

District Updates:

Superintendent Lauren Crisman recently honored retiring staff members, at a breakfast attended by their friends and colleagues. Each of them has served the district for many years. Their accomplishments include serving as mentors, class advisors, coaches, tutors, and leaders. They have touched so many students' lives and will be greatly missed by all. Congratulations and thank you!

Andrea Bouck: Guidance Secretary for 37 years

Jay Jarabek: HS Science Teacher for 31 years

Patti Jarabek: HS Spanish Teacher for 32 years

Charlie Karker: Athletic Director for 45 years

Sue Summerfield: HS Math Teacher for 20 years

Paul VanAvery: Director of Facilities, employed for 46 years

PTA Hosts Minute to Win It: A Family Game Night... Wednesday, April 26th 6:00-7:00 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. Families will enjoy ten stations of fun, competitive games. There will be free ice cream sundaes in the cafeteria. Each child will get to choose a prize to take home, and every family will be entered into a drawing for a Family Fun Basket.

Hilltopper Herald Article of the Month:

The Hilltopper Herald is the elementary school newspaper. This month's article is by Kinley Trumbull: "Cats are a cute, loveable house pet. Here are some cat breeds you would like to adopt: British Shorthair, Maine Coon, Persian, Ragdoll, and Birman. Of course there's more than five cat breeds. If you're looking for a cute, loveable pet look at different animal shelters. Did you know that cats can jump six times higher than their height? A cat's average height is 9.1-9.8 inches, so cats can jump up to 54.8 inches! That's pretty high! Now that you know these few facts about cats, you should look into adopting one."

Upcoming Events:

5/2-5/9 Grades 3-8 Math Assessments

5/3 Public Hearing/BOE mtg 7:00

5/16 Budget Vote & BOE Election
1:00-9:00 pm HHS gym
7:00 BOE Meeting

5/29 School Closed: Memorial Day

5/23-6/2 Science Assessments



FORT PLAIN

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sports News:

The Western Athletic Conference announced the following student-athletes as winter sports All-Stars:

Amelia Gallagher: Cheerleading All-Star

Marissa Wilder: Basketball 2nd Team

Stephen Gray: Basketball 1st Team All-Star

Anthony Paradiso: Bowling 1st Team All-Star

Alex Smith: Wrestling All-Star

Austin VanGorder: Basketball, Honorable Mention

Kaendence David: Bowling, 1st Team All-Star

Brianna Krutz: Bowling, 2nd Team

Anthony Paradiso, a Fort Plain senior and member of the C-FP Varsity Football team was recently inducted into the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame, Capital District Chapter. Anthony was presented with his Hall of Fame Scholar-Athlete Award at a dinner in Albany on March 12th. The award is inscribed "The Capital District Chapter of the National Football Foundation grants Anthony Paradiso of Canajoharie-Fort Plain High Schools this certificate in recognition of being voted as outstanding in academic achievement, school & community leadership, and football performance." Anthony is an accomplished student. In addition to football, Anthony is on the bowling and baseball teams, plays summer baseball league, competes in local bowling tournaments and summer volleyball events. He is class Vice President and is involved with SADD, Student Council, Drama Club, National Honor Society and Yearbook. Anthony will attend Lasell University in Newton, MA to study Athletic Training/Exercise Science.

Harry Hoag Elementary School News:

Elementary art teacher Autumn Slawinski developed a coding project for her 6th grade students. Working in teams, students had to use a color key and determine which squares in a grid needed to be colored in with which markers. The students completed nine different grids, and when completed the grids were joined together to reveal the finished product - Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa! Working twice a week, the project took eight weeks to finish. Along the way, the students made guesses as to what they were creating. The unit concluded with a lesson about the famous Mona Lisa.

School Counselor Stephanie Macherone organized presentations for elementary students about the appropriate use of technology and how to use the internet responsibly. "The presentations are designed to increase our students' understanding of digital safety, help them to become more mindful of their technology usage, and increase their knowledge of how to navigate the internet safely," said principal Jodi Coppolo. "Our goal is to educate students and provide them with the tools, skills, and strategies they need to become digitally literate."

Pat Hanifin's 5th grade science classes recently completed a lab on "investigating traits." The genetic traits that the students studied included: eye color, hair color, freckles, dimples, tongue rolling, earlobe attachment, widow's peak, and cleft chin. They also tested reaction time, hand span, and broad leap. The students enjoyed the hands-on portions, as well as the family surveys which helped them to learn about certain traits and which ones they had in common with their parents or siblings.

Students in Mrs. Bartholomew's 6th Grade English classes held a March Madness Tournament during the month of March...featuring a Poem vs. Song competition. Students would listen to performances of the songs and poems as they analyzed the lyrics for tone, mood, theme, and figurative language. The songs and poems went head to head in brackets, until a winner was declared- a poem entitled "Explaining My Depression to My Mother" by Sabrina Benaim. Also finishing high in tournament were "The Rose That Grew From Concrete" by Tupac Shakur and "This is Me" from The Greatest Showman.

Jr/Sr High School News:

Jr/Sr High School Librarian Tariyka Chaulk recently invited Allyson Dahlin to visit with Mrs. Trembley's English students. Allyson is a Fort Plain graduate of the Class of 2008 and a published author. Students were able to hear about her debut novel "Cake Eater", as well as what is coming up next. They asked questions about the writing process, how the publishing world works, and how to go about getting an agent and a publishing contract. "Cake Eater" is a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard book, was listed as an Amazon Best Book, and was recently added to the Hal Clement Notable Young Adult Book List. Mrs. Chaulk spoke about having more author visits in the future, saying "I think these visits have such an impact because it makes the writer more real. Instead of a name on a cover, students see a real person in front of them. While the author is presenting, they might find commonalities between the author and themselves. Students might think, 'That person is just like me. They read books and wrote a novel. Maybe that's something I can do.'"

High School teachers Sue Summerfield and Heather Hubbard hosted a Family Circle event in March, which featured math games, discussion starters, and family activities. The event was sponsored through a grant from the Pi State Educational Foundation, which supports educational programs and events that reinforce reading, math, and social-emotional literacy. All of the families in attendance were treated to refreshments and received some items to take home.

The 7th grade teaching staff recently presented an interdisciplinary unit on a favorite spring subject - baseball! An interdisciplinary unit involves all of the classrooms - math, science, social studies, ELA, physical education, music or art, food science, etc. Throughout the week before break, the 7th graders learned about many phases of the sport of baseball and its cultural impact, including: virtual stadium tours and geography, walk-up songs, coding robots to run bases, making stadium foods, calculating batting averages, cultural diversity impacts, and the history of mascots. The unit concluded with a trip to Cooperstown to tour the National Baseball Hall of Fame. While there, the students enjoyed exhibits about the history of baseball, the stars that have made the sport famous, equipment, and player safety.

Technical Sergeant Samuel Hoffman recently graduated from the Gunter Noncommissioned Officer Academy, a part of Air Force University. Sgt. Hoffman graduated with the highest grade point average in his class. He is pursuing higher education with the goal of becoming an NTSB Flight Investigator. He is a Fort Plain graduate from the Class of 2012.