



### March Board of Education Accolades

During the March 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting several students and faculty were recognized for excellence. Elizabeth Duker, Olivia Baumann, Kerrienne Mahoney, Kennedy Foster, Katherine Koehler, Amanda Bowman, Austin Case, Silas Yelich, Ross Dupuis and Scott Davis have been accepted to represent GCS at the Spring All County Festival at Cossackie-Athens on March 23 and 25, 2011. Middle School Instrumental Director, Erin Upson, acknowledged the efforts of her students in preparation for this event. Below are students in grades four through twelve who attended.



High School Teacher Rachel Anderson was recognized for achieving National Board certification. Ms. Anderson is one of 131 teachers to become accomplished teachers this year. There are 1,131 committed educators who are National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT) in New York State.



Middle School Teacher Teresa Carlton was recognized as Teacher of the Month by CAT 98.5 radio station. Ms. Carlton was nominated by her student Taylor Huemmer-Harnett.

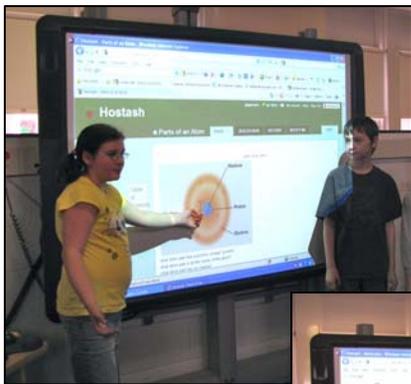
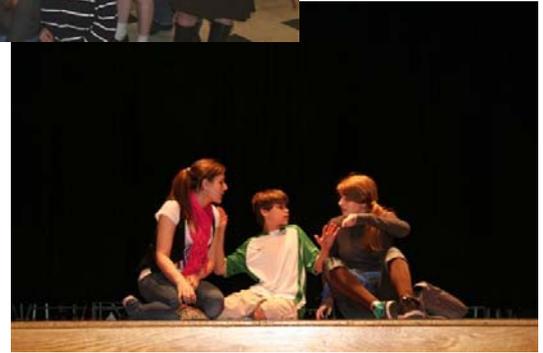


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### 24 Hour Theatre Project at GCS High School

Middle and High School students at GCS participated in a 24 Hour Theatre Project on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Students arrived for the workshop knowing only that they would work for 24 hours to create and rehearse a seven to ten minute play. After the “theme” of the play was revealed the playwrights were given a specific number of actors with the actors’ genders and “playing ages” and in two hours the play was written. The two hour writing block was followed by one hour of playwright and director collaboration. Several rehearsal blocks followed with the actors throughout the evening and into the next day. The culminating activity was the 2:00 PM live performances. Kristine Raskopf and Margaret Hall provided this opportunity for our students and their hope was for students to have the opportunity to collaborate, explore their creativity and perform live theatre.



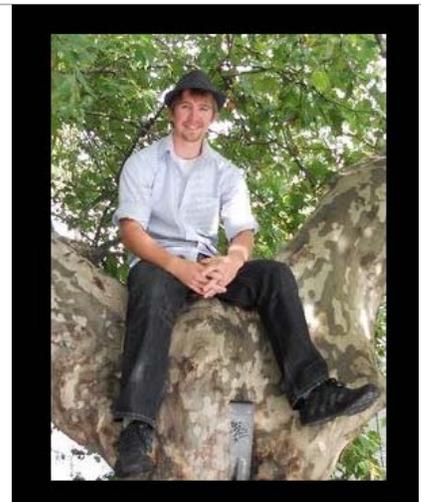
### Atoms Come Alive in Fifth Grade

Fifth grade students in Mr. Hostash’s class created a wiki to share their knowledge and understanding of atoms and matter. Ms. Hollinde, technology teacher at Scott M. Ellis, supported the fifth grade students as they created the wiki. Students collaborated in small groups to research a specific topic, and build a page with that knowledge. Ms. Hollinde commented, “This was our first experience with building a wiki and I would definitely do it again. All of the students in the class were interested and engaged. There were two levels of students’ understanding; the first level came when students gathered facts for their page and the second surfaced as their peers reviewed the completed pages. Deeper connections to the material were developed as students worked to answer the questions.”

The wiki can be viewed at <http://hostash.wikispaces.com/>

### GCS Graduate, Matthew Tompkins to Attend Oxford University for Graduate Studies

Greenville Central School District is pleased to announce the Class of 2007 Valedictorian, Mr. Matthew Tompkins, has been accepted to the Graduate study for a Master of Science (MSc) at the University of Oxford in England. While participating in the program at Oxford, Mr. Tompkins will study Psychological Research through the Department of Experimental Psychology. Mr. Tompkins completed his undergraduate work at SUNY Geneseo and will begin his graduate study in the fall of 2011.





### **Middle School Anti-Bullying Assembly**

Greenville Middle School students experienced a unique assembly on anti-bullying and tolerance from James Warren on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Warren worked magic into his assemblies to keep students' attention as he also delivered a strong message about bullying and tolerance in school. Students were given strategies to deal with bullies, including "telling is not tattling" and that students need to recognize that informing the teacher or other adult about bullying behavior is not "tattling" but is an intervention to help someone. Mr. Warren encouraged students to stand up to individuals or groups who bully, or at least to walk away and not be led into bullying behaviors by their friends. Middle School Principal, Brian Reeve commented, "I am very pleased with the student engagement throughout the assembly and hope students understand the impact bullying has and how to support each other respectfully each day."

### **Math Night at Scott M. Ellis**

On March 31<sup>st</sup> Scott M. Ellis Elementary students in grades 3, 4 and 5 and their families enjoyed an evening of mathematics exploration at the annual Family Math Night. The evening's events, coordinated by Ms. Brandon and several other teachers, consisted of many exciting activities and games that extended learning in problem solving, numeration, measurement, fractions, geometry, probability and more while meeting curriculum standards. Students and parents were actively engaged throughout the evening in centers that included using Net Books with math centered websites, Promethean Board explorations that connected math and music, and many, many more. An evening of fun learning was had by all.



### **Capital Region Media Arts Festival**

Several High School Students participated in the Capital Region Media Arts Festival. Dan Andresen and Jo Cartelli collaborated to create Megalomaniac which won first place in the "Digitally Enhanced" category. Tracy Flynn took third place in the "Color Photograph" category and Tyler Wickham won an honorable mention in the same category with The Hulk. Congratulations to all our students!

### Emily Bobrick to Participate at the Regional YES Competition

Every year students enrolled in the New Visions Scientific Research and World Health (SRWH) participate in the Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) competition sponsored by the College Board and the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation

The YES program is a nationwide competition designed to inspire talented high school juniors and seniors to study the multitude of behavioral, biological, environmental and social factors that affect health and identify ways to improve public health.

Emily Bobrick of Greenville High School was selected as a Regional Finalist for the YES Competition. Among the many submissions received, hers was chosen to advance to the Regional Level.

Emily is one of just 60 Regional Finalists nationwide who will attend the YES Competition held in Washington, DC on April 15-18 this year. Each Regional Finalist will receive an all expense paid trip to the YES competition and \$2,000 in funds to be given directly to his or her college. While there, students will present their work to a panel of nationally recognized Epidemiologists and outstanding high school teachers. Two students will advance to the national competition and compete for the position of National Finalist with the top prize of \$50,000. Congratulations to Emily and good luck at the national competition!



### Fifth Grade Students Experience Minds-On

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, fifth grade students from Scott M. Ellis Elementary, Abram Lansing and Middleburgh participated in a Minds-On Young Mathematician's Day at the Rensselaerville Institute. Workshops entitled Chess: Living Logic, Solid Figures: Spaces and Places, Measurement/Scaling: Replica Room, and Shopper's Dream: Percentages were attended by all the students where they explored mathematics with excellent mentors and their own teachers. Teachers attending also experienced ideas which can be utilized in their classrooms. Additional fifth grade students attended a Minds-On Young Scientist's Day on October 25<sup>th</sup>, and more will attend a Minds-On Young Writer's Day on May 18<sup>th</sup>. These opportunities were made possible by funds from the Elementary Challenge Program, and the Greenville Educational Foundation.

### Athletics at GCS

Congratulations to the Girls' and Boys' Varsity Basketball Teams for earning New York State Scholar Athlete status. Our girls' team earned the highest Grade Point Average in Section 2. Of the 414 participating public high schools in New York State whose teams had a combined average of 90% or above the Lady Spartans Varsity Basketball team placed 23<sup>rd</sup> in New York State with a combined average of 95.94%. Our athletes who are excellent scholars are also active in other areas including music, the arts, and many community events.

Congratulations to John Hicks, Taylor Ann Young, and Bonnie Harvey on their selection to represent our Patroon Conference at the 2011 Exceptional Senior Game.



### **Middle School Quiz Night**

Greenville Middle School held its fourth annual Quiz Night on Friday, March 4. The event, graciously sponsored by our PTSA, was filled with food and fun. This year thirty-one teams of middle school students competed for the top three prizes. For four rounds, students were asked a variety of academic and pop culture questions by Ms. Moylan, the emcee for the evening. Ms. Moylan was assisted by Ms. Lewis, Ms. Kudlack, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Conroy, Ms. DuBois and Ms. Hollywood. Between rounds, the PTSA provided students and families with nachos, sodas, and ice cream sundaes. The first place team consisted of seventh graders Brittany Johnson, Jacob Gorneau, and Sean McAneny. Taking second place were eighth graders Jaymey Kuykendall, Brad Monkell, and Killian Black. Eighth graders Andrew Warwick, Taylor Pearson, and Joe Andreone took third. The middle school would like to thank the PTSA for hosting this enriching activity each year for the middle school students.

### **The Maple Sugaring Process**

The first and second grade students at Scott M. Ellis visited the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center to learn about the maple sugaring process. Students learned how to drill a hole and tap a spile into a maple tree and were surprised to learn that it takes approximately forty gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup. Students continued their experience by tasting maple sap and maple syrup and observing sap boiling in an evaporator. The students learned that maple trees give us a very valuable and delicious gift.



### **Collaboration at GCS High School**

Students from Mr. Cunnan's Computer Assisted Drawing (CAD) course collaborated with students from Ms. Raskopf's IB Theatre course as peer mentors to create a template ground plan of a stage. Students shared their knowledge of CAD while the IB Theatre students shared their expertise with stage design. The stage plans will be utilized in the future by designers from the same IB course.

### **GCS Students Participate in County Art Exhibit**

Students in grades K-12 will have their artwork displayed at the Greene County “Outside the Lines and Art Teacher’s Showcase” at the Catskill Gallery located at 398 Main Street, Catskill. Kindergarten students created primary and secondary flowers inspired by Picasso, first and second grade students made paper fantasy bird sculptures and students in Ms. Davitt’s class created a tree mural. Third and fourth grade students made suns and fifth grade students created computer self-portraits, tessellations which were inspired by M. C. Esher, and expressive hand watercolors. Eighth grade students working with Mr. Crossett and Ms. Petronio entered Australian Aboriginal art projects for the art exhibit, high school students Matthew Tarbox entered a pencil drawing of artist Raphael, and Alexis Peters created a digital print sequence titled The Proposal.

Congratulations to all our student artists and their teachers, Ms. Spring, Mr. Crossett, Ms. Petronio and Mr. Stewart. The exhibit will be open to the public from March 12<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Experiencing the Writing Process with Author Peter Lourie**

Scott M. Ellis Elementary students in third and fourth grade experienced the writing process firsthand from author and explorer Peter Lourie. Mr. Lourie began his presentation by describing his trip along the Hudson River in a canoe. He described a number of other explorations that he experienced and how he used the information gathered from those trips to create his books. The writing process was reviewed from having an idea, to researching the idea by using books, the internet and especially people. When creating a draft of his books, Mr. Lourie described how difficult and time-consuming writing can be and that he often writes ten drafts prior to sending his materials to his publisher. The entire process often takes him approximately three years. Mr. Lourie discussed the importance of details in writing and that he often used tape recorders and pictures to help him record details for his journaling. Mr. Lourie was very enthusiastic and entertaining as he told of the sights, sounds, music and stories of his explorations.



### **Music In Our Schools Concerts**

Students in grades four through twelve celebrated Music In Our Schools Month through performance.



**Kacee Womack and Steven Nevins Hear Former President Clinton Speak**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 Former President Bill Clinton made a personal appearance at the SEFCU Arena at the University at Albany, where he spoke on the current state of the economy in upstate New York, job opportunities, and interdependence, as well as many other issues. We were fortunate to see a former president speak with his level of expertise on the economy. He spoke about the economy today compared to during his presidency, when the country had one of its only surpluses. It was interesting to hear his different viewpoints on current issues, including how interdependent our country has become and how the radical changes in the Middle East can cause a domino effect throughout the world. The current revolutions in the Middle East have affected people in the United States, from skyrocketing gas prices, to encouraging teachers to stand up for themselves in Wisconsin. Mr. Clinton urged people everywhere to continue bettering their education, because people everywhere are competing for limited jobs. For example, Clinton focused on UAlbany’s innovative Nanoscale science program. He also pointed out the strong work ethic and enthusiasm of the student body. As high school students, it was inspiring to have the chance to see a highly regarded person in the international community, but we were disappointed we were not able to push our way through the crowds to shake his hand or personally meet him. Although he had many insightful points on world issues, we thought his political references during question and answer periods were at times insensitive. These thoughts could be a result of negative criticisms he received from conservatives during his time in office or perhaps, it could be that he is still a politician at heart. Overall, we thought this was an enlightening and enriching experience. We hope that in the future, more students will be able to take advantage of opportunities such as this.



Kacee Womack and Steven Nevins

**Bringing History to Life**

Third and Fourth grade students in Ms. Asam’s and Ms. Misuraca’s classes researched various historical figures from the Revolutionary War Period and gave oral presentations of their biographies.

