

THE BERLIN BANNER

MAY 2019

BUDGET EDITION

Dear Berlin School District Residents,

Soon you will be asked to vote on the school budget for 2019-2020. The 2019-2020 proposed budget maintains and enhances all existing programs that are aligned to our District Goals of improving the graduation rate, increasing student proficiency in core subject areas, reducing chronic absenteeism, and improving student growth.

Since New York State has made the 2% tax cap hike permanent, school districts and all municipalities need to balance their budgets and still maintain adequate resources to maintain programs and ensure success. Berlin Central School District has worked diligently to propose a fiscally sound budget, which represents a tax levy increase of just \$176,760, or 1.89%.

BCSD will be adding several necessary positions, including a 2nd grade teacher at Berlin Elementary School (to help maintain small class size) and a teaching assistant for the Office of Exceptional Education. The budget also includes funds for coordinating the Student Ambassadors, BES Drama Club, Helping Hands, and after school enrichment at the elementary school. At the Berlin Middle/High School, we will see two additional athletic teams (i.e. Bowling and Trap/Clay Target) and a new Odyssey of the Mind Team. The additional fund balance will be used for additional capital improvements and facilities upgrades at both schools.

While the overall budget to budget spending will increase by \$1,391,855 to \$21,961,768, the majority of revenue is from the reallocation of reserves to the appropriated fund balance (for one-time expenditures). Overall, the budget to budget increase, without reallocation of reserves, is \$421,023, or 2.05%. This is on par with previous budget increases over the previous 5 years.

On a separate note – please keep abreast of the construction of the new community track - slated for completion this fall. It will have breathtaking views of the surrounding natural landscapes. The soccer and baseball field will also be an inspiration to our athletic teams. Our capital projects, including the new Transportation Facility and all school improvements, are slated for completion in September 2020.

The future of all Berlin students relies on your continued support. Please take the time to vote on Tuesday, May 21st. Your vote counts!

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Young
Superintendent of Schools



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Budget Vote & Board of Education Election
May 21, 2019
noon to 9 PM
Berlin Elementary School
- ◆ Class of 2019 Valedictorian & Salutatorian Announced
- ◆ Budget Information
- ◆ Dramateers
- ◆ Marine Biology
- ◆ Office of Exceptional Education
- ◆ Art Department News

Berlin High School Announces Class of 2019 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Valedictorian – Greta Hermann

Greta Hermann, daughter of Todd and Suzanne Hermann of the town of Berlin has been named Berlin High School's Class of 2019 Valedictorian.

Greta has excelled in academics, starting an accelerated track in math and science in eighth grade. In eleventh grade, she earned the coveted Department Keys for Academic Excellence in Math and Spanish. Greta has taken eleven college level courses, including AP Chemistry and Siena College Physics. She will graduate with a NYS Regents diploma with Advanced Designation Mastery In Science and Honors.

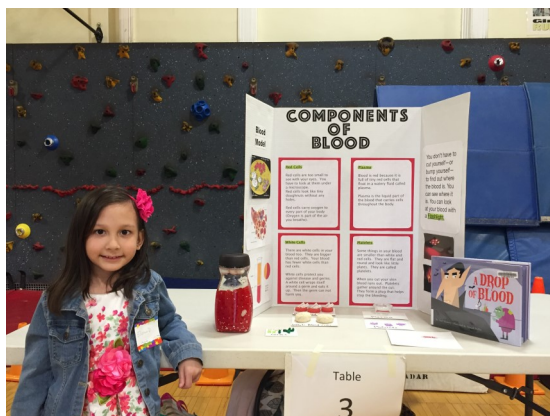
While managing challenging course loads and excelling academically, Greta is still able to volunteer her time as a Link Crew mentor assisting ninth graders at BHS.



Furthermore, Greta is a talented musician, and has been an involved member of the music department since middle school. She has participated in drama club productions, jazz band, marching band, and All County band and chorus. During her senior year, she took on a new role with the BHS band instructor, as a guest conductor with the sixth-grade band. Outside of school, Greta serves as a lector at Saint Joseph's in Stephentown and works at Grafton Lakes State Park in the summer.

Greta demonstrated her leadership and serves as class officer, is a member of Super Troopers, National Honor Society and National Science Honor Society. She remains undecided about where she will attend college in the fall, but has narrowed her choices to Stone Hill College, University of Rochester or State University of New York at Geneseo. She is interested in majoring in Political Science/Music education. She attributes her success to the support she received from her family and teachers at Berlin CSD.

BES ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR



Berlin Elementary Science Teacher Christine Walsh hosted BES's Annual Science Fair on April 4. Berlin High School student Jordan Shupe kicked off the Fair with a presentation on the life cycle of trout for the young BES Scientist. The evening was an opportunity for the community to see the exciting future scientists of Berlin.

Salutatorian – Hayden Crandall

Hayden Crandall, daughter of William and Season Crandall of the town of Grafton has been named Salutatorian for the Berlin High School Class of 2019.

Hayden is a talented student who not only excels academically, but also dedicates herself to various extracurricular activities and community service. She challenged herself through a variety of rigorous courses, including Advanced Placement level courses in chemistry and psychology. She will graduate with a NYS Regents diploma with Advanced Designation and Honors.

Hayden has been a member of the girl's varsity soccer team, the high school chorus, student council, Berlin's National Honor Society and National Science Honor Society. This year, she was chosen to organize and run the American Red Cross Blood drives held at the high school and was elected by her peers as Class of 2019 President. Her strong organizational and planning skills have helped her in her rolls as co-chairman of the Prom Committee and as Year-book Secretary.

When she is not busy with school, she is busy interacting with young members of the community as a Youth 2 Youth member, as well as volunteering her time as a Link Crew mentor assisting ninth graders at BHS. She remains undecided about where she will attend college in the fall, but has narrowed her choices to Russell Sage College or Michigan State University. She attributes her success



Student Reading Raises \$1200 for Ronald McDonald House



Student Ambassador Alicia Minkler presented Ellen Strait, Ronald McDonald House volunteer and Berlin Central alum with just over \$1,200 in donations. The donations were collected by BES students during the month of March's Read for Ronald McDonald House service project. Thank you to all the families who participated in this great cause.

District Receives School Safety Excellence Award

Berlin CSD was honored with the highest School Safety Excellence Award from Utica National Insurance Group. This is the second year in a row the district has received a safety award from the group. Each year Utica National recognizes schools for safety in categories such as playground safety and bullying prevention. Berlin Central School District officials accepted a certificate to commemorate the district's safety efforts and a \$500 award for use in furthering those efforts from Utica National representatives.



Berlin Elementary School's Instrumental Music Program

Miss Keem is proud to announce that her 4th and 5th grade Instrumental Music Program is strong and successful with a record number of 68 registered young musicians! Our 4th and 5th grade student instrumentalists receive 1 instrument lesson per week in a small group, and 4th Band and 5th Band each have 1 full-group Band rehearsal per week. Our students love their instruments, and look forward to coming to lessons and Band each week. The Band/Gymnasium hallway is filled with the beautiful sounds of happy, successful young musicians playing songs on their instruments!

Please mark your calendars for our All-District Band Concert on May 23rd, where ALL of our Band students from grades 4-12 will put on a progressive concert from youngest Band to oldest Band, culminating in an all-inclusive 4-12 Grand Finale!

This January, FIVE of Miss Keem's 5th grade Band students were selected to participate in Rensselaer County's Elementary All County Band! Special congratulations to Kelli Gryn, Haylee Jones, Charlie Young, Valentina Popov, and Celia Bautista for being chosen for this special honor!

BES' Instrumental Music Program is special and unique because it is 100% inclusive, and ALL children are welcome and valued for their unique musical abilities! The majority of BES students use school-owned instruments at zero rental fee, and Miss Keem is proud to be able to provide instruments to ALL children who wish to play. Miss Keem and her students would like to thank Berlin Central School District, Berlin Elementary PTO, Stewart's Shops Holiday Match program, and the community for their continued support of the BES Instrumental Music Program! Your support is essential to keeping our program running with working musical instruments, repairing broken instruments, replacing instruments that reach the point of no longer being repairable, replacing cases and needed accessories, and providing lesson books and Band music. Thank you for giving our students the gift of music! It is a wonderful and worthy endeavor that will last them a lifetime and that they will always remember!

BERLIN MOUNTAINEER SPORTS!

Berlin Athletic Teams Merge With New Lebanon

When discussing the merger between Berlin and New Lebanon's athletic teams, Berlin Athletic Director Joshua Weaver recalled one of basketball coaching legend John Wooden's favorite comments. "Patience is a virtue." "Much like our transition to the Wasaren League," Weaver said, "the mergers between Berlin and New Lebanon will be very beneficial." This spring the Varsity and Modified Track teams, Girls Varsity Softball and Boys JV Baseball teams merged with New Lebanon.

Weaver said the merger is already beneficial in that practices and games have been taking place in New Lebanon while Berlin's new athletic facilities are under construction. The new complex will feature state-of-the-art track and field facilities as well as a new soccer field and baseball diamond. This fall the Boys Modified, JV and Varsity Soccer teams will be merging with New Lebanon, which will allow for the teams to field enough players.

Berlin's athletic merger with New Lebanon has been underway for some time, first with the swim team and then the wrestling program (now in its fifth season). "This merger makes the athletic programs more competitive in the Wasaren League and opens new doors for our student-athletes," said Weaver.



Budget Vote/BOE Election

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Berlin Elementary School

12:00 PM—9:00 PM

BCSD 2019-2020 Proposed Budget

Expenses		2018-2019	2019-2020
		Adopted	Proposed
		Budget	Budget
Program Budget			
	Regular Education	5,086,766	5,163,109
	Special Education	2,362,112	2,453,807
	Occupational Education	557,573	589,726
	Continuing Ed/Driver Ed	25,000	25,000
	Library/Technology	603,162	802,677
	Educational Television	9,029	6,097
	Guidance	367,085	363,557
	Health Services	218,505	304,081
	Co-Curricular/Sports	299,115	328,874
	Transportation	1,595,167	1,615,244
	Employee Benefits	4,720,390	4,779,811
		15,843,902	16,431,983
Administrative			
	Board of Education	10,877	15,573
	Central Administration	249,526	260,003
	Finance	345,948	369,275
	Legal/Personnel/Public	122,169	93,018
	Insurance/Dues	99,832	78,905
	School Supervision	696,321	554,359
	Curriculum & In-service	87,687	175,930
	BOCES Administration	37,988	49,314
	Employee Benefits	531,935	554,604
		2,182,284	2,150,982
Capital Budget			
	Operations & Main.	1,342,836	2,065,753
	Central Data	206,150	226,150
	Debt Service	581,310	640,197
	Employee Benefits	413,431	446,703
		2,543,727	3,378,803
		20,569,913	21,961,768
Revenue			
	State Aid	10,478,208	10,694,641
	Real Property Taxes	9,331,076	9,507,266
	Miscellaneous	310,629	339,029
	Reserves	0	0
	Fund Balance	450,000	1,420,832
		20,569,913	21,961,768

Budget Vote

Proposition Vote

Board Election Vote

May 21, 2019

12—9 PM

**Berlin Elementary
School**

53 School Street

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

To vote, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years of age
- A resident of the district for 30 days prior to the vote

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Qualified district residents who are unable to go to the polling place on May 21 can cast their votes by absentee ballot. For an application, call the District Clerk at 518-658-1500 Option 8, Extension 1010. If the ballot is to be mailed, the application for the ballot must be received by May 16. If the ballot is to be delivered in person, the application must be received by May 20. All completed ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5 PM on May 21.

2019-2020 School Budget and BOE Vote

Voting will take place at the Berlin Elementary School, 53 School Street, Berlin, from 12:00—9:00 PM. Voters will be asked to vote on five items:

THE 2019-2020 BUDGET

The Budget for the 2019 – 2020 school year is not to exceed **\$21,961,768**. This is an increase of 1.89% in the tax levy.

PROPOSITION #1 – BUS PURCHASE

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York, is hereby authorized to purchase in fiscal year 2019-2020 three (3) 66 passenger buses, and one (1) 8 passenger vehicle and expend a gross sum not to exceed \$387,000. Which said total sum of \$387,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, may be raised by issue of obligations of the district therefore in accordance with the education law and local finance law.

PROPOSITION #2 - \$100,000 CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York, is hereby authorized to continue to repair, replace, upgrade, reconstruct, and install and make improvements to the Gymnasium at the Berlin Elementary School building, including all original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, hardware and software and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, and is further authorized to expend therefore an amount not to exceed \$100,000, to be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

PROPOSITION #3 – CAPITAL RESERVE FUND - BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York, is hereby authorized and directed to establish a capital reserve fund, entitled “Capital Reserve Fund – Buildings and Grounds,” for the purpose of financing construction, reconstruction and/or renovation of district owned buildings, grounds, and facilities, in accordance with education law section 3651, with for a probable term not to exceed 10 years, in an ultimate amount not to exceed \$5,000,000, to be funded by future budget excess fund balance, tax levies, transfers from other established reserves, or interest earnings from such fund being added to the fund’s balance, in accordance with education law, in a maximum annual amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, and providing that no expenditures or transfers from this fund shall be made without the approval of a majority of the voting residents at an annual or special meeting called by the Board of Education.

2019 BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

The Board of Education is comprised of seven members elected by district residents. All members serve without pay for three year terms. Under the Education Law of New York State, the Board is responsible for the education of students who attend the schools in the district; for the preparation of the annual budget, for district adherence to state law and State Education Department regulations concerning the conduct of the public schools. The Superintendent of Schools is charged with the administration of Board policies. Three members are running for re-election: Rachel Finney, Sherry Bowman– Kluck, and Jeffrey Paine.



First Annual Drama Club Production at BES

The Berlin Elementary School Drama Club performed their first-ever production of “A Mother Goose Comedy” to a packed audience Thursday, March 28.

Fourth grade teacher Megan Laz was excited about bringing her expertise with drama clubs to the fourth and fifth grade students at BES. Mrs. Laz and music teacher Katherine Labnon directed the club’s 29 members in this year’s production. BES teachers and administrators Karyn Healy, Tracy Kent, Stephanie Kneer, Kathy Mason-Wagar and Gretchen Ruebel were instrumental to the club’s production.

The student performers included: Izzy Bink, Alaina Bonbardier, Gabby Colangione, Tamaz Devine, Ava Dus, Sage Dudley, Kelli Gryn, Joe Hoffman, Tyler Hoffman, Haylee Jones, Elena Leahy, Mackenzie Lowell, Tyler Lumpkin, Asia Mabee, Jack Mace, Cale Maxon, Lilly Meyers, Alicia Minkler, Maritza Montanez, Taylor Morse, Kira Reed, Madison Rontey, Brandon Schongar, Hope Sharpe, Morgan Sharpe, Norah Smerdon, Elliot Smith, Mackenzie Walko, and Erika Yerdon.

Family And Consumer Science News

Our FACS (Family and Consumer Science) students have been so successful this year. We were able to add a high school Home Management class where we learned about finances, work place behaviors and communication. The 8th grade classes have gone above and beyond with their ability to cook, sew and demonstrate how they will contribute to society by being dedicated citizens, deciding on a career path and their ability to contribute financially.

As always we have an amazingly successful year in FACS and look forward to another wonderful year to follow. We appreciate all of the space, resources and support from our wonderful Berlin School District community.



Dear Residents of the Berlin Central School District:

On behalf of the Members of the Berlin School District Board, I am pleased to share with you this recap of the District's many accomplishments this past year and also our budget plans for the upcoming school year.

Turning first to our Elementary Students, this past year the new Drama Club brought down the house with their performance of A Mother Goose Comedy. Our newly formed student ambassadors spearheaded community fundraising for the Petersburg Fire Department, with students also enjoying enrichment opportunities in First Aid, caring for pets and wildlife and programs with Grafton Lakes State Park, Odyssey of the Mind, and All County Band & Chorus.

At the Middle/High School, it was another great year – with our students excelling in Music, Art, and expanded sports program in the Wasaren League and also in combined Berlin and New Lebanon teams. Our students in Questar CTE programs continue to excel, and a special recognition goes out to our Science Department, being showcased as one of only two New York State Schools in Marine Biology.

The Board would also like to thank our parents who encouraged and supported their children and the New York State Testing program. With a Berlin student testing rate of 96%, the data will provide the necessary information for the District to continue to enhance the school curriculum for all our students.

Now, we turn our attention to our Capital Projects. This year's focus is on improving safety, upgrading Science labs, classrooms, exterior teaching areas, sports fields, and our transportation facility. Work is planned to begin this summer and continue through next year. It's all part of the plan we've developed, and expanded, over the past several years, and your continued support is greatly appreciated.

All said, the District has worked hard to hold the line on tax increases, with an average annual increase of 1.2% over the past seven years. This year's proposed budget continues our commitment to be fiscally responsible, with a proposed tax levy increase of 1.89% (again below the State's tax cap).

As a Board, we're committed to working together to continue to move our District forward. Providing each of our students with a top quality education takes the combined hard work of everyone, including our dedicated teachers, non-instructional staff, administrators, board members, students, and parents. Your continued support is especially appreciated.

Again, on behalf of each Board Member, thank you. We look forward to working with you in the year to come.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Zwack, President
Berlin Central School District Board of Education

Budget Vote/BOE Election

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Berlin Elementary School

12:00 PM—9:00 PM

www.berlincentral.org

Berlin Dramateers Wowed Audiences with “Fiddler on the Roof”

During the weekend of March 15, the Berlin High School Dramateers performed “Fiddler on the Roof” to packed audiences. “I am so proud of our cast and crew for bringing this challenging musical to life onstage. They all did such an amazing job,” said Director Leslie Eliashuk.



PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION POLICY

New York State Education Law Section 409-H requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year. The Berlin Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide application is not subject to prior notification requirements:

- A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72 hours following an application
- Anti-microbial products
- Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper-resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children
- Nonvolatile insecticide baits in tamper-resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children
- Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate
- The application of EPA-designated biopesticides
- The application of EPA-designated exempt materials under 40 CFR 152.25
- The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect an individual from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good-faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list. You must request in writing if you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur. The form is available online at **www.berlincentral.org** or you may receive one by contacting the Superintendent of Buildings at 518-658-1500, option 8, extension 3011.

BES Student Ambassadors

The Student Ambassadors is a new group that was started at Berlin Elementary School this year. A small group of students in grades 3, 4, and 5 worked together to complete a variety of service learning projects. The group started the year off with Socktober, in which they collected 289 new pairs of socks to donate a local homeless shelter. Throughout the fall and winter the students organized and held popcorn sales, pencil-grams, and candy-grams at school. They raised over five hundred dollars, which was donated to the Petersburg Fire Department to be used to help them buy the Jaws of Life.

The Student Ambassadors also helped with after school enrichment programs this year. Students in kindergarten, first, and second grade made homemade dog and cat treats that were sent to the Hudson Mohawk Humane Society. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students made dog beds and cat beds that were also donated.

The teachers and students of Berlin Elementary School appreciate the work they did to make our school and community a better place, and look forward to seeing what they do next year!



BES student ambassadors Norah Smerdon, Alicia Minkler, Isabella Ovitt and Mackenzie Lowell presented a \$552 check on behalf of BES to firefighters Ben Krahforst, Terry Neaton, Richard Snyder, Pat Adrion and Ben Adrion.

BES's 7th Annual Lip Sync

Berlin Elementary School's 7th Annual Lip Sync, on April 18, had over fifty students and also staff performing to a full house at the Middle-High School auditorium. The evening was dedicated to those loved ones lost to cancer or who are cancer survivors and currently battling cancer within the BES community. Donations were collected at the event and sent to the American Cancer Society in their honor. First grade teacher and staff choreographer Tracie Heinrichs put together another memorable evening for the students, staff and families of BES.



Odyssey of the Mind Tournament

Berlin Central School District sent four teams to Coxsackie-Athens for the Odyssey of the Mind (OotM) tournament this year. The tournament was an opportunity for teams to problem-solve in categories that range from building mechanical devices to interpreting literary classics. The first event was the local level of the tournament consisting of teams from Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene counties.

OotM coach Sarah Thibeu's middle school team advanced to the state-level competition. The team consisted of Hannah Mace, Connor Sniger, Zach Alderman, Ashleigh Smerdon, Dan Williams, Rebecca Moore, Jayli Capasso, and volunteer Riley Smith.

Mrs. Thibeu's team went on to compete and had a strong showing at Binghamton University and Vestal School, which hosted the state level of the competition.

It was the first time the elementary school fielded teams for the competition and the middle school's fourth year but first time to the state-level.

Congratulations and great job to all who participated!



Budget Vote/BOE Election

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Berlin Elementary School

12:00 PM—9:00 PM

Marine Biology Program Making Waves

Mr. Matthew Christian's unique Marine Biology program—one of only two in New York State raised skates, Cassiopeia jellyfish and Moon jellyfish this school year. The students in the Marine Biology class and six independent study students had the opportunity to work with The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk in Connecticut and Via Aquarium in Rotterdam, NY. The students acquired some of their jellyfish polyps and their shark and skate embryos from the Maritime Aquarium at the beginning of the school year. This required extensive research and a proposal to the Aquarium to prove the students of Berlin were able to take on such a big challenge.

The students learned about plumbing and carpentry with the building of their tanks to raise the marine life. Dedication to maintaining tank water levels, feeding the marine life, keeping records, and critical thinking became part of their daily routine. Then as the embryos hatched and the jellyfish grew it was time for the students to hand over their precious marine life to the Via Aquarium. The students presented their recorded observations to senior aquarists at Via, Julie McNulty and Bellamy Reynolds. The aquarists were also able to talk to the students about their careers and shared the love they have for Marine Biology.

A behind the scenes look at how the aquarium operates and maintains all its marine life was very hands on. It made it possible for the students to see where their jellyfish, skates and sharks were going to live and how they would be cared for on a larger scale.

There was even more excitement when Spectrum News anchor, Dan Bazile, visited Berlin and met the students at the Via Aquarium with a camera crew to film a story about the program. A link to the video can be found at berlincentral.org. Stay tuned for the completion of the Capital Project's new science wing at the Middle-High School which will include a Marine Biology lab.



Office of Exceptional Education

This has been a huge year of transition in the Office of Exceptional Education, and that's not just because of our new name! With a new director comes new expectations, processes, and goals. This year the special education staff focused on identifying our specific student needs and refining our continuum of services. We also hired a new school psychologist and said goodbye to a retiring teacher. As we finish annual reviews and move into the spring, we are already thinking about next year.

Every year our special education student population and student needs change. Our staff and programs will adjust accordingly year to year. Some staffing requests that were presented to the Board of Education at the March board meeting reflect these shifts to meet student needs. This year, some of those changes are as follows:

- Due to the number and needs of students with disabilities entering kindergarten, we will offer two co-taught classes at the kindergarten level in 2019-2020.
- We will offer special classes in ELA and Math at the elementary level.
- We will offer two special classes at the high school taught by special education teachers who are also certified in a content area. We will offer Special Class English 9/10 and Special Class Global 1.

Several additional stipend positions were also proposed to the Board in order to appropriately serve our students.

The Board also voted to accept the concept of starting a Unified Basketball team for Spring 2020. This is a program through the Special Olympics in which students with developmental disabilities ("athletes") are paired with students who do not have developmental disabilities ("partners") to play together on a "unified" basketball team. There are currently 32 districts in the larger Capital Region who have unified teams. Due to being a small district, we could not support this program on our own, but hope to team up with a neighboring district to get this program off of the ground next spring.



Berlin Central School District's Parade Band

Parade Band is very active in the Berlin CSD community! Under the direction of Miss Bethanie Keem, Parade Band has provided event-appropriate music for Berlin's Memorial Day Parade (including playing The Star-Spangled Banner at the town monument and sounding TAPS at the cemetery), Berlin's Independence Day Parade (including fun music such as Kookaburra Round and Katy Perry's song "Firework"), and Stephentown's Veterans Day ceremony where the new memorial was unveiled. We have received many positive compliments about how great we sound together and how nice it is to see students giving back to the community and learning about important traditions, such as sounding TAPS and participating in meaningful community events.

Special thanks to Mrs. Jessica Gould for sounding Echo Taps with Miss Keem, and kudos to all our dedicated students who braved the frigid temperatures to play special music and show honor and respect to our veterans.

THE BERLIN ART DEPARTMENT

"Highlights from the 2018-2019 School Year"

It has been a busy year for the Art Department this year. We welcomed the talented **Michelle MacDonald** to our team. Michelle teaches Art Pre-K-5th grade at **Berlin Elementary School**. She has been a wonderful addition to the **Berlin Central School District's Art Department!** There has been a lot of Art History, Art Criticism, and Art Making happening at both BES and Berlin MS/HS this year. Beyond the classroom, there have also been **community projects, field trips, and art competitions.** We have highlighted a few of these events below. Feel free to visit our website at <https://berlinarthappens.wixsite.com/berlinarthappens> or Friend us at "Berlin Art Dept" on Facebook for more!



5th Grade students at BES learned about Cubism by studying artist, Pablo Picasso. Picasso wanted to show all sides of a person in one dimension. After discussing this concept, students created these sculptural portraits using Model Magic.



Photography students had a wonderful visit with Mrs. McClave, President of Stephentown Historical Society. Students learned about glass slides and viewed local photographs from 1907.

In December, National Art Honor Society collaborated with Ms. MacDonald for a night of creating Clothespin Dolls. Elementary students along with families were invited to BES for this fun night of crafting.

The High School Art Department started the year with a new project, designing the High School Yearbook! We are very excited about the hard work that has gone into it and are excited to distribute these to our Mountaineers in late May!

(BELOW) Olympics of the Visual Arts (OVA) Competition:

K-12 statewide competition put on by NYSATA to encourage creative problem solving and collaboration. This year's competition was in Saratoga Springs on Thursday, April 4th and 4 teams from Berlin High School participated!

Sneak Peak of the wall mural at the MS/HS!
Come to the Night of the Arts for the ribbon cutting and reveal of this 2 year endeavor!



*Our students have worked creating all year,
now that special time is here.
Mark your calendars, admission is **FREE**
Artwork will be up for all to **SEE!***

"Night of the Arts" (MS/HS):
May 30th Doors open at 5:00 Event begins at 5:30
Berlin Elementary Art Show:
Will be up May 21st for the Budget Vote

P. O. Box 259
Berlin, NY 12022

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Board of Education

Frank Zwack, President
Katie Snyder, Vice President
Rachel Finney
Kellie Kaschak
Sherry Bowman-Kluck
Jeffrey Paine
Jim Willis

POSTAL PATRON

ASBESTOS INSPECTIONS

The school district is required, under rules and regulations of the federal Environmental Protection Agency in response to the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (AHERA), to notify students, parents and employees of the presence of asbestos containing materials (ACM) in its buildings. Notice is hereby given that pursuant to AHERA 40 CFR Part 763 section 763.93, the District will conduct inspections, re-inspections and operations and maintenance activities designed to identify and abate ACM known to exist in its school buildings. Notice is also given that a copy of the district's Management Plan for Asbestos Abatement, together with supporting documentation, is available for inspection in the District Facilities Office. Questions concerning the District's response to AHERA regulations should be directed to the Superintendent of Buildings at 518-658-1500, option 8, extension 3011.



Go Mountaineers!