

District Updates:

Three seats on the Fort Plain Board of Education will be up for election this May, to fill vacancies for terms expiring on June 30th. Residents interested in running for the board should visit the district's website at fortplain.org, or contact District Clerk Becky Smith, for information and procedures.

At their February 15th meeting, the Fort Plain Board of Education accepted a request from Paul VanAvery to retire on April 28th. "Mr. VanAvery has proudly served our district for 46 years," the board noted. "His wealth of knowledge of all things buildings and grounds, as well as the history of our district, will be greatly missed." Mr. VanAvery noted in his retirement letter that he has "served with many superintendents, board members, principals, faculty, staff, taxpayers, and mostly students, with duty and honor." He added, "My loyalty and life belong to the Fort Plain CSD, we are one. I have enjoyed and relished my time with the Fort Plain CSD and wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. Thank you all for the opportunity to serve." Humble, hardworking and dedicated, Mr. VanAvery will be dearly missed, and often thought of, as he embarks upon his life's next chapter. Best wishes, Paul!

Visit our website at fortplain.org regularly to keep up to date on the latest news, sports information, and upcoming events.

Drama Club Presents "Mamma Mia!"
Friday, March 24th 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 25th 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 26th 2:00 p.m.
All performances at the Canajoharie High School. Tickets sold at the door: \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors & students

Calendar notes:
School will be closed for faculty/staff training on Friday, March 17th, as well as for spring break from April 7th through 14th.

Upcoming Events:

3/15 Public Hearing & BOE 6:00

4/6 Third Quarter Period Ends

4/7-4/14 Closed for Spring Break

4/21 Report Cards Mailed

4/19-4/26 Grades 3-8 Assessments



FORT PLAIN

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sports News:

The district is proud to announce that the following winter teams were named NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Teams. To qualify as a Scholar-Athlete Team, 75% of a team's roster must have a GPA of 90 or higher. Congratulations to: Girls Basketball, Girls Bowling, Boys Basketball, Cheerleading.

Alex Smith was crowned Section 2 Class D Wrestling Champion in the 136 pound weight class. Ethan Hubbard qualified for the Section 2 Swimming Championships in three events. Congratulations!

Six Fort Plain High School students recently participated in "Positive Leadership is Powerful Leadership: Diversity & Inclusion," the 2023 Student-Athlete Leadership Conference held in Cooperstown. Juniors Brady Keane, Jasmine Fonda, Courtney Euler, Marissa Wilder, Kaeden David, and Monika Kulzynski joined Coach John Fureno and Director of Student Engagement & Athletics David Bertram. They were among 300 student-athletes, coaches and athletic directors who spent the day learning, exploring, and building leadership skills. The conference featured several workshops and a key note speaker.

Harry Hoag Elementary School News:

The Elementary Student Council recently held a "food drive", to collect non-perishable foods and personal care items for the Fort Plain Senior Center. The members of the council had so enjoyed their visit with the seniors, that they decided this was the perfect way to give back to the community and celebrate love during February. To help encourage donations, the Student Council decided to award ice cream to the each member of the class that donated the most to the drive. The winner was the fourth grade! Great job to all!

The 100th Day of School Celebration is always a big day in the life of our kindergarten students. They spend time focusing on numbers, counting, and math skills. They also explored building with 100 objects such as cups, legos, marshmallows, and cubes. We hope it was a great day!"

Students in Mrs. Bartholomew's 6th Grade English classes fell in love with some new books during a "Book Speed Dating" event on Valentine's Day. Students had chosen their favorite book that they've read this year. They were paired up and had four minutes to convince their partner why they should read the book. Students rotated through the room, asking questions and "meeting" many new books. What a fun event!

The "Hilltopper Herald" article of the month comes from Anna-Belle Snyder: Deputy Nick Manginelli and Sheriff Jeffrey T. Smith were both very helpful because they helped us learn right from wrong. They told us to stay away from drugs. They also taught us to always make smart decisions and be safe. He may not be fun to a lot of people but he does tell the truth and what is better for us to do. I definitely learned a lot in D.A.R.E. and I wouldn't say it's the best class ever but it isn't the worst class ever. You may think differently but if you think about it he really taught us a lot. He is really helpful for you to become a better person in the future and now... In conclusion, the class does help you learn some information that's good for you in the future. What he taught us definitely helped me!

Jr/Sr High School News:

Some of our music students recently excelled at the Annual Montgomery County All-County Music Festival. Performing in the band were Jasmine Fonda on the flute and Natalie Thibodeau in the percussion section. Performing in the High School Chorus group were Ian Burns and Bailie Richardson. The students put in a full day of rehearsal, joining musicians from schools throughout the county. The event culminated with a public performance. "They worked with guest conductors from different areas of New York State," said district band teacher Dalton Burrello, "which created a very professional atmosphere and required a very high level of musicianship from each student. It was a great experience to be able to come all together and perform such high quality, challenging pieces of music, and I am grateful that they had the opportunity to be a part of that." The students were represented by Mr. Burrello, as well as choir and music teacher Julieanne Sincavage. Also participating in the day were elementary chorus members Claudia Maring, Piper Kretser, and Isabella Hearn.

The Fort Plain-Canajoharie Drama Club presents the spring musical, "Mamma Mia!" on March 24th, 25th and 26th. The show is directed by Will Ryan and Lauri Broady, choreographed by Lauri Broady, with Norma Bowley as the musical director. Assisting with rehearsals is Vicente Nunez and serving as backstage coordinator is Michael Hoffman. Mike Broady works as the technical director and is assisted by students Noah Ehle and Josephine Carcasole. "Mamma Mia!" tells the story of Sophie, in the week before her wedding, who seeks to find her long-lost dad and form a relationship with him in time for the wedding. Playing the role of Sophie is FP student Caleigh Bartholomew, who is joined by Canjo senior Chiarra Morris who plays her mother Donna. Prospective dads are portrayed by Dawson Sweet, Richard Catarino, and Adam Leduc. Mom's friends "The Dynamos" are played by Alexandria Gyurik, Aliza Hopkins, and Avery Merchant. The fiancée, Sky, is performed by John Hopkins. Rounding out the principal characters are Sophie's friends, played by Jasmine Fonda, Faith Clark, and Ava Fatta, as well as employees/"dudes" played by Anthony Paradiso, Isaac Clark, and Lawrence Daley. They are joined by: Ethan Hubbard, Lavy Hodge, Autumn Scalia, Chloe St. Louis, Jayden Bentz, Willow Burke, Joey Barr, Thomas Kee, Brooke Jones, Aileen Germond, Lila Clarke and Kiera St. Louis. "Mamma Mia!" will be performed at the Arkell Auditorium in the Canajoharie High School. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens and students, and are available at the door.

Faculty, staff and students at the Jr/Sr High School recently took time out of the morning to honor the memory of teacher Kevin Bogus. A banner was hung in the lobby of the building, where it can serve as a reminder of the great teacher, friend, and mentor that Kevin was. The banner features an image of a painting created by district art teacher and close friend Geoff Snyder. The memorial banner also features a quote by the Marvel superhero, Thor: "A victory has more meaning when it is not won by the force of your own arms, yet the ingenuity of your own brain!" It is a perfect way to sum up Kevin's love of strength and the sport of Ninja Warrior competition, along with his love of academics, teaching, and especially each and every student that he worked with. Here's to a great life and a great person, who continues to be missed.