

# HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

215 HARRY HOWARD AVE., HUDSON, NY

JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



## Dear Hudson City School District Community,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2024! With the first half of the 2023-24 school year wrapped up, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge some amazing things happening right here in Hudson.

Coming off the heels of a busy holiday season, I hope you all had the opportunity to reflect on the positives in each of your lives. I am extremely grateful for my family, friends, position as Superintendent of Schools, and all of you who make up the Bluehawk community.

The Hudson City School District staff has embarked on this new journey of #HudsonTogetherWeCan with smiling faces and a passion to provide the best educational experience possible for our students. I am excited to launch the first-ever Friday Family Fun Night on Jan. 19 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Hudson Junior/Senior High School.

From an administration standpoint, we continue to implement the new culture in place. Collaborative efforts at Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School, Hudson Junior High School, Hudson Senior High School and the District Office can be seen on a steady basis. Effective communication, community integration and implementation of policies and protocols are among our top priorities.

As for me, it has been a healthy dose of being busy with overseeing operations, conducting meetings with staff from all buildings and transitioning weaknesses and conflicts into strengths and resolutions. I feel great satisfaction in chronicling "Pennyman's Pen," a bi-weekly one-page document describing happenings and events taking place in our progressive district. Additionally, "Conversations with the Superintendent," a monthly forum for the public to bring ideas, comments and concerns to me in person, at the Hudson City Department of Youth every third Thursday of each month, allows me to hear directly from you! I invite you to attend the next session on Jan. 18, starting at 6 p.m.

I ask that you keep an eye on the health and safety of yourself and our youth. Let's use the momentum of the holiday spirit and new year as a driving factor to achieve our goals! As always, I can be reached via email at [pennymanj@hudsoncsd.org](mailto:pennymanj@hudsoncsd.org).

Thank you for your time and have a fantastic new year!

Sincerely,  
**Dr. Juliette Pennyman**  
**Superintendent of Schools**  
**Hudson City School District**



## JOIN THE NEXT CONVERSATIONS WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

Have a question or concern to share with Superintendent Dr. Juliette Pennyman? Dr. Pennyman wants to hear from YOU about where the District can improve! Come join her for "Conversations with the Superintendent" from 6-7 p.m. every third Thursday of each month at the Hudson City Department of Youth, 18 South 3rd St., Hudson, NY 12534.

**The next meeting is  
scheduled for Jan. 18, 2024.**



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

## **NOW YOU CAN WATCH BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS ON YOUTUBE – LIVE OR WHENEVER MOST CONVENIENT**

The Hudson City School District Board of Education is pleased to announce that its meetings are now broadcast live on the school district's YouTube channel.

The next broadcast will be Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 6 p.m. [Click here](#) to visit YouTube and click "Live" to watch. [Click here](#) for the agenda; if it is not immediately available, please check again closer to the meeting time. The public also is invited to attend the meeting in person at the Hudson Senior High School library.

The decision to broadcast Board of Education meetings is in response to community requests. It's also representative of the Board of Education's commitment to transparency and partnering with the community.

"We know our community greatly cares about actions by the Board of Education, and how those discussions and decisions affect our students, faculty and families," said Superintendent Dr. Juliette Pennyman. "Families have busy schedules and work commitments, sometimes making it difficult to attend Board meetings in person. While in-person attendance is always welcome, broadcasts that are recorded and posted on YouTube provide the ability to watch online, when most convenient, at any time day or night."

Board of Education President Willette Jones said, "Broadcasting the Board's meetings is another way to engage with our community - and for our community to engage with the Board. Now, families will have the ability to watch meetings whenever most convenient, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. That's very important for families that are constantly on the go."

Public Comment segments of Board of Education meetings provide an opportunity for the community to speak to the Board. Currently, online viewers will not be able to participate. However, comments emailed to the board clerk at [gaffneyt@hudsoncsd.org](mailto:gaffneyt@hudsoncsd.org) will receive a written response.

Streaming is not new to the Hudson City School District. The Board of Education broadcast its meetings online during the Covid pandemic, and Hudson Senior High School's graduation ceremonies have been streamed for three years.

Meet members of the Board of Education [here](#). Board meetings typically are held every other Tuesday. View a meeting schedule [here](#).



# HUDSON CONSIDERING FOOTBALL MERGER WITH CHATHAM

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## LOGISTICS EXPLAINED DURING COMMUNITY INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

The Hudson City School District is considering merging its football program with the Chatham Central School District, and an informational presentation for the Hudson community was held at Hudson Junior Senior High School Jan. 11.

The presentation, led by Athletic Director Shawn Briscoe, was attended by about 60 parents and students, as well as Superintendent Dr. Juliette Pennyman, Hudson Senior High School Principal Derek Reardon, Board of Education Vice President Mark DePace and Board of Education member Selha Graham.

Solutions are sought because Hudson's varsity football team prematurely ended its last two seasons because it could not sustain the minimum number of players required. Briscoe emphasized that numerous merger-related logistics still need to be worked out, and that no final decision has been made. However, he said, a merger with Chatham would provide a sufficient number of varsity players and strengthen the player pool for junior varsity and modified teams.

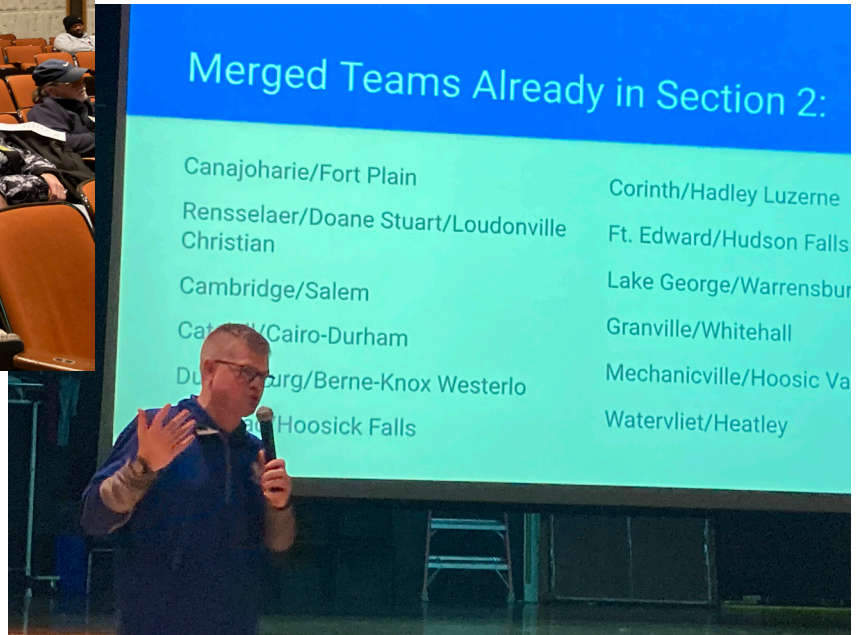
"The more kids we have, the more success we're going to see, the more success we'll have. There could be a lot of good that comes out of this," he told the crowd, noting that he has had numerous collaborative discussions with Chatham's athletic director.

Chatham, Briscoe said, has a sufficient number of varsity players, but has light participation in other levels of its football program. That's why Chatham is interested in a merger. "Chatham is more than just considering it as an option," he said. "They are really considering it."

Briscoe explained a range of logistics in response to more than two dozen questions from the audience:

- A merger would require approval by the Hudson and Chatham Boards of Education. Those approvals would then be reviewed and likely approved by Section 2, the league both high schools now play in. A rescindable application would have to be filed by Feb. 1.
- The goal would be to have 30 players from 11th and 12th grades on a merged varsity team.
- Any merger would be a one-year renewable agreement.
- Having varsity, junior varsity and modified teams after a merger would ensure that student-athletes compete on developmentally appropriate levels. For instance, Briscoe said, younger players in 10th grade would not play against seniors, who are more physically mature. And, he said, some younger players have been understandably reluctant to play vs. seniors.

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If the merger occurs, the team would alternate practice sites, share home games and each school would retain its own Homecoming game and celebration. Transportation would be provided by the school districts, and the same number of coaches in both school districts would be retained. Details such as uniform colors and districts' names on uniforms would be worked out in partnership.

A key component, Briscoe said, would be to cultivate a supportive environment for a merged team in both districts. "We would need to be one team, one family," he said. "We would have to make sure that as a community, we would be behind this 110%. I think we can do that as a community and as a school district. With Chatham, we can make this successful."

Briscoe also noted that 12 merged teams already compete in Section 2. These include Catskill/Cairo-Durham, Tamarac/Hoosick Falls and Watervliet/Heatley. In addition, one football team represents three schools: Rensselaer, Doane Stuart and Loudonville Christian.

As for next steps, Briscoe said he likely will develop separate surveys to gauge community and student sentiments about a merger. He also invited emailed questions and comments. He can be reached at [briscoes@hudsoncsd.org](mailto:briscoes@hudsoncsd.org).

Further updates will be provided as developments occur.

Thank you.

**Hudson City School District**  
#HudsonTogetherWeCan

# FIVE HCSD EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED ON MAYOR'S "40 UNDER 40" LIST

Congratulations to the following Hudson City School District employees for being recognized on Hudson City Mayor Kamal Johnson's "40 Under 40" list:



**Shawn Briscoe**

Physical education teacher,  
Hudson Junior/Senior High  
School, Coach and Athletic  
Director



**Bridget Smith**

Kindergarten teacher,  
Montgomery C. Smith  
Elementary School



**Marybeth Martinez**

English as a New Language  
teacher, Montgomery C. Smith  
Elementary School



**Scott Vorwald**

Hudson City School District  
Music Department chair,  
Junior/Senior High School  
music teacher



**Mark Pullen**

District maintenance worker

To view the full list, use this  
link from the Register-Star!





## HUDSON HIGH SENIOR, ALSO A MY BROTHER'S KEEPER FELLOW, SPEAKS DURING NEW YORK STATE'S 2024 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BROADCAST

The Hudson City School District is proud that Hudson Senior High School senior and My Brother's Keeper (MBK) fellow Dejuan Bailey was selected to speak during the 2024 New York State Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. broadcast on Jan. 8.

Bailey was one of four individuals selected for the 57-minute broadcast from a pool of 97 fellows. He is the first Hudson student to have this honor. He was interviewed on Dec. 1, 2023, about how Dr. King's four pillars of resilience, service, faith/unity, and empowerment, as well as the MBK program, have positively influenced his life.

Chosen for his participation and attendance in Madd Truth Mastermind book-analysis sessions held weekly via Zoom, Bailey is honored to share his experiences at the state level for this momentous occasion.

"I was honestly shocked," Bailey said. "Out of so many kids in New York State, I was one out of four selected. I'm so grateful."

In addition to being an MBK fellow, Bailey is a volunteer firefighter for the Greenport Fire Department and a member of the Hudson varsity boys and Columbia County Club soccer teams. He aspires to study criminal justice in college.

My Brother's Keeper is a grant-funded program that supports boys and young men of color through mentoring and positive relationships so they can reach their greatest potential. Participants work with mentors to develop their academic skills and personal relationships, explore opportunities for higher education, work toward career readiness and team-building, and make positive life choices.

Hudson City School District Superintendent Dr. Juliette Pennyman was ecstatic to see Bailey's maturation as a young man, and his aspirations to advance himself and those he encounters.

"Our school district's vital partnership with My Brother's Keeper allows our students to learn the value of giving back, self-purpose, and how to expand in numerous facets of life," Dr. Pennyman said. "Dejuan Bailey is paving the way for future generations of young men of color to follow, and I couldn't be more proud and excited for him."

Hudson Senior High School Guidance Counselor and My Brother's Keeper advisor Vernon (Rocky) Payne was thrilled about Bailey's honor. He said such recognition is just one example of how Hudson students make a difference in their District and community.

*story continues on next page »*



## Hudson High Senior Making a Difference...

*continued*

"I'm very proud of Dejuan for his participation as an MBK fellow and to be chosen for this opportunity," Payne said. "It's a testament to his leadership and ability to make a difference in his school and community."

Hudson City School District Diversity Equity and Inclusion Manager Dr. Tia Pressey also shared her pride in Bailey's ability to build upon previous Hudson MBK fellows' foundation and advance his - and their - positive impact in the community.

"Dejuan Bailey is a conscientious and focused student who loves to serve the community as a volunteer firefighter. Additionally, he is respected among his peers. His leadership qualities are commendable and will serve him well throughout his life," Dr. Pressey said.

Bailey was recognized for his honor by the Hudson City School District Board of Education at the Nov. 14 meeting.

For more information, visit <https://empirestateplaza.ny.gov/nyking>

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

## HCS D LAUNCHES #HUDSONTOGETHERWECAN FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHT ON JAN. 19



Join us for the first  
**#HudsonTogetherWeCan**

**FRIDAY FAMILY  
FUN NIGHT!**

**JAN. 19, 2024 6-7:30 P.M.**  
**HUDSON JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH  
SCHOOL**

There will be a dinner featuring Mexican food, music, dancing, bingo, open gym for basketball, open pool for swimming, face painting and more! This event is open to all ages and children must be accompanied by an adult family member.

Be sure to RSVP at the Google Form by Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024!

 For More Info  
[www.hudsoncsd.org](http://www.hudsoncsd.org)  
518-828-4360

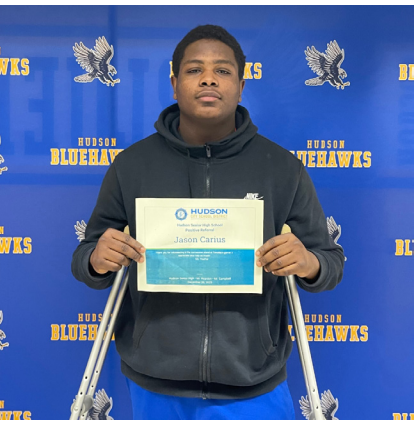
**HUDSON**  
*Together, we can!*

Our Location   
215 Harry Howard Avenue  
Hudson, New York 12534

**JOIN US FOR THE FIRST  
#HUDSONTOGETHERWECAN FRIDAY  
FAMILY FUN NIGHT ON JAN. 19 FROM  
6 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M. AT HUDSON JUNIOR/  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL!**

  
**HUDSON**  
*Together, we can!*





## HIGH SCHOOL DECEMBER 2023 PBIS POSITIVE REFERRALS

On Dec. 22, 2023, the Hudson Senior High School PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) team proudly recognized 110 students for meeting the behavioral expectations of being **Respectful, Responsible and Safe**. Students received a certificate and were treated to a doughnut!





# SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD OF EDUCATION HONOR 2023-24 FALL STUDENT-ATHLETES

Prior to the Dec. 12 Hudson City School District Board of Education meeting, the 2023-24 fall student-athletes on the modified, junior varsity and varsity sports teams were recognized by the Board and Superintendent Dr. Juliette Pennyman for their accomplishments this season.

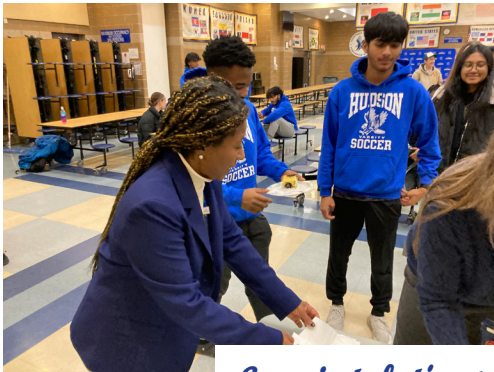
## Key achievements included:

- Varsity Girls Soccer and Varsity Girls Volleyball qualifying for Sectionals.
- Varsity Boys Soccer qualifying for Sectionals and reaching the semifinals.
- Varsity Girls Tennis qualified for Sectionals and sent three players to individual sectionals (Ummuy Chowdhury, Alvira Sarker and Tanjina Rahman).
- Varsity Boys Golf sent three players to individual Sectionals (Gannon Logue, who advanced to second round, Matthew Plaia and Dylan McDonald).
- Four Varsity teams (Boys Golf, Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer and Girls Tennis) were recognized as Scholar Athlete Teams: The teams' average GPA for 75% of the roster is greater than 90%.

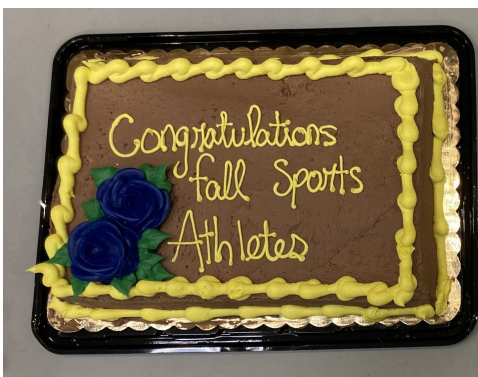
## DR. PRESSEY KICKS OFF MONDAYS WITH THE KINDNESS CLUB

On Jan. 8, Manager of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Dr. Tia Pressey started her morning routine in the Central Office like any other Monday - with a delicious hot chocolate served by the Hudson Senior High School Kindness Club!

The Kindness Club visits Hudson Senior High School classrooms and the Central Office periodically and offers snacks and beverages to get the day started!



*Congratulations to our Bluehawks!*







## HUDSON JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS COLLABORATE ON TWO MURALS WITH MURALIST JOE PIMENTEL

Two murals have been completed, one at Hudson Junior High School and the other at Hudson Senior High School.

Led by talented muralist and teaching artist Joe Pimentel, over 60 students and staff members cohesively and beautifully brought inspiring murals to life in both buildings. Each mural contains quotes designed to empower students and staff every day. Both murals were completed on Dec. 15, four days of work after several months of planning.

"I'm extremely proud of the work of our students, staff and Mr. Pimentel for creating such beautiful artwork that will greet students, staff and community members for decades to come," Hudson Senior High School Principal Derek Reardon said.

Pimentel is known for his detailed murals at parks and school districts throughout New York State. He said

it was fulfilling to see students' joy following their hard work.

"Every school has a different setting and feel to it, and this one was very special," Pimentel said. "After seeing the first day, so many more students signed up to participate. Just from their comments to me, it meant a lot to them."

Austin Ringer, a 7th grade student at Hudson Junior High School, said he enjoyed participating, praising the leadership of Pimentel and the collaborative nature of his classmates.

"It was really challenging for myself to do it because I didn't want to get paint on myself, but I was really proud of how the murals came out," Ringer said. "It was really fun; he (Pimentel) told me what to do. I followed it and it was really fun."

The Junior High School's mural is highlighted by an emerging

Bluehawk with interpretations of diversity, respect and unity under the theme of "Rise Above" by Junior High School students. Just above the Bluehawk is Dr. Mae Jemison's quote, "Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."

At the Senior High School, peace, love and kindness are prevalent with a soaring Bluehawk and Malcolm X's quote, "Light creates understanding, understanding creates love, love creates patience, and patience creates unity."

Pimentel's other artwork can be found on his social media channels, @JoePimentelArt, and at [www.joepimentelart.com](http://www.joepimentelart.com).

**more photos on next page »**







# 2023-24 FIRST TRIMESTER MCSES PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



Congratulations to all the Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School students who received the Principal's Award for the first trimester! On Dec. 14, the award recipients were treated to a special breakfast in recognition of their hard work, leadership and perseverance in school.

See some photos on this page followed by the full list of 1st Trimester Principal's Award winners. To be honored, students must exemplify the character traits we focus on in school, such as responsibility, citizenship and kindness. Teachers nominate up to three students per class to receive this award each trimester.

## Principal Mark Brenneman's MCSES Principal Award Recipients, First Trimester 2023-24:

Ellis Abitabile, Jannat Akter, Naima Akter, Tausif Araf, Safwan Ayaan, Avery Barrett, Zachariah Berberena, Charlotte Bielefeldt, Rome Blackman, Michael Brizzie, Cole Bryant, Leah Camarillo, Rhylee Camarillo, Paul Carius, Elena Castro, Khadija Chowdhury, Talha Chowdhury, Yaasin Chowdhury, Avery Clum, Faith Conner, Edison Contreras Guadamuz, Saul Cukerstein, Brayden Cutler, Mary Daly, Amelia Davi, Viviana Davi, James Davis, Katelyn Delaney, Jase Eddington, Alice Fawcett, Sabriya Fearon, Josselyn Feliz, Aiyanna Fernandez, Chanelle Fernandez-Cisnero, Cameron Fish, Hunter Franceschi, Alexia Francis, Elijah Frantzen, Rylee Frederick, Mae French, Abraham Garcia, Bessie Goldman, Melissa Gomez, Sofia Gowins, Nazir Harris, Kaspeya Hasan, Abigail Hermance, Cannon Hinds, Mia Hodge, Peyton Hodges, Amani Hotbani, Brooklyn Howard, Emoni Johnson, LaJuan Jordan, Cameron Katan, Emily Kinney, Kasen Krein, Ismael Laguerre, Ilirah Lashley, Evelyn Lee, Preston Lee, Alfee Liton, Zoey Lonsdale, Ethan Lynch, Sarah Mackerer, Kaylin Mackey, Sara Mahamud, Adrianna Maroney, Bryan Martinez, Chloe Martinez-Flores, Zella-Skyy McRae, Isabelle Medina, Kouchik Miah, Samuel Michaud, Kasey Mojica, Jayden Monk, Bella Moran, Blessen Morrison, Nusaiba Naha, Natalie Nguyen, Tyler Nixon, Devinejane Odhiambo, Jayden Odhiambo, Noah Palmer-Jennings, Samuel Panadis, Jackson Petrianni, Noah Pierce, Jace Pierro, Jazmin Polanco Chinchilla, Jeremiah Race, Joey Race, Amir Roberts, A'Mya Roberts, Jace Robles, Kashius Ruiz, Minha Santos, Ava Scholtens, Chandler Seaton, Abigail Sheridan, Nolan Smith, Sydney Stevens, Kahlia Stickle, Jackson Strattman, Ryleigh Sweet, Elsie Tae, Mateo Tamayo, Alejandra Tzul Garcia, Jay'ceon Veeney, Jy'aire Virgo, Ally Webster, Joseph Weiss and Eli Welsh.



# 2023-24 FIRST TRIMESTER MCSES 5TH GRADE HONOR ROLL MEMBERS

Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School has announced its 5th Grade Honor Roll members for the first trimester of the 2023-24 school year! To achieve this recognition, students must meet these criteria:

- **High Honor:** Average of 90 or higher and no grade below an 85.
- **Honor:** Average of 85 or higher and no grade below an 80.
- **Merit:** Average of 75 or higher and no grade below a 70.

## High Honor Roll

Kevin Ajpacaja Chavaloc, Swad Akbar, Lothiful Chowdhury, Brielle Crank, Mary Daly, Kevin de Leon, Cameron Fix, Alexia Francis, Rose, Frederick, Bessie Goldman, Sofia Gowins, Kaspeya Hasan, Alysa Higans, Leila Hughes, Fatheah Jannat, A'nyalese Jones, Aliza Mahjabin, Kouchik Miah, Bella Moran, Violet Nguyen, Sayjon Noytik, Sophia Phillips, Michael Platner, Amelia Rhriss, Angelo Salvatore III, Louis Scoffier, Joseph Weiss, Elijah Welsh, Jenna White and Nova Wilson.

## Honor Roll

Tausif Araf, Carter Black, Jace Brooks, Aliyah Collins, Angela Edmond, Henry Jangrow, Kaylin Mackey, Jefferson Martinez, Madison Mastro, Isabelle Medina, Jayden Monk, Joseph Parker, Maria Ana Regina Sadia, Samiha Sajid, Alexandra Webster and Sanaa Williams.

## Merit Roll

Jara Akther, Raya Ambrose, Cambria Baratti, Cayden Bathrick, Alex Brown, Jace Canelli, Abdullah Chowdhury, Talha Chowdhury, Jeremy Cobbins, Jude Cooke, Nicholas Cripps-Servider, Charlie Crowe, Shoshana Cukerstein, Amiya Dallas, Shenyce DeFreitas, Evelyn Dunham, Anthony Edwards, Julius Forbes, Myles Ford, Alexander Habana, Lilliana Jackson-Hale, Sadie Kilmer, Jaley Mignott, James (Dezi) Moore, Raymond Novak, Addison O'Neill, Peyton Rose-Race, Lindsay Ringer, A'mya Roberts, Alissa Stoddard, Nickqualia Watson, Sammona Watson, Dallas Weaver and Emily Xiloj.

## COLONIAL TRADE JOB INTERVIEWS AT MCSES

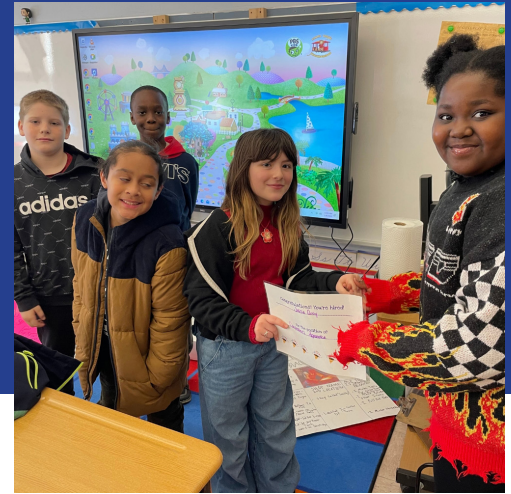
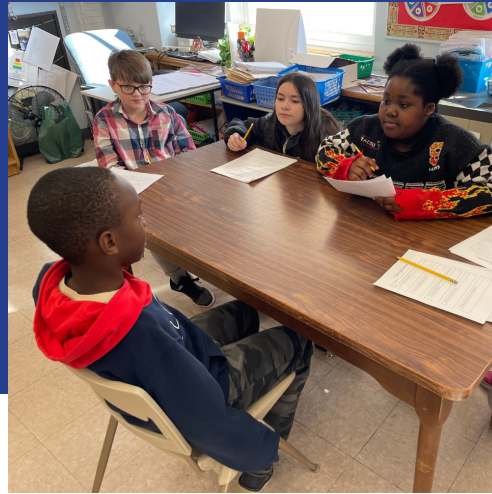
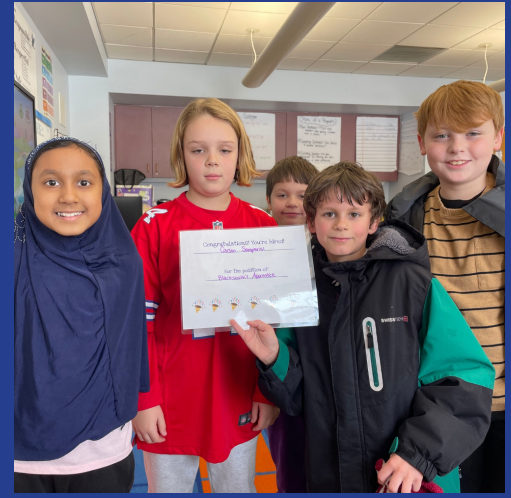
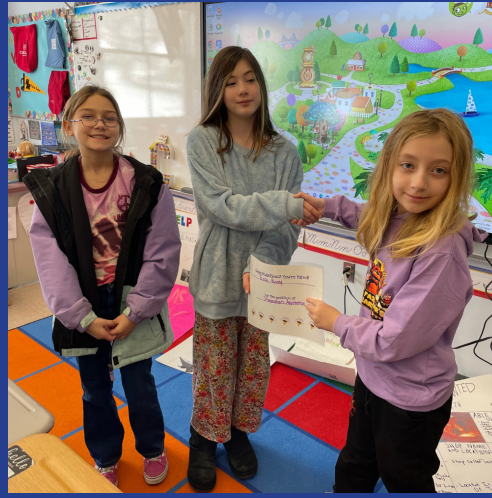
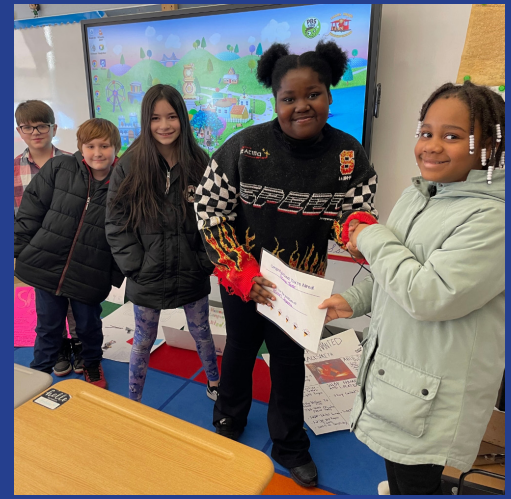
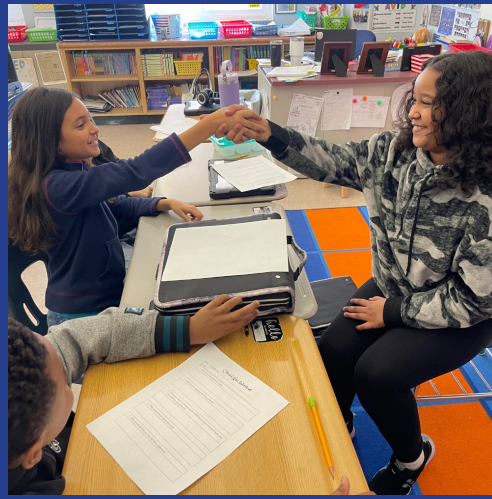
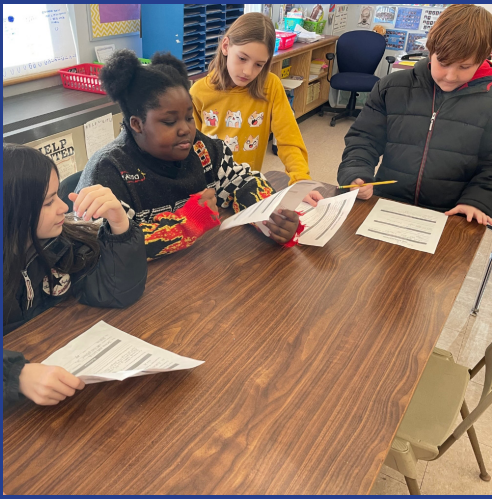
Students in Ms. Casciaro, Mrs. Holmes, and Ms. Daniel's classes have been studying colonial times. On Monday, Jan. 8, the scholars put their knowledge to the test by partaking in Colonial Trade Apprentice job interviews. Students completed "Help Wanted" advertisements, filled out job applications and participated in job interviews.

**Congratulations to the hired apprentices!**



*more photos on next page »*





## A. COLARUSSO & SON DONATES WARMUPS TO SHS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAMS

Thank you to A. Colarusso & Son, Inc. for its kind donation of warmup attire for the Hudson Senior High School Junior Varsity and Varsity Boys Basketball teams!





# INGENUITY, TEAMWORK AND CRAFTSMANSHIP ON FULL DISPLAY IN MR. PALMIERI'S WORKSHOP

Mr. Palmieri's Junior High School students practiced hands-on workshop and crafting skills on Jan. 5 through painting, machine operation and teamwork.



## “MINUTE TO WIN IT” IN PE CLASSES

The Hudson Senior High School Physical Education Department designed a “Minute to Win It” event for its PE classes in the days before the holiday break. Students competed against the clock to complete the assigned tasks - and did a great job!





# WORD WALL FOR PE CLASS

Physical Education Teacher Coach Ott created a Basketball Word Wall for students in English, Spanish and Bengali to better understand the fundamentals of basketball!



# CANNING LEMON LAVENDER JELLY WITH MS. COONS



Hudson City School District social worker Donna Coons was a special guest chef in Mrs. Schmitt's Food and Nutrition Class. Ms. Coons taught the students the benefits of canning and taught them how to make a delicious lemon lavender jelly. Each student took home a jar to share with family and friends.





# EQUIVALENT FRACTIONS AND PUZZLES WITH MRS. SEMANICK

Sixth graders in Mrs. Semanick's Junior High School math classes participated in a game in which they were challenged to find equivalent fractions. Students also used cooperation and collaboration to piece puzzles together!



[more photos on next page »](#)









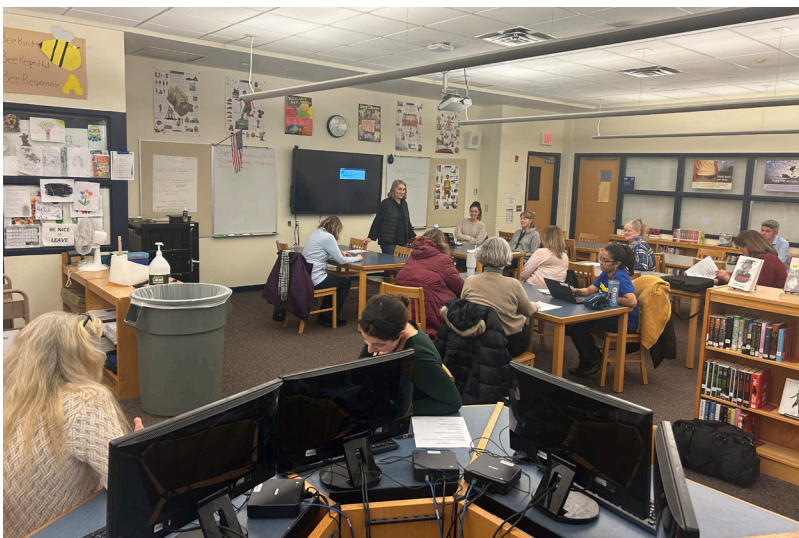
## MCSES DELIVERS BIG WITH DISNEY'S "THE LION KING" KIDS

The Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School Drama Club's performance of Disney's "The Lion King Kids" took place on Dec. 15-16 at the Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School Auditorium. A special shoutout to our students and staff on their amazing performances!



[more photos on next page »](#)





## EARLY PLANNING FOR HUDSON CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

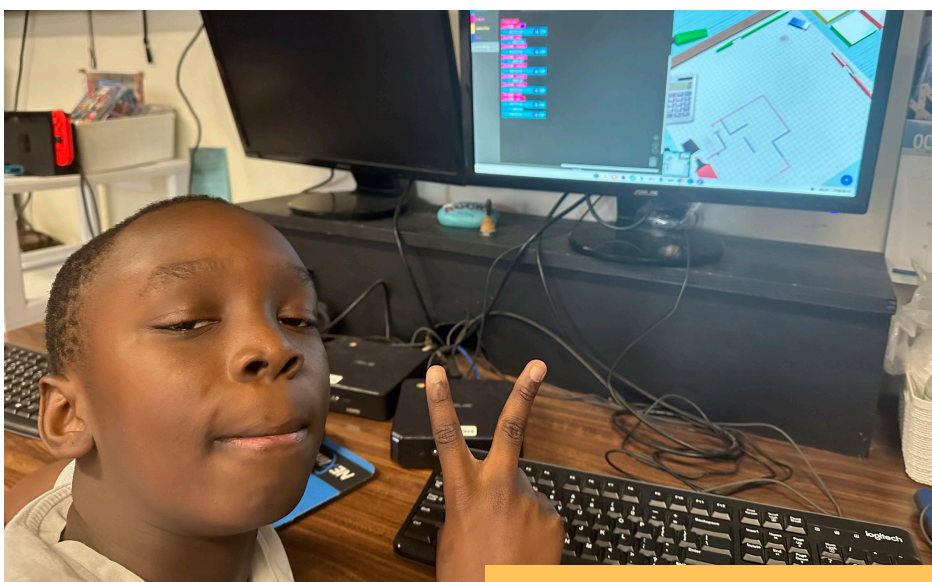
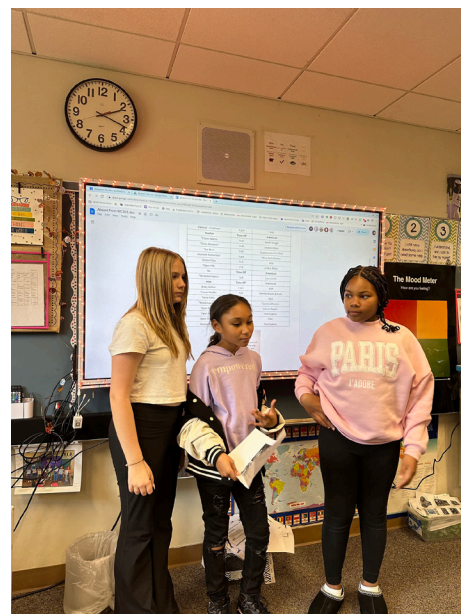
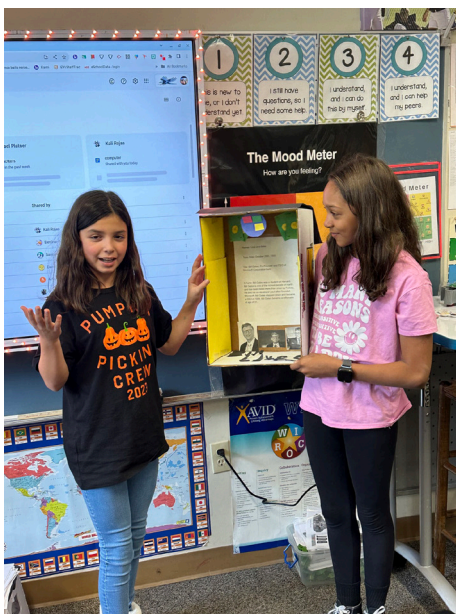
Several Hudson City School District employees attended a Hudson Children's Book Festival planning meeting on Jan. 8 to find ways they can assist with the jam-packed day on May 4, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Hudson Senior High School gym!



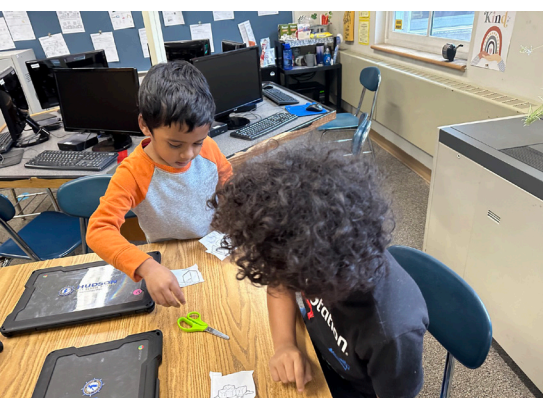
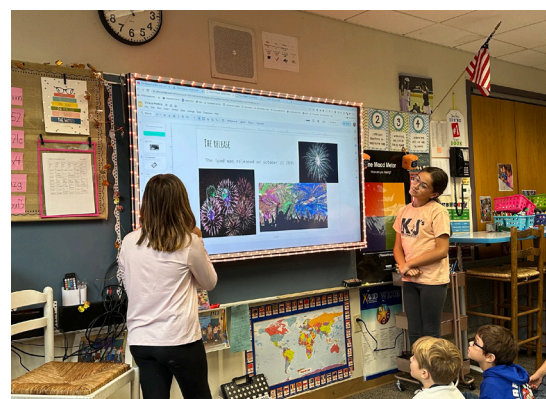
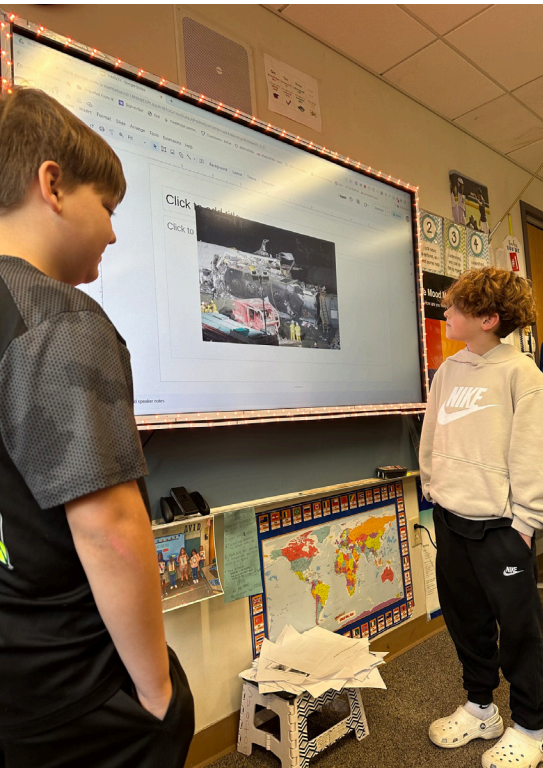
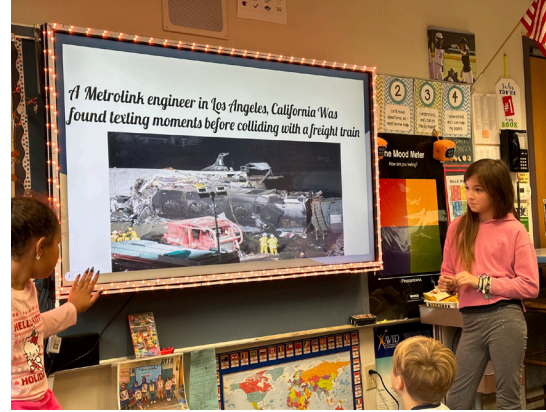
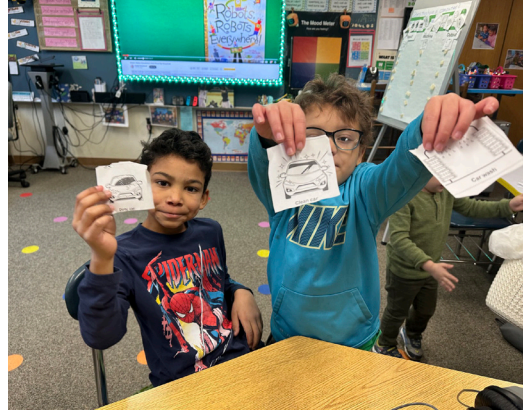
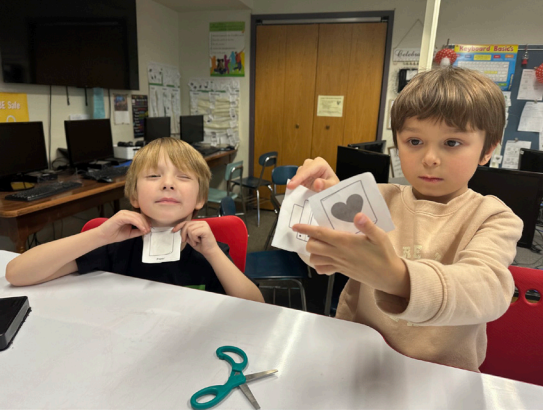
# COMPUTER AND GAMING TECH AT MCSES

Mrs. Suafoa's students at Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School have been busy!

- Students in grades 4 and 5 researched a topic on computer history and delivered presentations to their classmates. The class used an outline to fill in the facts, created a slideshow and presented the information they learned. Topics included the iPod, Windows 2000, Bill Gates and the special United States Stamp for ENIAC, the first programmable, electronic, general-purpose digital computer, completed in 1945.
- Students in Kindergarten and 1st grade learned about input, machines and output. They are sorting items that are trash, ready to compost, or recycle. The unit is focused on how robots can be used for recycling. Older students who completed group or individual work in class coded robots to complete a task using the program CoderZ.
- In Gaming Exploration, students collaborated, strategized, socialized, exercised and had lunch together over competitive and interactive games!







**HUDSON**  
*Together, we can!*

more photos on next page »





## MCSES GOES SLEDDING

Students in every grade at Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School had the opportunity to go sledding on Jan. 8 for 25 Bluehawk Bucks! Pictured here are members of the 2nd and 3rd grade classes.



[more photos on next page »](#)









## BOYS AND GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAMS OFF TO A HOT START

The boys and girls varsity basketball teams have been off to an electric start, drawing great crowds from the Bluehawk faithful!

*Photos courtesy of Lance Hopwood, Sidney Stickle and Morgan Hickey of the Hudson Senior High School Photo/Video Club.*



[more photos on next page »](#)







## HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR GHENT ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS

Students in Mrs. McCagg's Life Skills class at Hudson Junior High School have been learning about helping others in our community. The students adopted a resident of Ghent Assisted Living for the holiday. Thank you to the students and parents involved for making this happen!



## HUDSON JSHS BAND AND CHORUS BRING "WINTER TOUR" TO MCSES AND GHENT RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Over 50 students from Hudson Junior/Senior High School participated in a "Winter Tour" on Dec. 22, performing holiday music at Ghent Retirement Community and Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School!







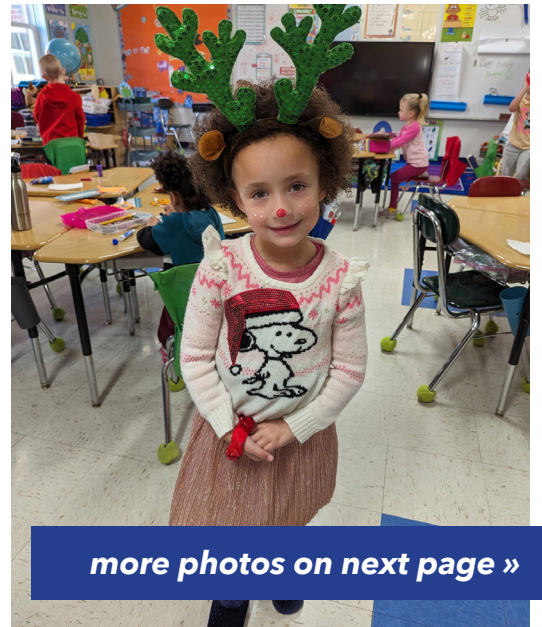
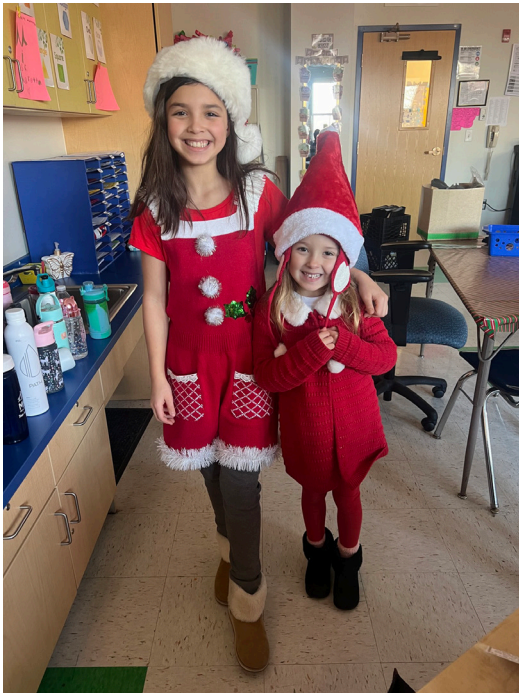
# WINTER SPIRIT WEEK AT HUDSON CSD

Our students and staff embraced the holiday season with "Spirit Weeks" taking place in all three buildings for the week of Dec. 18-22!



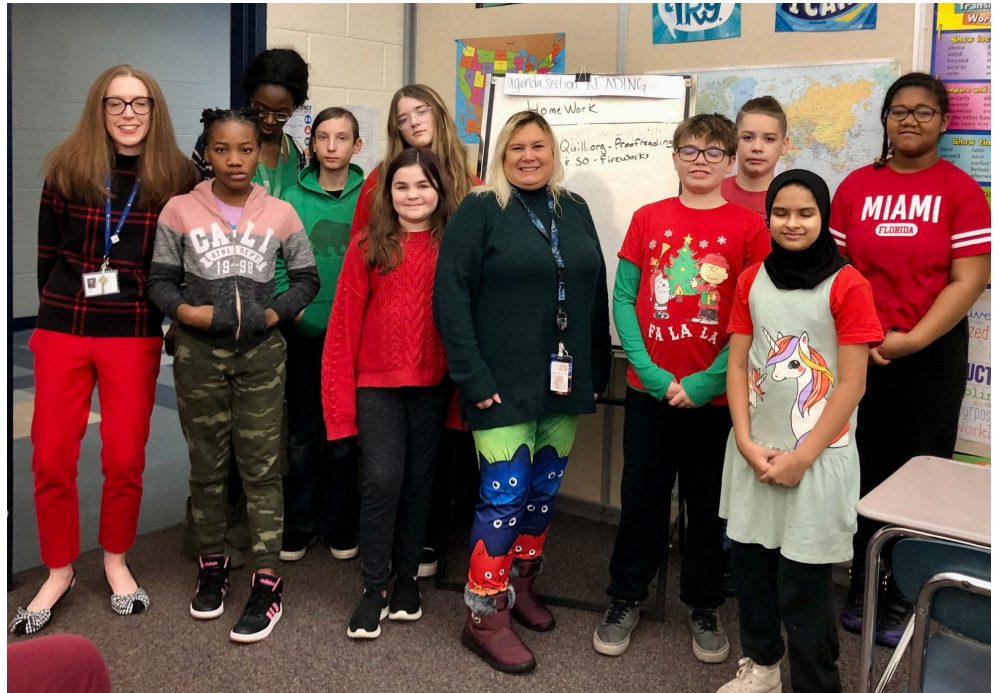
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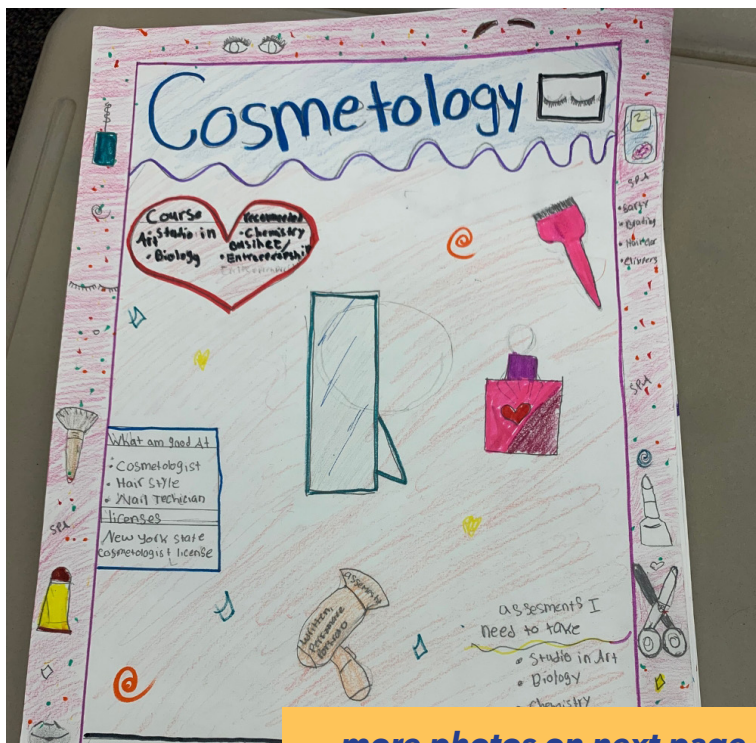


## JUNIOR HIGH AVID 7/8 CLASSES ORGANIZE HYGIENE DRIVE

Students in Mrs. Nixon and Mr. Hoolihan's AVID 7/8 classes organized a schoolwide hygiene drive at Hudson Junior High School to benefit the Salvation Army. Students and staff donated items like shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and more to help out those in need in our local community.



# JHS AVID CLASSES VISIT DONALD R. KLINE TECHNICAL SCHOOL

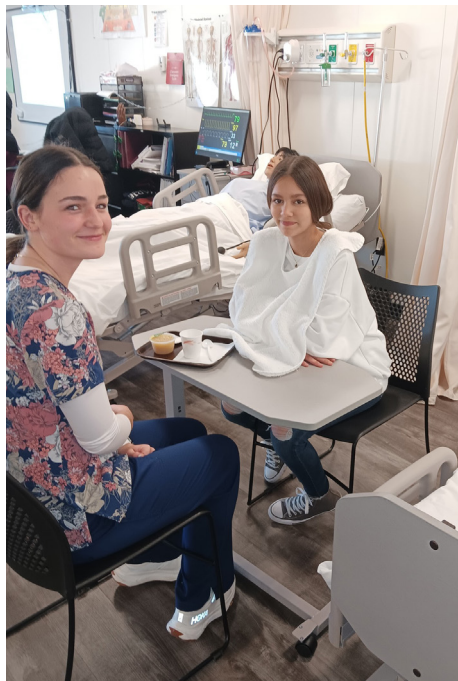
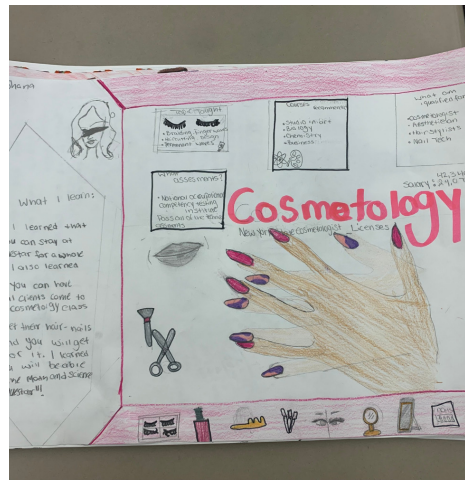
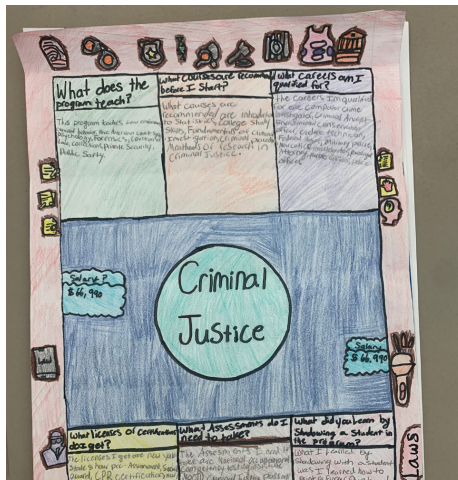
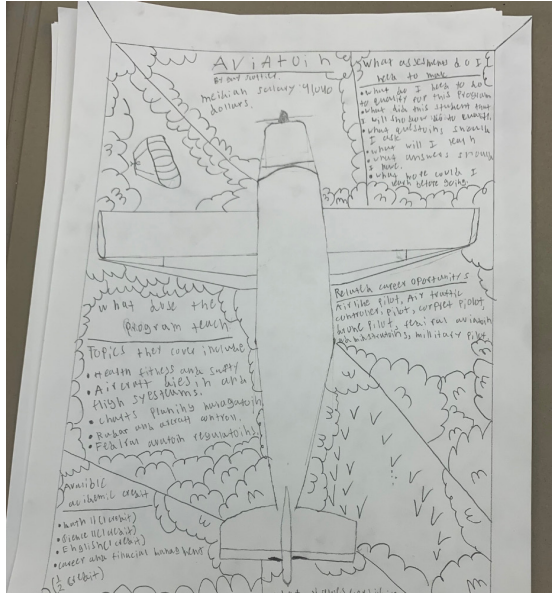
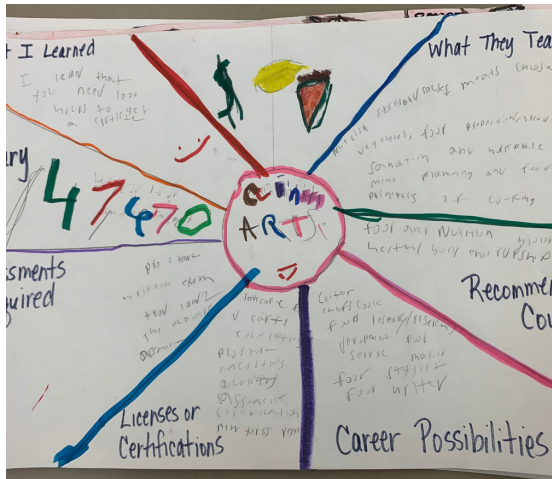


Students in Mrs. Nixon's and Mr. Hoolihan's AVID 7/8 classes took a trip over to the Questar III BOCES Donald R. Kline Technical School to explore the various CTE programs they offer.

Students were greeted by Mrs. Walker, Work-Based Learning Coordinator, who took students on a tour of the various programs such as Cosmetology, Aviation, Automotive Tech, Welding, Nursing, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts and Construction. Students also had the opportunity to shadow an actual student in two different programs to learn more about what they offer.

Our AVID students have now learned about future opportunities available to them once they enter Hudson Senior High School.

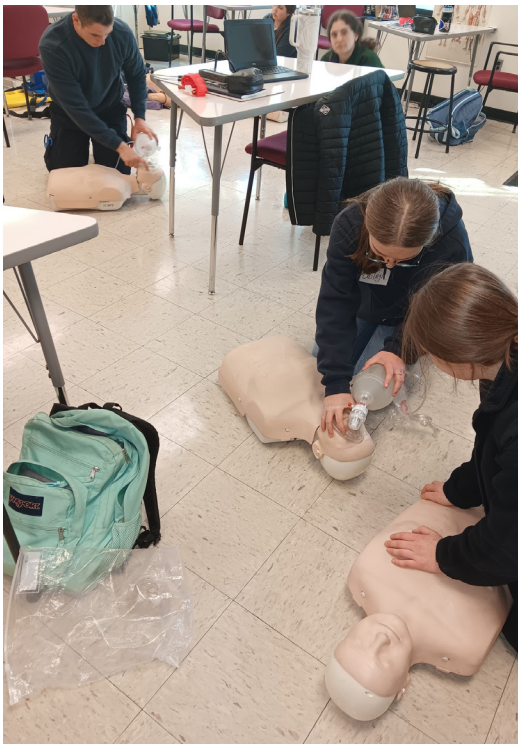
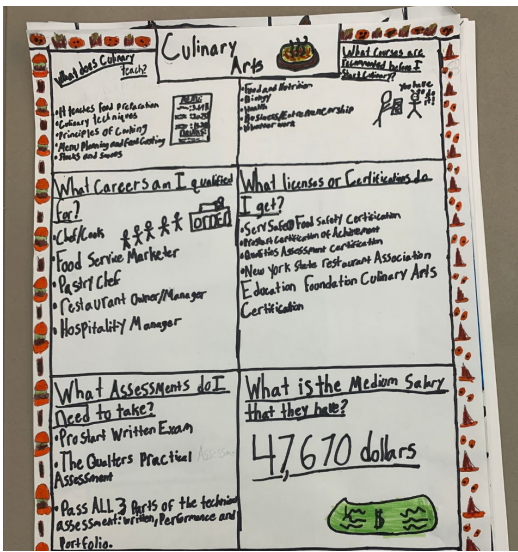




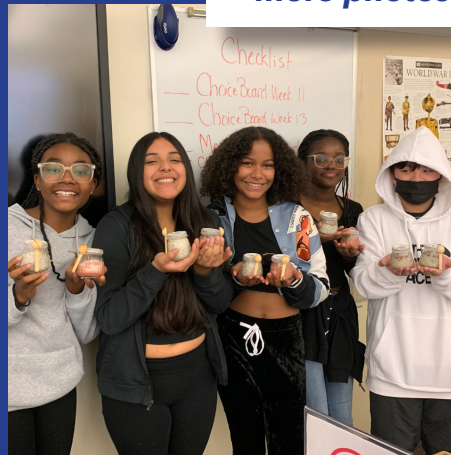
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# AVID CLASS CREATES SUGAR SCRUBS



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## Mrs. Nixon's AVID 7 class participated in a Sugar Scrub Maker workshop!



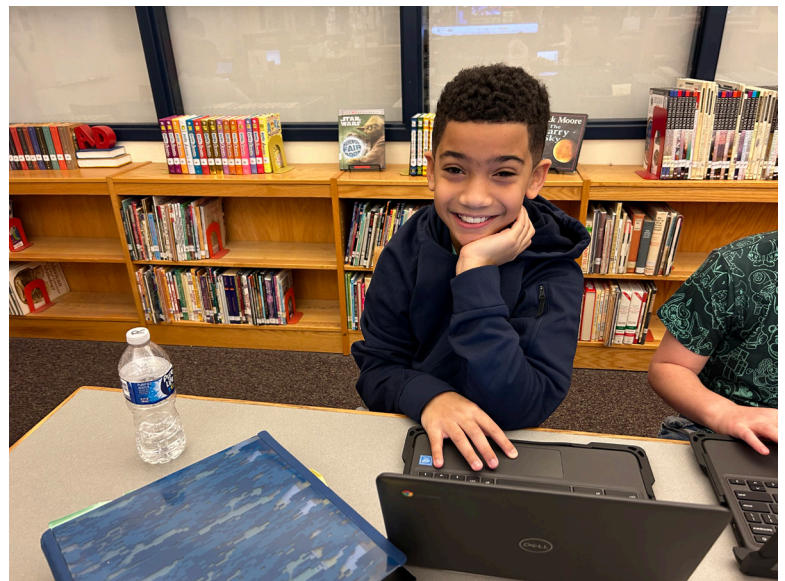
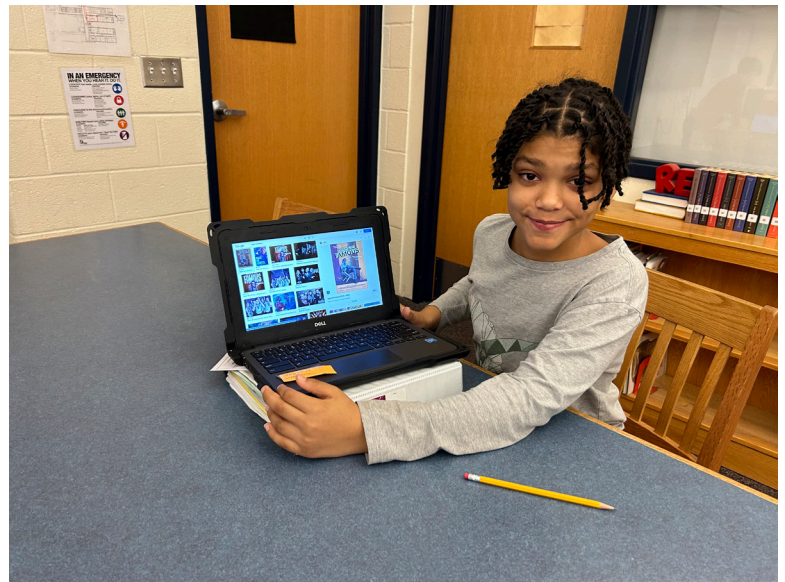
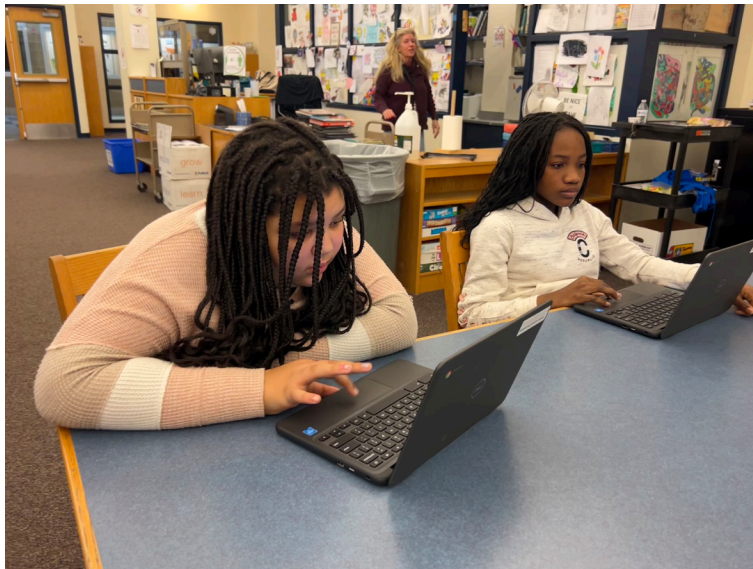
Lisa, the owner of LDTK Home Decor & Gifts Co. in Valatie, made a special trip to teach students how to make homemade sugar scrubs that they could customize with their favorite scents. Each student was able to make two jars to gift to others or indulge in themselves. A gracious THANK YOU to Lisa for leading our AVID students in this workshop!





## JHS STUDENTS WORK ON CHROMEBOOKS IN LIBRARY

Our Hudson Junior High School students are taking advantage of every opportunity they have to focus on their academics. Here are some pictures of our scholars working on Chromebooks in the Junior High School Library.







## JHS LIFE SKILLS CLASS TAKES VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP TO CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

Mrs. McCagg's Junior High School Life Skills class attended a virtual field trip to a Christmas tree farm thanks to the New York State Agriculture in the Classroom program through Cornell University!

## FOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT PROVIDES HOLIDAY TREATS

Students at the Hudson City School District were recipients of holiday treats from the Food Services Department! Hudson Junior and Senior High School students received holiday cookies while Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School students received "Polar Express" themed hot chocolate!



[more photos on next page »](#)





# HUDSON SHS WINTER CONCERT



*Thank you to all of those who attended  
the amazing Hudson Senior High School  
Winter Concert on Dec. 19!*





# HUDSON JHS WINTER CONCERT



*Congratulations to the Hudson Junior High School Band and Choir  
on an amazing winter concert performance on Dec. 7!*

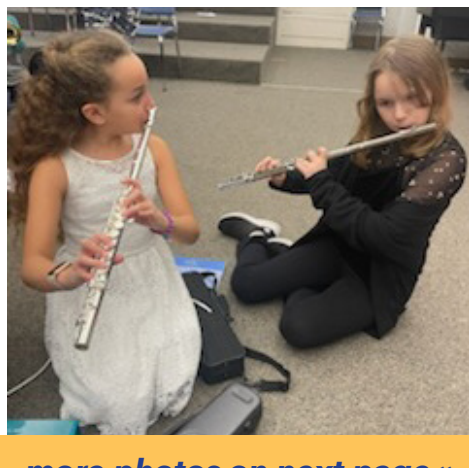






## 4TH AND 5TH GRADE WINTER CONCERT AT MCSES

4th and 5th grade band students performed in their Winter Concert on Dec. 1.



[more photos on next page »](#)

*Check out all the smiling faces!  
Thank you to all of those who attended the concert.*





# 5TH GRADE JAZZ BAND PERFORMS FOR HUDSON READS MENTORS

The 5th Grade Jazz Band at Montgomery C. Smith Elementary School performed for the Hudson Reads Celebration on Dec. 21!





# JSHS MUSICIANS ENTERTAIN AT WINTER WALK 2023



A special shout-out to the Hudson Senior High School Marching Band and Choir for their amazing performances this weekend at Winter Walk!





## HOLIDAYS AND UPCOMING EVENTS TO NOTE

**Jan. 23-26:** Regents Exams

**Jan. 23:** Board of Education meeting, 6 p.m., high school library

**February:** Black History Month

**Feb. 14:** Valentine's Day

**Feb. 19-23:** Winter recess, schools closed

