

Sharon Springs Central School District

EDUCATION MATTERS



Superintendent's Message

*Sharon Springs
Central School
Mission/Vision
Statement*

The mission of Sharon Springs Central School, a community oriented district, is to educate all students to become healthy, hardworking, honest and respectable citizens, who will value lifelong learning and contribute to a global society.

The vision of the Sharon Springs Central School is to provide a supportive and creative learning environment, which challenges our students to achieve excellence as a way of life.

DISTRICT OFFICE 284-2266

Superintendent
Business Manager
FAX NUMBER 284-9033

MAIN OFFICE 284-2267

Principal
Guidance Counselor
FAX NUMBER 284-9075

BUS GARAGE 284-9047

SHARON SPRINGS
CENTRAL SCHOOL
PO BOX 218
SHARON SPRINGS, NY 13459

WEBSITE:
www.sharonsprings.org

District to Launch New Website

The Sharon Springs Central School District website is in the final stages of getting a fresh new face. The new site—estimated to launch in late February 2014—will have many exciting new features.

Some of the new features will include:

- A to Z search— This visual site index can help you find what you're looking for quickly. You can also go to the Search feature to type in specific search keywords.
- Academics — Find important information, such as a link to the Sharon Springs District's NYS Report Card, Common Core Learning Standards, and the iPad Program.
- Calendar — The new website uses Google's free calendar feature, enabling the district to add or change dates at any time. "Sync" the district's dates with your own personal Google Calendar.
- Parent Today —Parent Today is a free e-mail newsletter and companion website designed to help build a stronger bridge between families and the classroom. Each story is packed with research-based information that empowers parents and supports teachers.

Among the features, the new design will be “responsive,” meaning that the layout will adapt to the visitors’ device (from smaller mobile phones to larger desktop computer monitors). It will provide an optimal viewing experience—easy reading and navigation with a minimum need for resizing, panning, and scrolling.

“The goal of this new website is to be the best way for students, parents and community members to stay in the loop with school and district news and information,” said Superintendent Patterson Green. “We hope that it is an informative and user-friendly tool for all.” In addition, the new website will make it easier for frequent updates to be posted, including news and pictures of recent happenings.

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School Happenings

Empty Bowls

Ms. Futerko's art students from all grade levels and many Poster Club members participated in an event called, "Empty Bowls." They glazed 100 clay bowls that were donated for the Empty Bowls Fundraiser to support the Schoharie County Food Pantries. On Sunday, November 17, 2013, the bowls were purchased by patrons for \$6.00 or more, and filled with soups from many local restaurants as well as ice cream by Stewart's. Approximately \$600.00 was generated from our donation to help those in need in Schoharie County. Right is a photo of Mrs. Larkin's Kindergarten class after their bowls were fired. Great job to all who participated.



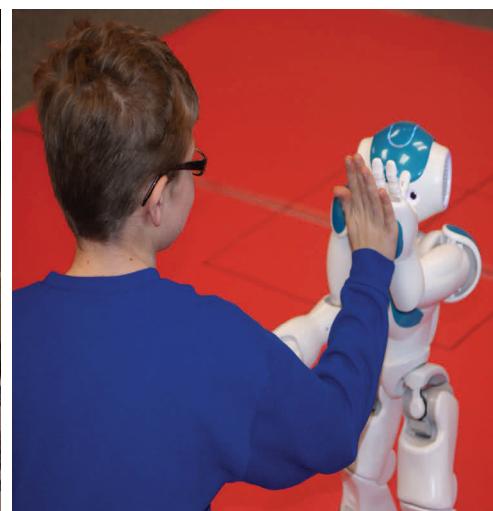
Ricky the Robot

"Ricky the Robot" came to visit the SSCS 5th grade classroom this fall. "Ricky" is from the Capital Region BOCES' Northeastern Regional Information Center Model Schools Program. The 5th graders had the opportunity to work in teams to create mazes for the robot to walk. Students used a special software program and their math skills in order to create a program for "Ricky" to execute. Students had to measure in meters and create a mathematical pattern for "Ricky" to walk and turn through the maze. Students were then able to run their program and watch "Ricky" move through the maze, dance and even speak as they had programmed him to do. Everyone was very excited to watch the robot perform the moves that they programmed. Elementary students were then invited in to watch "Ricky" walk, dance, talk and "hi-five." The project was successful in helping the students enjoy learning math and technology.

Thank you



Thank you to St. Matthew's Chapel in Sharon Springs for the generous donation of hats and gloves. Their donation will ensure that all students are warm this cold winter season.



School Happenings

In November, 25 FFA members (right) traveled north to Camp Oswegatchie for 3 days of leadership, environmental science and fun. Students got to meet students from another chapter while challenging themselves on the ROPES course!

On December 12, the 9th graders (below) visited SUNY College of Nano Science and Engineering in Albany. During this visit, students learned about Nano Science, DNA, computer chips, and visited a clean room.



Upcoming Events

- January 31- No School– Conference Day
 - BJV/V Basketball Senior Night vs. Duaneburg 6pm
- February 1- GM/BM Basketball @ Northville 10am/11:30am
- February 4- GV Basketball X-Over Game– Home vs TBD 6pm
- February 5- BJV/V Basketball X-Over Game @ TBD 6pm
- February 8- GM/BM Basketball—Home vs OE-St.Johnsville 10am/11:30am
- February 10- Board Of Education Meeting in Library 7:30pm
- February 12- GM/BM Basketball @ Schoharie 4:30pm/6pm
- February 14- Valentine’s Day Dance sponsored by Class of 2017– 7-10pm
- February 17-21- No School–Winter Recess
- February 24- Classes Resume
 - Board Of Education Meeting in Library 7:30pm

Be sure to check out the Calendar of Events for changes and updates on our website: www.sharonsprings.org

On November 14, 2013, Juniors (above) visited Herkimer County Community College. They received admission information from the Assistant Director of Admissions, as well as a thorough tour of the campus. A special conference room was set aside for our students to enjoy a pizza lunch and ask questions of the admissions staff. The trip ended with the opportunity to watch a few minutes of the Division III Men's Soccer Tournament, which was taking place at the Herkimer campus. They watched Herkimer CCC play Adirondack CCC. Herkimer ended up winning the entire tournament.

Student Developed Project Based Learning Brings Sharon Springs into the 14th Century.

The 9th grade Global History class explored the socio – economic structure of medieval Europe. The class was randomly divided into three feudal class structures; the clergy, the nobility, and the serfs. Each socio – economic class developed questions and answers about the life and obligations of medieval society to determine who would become the Pope, Bishop, King, Lord, Knight, Town Mayor, Guild Master, Middle Class Merchant, and Freed Serf. The students created props that represented the positions that they obtained through the demonstration of their knowledge.



Bianchine, WAC All Star

Congratulations to Tyler Bianchine for being selected to the Second Team 2013 Western Athletic Conference Boys' Varsity Soccer Team All Stars. Tyler and his fellow All Star teammates throughout the league and Section 2 Athletics received their awards at the Section 2 All Star Banquet on December 8th.

3rd Annual Career Day

Sharon Springs Central School hosted its 3rd Annual Career Day on December 20th, 2013. Each year the school invites a variety of guest speakers across all different employment spectrums to come and speak to our students in grades 6-12 about their careers and occupations. Students had the opportunity to ask questions in a small group setting in order to learn about a particular occupation. Sharon Springs' faculty, staff and students would like to thank all the guest speakers for sharing their knowledge and time with us. Guest speakers who graciously volunteered their time this year were: Deb McGillycuddy, owner of McGillycuddy's Natural; Dennis Malcolm, Engineer in the mining industry; Dr. Steve Schneider and Lisa Krause from the Communication and Information Design Department at SUNY IT; Doug Plummer, owner of The American Hotel; Libby Hammecker, Director of Residential Services at Schoharie County ARC; Investigator Dan Stevens from the NYS Police Forensic Identification Unit and Bruce Wright, John Deere Tech Program Coordinator at SUNY Cobleskill.



Left, Dennis Malcolm talks about the mining industry. Below Libby Hammecker discusses the wide range of human services.



Below, Lisa Krause talks about career opportunities in the field of Communication & Information Design.



Above, Garrett introduces Deb McGillycuddy. Below, Dr. Schneider answers questions about the Communications Dept. at SUNY IT.



Above, Doug Plummer shares some life experiences with students. Left, Kara introduces Bruce Wright from SUNY Cobleskill.

Music Department Happenings

Some Select Chorus members took part in caroling with Mr. and Mrs. Letteron at the 2013 Sharon Springs Annual Victorian Stroll. The group also performed holiday songs at Studio North as part of the festivities. Chorus members included: Marianna Achlaoug, Samantha Jackson, Cianna Keller, Ethan Keller, Savannah Olsen, Ian Rohac, Hallie Trigg, Shay Walker and Brielle Wilday.

SSCS Middle School students attended the annual Empire State Youth Orchestra Concert at Proctors Theatre October 23, 2013. Narrated by news anchor Liz Bishop, the orchestra performed Benjamin Britten's famous piece, "Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra" along with works by Shostakovich and Saint-Saens.

SSCS musical ensembles and the Select Chorus performed at the annual Schoharie Area School Board Dinner held at SSCS in November.



Holiday Cheer

Santa paid a visit to SSCS students before the holiday break. Students young and old enjoyed sitting on Santa's lap and telling him their wishes for the holiday.





On November 7th and 8th, the SSCS Music Department staged the musical '**Happy Days**' by Garry Marshall and Paul Williams. Including forty students in the cast and crew, along with help from Poster Club members, Art Department students and Agriculture classes, about 80 students were involved in the production. Students, teachers, staff, board members, parents and community members alike all worked together to make this musical truly memorable. Thanks to everyone who helped make the show a big success!



2014 CLARION PRE-SALE

Pre-sales for the 2014 Clarion yearbook (all color) have started and will continue through February 14th.

Reserve your copy before February 14th and save \$4 off the cost of the yearbook.

A \$15 deposit will hold the pre-sale price.

Pre-sale Price (before February 14th) - \$38.00

After February 14th – Price will be \$42.00

If you are giving the yearbook as a gift, a certificate will be provided.

Please fill out the form and send it with payment to Ms. Quay or Mrs. Fuller before February 14th.

Make checks payable to - **2014 CLARION**

THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF BOOKS AVAILABLE THIS YEAR SO GET YOURS EARLY!

PRE-SALE YEARBOOK 2014 CLARION

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

Amount paid: \$\$ _____ Check _____ Cash _____
Gift Certificate: Yes _____ No _____

Return completed form and payment (\$15 deposit required) to Ms. Quay or Mrs. Fuller at SSMS



SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PO Box 218
Sharon Springs, New York 13459

Home of the Spartans

Non-Profit Org.
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Sharon Springs,
NY 13459

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Sharon Springs, New York 13459

District Superintendent/Principal

Patterson Green

Business Manager

Anthony DiPace