

Sentinel

Solvay Union Free School District

We develop confident, continual learners who are caring community members.

November 2020 Volume XXXV, No. 2 Follow along with us on social media with #SolvayBearcats
Twitter @SolvaySchools
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Welcome to our newest Bearcats! Class of 2034











First Days at SES

Both cohorts of Ms. Brianna Smith's 1st grade students did a great job keeping their masks on and being socially distant while in school.





Gallery Walk

In Mrs. Allison Medsger's 7th grade ELA class, students completed a gallery walk to introduce them to the poetry unit. Students analyzed eight pieces of poetry and used their inferencing skills to match the poems to eight different poets. Through this lesson, students were able to see the diversity of poets and broaden their understanding of different forms of poetry. Some students even realized that poetry isn't as boring and confusing as they thought.



Perspective Jay Tinklepaugh



This past spring semester was unlike no other. With the COVID-19 Pandemic, our staff and students quickly shifted gears to teach and learn remotely. The budget vote was by absentee ballot and passed. Thank you to the entire school community and residents for your continued support and for passing the budget.

The Class of 2020 graduation ceremony was held at the New York State Fairground's Chevy Court. Seniors and families enjoyed the graduation with pride and grace. Many students participated in the virtual end of year celebrations.

Our students received over \$150,000 in scholarships from the incredible generosity of our school community. Solvay was recognized for the third year as one of the "Best Communities for Music Education." Several students received Scholastic Art Awards. Our 2019 athletic teams experienced great success in post season competition with the football and basketball championships.

During the summer, administrators, teachers, staff, and community members created and successfully developed the District's Hybrid Reopening Plan. A complete list of reopening resources can be found on our website at www.solvayschools.org. To better communicate with our staff and students, Parent Square was launched. If you haven't activated your account, please do so so you can receive emails, text, and notifications.

Staff worked extremely hard to prepare and welcome students back to school both virtually and inperson. Cohort A comes to school on Mondays and Tuesdays while Cohort B comes on Thursdays and Fridays. Wednesdays is our virtual learning day for all students. Additionally on Wednesdays, families who have registered to receive meals are receiving their delivery via our transportation department.

After a well-informed decision, the District has postponed all fall sports to March 1, 2021 - Fall Season 2. After school programs will be offered soon through the 21st Century, BEST program.

Our capital project at Solvay High School is well underway and a considerable amount of work has been accomplished during the spring and summer. The new transportation facility was completed. Staff and buses moved back in and is fully operational. Phase 3 of the capital project will be at Solvay Elementary School beginning in 2021.

Please be sure to visit our website for ongoing updates. Thank you for making Solvay special for our students and community. I look forward to our continued successes from the start of the year through the end.

Staff Walks for ALS

The Solvay Middle School staff participated in the CNY ALS Walk Your Way in support of Cindy Altman, 5th grade teacher, and her husband, Jim. Jim's Alliance raised over \$23,000 this year and was the top fund raiser for the second year in row.



Athletic Department

Please stay up to date with us! We anticipate opening Family ID on November I for winter sport sign ups. Winter sports are tentatively set to start on November 30. So mask up when you head out, we want to play!

Where Are They Now?

If you have any Bearcat alumni news, please contact the Athletic Office at 484-1400.

Website

Please be sure to visit our Athletic Department website at http://www.solvayschools.org/athletics for important announcements and for the most up to date schedules and directions to other schools. Please be sure to visit www.schedulegalaxy.com.

Twitter

Solvay Athletics is on Twitter! Please be sure to check daily for contests, score updates, and other athletic office news. Follow us @SolvayAthletics!

Chamber Choir is Singing Again

After six months of no singing, the Solvay Chamber Choir held their first rehearsal of the 2020-2021 school year.

Following CDC and New York State guidelines, students are spaced 12 feet apart from each other, wear masks, and change location within the build every half hour to allow for proper air circulation.

The St. Marianne Cope Parish, Father Clemente, and St. Cecilia's Church, have been gracious to host the Chamber Choir, allowing the group to have rehearsals in the sanctuary with proper CDC rules. Below is a picture of the students beginning to develop their musical skills again! Even in COVID, music is alive and well in the Solvay Schools and community. Be on the look out for a special holiday choral treat this December, taking us back to the olden days before recorded music. #solvaymusic



Welcome to Our New Staff!

Solvay Elementary School

- Brytny Coleman, Teaching Assistant
- Emily Monette, Food Service Helper
- William Nichols, Teaching Assistant

Solvay High School

- Christopher Baber, School Psychologist
- David Kempf, Long-term Biology/Living Environment Teacher
- Vanessa Littles, Typist I
- Rory Malone, Assistant Principal
- Joseph Miczan, Teaching Assistant

Solvay Middle School

- Maria Bigelow, School Nurse
- Nicole Cimino, Teaching Assistant
- Corey Graves, Principal
- Keenan Nellis, Teaching Assistant & Longterm AIS Teacher

District-Wide

- Taylor Charles, PE/Health Teacher
- Abigail Ohlmeyer, Occupational Therapist

Transportation

William Mickalenko, Mechanic

District Office

- Donna Alberts, Typist II
- Todd Steinberg, Treasurer

Emergency Closings

In the event of a closure or delay, notices will go out via Parent Square, email, appear on the district's web site, and media outlets.



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Board of Education

Kristin Sunser-King, President Kevin J. Dwyer, Vice President Joseph Barnello, Assistant Clerk Stephen P. Zalewski, Member Lena Rose Orlando, Member

Calling all Solvay Alumni! We want to hear from you!

Have a story to share? Good news or an exciting accomplishment? Share it with us! Email us at sentinel@solvayschools.org. Interested in hearing about what fellow Solvay alumni are up to? Visit www.solvayschools.org/alumni.

Students Think Out of the Box

Solvay Elementary School's 4th grade students were given an incomplete outline of a pumpkin and were asked to think outside the box. Students have very creative minds.









