



HANNIBAL

Central School District

Welcome Back

Fairley students excitedly return to school on Sept. 7. Staff members were on hand to welcome students at each building as the school year began.



Neurographic artwork in the spotlight at Kenney Middle School

Dennis M. Kenney Middle School students are using social emotional learning (SEL) techniques to practice relaxation through artmaking.

In Hollie Leonardi's eighth-grade art classes, a neurographic art lesson provided an opportunity for students to utilize their intuitive responses to develop imagery. The creative technique engages each student's emotional and aesthetic intelligence while they make artwork.

"They all came up with their own ideas and they all created some amazing pieces of art," Leonardi said. "I'm really proud of them and we will be incorporating more of these SEL techniques throughout the year."



Hannibal eighth-grader Noah Decker shows off some of the artwork he created as part of a neurographic art lesson in Hollie Leonardi's class.

Grant provides Hannibal students with fresh fruits and veggies

Elementary students in the Hannibal Central School District now have access to fresh fruits and vegetables during the school day thanks to a federal grant aimed at encouraging nutritious snacking.

The program, administered by the New York State Department of Child Nutrition, provides fresh fruits and vegetables twice per week to every student in pre-kindergarten through sixth grades. The healthy snacks are distributed in the classrooms on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week, with a variety of fruits and vegetables served throughout the school year.

According to HCS Food Service Director Nancy Younglove, this grant helps to make healthy snacking a reality for students who may otherwise not have access to such opportunities.

"Hannibal is located in what is considered a 'food desert,' meaning the community does not have access to a variety of produce at an affordable price," Younglove said. "This program will introduce children to fruits and vegetables that they may not get otherwise. It is our hope that students will discover an appetite for fruits and vegetables, which will set them on a path to a healthy lifestyle."

In addition to the snack itself, the program offers an education component that will help students gain a better understanding about food, where it comes from and how it affects our everyday lives.

"This program goes far beyond simply providing healthy snack options," Younglove said. "It will ultimately create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices while expanding the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience. We're thrilled to launch this program and incredibly grateful for the opportunity."



Furlong returns to Hannibal schools in new role as HS executive principal



Meredith Furlong

When classes resumed Sept. 7, Hannibal students and staff were greeted by a familiar face as Meredith Furlong returned to the district as the high school's executive principal.

Furlong is no stranger to the Hannibal Central School District. She served as a school psychologist for more than a decade before earning her Certificate of Advanced Study in School Leadership and accepting an administrative position at Altmar-Parish-Williamstown

schools. Her wealth of experience in education with a diverse student population will serve as the foundation for her role as Hannibal High School's executive principal.

"I loved being part of this team as a school psychologist. I am both honored and grateful to be a member of the Hannibal Central School District team again," Furlong said.

She noted that the school/community connection creates a positive, welcoming atmosphere where students can truly thrive. The district's mission to focus on the students and do what is "best for kids" is not merely a soundbite for Furlong; it's a way of life.

"The students, the families and the staff are second to none," Furlong said. "Everyone works together to create the best learning conditions for all kids!"

With that mentality at the forefront, Furlong said she is eager to strengthen existing relationships and develop new ones as the year progresses.

"My goal for the current school year is to get to know students, staff and families," she said. "I am invested in collaborating with all stakeholders to build upon the already strong pathways and opportunities for students in Hannibal."

New assistant principal brings wealth of experience to DMK



Wendy Brown

When Wendy Brown first saw the Hannibal Central School District's mission statement, she knew she wanted to be a member of the Warrior family. For Brown, the desire to "put students first," combined with a wealth of experience in education, earned her a job as the new Dennis M. Kenney Middle School's assistant principal.

"I was drawn to HCS D in large part due to the mission of students come first," Brown said. "I was drawn to

the statement from the first time I saw it on the website, as I firmly believe that in education, we do what we do for the students."

With academic degrees in sociology and reading, a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Leadership, and past work as a social studies and reading teacher, Brown is eager to bring that experience to a leadership role at DMK.

"My goal is to cultivate relationships with students and families, faculty and staff, board of education members, and community members here in Hannibal," Brown said, noting that she has already fostered great relationships. "The best part of being in Hannibal so far is the time I have spent getting to know students and staff!"

Hannibal High School welcomes Mahoney as assistant principal



Kathy Mahoney

For new Hannibal High School Assistant Principal Kathy Mahoney, becoming a member of the Warrior family has been rewarding as she continues to build relationships with students, staff and the community.

"The best part of being at Hannibal so far has been getting to know the students participating in the various summer programs offered," Mahoney said. "It has also been really great working with the staff, and they have proven to me that everyone at Hannibal embraces the belief that students come first!"

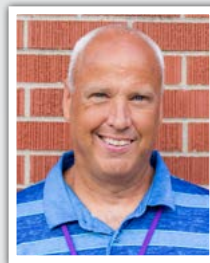
Mahoney earned her CAS in Educational Leadership from SUNY Oswego in August and also holds degrees in elementary education and teaching students with disabilities. She has classroom teaching experience in APW Elementary School and in the Syracuse City School District, and spent many years working in Early Intervention in Onondaga County.

"It was through Early Intervention that I developed a strong belief that student success relies on both caregivers and educators collaborating with one another – we must work together to maximize each student's potential," Mahoney said.

She aims to use collaboration to maximize student potential in her new role at the high school by developing relationships with students and their families, with staff and with the Hannibal community.

"I plan to attend as many events, both at school and in the community, as possible," Mahoney said. "I also invite students, families, staff, and community members to reach out to me to say hello and share your thoughts and ideas on our school."

Dunn brings career exploration to the forefront in Hannibal schools



Steve Dunn

With a focus on preparing Hannibal students for success after graduation, High School Principal Stephen Dunn is deploying additional resources for the 2021-22 academic year.

Dunn has more than 25 years of experience in education, including seven with the district. During his career, he has focused on providing graduates with the tools needed for lifelong success.

"This year, one of my goals is to develop a comprehensive seventh through 12th grade Career Exploration program that culminates in the development of a career plan after graduation," Dunn said. "This program will help point students in the right direction after they graduate."

In addition to the career development focus, Dunn will also continue to handle various administrative duties and work to maintain positive relationships with students, to ensure they are active participants in their education.

"We are a district that puts students first," Dunn said. "As high school principal, I embrace that philosophy. The relationships we build with our students, and this new career exploration piece are critical in that mission. I'm looking forward to implementing the career program and I can't wait to see our students benefit from it in the future."



Hannibal freshmen participate in summer career exploration program

Although school was in recess for the summer, several Hannibal Central School District students participated in a voluntary program where they learned about different career paths.

The inaugural program provided incoming freshmen with an opportunity to explore a variety of job sectors by visiting local businesses, engaging in conversation and learning what it takes to be a valuable employee.

“We had three days of field trips, and every single one of them was absolutely amazing,” said HCSD career resource specialist Meg Welling. “Each business was so gracious taking time out of their day, and we ended each session with a roundtable discussion and lunch.”

In addition to visiting local businesses, students also attended a legislative meeting to gain a better understanding of the function of government. Participants also spent time at the school discussing careers, budgets and healthy outputs for stress management.

Welling noted that the partnerships the district has fostered with local businesses has been a wonderful way to give students hands-on lessons in career exploration. She expressed her gratitude to Broadwell Hospitality



A contingent of Hannibal students and staff members meet with Dave Bullard, Marketing and Public Relations Manager for the Great New York State Fair, as part of a summer career exploration program for incoming freshmen.

Group, the New York State Fair and Oswego County government for opening their doors to the students and providing real-life learning opportunities.

“Our community agencies and business partners are an invaluable resource for our students,” Welling said. “We are grateful to live in a community that puts our students first.”

Welcome New Hires!



CHLOE WEAVER
FES • UPK Teacher

MICHELE SMITH
FES • Kindergarten Teacher

CONNIE QUINONES
FES • 4th Grade Teacher

LAUREN JOHNSON
FES • 3-4 Interventionist

CHLOE HALVERSON
FES • LTS Art

DANIELLE ZARESKI
FES • Music

REBECCA CRAWFORD
FES • Special Ed/Interventionist

MARISSA ACKERMAN
DMK • 5th Grade Teacher

KEIRA KOEN
DMK • 5th Grade Teacher

BRIAN GREEN
DMK • Technology Teacher

LENA SARGENTI
DMK/HHS • Health/APE Teacher

SHARON SEXSTONE
DMK/HHS • Health/FACS Teacher

DAVID ESTRADA
HHS • Math Teacher

TRICIA DENNIS
HHS • School Counselor



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Superintendent

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www.hannibalcsd.org

District Resident or Postal Patron

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A Message from the Superintendent

We are well into the second month of the 2021-22 school year, and I could not be prouder of our students, staff and community! Everyone continues to be flexible and able to adapt to all the challenges thrown our way. Your ongoing support for our students is crucial during difficult times, and I am incredibly grateful to be a member of such a generous, supportive school community.

Looking back on what we have accomplished as a Warrior family over the past 18 months is truly inspiring. Meals and nutrition have been provided

to our students. Learning has continued. Athletics, music and other extracurricular activities have returned. And although many of these activities have been modified to meet health guidelines, it is a giant leap forward in the right direction for our students.

This summer, we took the first steps in that leap forward by offering a variety of opportunities for our students. The inaugural Summer Institute provided learning options for our Warriors. In addition to the two-week-long Summer Institute,

federal grant funds allowed us to offer field trips for every student in our district. We hope to provide similar experiences for our students in the future.

As we move forward throughout the school year, I encourage you to reach out with any questions. After all, we are stronger together. We are stronger as a Warrior family!

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Staats

Hannibal students see success at Summer Institute

The Hannibal Central School District's Summer Institute provided a variety of learning opportunities to students during a two-week span in August.

More than 60 students in first through eighth grades participated in the programming, which offered a combination of academics and fun. It also served as an opportunity for students to socialize and meet new friends.

"The primary focus of the institute was to solidify ELA and math skills while having some fun," said Fairley Elementary Principal Amy Bird.

"The Summer Institute was a great opportunity for students to build their confidence with particular skills."

Bird noted that the students showed tremendous growth in their reading and math skills over the course of the program.

"It was fantastic to see the growth over such a short period of time," Bird said. "I am thrilled that the district was able to provide this opportunity for our students. They were excited to come back each day!"



Fairley Elementary students hone their math skills while attending the Summer Institute during August.