wonderful! We have some very talented poets among us!

Currently, all ELA classes are reading Beowulf and doing a follow-up activity called Beowulf in Pictures. This supports Ms. Brizzie’s Social Studies classes in their adventure into the Renaissance.

The Social Studies Classes completed a journal project as they studied the Roman Empire. Each student chose a “role” in Roman society with a specific job and social class. As the students learned about different components of daily life, they wrote journals that looked at Rome through their “eyes”. The students were excited to share their “stories” and their writing. Social Studies classes are studying the Renaissance.

Science classes completed their study of Space Science and are learning about the forces that affect the earth. We will use this to explore why the earth itself can be so violent. Currently, Science classes are studying volcanoes, rocks and minerals.

# 6th Grade News

## Holiday Breakfast

On December 22, 2005, the sixth grade hosted a breakfast for the students and their parents/guardians. Thanks to the help of our Food Services Manager Jason Thomas, the menu included bacon, sausages, eggs, french toast sticks with syrup, milk and juice. The sixth grade staff, along with Mr. Merendino, arrived bright and early to cook for our guests. Everyone in attendance seemed to thoroughly enjoy the morning!

## Medieval Times

On Thursday, January 26, the entire sixth grade took their annual field trip to Medieval Times. This theatre experience closely follows our Social Studies curriculum and portrays a part of life that existed during the Middle Ages. Students had the chance to cheer for their knight, boo at the others, eat with their hands, and, for a short time, live as a member of the society of the time. Everyone had a great time. Our students were very well behaved and very enthusiastic about the activity. They have been looking forward to this trip since the fall. They even helped raise some of the costs through our fall fundraiser. It is

# OKLAHOMA

Friday, March 10, 2006	8:00 pm
Saturday March 11, 2006	8:00 pm
Sunday March 12, 2006	2:00 pm

Tickets: Adults—\$ 10.00  
Students—\$ 8.00

in the Webutuck High School Auditorium.

# Teen Driving

The next teen driving program will be held at the Webutuck High School on Wednesday, May 24, 2006 from 6:00—8:00 pm. All students who plan on driving to school during the 2006-2007 school year are required to participate in the teen driving program. This program is sponsored by the Dutchess County Council on Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency. Both the student and his/her parents must attend. Please call the high school office at 373-4106 to make a reservation.

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