

Minerva Central School

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Timothy Farrell, Superintendent

March 2016 Irish Times

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From the Superintendent

Strategic Planning

The Minerva Central School Strategic Planning Committee completed their work in late January and presented the proposed Strategic Plan and Advisory Recommendations to the MCS Board of Education during the February 11th regular meeting. The committee, which was assisted by the Capital Area School Development Association (CASDA), included representatives from multiple school and community constituent groups. In all, fourteen (14) school-community representatives worked over several months to develop a three-year strategic plan. The work began last fall and used the results from the CASDA-led focus groups during the 2014-15 school year. The committee identified three (3) goals and associated action steps for recommendation to the School Board. These goals targeted the following main categories: fiscal health, instruction and educational opportunity, and community resources and partnerships. The final report, including the strategic plan, will soon be available on the school's website. I would like to thank the following committee members for their service on this project: Kaleb Davie, Sue Crouse, Joy Healy, Keith Iverson, Jamie Davie, Alice Halloran, Shannon Stone, Hayley Killon, Bone Base, Lisa Fabin, Chris Fink, Candice Husson, and Nancy O'Brien. The school and/or strategic planning committee will be looking for more volunteers to assist with the work that is included in the strategic plan. I anticipate the formation of a separate committee, such as a shared decision making committee, that will be responsible for assisting with the implementation of our strategic plan. If you are interested in representing the community, parent, student, teacher, or non-instructional staff group on such a committee, please contact me.

New Budget Development Newsletter

One of the items identified in the school's strategic plan was to develop two budget newsletters to be distributed to district residents. We have always published one newsletter for distribution in early May, prior to the school budget and board member election. Mrs. O'Brien and I will now also publish a new "Budget Development Newsletter" in late February/early March that will share information on the school budget development process and will provide the budget information that is currently available.

Taylor Feiden selected as Post Star Teen Excellence Recipient

Congratulations to Taylor Feiden, Post Star Teen Excellence Award winner. Taylor is one of twenty-one students from the region who were selected based on demonstration of personal growth, leadership, and innovation, along with a commitment to the community. We are very proud of Taylor and all of her accomplishments which make her worthy of this prestigious award. Taylor will be recognized at a breakfast in honor of the winners on March 2 at the Great Escape Lodge.

School Board Items

The next school budget workshop is scheduled for Thursday, March 10th at 6:00 PM. The workshop is open to the public for anyone interested in being part of the budget development process. The next school board meeting will follow the March 10th budget workshop and begin at 7:00.

March's coffee hour is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29th at 9:30 in the cafeteria.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Second Marking Period Honors List

Emeralds

Meghan Kelly
Katherine Wimberly
Chelsea Wright
Molly Deshetsky

Honors

Shane Bush-Lancaster
Kouga Misawa
Taylor Feiden
Cheyenne Williams
Daniel Dunbar
Danielle McNally
Riley Mather
Trang Le
Henry Gelber
Audrey Fish

Merits

Kaleb Davie
Riley Dunkley
Drew Deshetsky
Emma Feiden
Amber Vanderwarker
Mark Mitchell Jr.
Nepaede Doe
Paige Warrington
Vince Charbonneau

Great Job!





First Grade



First Grade has been working very hard. We earned our second book log celebration for reading a total of 720 books as a class. I am so proud of these first grade students for reading so much. We celebrated Groundhog Day – he didn't see his shadow so there are only six weeks left of winter. We also celebrated Valentine's Day and had a great party! We are getting ready for St. Patrick's and Easter. Winter break gave us all a chance to rest and get ready to work hard through the rest of winter. We have lots of crafts in the hallway and in the room. Stop by and take a look.



Becoming Better Readers . . .

Questions you can ask your child about their book to help them become better readers.



Who is the main character?



Where is the story set?



What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?



What do you think will happen next in your story?



Which character do you like most? Why?

Happy Reading!

Miss Drake



Which character do you think would make a good friend? Why?



Did you like the ending?
Why/why not?



What was your favorite part of the story? Why?



Our Community Our School!

Minerva Central School National Honor Society members will be interviewing community members, fellow students and faculty members throughout the remainder of the school year. Please enjoy!

By Cheyenne Williams

I interviewed Ellen Marie Brannon of Irishtown. Ellen's favorite thing about Minerva is the community. She says it isn't the same as it used to be. There isn't as much volunteering, but if someone called and needed something in town, she knows people would gather to get it done. Another thing she loves is Irishtown, which is a given in her eyes. The history of Minerva also draws her in and is one of her favorite things. When her children were little, her favorite thing about Minerva was being active in their young lives. In one of her college letters her daughter, Molly Brannon, once wrote, "I never had to wonder if one of my parents were going to be at my activities. I just knew they would be." If Ellen could have her dream career, she would've been a nurse or guidance counselor. But not for one minute does she regret being a full time mom. If ever she were to be President of the United States, the first thing Ellen would do is end poverty and fix the healthcare industry. She says it is sad that we feed and help other countries before our own. Finally, if Ellen were to win 1 million dollars, she would take care of her whole family first and make sure they had a good roof over their head and food on their plates, but other than that she wouldn't change too much about her life. She also made the point that a million dollars isn't that much anymore, but it would be nice to have a little extra.



**Still Time
To Clip
And
Submit**



We have some sad news. In the past few years participation in *Labels for Education* has declined and, as a result, Campbell has come to the very difficult decision to wind down the LFE program. The good news is nothing changes this program year. There will be changes for next year's program starting August 1, 2016. Campbell's will continue to support American kids through our *Grand Stand for Schools*SM sweepstakes and our community efforts which we annually contribute \$70 million in food and funding to tackle obesity and hunger amongst our country's most vulnerable families.

Labels will be collected until the end of this school year.

Your support over the years has been greatly appreciated.



What can be accomplished with duct tape, cardboard and a few other items?

Sleds, of course!

The tech classes learned about design while having fun.

Students learned about design, strength, endurance, problem solving, teamwork and, of course, speed.





Bounce House, Games, Food and More!

March 11th, 2016

4:30 - 7:00 PM

Entrance fee: \$5.00 (Includes unlimited times in the bounce house)

Tickets for games: 5 for \$1.00

Free face painting

Sponsored by the Class of 2017

Contact Bev West

at 251-4464 with any questions



St. Patrick's Day

Corned Beef, Ham, Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots, Bread and Dessert

Thursday, March 17th, 2016

4:30 - 8:00 PM

Cost: \$7.00 per person

3 and under: FREE

TAKE OUT AVAILABLE!

Help us save the environment and
bring your own take-out containers!

Sponsored by the Class of 2017



Carnation Sale



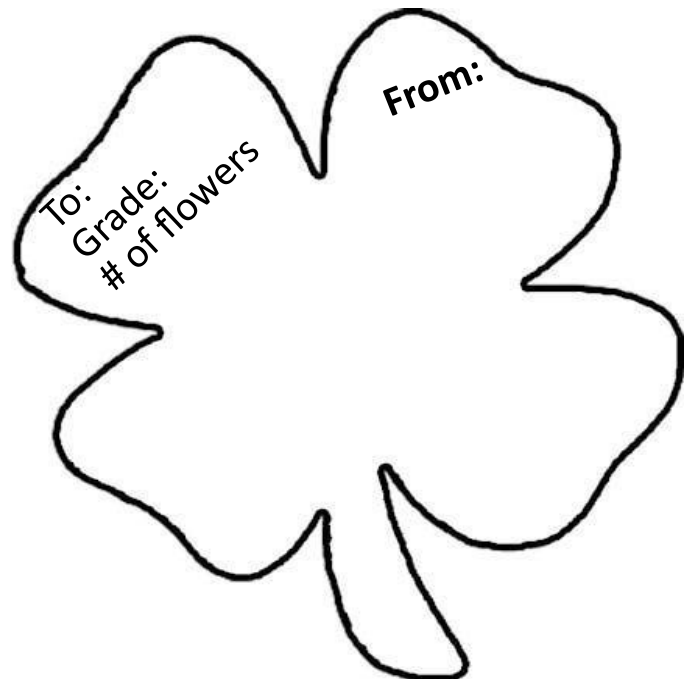
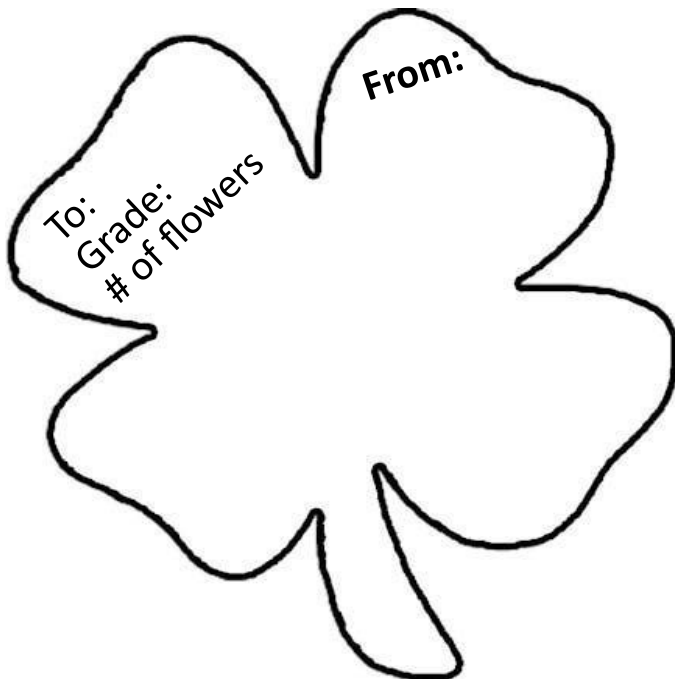
Dear Parents and Guardians,

If you would like to surprise your student for St. Patrick's Day, consider purchasing some carnations to send them during school. Flowers are being pre-sold through Monday, March 14th and will be delivered on Thursday, March 17th. The cost is \$1.00 per flower. You can write a note or even make it anonymous, but send a carnation to show you care!

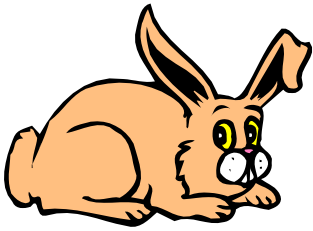
Fill out the attached form completely. Enclose both the form and payment in an envelope and return to Kate Smith. Please be sure to fully complete forms and include payment, otherwise the form cannot be processed and flowers will not be delivered.

Thank you!

Class of 2018



Easter Breakfast



Buffet



Eggs, Pancakes, Sausage,
Hash Browns, Coffee and Juice

\$5.00

Saturday, March 19th, 2016

8:30 – Noon

Come enjoy breakfast

before the annual

Easter Egg Hunt!!

Sponsored by the Class of 2017

It's About Thyme Farm

Free Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 19th

Starting at Noon

at Minerva Central School



Easter Bunny will be present
Thousands of eggs to find.



Great giveaways
including two bikes



Tonight's dinner: hot dogs

Cost: \$5.00 (signed up and paid before 2:45 pm on Thursday before movie night)

\$6.00 at the door



Sponge Bob Sponge out of Water

Plankton sets up one final trick to try and steal the Krabby Patty Secret Formula. In his attempt, the formula disappears and Bikini Bottom falls into chaos. The only way to save it is for our heroes to leave their watery environment and travel across land to get the formula back.

Thursday, March 24th, 2016

5-8 PM

Students will be supervised by
Mrs. West and the Class of 2019

Please return slip along with payment to Mrs. West by 2:45 on Thursday before dinner and a movie if you are interested in attending. Thank you!

Student name: _____

Grade: _____

Food allergies: _____

MINERVA CENTRAL SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB

PROUDLY PRESENTS



SATURDAY, APRIL 2nd @ 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 3rd @ 3:00 PM

IN THE SCHOOL GYM

TICKETS: \$6 ADULTS, \$3 STUDENTS/SENIORS,

\$20 FAMILY

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE ISLAND!

Special thanks to Phil Johnson for
donating the new flag for our flag pole.



The Minerva Bicentennial Veterans Committee is looking for your worn-out flags with embroidered stars to create packets for veterans and friends.

Packets will include one embroidered star and the following message:

“I am part of our American flag that has flown over the USA. I can no longer fly. The sun and winds caused me to become tattered and torn. Please carry me as a reminder that you are not forgotten.”

StarsForOurTroops.org

If you have a flag to donate, please contact:

Nancy Shaw or Ann Dunkley

The Bicentennial Veterans Committee

Minerva, NY 12851



March 2016

Events Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Progress Reports	5
6	7	8	9	10 Budget Workshop Board Meeting	11 Family Fun Night	12
13	14	15	16	17 St Patrick's Day Dinner	18	19 It's About Thyme Easter Egg Hunt Easter Breakfast
20	21	22	23	24	25 No School Good Friday	26
27 Easter Sunday	28	29	30	31		

Irish Pride Week

March 2016

Breakfast/Lunch Menu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Cinnamon toast and yogurt ----- Tacos w/beans	2 Cereal and toast ----- Tomato soup and tuna boat carrots/celery	3 Bagels w/cream cheese ----- Chicken and biscuits w/peas	4 Waffles w/syrup ----- Pizza w/green beans	5
6	7 Scrambled eggs sausage & toast ----- Hot ham and cheese w/cauliflower	8 Muffins and yogurt ----- Spaghetti w/meat sauce green beans	9 Cereal and toast ----- Chicken noodle soup egg salad carrots/celery	10 Bagels w/cream cheese ----- Sweet and sour chicken w/rice and broccoli	11 Waffles w/syrup ----- Mac 'n' cheese w/hot dogs beans	12
13	14 Monkey in the middle ----- Turkey wraps w/vegetarian beans	15 Cereal bars and yogurt ----- Beef ravioli w/green beans	16 Cereal and toast ----- Tomato soup grilled cheese carrots/celery	17 Bagels w/cream cheese ----- Chili w/rice and corn	18 Waffles w/syrup ----- Ziti w/sausage peas	19
20	21 Scrambled eggs sausage & toast ----- Hot dogs and beans	22 Muffins and yogurt ----- Chicken nuggets tater tots green beans	23 Cereal and toast ----- Vegetable soup egg salad and PBJ carrots/celery	24 Bagels w/cream cheese ----- Hamburger w/fries lettuce/tomato	25 No School Good Friday	26
27	28 Monkey in the middle ----- Chicken Caesar wraps w/broccoli salad	29 Cinnamon toast and yogurt ----- Garlic pasta w/chicken Brussel sprouts	30 Cereal and toast ----- Tomato soup and tuna boats carrots/celery	31 Bagels w/cream cheese ----- BBQ pork on bun beans and coleslaw		