



# Greene Central School

## NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXV, Number 2

November/December 2014

### Superintendent's Message

I would like to thank everyone for helping to make the start of the 2014-2015 school year such a success. We blinked and found ourselves in the midst of our studies, back with friends and involved once again, in clubs, activities and our athletic pursuits. In short time, fall seasons will come to a conclusion, our MS Footlights Production will air and Thanksgiving will be upon us.

As is every school across New York State, Greene continues to wrestle with changes imposed on us by both the Federal Government and New York State. At this time, though, we must also tackle these challenges with significant funding limitations. We remain hopeful that the fiscal environment for schools will continue to improve and that the necessary funding and resources may be realized.

Despite the challenges created by the loss of state funding over the past five years, I am reminded each and every day why we are here. My job, and I would argue the job of every faculty and staff member of the Greene Central Schools is to serve our children. I am humbled by this tremendous responsibility but at the same time, I feel privileged to have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our children.

Greene has always had a reputation or tradition of excellence. Year in and year out our students are some of the highest performing students across our region and when compared with similar schools statewide. Fiscally, we remain very stable and positioned to manage on-going funding challenges while maintaining the programming our children deserve. Last but not least, we have a dedicated staff at all levels that are committed to serving our children and who have been instrumental in providing our children with the best possible programming, services and facilities possible.

Anyone involved in education must have kids at the center. I am confident that Greene exemplifies this philosophy and I know that few schools can boast about the quality of their program like we here in Greene can. Thank you to all who play a part in this effort.

Last but not least, I would like to publicly thank everyone who supported our proposed capital project. Your support for this project will allow us to further our instructional goals and make necessary upgrades and repairs vital to allowing us to meet our obligations to our children.

—Jonathan R. Retz, Superintendent of Schools

### Notification To Parents Right To Know

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Per Title I legislation labeled No Child Left Behind; you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s) and paraprofessional staff.

You may request the following information:

- A. Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- B. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- C. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree; and
- D. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualification.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 656-4161, ext. 214.

Sincerely,

*Jonathan R. Retz,*

Superintendent of Schools

#### GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL Greene, New York 13778

##### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Richard Boeltz, President

Ethan Day, Vice President

Helen Hunsinger

Timothy Crumb

Tammie McCauley

James Strenkert

Karen Hendershott

Donna M. Utter, Board Clerk

Jonathan R. Retz, Superintendent

Theresa Brant, Newsletter Editor

## Greene Central School Communications

To help parents and community members know the best way to communicate with the school, we have created a chain of command guideline that should be a helpful resource for you. By contacting the following people in the order listed, your questions and concerns can be dealt with more efficiently

For Questions About	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact	2 <sup>nd</sup> Contact	3 <sup>rd</sup> Contact	4 <sup>th</sup> Contact
Academics	Teacher	Guidance Counselor (MS/HS only)	Building Administrator	Superintendent
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Coordinator	Athletic Director	Superintendent
Behavior	Teacher	Building Administrator	Superintendent	
BOE Policies	District Clerk	Superintendent		
Budget	District Treasurer	Superintendent		
Building & Grounds Use	Main Office	Supt. Building & Grounds	Superintendent	
Cafeteria	Cafeteria Manager	Building Administrator	Superintendent	
Classroom Procedures	Teacher	Building Administrator	Superintendent	
Co-Curricular	Advisor	Building Administrator	Superintendent	
Curriculum	Teacher	Building Administrator	Superintendent	
Facilities	Buildings & Grounds	Superintendent		
Health Office	Nurse	Building Administrator	Superintendent	
Scheduling	Teacher	Guidance Counselor	Building Administrator	Superintendent
Special Education	Teacher	Building Administrator	Director of Special Ed.	Superintendent
Transportation				
a. Behavior	Bus Driver	Supervisor	Building Administrator	Superintendent
b. Stops, runs, etc.	Supervisor	Superintendent		

### Telephone Numbers

**Please dial the phone number of the building you are trying to reach and then follow the automated prompts to get to a specific individual.**

District Office - 656-4161  
 MS/HS Campus – 656-4161  
 Primary School – 656-5174  
 Intermediate School – 656-9891  
 Transportation – 656-8931

## Yearbooks

High School yearbooks will go on sale the week of November 17-21 during the HS lunch periods. Students will receive a yearbook order form before that week to use or you can also order online at [YBPay.lifetouch.com](http://YBPay.lifetouch.com) with Yearbook ID Code: 9935615.

Yearbooks are \$50 if purchased in full or if a down-payment is given before Christmas. After Christmas, the price increases to \$55. All seniors have the opportunity to have their name on the cover of their yearbook for free if they pay in full or give a down-payment before Christmas.

See Mrs. Schieve with any questions.

## Intermediate School Special Area Students of the Month

SEPTEMBER



*Art—Billie Kinney, Benjamin Taft, Joey Gibbs*

*Music—Rachel Repp, Natalie Scofield,  
Shannen Quarella*

*Computer—Noah Donnelly, Kylie Griffin,  
Matthew Wells*

*Reading and Math—Catherine Figueroa, Aden Mika*

*Chorus—Kyrstan Cudney*

*Library—Emily Keen-Stanton*

*Band—David Hughes*

*Girls' PE—Rilee Soper, Amy Hillier, Sarah Sexton*

*Boys' PE—Adam Merwin, Grayson Flanagan,  
Jakob Cook*

## Student Citizen of the Month

SEPTEMBER

3rd Grade



*Lindsey Hoyt—Mrs. Browning*

*Willow Rose—Mrs. Russ*

*Tatianna Wells—Mrs. Whittaker*

4th Grade



*Robert German—Ms. Hunter*

*Matthew Lynch—Mr. Komperda*

*Cassie Butler—Mrs. McDermott*

*Emma Rice—Ms. Sanderson*

*Amy Hillier—Mrs. McCall*

5th Grade



*Sean O'Donnell—Mrs. Giannetto*

*Shannen Quarella—Mrs. Novitsky*

*Dallas Roe—Mr. Tallman*

*Congratulations*



## Salsa at Greene Primary



The Arts in Education theme for the year at Greene Primary is celebrating cultures through dance. The students began the year with a kick off of local dancers. Ashley Evanchof, Katie Anderson, and Kathleen Becker graced the stage at Morning Program. The dancers showed the Primary students the level of talent that exists here at Greene Central School District. Now our students can see what they can achieve with lots of hard work!

As we moved from September to October, our focus shifted from local dancers to our neighbors to the south—Mexico. This month our focus will be on Dia de los muertos and how the Mexican people use dance to celebrate this holiday. On October 3, the students were able to see Salsa dancers perform. Michael Ristorucci, a professor at Cornell, brought a handful of students for a workshop on Salsa moves. The students were able to try out some Salsa steps to the beat of two drummers. It was an engaging, fun-filled, Friday afternoon!

## Greene Primary School Open House



Greene Primary School had an outstanding turnout for Open House. Students were entertained by Magician David Mooreland on September 25 at Open House while parents were in the classroom with the teachers. Parents were given an insight into what their children are learning and doing during their school day.



## Treasure and Treats Arts and Crafts Fair

Have you started your holiday shopping? If you haven't you will want to make your way to the Annual Treasures and Treats Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday, November 8, from 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. We can help you with your shopping needs and make it an enjoyable experience at our soon-to-be transformed Greene Intermediate School. Come stroll our hallways and gymnasiums to see the amazing work of our more than sixty vendors, including painted wood items, jewelry, soaps, candles, and much more. You will also want to take a few minutes to relax at the "Sugar Plum Cafe" and enjoy our baked goods, soups and beverages. The children will be sure to enjoy themselves in the "Make It and Take It Room" where they will be able to make 3 ornaments for \$1.00.

All proceeds for the day benefit the Greene Arts in Education Program. We are proud of our program that now has expanded into the middle school and high school. Students in grades K-12 now participate in activities with teaching artists in their classrooms and enjoy performances in their schools. The teachers and professional artists will work with the students to tie this performance and yearlong goals into our everyday curriculum.

Community support is essential for the arts in education program to maintain its statewide status. Teachers, administrators, and parents are bringing you this holiday crafts fair to make your participation easy. We'll see you there!

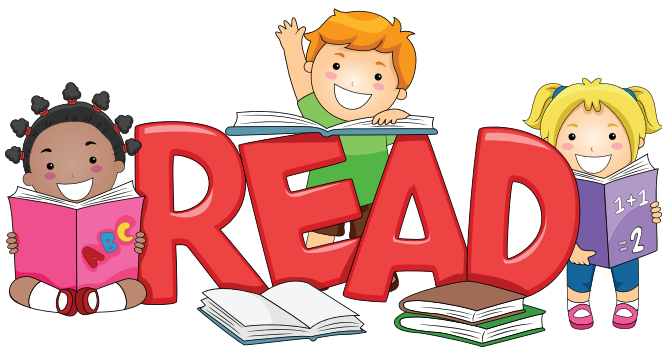
## Morning Program started with a FLASH



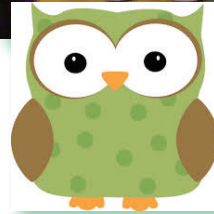
Flash Mob that is! All of the staff at the Primary Building participated in a flash mob to kick off a great school year. The Mob Dance integrated our Arts in Education theme and a passion for reading into Morning Program. The adults danced to “Gotta Keep Reading” and created quite the buzz among the surprised students in attendance. The staff used their favorite books as props during the Flash Mob to show students that reading at every age is fun!

Morning Program has always been a *Great Way to Start the Day* at the Primary Building and all are welcome to attend Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:05-8:30 a.m. in the Primary gymnasium. This year our Arts in Education theme is celebrating cultures through dance. The staff members were able to show off their dance moves and inspire students to use dance as a form of expression and celebration!

Every Wednesday at Morning Program students will be sharing what they learned about how people across the world use dance to celebrate, exercise, tell stories and express emotions. Children are encouraged to dance and move every day at Morning Program. By dancing together we create a community of learners that are ready to work together to face the challenges of the day. Come dance with us!



## Night Owl Storytime



Greene Primary School had its first ever Night Owl Storytime on Thursday, October 2. Students from SUNY Cortland, Mrs. Page from the MS/HS Library, Mrs. Evans from UPK and Mrs. Richards, were all guest readers. The students were treated to special fall themed stories and a prize at the end. We hope to see even more friends at our next event!



### *Mrs. Mack's and Ms. Poirier's classes with the Greene Fire Department* **Fire Station Visit**

October is Fire Safety Awareness month and to celebrate the Greene Fire Department visited the Primary School. Firefighter Bob and Firefighter Jeremy spoke to the students at Morning Program. They showed the students a firefighter's gear and talked fire safety. Students learned to stay safe around matches and lighters, and what to do in case of an emergency.

The firemen then visited the UPK and Kindergarten classes. The students were able to walk through one of the Department trucks and learn about all of the fire equipment. Students were especially excited to see the firemen extend their ladder from the ladder truck in the school parking lot! Be safe and check your batteries in your smoke detectors! Thank you Greene Fire Department!



## Homecoming



This year the student council members chose game shows as their homecoming theme for their dance. They also chose **Michelle Marker** as this year's homecoming grand marshal. She was chosen because of her extensive volunteer hours to helping the school, sports teams and Odyssey of the Mind.

This year's homecoming court for the freshman class, freshman prince is **Ty Nolan**, son of Kevin and Molly Nolan. The freshman class princess is **Gloria Stracquadanio**, daughter of Gary and Susan Stracquadanio. The sophomore class prince is **Luke Erickson**, son of Dan and Kelly Erickson. And the sophomore princess is **Juliana Myers**, daughter of Jerry and Wendy Myers. The junior class prince is **Jon Arts**, the son of John and Lisa Arts. The junior class princess this year is **Taylor Wahlers**, daughter of Tom and Sandra Wahlers.

The candidates for king and queen were, for king, **Shawn Brigham**, son of Jeffry and Tisha Brigham; **Tyler Dickman**, son of Robert and Rebecca Dickman; **Mark Mayes**, son of Drew Hults and Rhonda Noxen; **Dylan Barton**, son of Phil and Jackie Barton; and **Cole Nelson**, son of Phil and Marcy Nelson. For queen, the candidates were **Abbey Chimileski**, Jeff and Tracey Chimileski; **Kristy Haskell**, daughter of Kevin and Jean-Marie Haskell; **Leigha Shultes**, daughter of Kevin and Daniel Shultes; **Maura Deering**, daughter of Bill and Kathleen Deering; and **Autumn Bronson**, daughter of Kyle and Beth Bronson. The senior high students voted and chose **Tyler Dickman** and **Kristy Haskell** as this year's king and queen.

—Shannon Ketzak and Maria Brown  
Greene Student Council

## Greene Community Scholarship Fund

We would like to thank everyone for your Support during this year's GCSF golf ball drop. Your participation helped raise \$2,260 which will provide up to four scholarship opportunities for our graduates.

### WINNERS

- 1st Place—Sue Jones, ticket #14-0444
- 2nd Place—Fred Nichols, ticket #14-0302
- 3rd Place—Shannon Ketzak, ticket #14-0986
- 4th Place—Allison Stanton, ticket #14-0704
- 5th Place—Ron Greene, ticket #14-0931
- 6th Place—Jim Utter, ticket #14-0565

In the 14 years since it's inception in 2000, the Greene Dollars for Scholars Chapter, now known as the Greene Community Scholarship Fund, has awarded over 400 scholarships totaling \$274,900. With the costs associated with post-secondary education rising, the assistance provided by these scholarships is more important than ever.

The Greene Community Scholarship Fund is made possible by a dedicated Board of Directors and other volunteers including student representatives who give of their time and energy to raise funds, coordinate the application and awarding of annual scholarships. Applications for scholarships are available in the High School Guidance Office with a deadline of March 31st.

To offer your support or for additional information please access the Greene Dollars for Scholars Facebook page.



This character is the face associated with Greene's Dollars for Scholars Golf Ball Drop which has become an annual event in this organization's fund raising campaign.

Greene's Dollars for Scholars chapter is dedicated to helping Greene students achieve their educational goals by raising scholarship funds and distributing scholarships each year.

Since its inception in 2000, Greene's Dollars for Scholars program has distributed 310 awards for a total of \$191,400. For the 2010/2011 school year, Greene's Dollars for Scholars program provided 33 awards totaling \$27,000.

### Mission Statement

*Greene Central School, in partnership with the community, will inspire students to learn the skills and behaviors necessary to become productive citizens.*

- Provide quality programs to prepare all students with skills and knowledge to become responsible citizens, productive workers, and lifelong learners.
- Provide safe, quality facilities, which enhance the programs for the District's students and community.
- Ensure long-term fiscal stability in order to provide the necessary programs and facilities to educate the children of the Greene Central School District.
- Communicate effectively with all members of the community to promote quality education in the Greene Central School District.