



# The Bagpiper

## Argyle Central School Newsletter

December 2023/January 2024 Issue

### Argyle Central School District Announces DAR Good Citizens Recipient



Argyle Central School proudly announces that senior Brandon Saunders has been selected for the 2023 DAR Good Citizen Award. He was nominated by the faculty at Argyle Central School and voted by his fellow class members as best exemplifying the characteristics of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. He is the son of Shannon Riley and Rodney Saunders.

Brandon is very active in school and has participated in a variety of extracurricular activities including: basketball, baseball, and student council. He is president of the senior class and is a volunteer with youth sports.

Argyle Central School takes great pride in selecting a young man of Brandon's caliber for such a prestigious award.

### Superintendent's Message

Dear Argyle Community Members:

December is here which means that the school is full of excitement with the holidays right around the corner. With the onset of the holiday season, the school calendar will be very busy over the next several weeks leading up to break. We had two wonderful winter concerts, both at the elementary and secondary during the week of December 11th. Along with the concerts, the winter sports season has started which means there will be numerous basketball games taking place throughout the month and for the next several months. The Grades 5-8 Drama Club will be performing North Pole's Got Talent on December 20th for the community and families at 6:30pm. Practices for the spring musical have already started for their show, High School Musical. I look forward to watching both our secondary and elementary students perform in this show. In addition, we will have a Spirit Week planned for the week before break. Thank you to our Student Council for planning this. These types of events help brighten the school day for our student body and make this special time of the year a little more special.

I would like to take a moment to congratulate our fall athletes on their successful seasons. I would also like to acknowledge our fall athletes in the following areas:

- Fall Scholar Athletic Teams: Soccer and Volleyball
- Fall Adirondack League All Stars:

#### **Volleyball**

1st Team—Raegan Humiston

(Raegan also made 5th Team All State Class D team)

2nd Team—Rebecca Campbell

#### **Soccer**

1st Team—Dru Austin and Ben Cuthbert

2nd Team—Shea Squires

#### **Cross Country**

1st Team—Carlie Depew

2nd Team—Jake Durkee and Erica Siaulnski

In closing, have a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

*James Bennefield*

## Junior/Senior High Principal's Message

On December 4th and 5th, 155 students in Grades 7-12 were honored with a special breakfast in the cafeteria for their outstanding academic achievement.

Students were recognized for being named to the honor roll, high honor roll, scholar athlete for fall season, and student of the quarter by academic departments.



- Honor Roll for the first quarter is an overall average of 85% to 89.9%.
- High Honor Roll for the first quarter is an overall average of 90% or higher.
- Student of the Quarter teacher recommendation based on student performance in the class.
- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete is a student athlete with an overall average of 90% or higher.

Congratulations to all of these students. All students received a certificate and were encouraged to continue their academic effort for the remainder of the school year.

As the calendar year winds down, I am excited to see the achievements of our students in the year ahead. Our entire staff and students have performed exceptionally well this year. For those students who haven't performed up to your expectations, there still is time. I encourage everyone to take advantage of all the opportunities this great school district has to offer. Please reach out to your teacher for some extra help. Set a goal to take advantage of period 9 which is designed for the primary purpose of helping students who need just a little more guidance and support in order to reach their full potential.

Finally, on behalf of the Argyle 7-12 faculty and staff, thank you for all that you do to support the school environment. The partnership between the community, parents, and staff is essential to building continued success for our school district. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our staff or me directly with any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

*John Galarneau*

Junior/Senior High School Principal

## Class of 2027 Sells Poinsettias



*Pictured above (l-r): Ryan Siaulnski, Adam McDougall, Landon Buck, and Noah Reid*

We are thrilled to announce the success of our recent Poinsettia sales fundraiser for the Class of 2027! Thanks to the incredible support and enthusiasm from our school community, the fundraiser was a resounding success, exceeding our expectations.

The beautiful and vibrant poinsettias were a hit, and we are grateful to everyone who purchased these festive plants. Your generosity and participation have contributed to the success of this fundraiser, and we are truly thankful for your support.

A special shout out to our top salespersons: Sofia Kafula, Lacy Kingsley, and Noah Reid. This fundraiser wouldn't have been possible without our class officers: Noah Reid, Landon Buck, Adam McDougall, and Ryan Siaulnski organizing it.

Once again, thank you to everyone who participated in the Poinsettia sales fundraiser. Your support has made a positive impact, and we look forward to the continued success of future fundraising endeavors.

## Elementary Principal's Message

Dear ACS Families:

I hope you enjoy a peaceful holiday break with your families. December is such a busy time here at school. We were excited to be able to celebrate the season with many special events this year. A huge thank you to our music teachers for putting together two wonderful holiday concerts. Hearing our students sing and play their instruments was a great way to celebrate the season. A special thank you to Mrs. Christy and our Drama Club for creating some holiday fun this year.

I can't believe 2024 is right around the corner! As we ring in the new year, our elementary teachers and staff begin reflecting on the goals we have set for our students and work to provide opportunities to further their growth. Working together with our families plays a crucial role in helping our students succeed. Having good school attendance, reviewing learned concepts at home, and keeping in contact with your child's teacher are just a few examples of how parents can help ensure school success.

Below is some information you may find helpful:

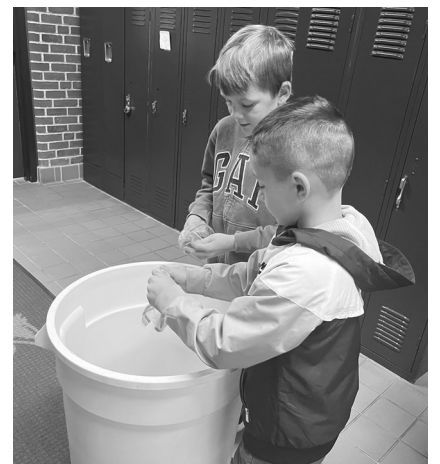
- *Report Cards:* Our first trimester report cards went home in early December. If you have any questions regarding your child's progress, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.
- *Benchmark Winter Testing:* During the month of January our teachers begin assessing our students' growth by administering the iReady benchmark diagnostic. This testing helps us evaluate your child's growth in the areas of reading and math. We will share the results of this testing with our parents at the end of January. Please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have regarding these assessments.
- *NYS 3-8 Testing:* In the spring our students in grades 3-8 will be taking the New York State ELA and Math Assessments. During the month of January, our students will participate in a computer based simulation of those tests. More information to come.
- *Reminder ...Looking for lost items:* Our Lost & Found bin is overflowing! Please take a few minutes to look through items when you come into school and claim anything that belongs to your student.
- *Recess reminder:* We try our best to take the students outside for recess. As the weather gets colder, remember to bring your coats, hats, mittens, and boots.
- *School Supplies:* We always have a closet full of donated supplies. Please let us know if your child needs anything to help support their learning.

Happy New Year!

*Dawn Wood*

Elementary Principal

## Operation Santa Claus Pool Your Pennies



# Big Brothers Big Sisters School-Based Mentoring Program 2023-2024

*Jennifer Barber, Advisor*

Our Big Brothers Big Sisters School (BBBS) Based Mentoring Program has entered its 19th year at Argyle!

This year we are excited to have several new Bigs! There are 8 freshmen and 4 seniors participating for the 2023-2024 school year. Madison Eldred, Raegan Humiston, and Erica Siaulnski have returned for their second year in the program as well as a new Big, senior Tateeanna Barker-Pinkerton. Freshman volunteers include Sofia Kafula, Grayson McEvoy, Natalie Dickinson, Rebecca Helm, Adam McDougall, Kaylanah Morehouse, Taylor Bridger, and Zoe Smith. Each of the high school volunteers is matched with an elementary student, typically in grades 4, 5, 6.



Bigs commit a tremendous amount of time and energy to this program. Last year, students met together almost every Monday between November and June. This was a total of 17 Mondays or 680 minutes.

Studies have shown that mentoring can impact many areas in a young person’s life. This may include healthier relationships and improved self-confidence. Lifestyle choices can result in less likelihood to use drugs, abuse alcohol or commit crimes. Mentoring can improve success in school that may lead to opportunities such as higher education.

**NORTH POLE'S  
GOT  
TALENT!**

By  
Lavinia  
Roberts



## Holiday Fun at ACS

**December 20, 2023 Showtime is at 6:30pm  
ACS Fishbowl & Cafetorium**

**The ACS Drama Club invites families for holiday games  
before the show beginning at 5:45.**

**Tickets are \$3 per person or \$10 for a Family of 4  
Come get in the holiday spirit with holiday games, treats,  
and a “pun” filled show**

**You don't want to miss it!**



**Body Mass Index (BMI) Survey for  
Grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 & 12**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As part of a required school health examination, a student is weighed, and his/her height is measured. These numbers are used to figure out the student's body mass index or "BMI." The BMI helps the doctor or nurse know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Recent changes to New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student's school health examination. A sample of school districts will be selected to take part in a survey by the New York State Department of Health. If our school is selected to be part of the survey, we will be reporting to New York State Department of Health information about our students' weight status groups. Only summary information is sent. No names and no information about individual students are sent. However, you may choose to have your child's information excluded from this survey report.

The information sent to the New York State Department of Health will help health officials develop programs that make it easier for children to be healthier.

If you **DO NOT** wish to have your child's weight status group information included as part of the Health Department's survey this year, please print and sign your name below and return this form to me by January 22, 2024.

Sincerely,

Lori Keith, RN



Please **DO NOT** include by child's weight status information in the 2023-2024 school survey.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Child's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Parent's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

**Argyle Central School  
5023 State Route 40, Argyle, NY 12809**

# Pesticide State Requirements

Dear Parent, Guardian, and School Staff:

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Argyle Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- Anti-microbial products;
- Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CRF152.25;
- The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete the form below and return it to James Bennefield, Superintendent of Schools, Argyle School District pesticide representative at 5023 State Route 40, Argyle, NY 12809—Phone (518) 638-8243, ext. 504, Fax (518) 638-6373.

### Argyle Central School District Request for Pesticide Application Notification

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to contact James Bennefield, Superintendent of Schools, Argyle Central School District pesticide representative at 5023 State Route 40, Argyle, NY 12809—Phone (518) 638-8243, ext. 504, Fax (518) 638-6373 or (e-mail address: [bennefield\\_j@argylecsd.org](mailto:bennefield_j@argylecsd.org)) for further information on these requirements.

# Asbestos

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1987 (40 CFR Part 763) all school employees, parents/guardians, and all building occupants are hereby notified that the Argyle Central School Asbestos Management Plan is available to the public for review Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Under the AHERA Regulation, the school district is required to reinspect all facilities which contain asbestos materials once every three (3) years. Moreover, periodic surveillances are conducted by our Building and Grounds personnel on a regular basis.





**Argyle Central School**  
5023 State Route 40  
Argyle, New York 12809

**Board of Education Members**  
Pamela Ellis, *President*  
Travis Dessaint, *Vice President*  
Thomas Genovese  
David Holck  
Rodney Saunders

## Postal Patron or Current Resident

Carrier Route Pres.  
Non-Profit Organization  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**Permit #3**  
Argyle, New York 12809

# Sports Schedule

### **VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL**

December 20 Away at Hartford 7:00  
December 27 Away at Salem 4:30  
December 30 Home vs. Notre-Dame Bishop Gibbons 2:00  
January 5 Away at Lake George 7:00  
January 10 Home vs. King's School 6:00  
January 12 Home vs. Warrensburg 6:00  
January 19 Home vs. Granville 6:00  
January 22 Away at Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons 6:00  
January 26 Home vs. Luzerne 6:00  
January 31 Away at Whitehall 7:00  
February 2 Home vs. North Warren 6:00

### **JV/VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL**

December 19 Home vs. Hartford 5:30  
December 21 Away at Berlin 5:00  
December 30 Home vs. Loudonville Christian 12:00  
(Varsity)  
January 3 Away at Hawthorne Valley 6:30 (Varsity)  
January 5 Home vs. Lake George 6:00  
January 9 Away at Fort Edward 5:30  
January 12 Away at Warrensburg 5:30  
January 16 Away at Hartford 5:30  
January 19 Away at Granville 5:30  
January 22 Home vs. Salem 5:30  
January 24 Home vs. Berlin 4:30  
January 26 Away at Luzerne 5:30  
January 30 Home vs. Whitehall 5:30  
February 2 Away at North Warren 5:30

### **BOWLING— Home Games at Broadway Lanes**

December 18 Away vs. Luzerne 4:00  
December 21 Home vs. Whitehall 4:00  
December 27 Tournament  
January 3 Home vs. Luzerne 4:00  
January 4 Home vs. Lake George 4:00  
January 9 Away vs. Granville 4:00  
January 18 Home vs. Granville 4:00

### **MODIFIED BASKETBALL**

**(Girls at 5:30 & Boys at 6:45)**

December 18 Home vs. Lake George  
January 4 Away at Fort Edward  
January 8 Away at Warrensburg  
January 11 Away at Granville  
January 16 Home vs. Hartford 5:30  
January 18 Away at Luzerne  
January 25 Away at North Warren  
January 29 Away at Fort Ann  
February 1 Away at Whitehall  
February 5 Home vs. Granville  
February 7 Home vs. Whitehall

### **ACS INDOOR WALKING PROGRAM**

Adult district residents may use the building to walk November–April. There will be designated hours before and after school when participants may walk the hallways of the schools.

### **COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTER**

The Fitness Center at Argyle Central School is open to residents of the district age 13 and up. No one under the age of 15 is permitted to use the fitness center without his/her parent/guardian present at all times.

Fitness Center days and hours are Monday–Thursday 5-8 pm when school is in session.

Participants for the Indoor Walking Program and the Community Fitness Center may register in the Main Office to receive an electronic swipe card. Forms can also be found on our website at :

[www.argylecsd.org](http://www.argylecsd.org)