



Monthly Bulletin

June 2008

Dr. Patrick Michel
Superintendent of Schools

www.monticelloschools.net

From the desk of the Superintendent: Thank you for your support

It is with the deepest gratitude that I write this letter. On behalf of the Monticello Central School District, we would like to thank our parents and community members for supporting our 2008-09 school budget and the proposition for the purchase of our replacement buses. It is extremely encouraging that in these uncertain economic times, people are still willing to make sacrifices to ensure our children get the best education possible - one that will prepare them for the global competition they will face upon graduation. We take this responsibility very seriously and want to review with you how your investment is paying off.

Our elementary schools are doing very well and are focusing on presenting students with a challenging curriculum and the necessary supports to help them excel on all levels. To this end, Chase and Duggan Elementary Schools were recently recognized as being "High Performing Gap Closing Schools" by the New York State Education Department. Rutherford Elementary School saw significant improvement in their ELA State Assessment scores. At the Cooke Elementary School, teachers and administrators are working hard to ensure all students are at or above grade level. District-wide, our science scores were exceptional this year. Our success is a tribute to the dedication of our teachers and school leaders.

At the secondary level, the RJK Middle School has been removed from the state list for math and saw some improvement in their ELA scores. We are very proud of their progress and want to compliment the school's leadership and teachers for their unwavering commitment and hard work. Our high school is also improving. Through the continued restructuring process, focus is now on fine tuning our programs and redesigning options for students during their senior year. Additionally, many parents have commented to us on how much safer our schools have become.

We are very pleased that our community has supported our new football program. We believe this will have a positive benefit for many children and will be another step in building a solid after school infrastructure for them. In the fall, we will begin with a modified team for grades 7-9. I know I'm looking forward to our first home game!

As always, my door is open, please come by to talk or to bring your concerns.

Thank you again for supporting our budget.

The Boys & Girls Club of Sullivan County is holding open enrollment for middle school-aged students from the Monticello School District. The free after-school program runs from 2-6 p.m., Monday-Friday at the St. John Street Education Center. Activities include homework help, health & life skills, sports, fitness & recreation, character & leadership development, education & career development, arts and music. Open Gym is offered on Wednesday and Friday evenings beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information or to register your child, call Sullivan County Unit Director, Nora Drummond, at 794-3080 or visit www.bgcorange.org.

QuickCLIPS

Sullivan County Boys & Girls Club 2nd Annual Dinner Dance, Friday, June 13, 7 p.m. at the Eagles Nest in Bloomingburg.

\$70 per person or \$125 per couple. Live music by John and Richie Steffens. Sponsorships and journal advertisements are available. This event is a fundraiser for the Club's after-school programs which provide positive, constructive activities for Monticello's middle school-aged youth. Programs include: academic support, character development, leadership training, art, music, dance, anti-gang education and self-esteem building.

For tickets or more information, please contact Elizabeth Rowley at 361-2222.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT about 2008-09 sports physicals:

All students planning to participate in fall, winter or spring sports, must get a physical during the summer.

Physicals need to be done every year and medical updates are required within 30 days of the first practice of the season. Dates for physicals have been set as follows:

High School:

Tuesdays, July 22 & 29, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Monday, August 18, 8 a.m.-noon

Middle School:

Wednesdays, August 6 & 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Tuesday, August 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Any questions should be directed to Athletics Director Doug Murphy at 794-8840, ext. 10995.

Important Dates

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3-4:

- NYS Social Studies Test for Grade 8

THURSDAY, JUNE 5:

- Chase Kindergarten Screening
- Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6:

- Senior Sports Awards Banquet
- Monticello High School & RJK Middle School Art Exhibition & Reception, 6-9 p.m., MHS gym

FRIDAY, JUNE 13:

- Chase & Cooke Field Days
- RJK Grade 8 Farewell Dance, 7-9:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17 - THURSDAY, JUNE 26:

- New York State Regents Exams

THURSDAY, JUNE 19:

- Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20:

- Rutherford Field Day
- Red Cross Blood Drive, 6 p.m., RJK cafeteria
- Boys & Girls Club Talent Show, 6 p.m. St. John Ed Center

MONDAY, JUNE 23:

- RJK Grade 5 Orientation Picnic, 11:45 a.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27:

- HALF DAY for All Elementary Schools
- Last Day of School - Have a Great Summer!

Jazzercise classes offered by Village of Monticello Parks & Recreation

The original dance/aerobic classes are back! With new moves and new music, the program features strength training, stretching and cardio.

Tuesdays at 5:15 p.m., beginning June 10, at the Ted Stroebele Recreation Center in Monticello.

For more information, please contact Betsy at 794-2351 or instructor Donna Singer at 794-5492.

All-American Soccer Academy summer session, July 14-18, at SCCC. The Youth Academy, ages 8-11, begins at 9 a.m. The Senior Academy, ages 12-17, begins at 1:30 p.m. The camp is directed by Betsy Johnson Conaty, former captain and All-American at the University of North Carolina. \$130 registration fee includes a camp T-shirt. **For more info or to register, call 1-866-447-6035.**