

# HARTFORD

## CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

As we reach the midpoint of the school year, it is the perfect time to reflect on the progress we have made as a District and to look ahead with anticipation to what is to come. This mid-year update is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and collaboration that define our District.

#### A Fresh Start for the New School Year

On Tuesday, September 3, 2024, the District held its annual Superintendent's Conference Day to finalize preparations for the 2024-2025 school year. This event, which marks the beginning of our school year, brought the Board of Education, District Administration, and faculty and staff together to set the stage for what lies ahead. As part of this day, I shared a "Welcome Back" message outlining my goals for the District and a vision for the year.

This year, I introduced the concept of the Fresh Start Effect, a powerful psychological phenomenon that can significantly impact how we approach learning and growth. The Fresh Start Effect refers to the heightened motivation and increased focus that people often experience at the start of a new time period, such as the beginning of a school year, a new semester, or after a break. This effect creates an opportune moment for students to set new goals, take on challenges, and re-engage with their studies with renewed energy and determination.

By understanding the Fresh Start Effect, we can better support students during key transitional periods in the school year. These moments might

include the start of a new grading period, the return from a school break, or the shift between academic units. Creating these moments of renewal can inspire students to reset their mindset, reflect on their achievements, and set meaningful goals that foster motivation and persistence.

The Fresh Start Effect can be particularly transformative when aligned with classroom practices and school-wide initiatives. Teachers and school staff can incorporate goal-setting activities, reflection exercises, and discussions that emphasize the opportunity to begin anew. Encouraging students to view each new term as a fresh start can inspire them to take control of their learning, stay resilient when facing challenges, and maintain a positive outlook throughout the year.

Dr. Katy Milkman, a leading researcher in behavioral science and author of *How to Change: The Science of Getting from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be*, highlights this concept: "There is power in knowing when people will feel more motivated to begin a challenge." The start of a new school year is an exciting challenge for our students, and there is significant power in understanding when students are most inclined to embark on a new challenge or make a change. By leveraging this knowledge, we can better align our efforts, set more effective goals, and inspire long-term success.

#### Sustaining Momentum into the Second Half

As we move into the second half of

the school year, it's crucial to maintain momentum and use the Fresh Start Effect to our advantage. Our focus remains on fostering an environment that promotes growth, curiosity, and well-being.

We will support each other through collaboration and open communication. I urge all members of our community—teachers, parents, and students—to reflect on the power of a fresh start and how it fuels academic growth.

Your involvement in our school community is invaluable. Whether it's attending parent-teacher conferences, volunteering, or engaging with your child's learning, your participation strengthens the connection between home and school.

Looking ahead, I am confident that by embracing the Fresh Start Effect and maintaining our collective commitment, we can make this school year one of growth, resilience, and achievement.

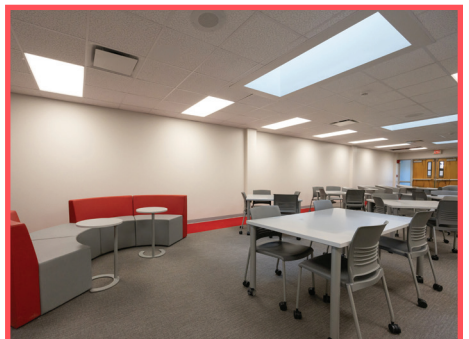
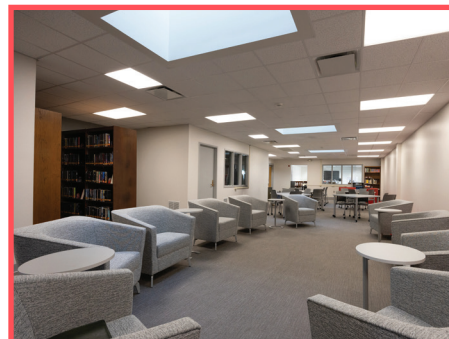
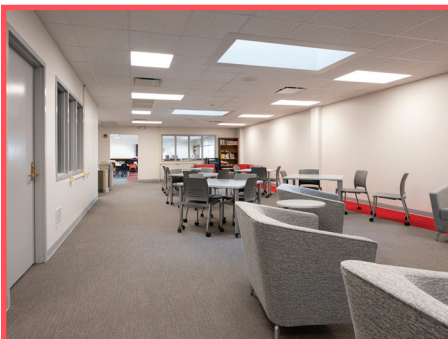
Thank you for being an integral part of our Hartford CSD family. Your dedication makes all the difference.

## CAPITAL PROJECT

### Construction Update: Our New Spaces Have Taken Shape!

The Capital Project entered its “punch list” stage in November 2024, signaling the final phase of work as contractors began wrapping up. The auditorium became occupiable in late October, allowing the District to host its

first event in the newly completed space. Additionally, the Exterior PE Project is now officially finished. Take a look at the photos below and on the next page to see all the incredible progress!





## CAPITAL OUTLAY 2024-2025

The 2023-2024 Capital Outlay Project has been officially completed. The construction contract for the 2024-2025 project is now underway, focusing on renovating the kiln space in the Art Room. Photo to right shows the progress so far.



### Additional Photos of Our Capital Project New Spaces!



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS FROM PRINCIPAL MANNIX

Dear Hartford Families,

As the winter season settles in, I would like to share some important updates and information with you. This time of year often brings new beginnings, and we have several exciting changes and reminders to help our students continue their success.

### **Retirement Announcement**

After much reflection, I made the bittersweet decision to retire. After spending 34 years in education, the last 20 of them at Hartford School, my last day was January 5, 2025, and while I am excited about what lies ahead, I will miss the students most. It has been a privilege to work alongside such a talented and dedicated team of faculty and staff for the sole purpose of providing students with a high-quality education that provided them with foundational skills for future success. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your support and involvement in your child's/childrens' education. I have many wonderful memories of my time in Hartford that I will continue to cherish. Every student has contributed to my journey and for that, I am grateful. I will continue to assist the district to ensure a smooth transition in leadership that will uphold the high standards and values of our school.

### **Student Recognition and School Activities**

As in the past, we continue to recognize students at monthly Citizens' Assemblies for their accomplishments in and out of the classroom. I am so proud of the hard work and dedication our students exhibit and feel it is important to acknowledge students for their achievements and improvements in the classroom, on the bus and in special areas. Students have the opportunity to read their writing piece printed in The Chronicle at our monthly assembly. Most of our students participate in at least one extracurricular activity after school and are recognized for their involvement in those activities. In addition several students are engaged in organizations outside of school and we promote that involvement as well. Of course we have "Bucket Fillers" showing kindness every day and we highlight those students each month too. Student pictures from our assemblies are posted on the school's website for family members to enjoy. We are off to a great start in recognizing many students during these first four months of school.

In addition to monthly Citizens' Assemblies, we have monthly Tanager Pride Days. It is so nice to see everyone's school spirit! We have also hosted Spirit Week and Red Ribbon Week themes this past Fall for students to participate in. Students have been participating in after school activities such as, Intramurals, Learning Club, Elementary Student Government, Hartford Star Newspaper Club, Tanager Voices, Pumpkin Painting, Art Club, the Turkey Trot, Eager Engineers Club, and Battle

of the Books. I look forward to additional opportunities for students as the year progresses.

Thank you to the Hartford Fire Fighters who visited us in October to discuss fire safety. Students were excited to see the fire truck and learn about the equipment. The fire fighters reminded students about the importance of fire safety and what to do in an emergency. I hope every family takes the time to create a home fire escape plan, check their smoke detectors and change batteries, and remind children about important fire safety rules. We greatly appreciate the Hartford Fire Fighters for their dedication to our community and the time they volunteer, especially in teaching our youngsters about fire prevention.

October included National Bus Safety Week. Students wrote or colored Thank You notes for their bus driver. Mrs. Smith, Transportation Supervisor, visited elementary students to reinforce Bus Safety Rules. The importance of following bus rules is always a good reminder for students to keep our buses safe. That same week, faculty, staff and students were seen wearing orange on Unity Day to unite for kindness, acceptance and inclusion to prevent bullying.

Thank you to parents for participating in Parent-Teacher Conferences in-person, via phone or video conference in November. As always, please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's teacher with any questions, ideas, concerns, or thoughts. Also, please make sure you check Class Dojo regularly, as teachers often post important information and reminders daily or weekly. Communication between home and school is key to the success of our students.

### **The Power of Parental Support**

Your involvement in your child's education is one of the most important factors in their academic success. Research shows that when parents are engaged, students perform better, are more motivated, and develop stronger social and emotional skills. Whether it's helping with homework, encouraging good study habits, or simply showing interest in their school day, your support makes a difference. I encourage all parents to stay actively engaged in their child's learning.

Here are some ways you can help:

- **Create a Positive Learning Environment at Home:** Set aside a quiet, well-lit space for homework and study. Make sure your child has the tools they need (pencils, paper, etc.) and that distractions are minimized.
- **Encourage a Growth Mindset:** Celebrate efforts as much as achievements. When your child faces challenges, help them see mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow. Encourage them to stick with it, even when things get tough.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS FROM PRINCIPAL MANNIX

• **Stay in Communication with Teachers:** Regular communication with your child's teachers helps you stay informed about their progress and any areas where they may need additional support. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or concerns. Together, we can ensure that every child reaches their full potential.

### The Importance of Homework

Homework plays a vital role in reinforcing the skills and knowledge our students learn in the classroom. It encourages good study habits, promotes responsibility, and gives children the opportunity to practice what they've learned. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's homework, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

Here are some ways you can support your child with homework:

- **Establish a Routine:** Set a consistent time each day for homework. Having a set schedule helps students understand the importance of prioritizing their work and staying organized.
- **Be Available, but Don't Do It for Them:** Your role is to guide and encourage, not to complete the assignments. If your child is stuck, offer hints or break the problem down together. This will help them develop problem-solving skills and a sense of independence.
- **Praise Effort, Not Just Results:** Make sure your child knows that you value their effort and hard work, even if they don't always get everything right. Positive reinforcement builds confidence and motivation.

### Encouraging Reading at Home

Reading is one of the most important skills a student can develop, and it has a huge impact on their academic success. As we move into the winter months, we encourage families to set aside time each day for reading. Whether it's reading together as a family, listening to an audiobook, or encouraging your child to read independently, every minute counts. Regular reading helps build vocabulary, comprehension, and a love of learning. Children are more likely to read when they see their parents reading. Share your own reading experiences, whether it's a book, newspaper, or even an interesting article you found online. Don't forget to check out our school library and Mrs. Pollack's website for great books to enjoy!

### Math Matters: Building Skills for Success

Math is another critical area for student growth. Math doesn't have to be limited to worksheets! There are many everyday activities that can help your child develop strong math skills. We encourage families to engage with math at home in fun and practical ways.

Here are some suggestions:

- **Use Math in Daily Life:** Invite your child to help with cooking by measuring ingredients or figuring out how much time is left before dinner. Even shopping—calculating prices or comparing items—can be a fun way to practice math concepts.
- **Play Math Games:** There are many online and offline games that can help strengthen math skills. Board games, card games, or math-based apps can turn math practice into a fun family activity.
- **Encourage Problem-Solving:** If your child faces a difficult problem, encourage them to talk through their thinking process. Ask questions like, "What's another way you could approach this?" or "How can you break this down into smaller steps?"

### Attendance Matters: Your Child's Presence Counts

Regular attendance is key to academic success. Every day of school is important, as each lesson builds upon the one before it. We understand that sometimes illness or family emergencies may arise, but we ask that you make every effort to ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn. If your child will be absent, please notify the school as soon as possible. If you are planning a vacation or extended absence, be sure to discuss it with the school ahead of time so we can support your child's learning.

I truly enjoyed working with our students every day and appreciated the joy they bring to our school environment. Your ongoing support and partnership in ensuring our students' success is a tremendous help. Together, we are building a positive and enriching learning environment for all. Thank you again for your collaboration over the past 20 years. Best wishes for an enjoyable winter season.

Sincerely,

Bethellen Mannix

Mrs. Bethellen C. Mannix  
Elementary Principal/CSE Chair  
bmannix@hartfordcsd.org  
518-632-5222 ext.120

### LEADERSHIP TRANSITION PLAN

Principal Dupuis has transitioned to the role of Elementary Principal, while Mark Doody is serving as Interim Middle/High School Principal until a permanent principal is appointed.

## MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS FROM PRINCIPAL DUPUIS

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

Our students, faculty, and staff have had a fantastic start to the year, and we're excited to share highlights from first quarter academics, athletics, clubs, and extracurriculars as we enter quarter two.

### Academic Highlights:

- Principal's List (94.5-100): 31 students
- Honor Roll (89.5-94.4): 47 students
- Merit Roll (84.5-89.4): 49 students

Check the full list on the district website!

### Athletics

Fall Scholar Teams: Varsity Volleyball & Soccer  
Student-athletes with 90+ averages:

- Soccer: Nicholas Abbott, Trevor Baker, Landon Cook, Daman Duhamel, Landon Earl, Spencer Fehl, Logan Jensen, Nolin LaCross, Bryton Mandigo, Daniel Peterson, Logan Roberts, Gabe Stokowski, Aiden Swezey
- Volleyball: Audrey Fiske, Reagan Gebo, Olivia Lindridge, Alexis McNall, Ava Nadeau, Cailin Severance, Silver Stewart

### Quarter One Students of the Quarter

- 6th: Piper Benson | 7th: Jayla Caceres | 8th: Brody Martin | 9th: Silver Stewart | 10th: Audrey Fiske | 11th: Autumn St. Hilaire | 12th: Spencer Fehl

These students were nominated by their teachers for making positive contributions in the classroom, being positive role models, and putting forth excellent effort in quarter one. Each student received a certificate, and Silver Stewart won an Amazon gift card!

### Music News

Castleton Honors Band - On September 27th, four band students represented our school at the VTSU Castleton Honors Band and Choir Festival, hosted by Castleton University. Participants included Camryn Arlen, Destiny Morrow, Jacob Narkiewicz, and Spencer Granger, who joined over 150 students from 13 schools.

Vocal All County: Eleven students represented HCS at the Granville event:

- Elementary: Kendal Gibson, Charlotte Hayes, Sophia LaCross, Abigail Maynard
- Junior High: Reagan Ellis, Hanna Gibson, Amelia Hayes, Nevaeh Hicks
- High School: Trevor Baker, Justin Lundy, Lily Stokowski

### Field Trips

- Freshmen CTE Works!: Career exploration with 50 employers.
- 7th Grade Volunteer Day: Saratoga National Cemetery clean-up and history lesson.
- History Club YMCA Government Alliance: Albany trip with six student attendees.

### Club News

- Key Club: Volunteered at the Special Olympics, cheering and serving lunch.
- NJHS: Hosted Trunk or Treat, raising \$80 for the Backpack program.
- FFA Highlights:
  - Painted pumpkins with 1st graders
  - Attended the National FFA Convention, touring Churchill Downs & more.
  - Participated in the District 3 Meeting and ADK Stampede Rodeo.
  - Decorated for Holiday Lighted Nights.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Mrs. Shelley Dupuis

Middle/High School Principal

[sdupuis@hartfordcsd.org](mailto:sdupuis@hartfordcsd.org) | 518-632-5222 ext. 307



## HARTFORD STUDENTS TAKE THE LEAD

### HCS Band Students Shine at the 2024 VTSU Castleton Honors Band Festival!

Over 150 students from 13 schools across New York and Vermont participated in this year's festival. After a full day of rehearsals on Friday, September 27, the event concluded with a spectacular evening concert. Participants included Camryn Arlen, Destiny Morrow, Jacob Narkiewicz, and Spencer Granger.

### 7th Graders Visit The Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery

On October 16th, 7th graders visited The Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery to help clean windows, wash headstones, and learn about its history. They saw the grave of an unknown Civil War soldier, a Medal of Honor recipient, and a military service in action.



## STUDENTS OF THE QUARTER

These students were nominated by their teachers for making positive contributions in the classroom, being excellent role models, and demonstrating outstanding effort during the first quarter of the 2024-2025 school year. Congratulations to Piper Benson (6th), Jayla Caceres (7th), Brody Martin (8th), Silver Stewart (9th), Audrey Fiske (10th), Autumn St. Hilaire (11th), and Spencer Fehl (12th).

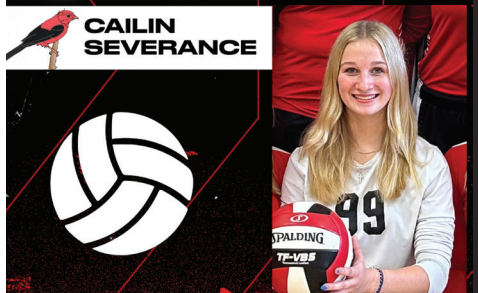




## FALL SEASON ATHLETIC HONORS

The District congratulates the varsity boys' cross country, golf, soccer, and volleyball teams for their outstanding fall achievements. All four teams earned NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Team recognition, requiring 75% of the roster to maintain a GPA of 90 or higher. Individual athletes meeting this GPA are also honored.

### HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ADIRONDACK LEAGUE 1ST TEAM ALL STAR



### HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ADIRONDACK LEAGUE 2ND TEAM ALL STAR



### HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ADIRONDACK LEAGUE 1ST TEAM ALL STAR



### VOLLEYBALL

- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team
- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athletes - **Silver Stewart, Audrey Fiske, Olivia Lindridge, Alexis McNail, Reagan Gebo, Ava Nadeau, Cailin Severance**
- **Silver Stewart** - Hartford CSD's Player's Player
- **Alexis McNail** - Hartford CSD's Most Improved Player
- **Cailin Severance** - Hartford CSD's Most Valuable Player
- **McKenzie Johnson** - Adirondack League 2nd Team All Star
- **Cailin Severance** - Adirondack League 1st Team All Star

### GOLF

- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team
- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete - **Dylan Happy**
- **Joey Happy** - Adirondack League First Team All Star; Most Valuable Player
- **Dylan Happy** - Most Improved Player





## FALL SEASON ATHLETIC HONORS



### SOCCER

- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team
- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athletes - **Nicholas Abbott, Trevor Baker, Landon Cook, Daman Duhamel, Landon Earl, Spencer Fehl, Logan Jensen, Nolin LaCross, Bryton Mandigo, Daniel Peterson, Logan Roberts, Aiden Swezey, Gabe Stowkowski**
- **Trevor Baker** - Adirondack League 2nd Team All Star
- **Spencer Fehl** - Adirondack League 2nd Team All Star



### CROSS COUNTRY

- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team
- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athletes - **Bryton Mandigo, Nigel Fehl**
- GHW Granville-Hartford-Whitehall League Champions 2024
- **Bryton Mandigo** - Adirondack League Second Team All Star; Scholar Athlete, MVP



## NUTRITIOUS NEWS

The Hartford School District is pleased to announce the successful utilization of funding from the Healthy Meals Incentives (HMI) grant to invest in new kitchen equipment, aimed at enhancing the quality of school meals. This investment represents a significant step forward in the district's ongoing efforts to improve the nutritional value and overall experience of meals served to students.

In addition to upgrading kitchen equipment, the District has formed partnerships with local vendors to provide fresh, high-quality produce and meats. Through collaboration with Hicks Orchard, the district is now sourcing locally grown apples, and Kilcoyne Farms has been engaged to supply locally raised beef. These partnerships ensure that students have access to fresh, nutritious ingredients while also supporting local agriculture.

With the support of the HMI grant, the District has acquired state-of-the-art kitchen appliances and tools that will streamline food preparation and ensure meals are cooked to the highest standards of safety and quality. These upgrades will empower kitchen staff to create more nutritious, diverse, and appealing meal options, all while reducing wait times and food waste.

The improvements made possible by this funding align with the district's long-term goals of fostering healthier eating habits and supporting student wellness. By providing better resources for meal preparation, along with fresh, locally sourced ingredients, the District is creating a positive school environment where every child has access to nourishing meals that fuel their success in and out of the classroom.

These enhancements are expected to have a positive impact on both kitchen operations and the overall student dining experience. The District is confident that these improvements will contribute to the health and well-being of students and support the long-term success of the school community.

Thank you for your continued support of these initiatives. The Hartford School District looks forward to seeing the positive results of this investment in the community.

## BACK PACK PROGRAM

Hartford Central School District's BackPack Program supports students in food-insecure homes by providing nutritious, child-friendly meals every Friday. Each bag contains about ten items that require no refrigeration or preparation, allowing children to "open and eat" without adult supervision.

The program operates in partnership with the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York and is made possible through donor support. Contributors include HCS teacher aides, retired teachers, community members, Hartford Food Pantry, Hebron United Presbyterian Church, Hartford United Methodist Church, Hartford Ridge Riders, First Baptist Church Thrift Shoppe, Adirondack League, and student-led clubs.

Donations can also be made online at <https://give.regionalfoodbank.net/hartfordbackpack> or by scanning the QR code below.



### During the 2023-2024 school year Hartford's BackPack program



**Provided  
1034 backpacks**



**Served 30  
students weekly**



**Provided  
210 pounds  
of fresh produce**



**Distributed  
8,482 meals**



## CELEBRATING TANAGER PRIDE: COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL SPIRIT IN ACTION

Our school community knows how to celebrate Tanager pride! This year has been filled with exciting activities that brought students, staff, and families together in fun and memorable ways. Whether it's dressing up for themed days, showing off

our red and black pride, or cheering during Volleyball Spirit Week, these events showcase the heart of our school. Check out the photos below to relive the highlights, and stay tuned for more fun ahead this year!





## RIISING ABOVE: LOCAL AWARD HIGHLIGHTS STUDENT EXCELLENCE

### SPENCER FEHL SELECTED AS DAR GOOD CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENT

Spencer Fehl has been selected as the recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen Award. Spencer was nominated by faculty and voted by his fellow class members as best exemplifying the characteristics of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.

Spencer has held various leadership roles throughout high school, including Class Treasurer and National Technical Honor Society Treasurer in grade 12. He is also a member of both the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society (grades 11-12). Spencer has served as an Adirondack League Representative for the Section 2 Student Athlete Advisory Committee and is an HVAC-R student at BOCES. A dedicated athlete, he was awarded Soccer Player of the Year and participated in varsity soccer and baseball. Additionally, Spencer has been involved in youth mentoring and participated in Spanish class trips to Costa Rica and Spain. Spencer volunteers at WSWHE BOCES, collecting bottles from classrooms and returning them for recycling. He suggested using the money earned to buy food or gift cards for less fortunate students.

After graduation, Spencer plans to enlist in the United States Air Force and pursue a business degree. His goal is to help run his uncle's landscaping business, with hopes of starting an HVAC company in the future.



Spencer enjoys hunting, fishing, snowboarding, snowmobiling, playing guitar, and shooting trap with his school's trap club. He also helps local farmers with hay and works alongside his uncle in landscaping.

### FIRE SAFETY AND WINTER SAFETY LESSONS FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

The safety of our students is our top priority. During the first quarter of the school year, our elementary students participated in interactive presentations on various safety topics.

On October 18, 2024, members of the Hartford Volunteer Fire Company visited to discuss fire safety, coinciding with National Fire Prevention Week. The firefighters did an excellent job teaching younger students about fire safety and prevention. They encouraged students to share what they learned with their families and to ensure they have a

fire safety plan in place. The visit was a highlight for the students, who enjoyed sitting in the fire truck, exploring the equipment up close, and spraying the fire hose.

On December 3, 2024, the Town of Hartford Highway Department visited to teach students about snow and winter safety. Students learned the importance of staying away from the road and understanding that snowplow drivers may not always see them from their vantage points.



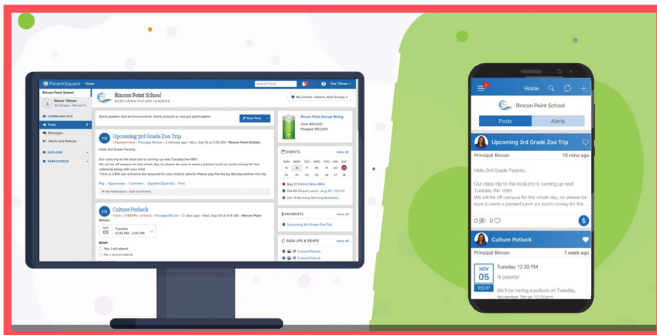


# INTRODUCING PARENTSQUARE: OUR NEW SCHOOL COMMUNICATION PLATFORM


The Hartford Central School District is excited to announce the implementation of a new school-to-home communication platform called ParentSquare. Beginning January 6, 2025, ParentSquare will serve as the primary method of communication for the District, replacing the current SchoolMessenger system.

Prior to January 6, you should have received an initial voicemail and/or text message from ParentSquare with instructions to activate your account and log in. To get started, please check out the following resources:

**ParentSquare Overview Video for Parents:** [vimeo.com/362598038](https://vimeo.com/362598038)

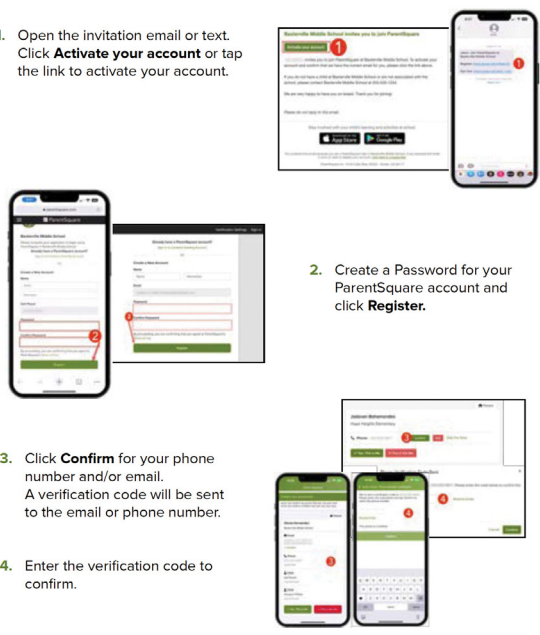



## ParentSquare Parents & Guardians Getting Started Guide:



### Parents & Guardians Getting Started Guide

1. Open the invitation email or text. Click **Activate your account** or tap the link to activate your account.
2. Create a Password for your ParentSquare account and click **Register**.
3. Click **Confirm** for your phone number and/or email. A verification code will be sent to the email or phone number.
4. Enter the verification code to confirm.





### Parents & Guardians Getting Started Guide

5. Confirm your child(ren) by clicking **Confirm**. Use **Not My Child** if a child listed is not associated with your account.
6. Select **Yes, This is Me** when you have confirmed your contact information and child(ren) associated with your account.


*Name misspelled?  
Wrong email or phone number?  
Missing a child on your account?*

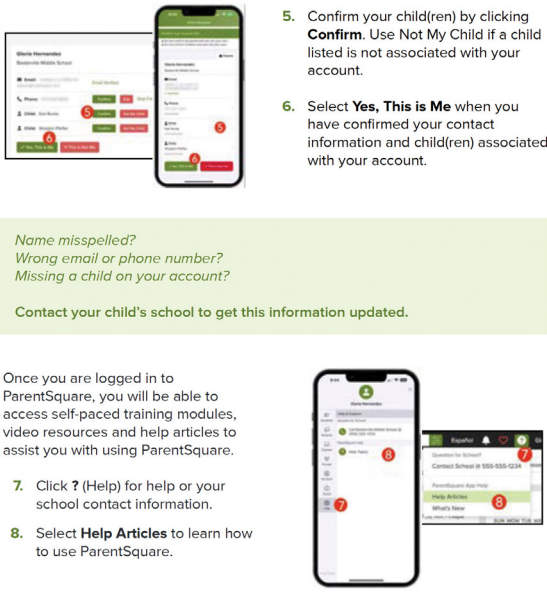
Contact your child's school to get this information updated.

Once you are logged in to ParentSquare, you will be able to access self-paced training modules, video resources and help articles to assist you with using ParentSquare.

7. Click **?** (Help) for help or your school contact information.
8. Select **Help Articles** to learn how to use ParentSquare.

The ParentSquare apps are free and available in both the Apple iOS and Android stores.





If you have any questions, please contact the District Office at 518-632-5222 or visit the District website for more information.

## MEET OUR NEW STAFF



### **Mark Doody - Interim Middle/High School Principal**

Mark Doody, a Corinth native, brings extensive experience and leadership to Hartford Central School District as Interim Principal. A retired Superintendent of Schools from Hudson Falls Central School, Mr. Doody has served in several interim roles, including as a principal or superintendent, most recently in Argyle and Granville as Interim Middle/High School Principal. Mr. Doody's primary goals during his tenure include maintaining the excellent programs already in place at Hartford Middle/High School and assisting with the smooth transition to a new, permanent principal expected to begin in July 2025.

Outside of his professional life, Mr. Doody enjoys playing golf, following sports at all levels, and spending quality time with his two granddaughters, ages 4 and 7. Mr. Doody expressed his admiration for Hartford's students, staff, and families, noting the strong support for the district and its impressive range of programs. He looks forward to becoming more familiar with the entire school community and making a positive impact during his time as Interim Principal.



### **Whitni Izzo - Consultant ELA Teacher**

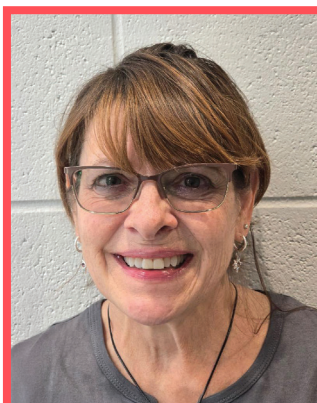
The Hartford Central School District is excited to introduce Whitney Izzo, the Consultant ELA Teacher for grades 3-5. Originally from Queensbury, New York, Whitney brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to her role, supporting students during their ELA time. Whitney holds a Master's degree in Special Education and a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, both earned from SUNY Plattsburgh. Now in her second year of teaching, she has previously worked in two other local districts, gaining valuable experience along the way.

Teaching has always been a natural choice for Whitney, driven by her passion for helping students grow and develop lifelong skills. Inspired by her own educators, she strives to make a difference in the lives of her students by fostering curiosity and encouraging learning. Outside of the classroom, Whitney enjoys attending concerts and music festivals, watching hockey, and traveling. She is excited to continue her journey in Hartford, where she can be part of a vibrant school community and inspire students to reach their full potential.

### **Travis Ogden Bus Mechanic**



### **Rebecca Young Bus Monitor**



### **Holly McCarthy Bus Monitor**







# THANK YOU! TO OUR BUS DRIVERS

During National School Bus Safety Week in October, we honored our incredible bus drivers who work tirelessly to ensure our students arrive safely to school and back home every day!



## Winter School Bus Safety Tips

1. Allow extra time to get to your bus stop.
2. Wear bright clothing so the bus driver can see you in the early morning and late evening.
3. Stand away from where the bus stops. Buses need extra room to stop when there is snow and ice.
4. Don't play in the snow while waiting for the bus.
5. Don't slide on the snow or ice in driveways or on the street.
6. Don't push or shove around the bus.

## Waiting at the Bus Stop

1. Don't play in the snow while waiting for the bus.
2. Don't throw snowballs at the bus or anyone else.
3. Don't slide on the snow or ice patches in driveways or on the street.
4. Don't push or shove around the bus. Someone could fall on the ice and get hurt.



# HARTFORD

## CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

4704 State Route 149, Hartford, NY 12838  
518-632-5222 • [www.hartfordcsd.org](http://www.hartfordcsd.org) 

### Administration

Andrew Cook, Superintendent  
Mark Doody, Interim Middle/High School Principal  
Shelley Dupuis, Elementary School Principal

### Board of Education

Philip Jessen, President  
Janine Thomas, Vice-President  
Adam Fish  
Ron Smith  
Ashley Happy

Hartford Central School, a community of educators, students, parents, and friends, dedicates itself to developing citizens who are productive and compassionate, and who, through their creativity and responsibility, will be assets to the greater community.

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## Annual Turkey Trot

On November 19, 2024, 41 students in grades 3-8 participated in our annual Turkey Trot. Each participant put forth an incredible effort and took home a special holiday award to celebrate their achievement.

*Photos courtesy of Jacob Narkiewicz.*



## Hartford Stewart's Spud Run and One Mile Fun Run

On October 5, 2024, runners and walkers endured the 5K dubbed, "The toughest race you'll ever love!" This annual tradition began over thirty-five years ago by running enthusiast and Board of Education President Phil Jessen. Thank you to all who participated and volunteered. Proceeds benefit our Class of 2025!



Runners gather for the start of the Spud Run.



Board of Education President Phil Jessen offering the pre-race instructions.



## SPUD RUN 5K TOP FINISHERS

Place	Name	Time
1	Lance Purvis	18:35
2	Lou Paquette	19:08
3	Bryton Mandigo	19:55
4	Jim Flint	20:45
5	Susan Keely	22:35
6	Joseph Macura	23:34
7	Harris Lonergan	24:26
8	Keenan Wittenberg	24:34
9	Cristina Marchese	24:44
10	Thomas Behlmer	25:56