



Schalmont

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2025

Schalmont to Start Pre-K Program

Schalmont is excited to announce that we will start a Pre-Kindergarten program this fall at the former Woestina Elementary School.

“We are truly excited about our plan for Schalmont’s Pre-K program,” said Superintendent Dr. Thomas Reardon. “We have studied every angle of Pre-K over the past two years and believe we’ll be able to offer an outstanding program for our community’s youngest learners.”

Schalmont families who have children who will be 4 years old by December 1, 2025 are encouraged to fill out a Pre-K Interest Form if interested. **Forms must be returned by April 11.** Scan the QR code to access the form on our website.



Schalmont’s Pre-K program will feature three classrooms for as many as 54 total students. If we receive interest for more than 54 students, Schalmont will use a lottery system to select families.

The Pre-K Advisory Committee looked at creating a larger program but the cost was estimated at \$2.9

million. Instead, they recommended starting smaller to reduce the cost to \$1.2 million while allowing Schalmont to gauge community interest.

New York State provides Pre-K funding but it does not cover the full cost. Staff is the main cost driver as each class requires a teacher and teacher assistant, as well as clerical, nurse, security, cleaning, kitchen and supervision.

Schalmont’s Pre-K program will feature Schalmont teachers and staff, setting it apart from many district-run programs.

“The Pre-K Committee felt strongly in the invaluable traits that a Schalmont faculty or staff member brings,” said Dr. Reardon. “It’s a testament to the quality of the teachers and staff that we have.”

Schalmont’s Pre-K program will run approximately 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



Transportation will not be provided due to cost and challenges such as car seats and a state requirement for Schalmont to then transport to all private Pre-K programs. We are exploring aftercare opportunities; more information to come for families selected for the program.

Families can also call the District Office at 518-355-9200 ext. 4001 for questions or to have a Pre-K Interest Form mailed to you.



Catch SABRES ACTION FOR FREE!

Our community enjoyed some great varsity, JV and modified sports this winter as they stayed warm on cold nights cheering on their Sabres!

Schalmont does not charge admission for any regular season games or sporting events to make it easier for our community to attend.



Scan the QR code to see an up-to-date sports calendar and come cheer on the hard work and dedication of our student-athletes!

#SabrePride



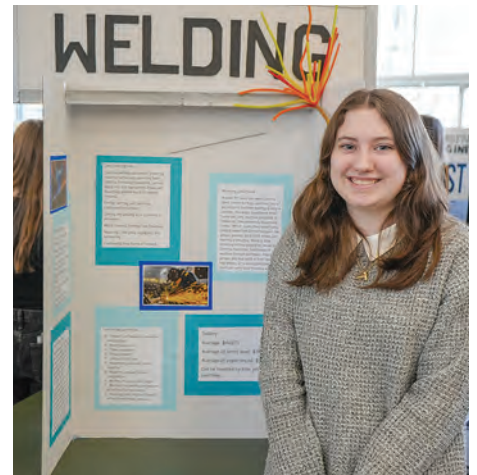
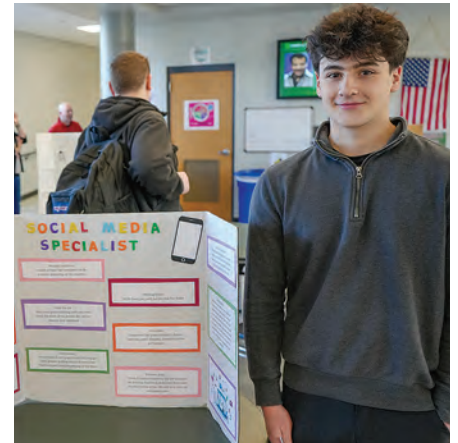
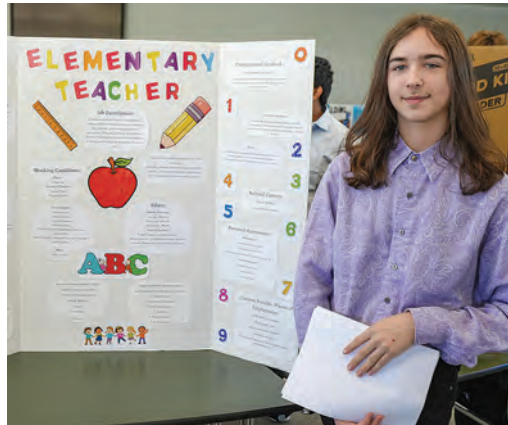
Exploring Professions at Career Fair

Students in Career & Financial Management classes enjoyed sharing everything they learned about career paths that interest them during the High School Career Fair.

Standing before presentations they made for the semi-annual event, High School students discussed how much education their chosen career requires, typical salaries, and other information they researched in class.

Students clearly took the project to heart as they showed great knowledge of the careers they chose and spoke deeply about why it interested them with faculty, staff, administrators and professionals from our community.

Career & Financial Management is one of five business classes Schalmont High School offers (including Personal Finance and Accounting) to help



students not only with career exploration but personal finances as well.

Don't Eat the Sculptures!










Yes, these delicious-looking foods are actually artwork created by our High School Sculpture class!

Art Teacher Mrs. Mulherrin explained that each year she gives students new creative project ideas but this food project is so popular with students, and creates so many different opportunities, that she brought it back again this year.

Schalmont's Fine Arts Department has been growing in recent years with more and more students exploring classes in sculpture, drawing, painting, digital photography and graphic design.

Absolutely amazing artwork, students!



Schalmont Writers Get Published

Schalmont High School has some amazing young writers who are having their work published and earning awards!

Juniors and seniors in Mrs. Mattice's Creative Writing elective had their scary stories selected for publication in a book called *Fright Club*, which will be available this spring. Their writing was chosen from more than 50,000 submissions nationwide!

Sophomore Nixa Nurse also earned an Honorable Mention in the 2025 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for her poem "Why I Fall Asleep in Class". Her poem along with the scary stories will appear in this June's edition of *Introspection*, the High School literary magazine.

Congratulations Caleb Cuniff, Raeanne Decker, Zara Kushner, Raegan Montrym, Nixa Nurse and Jackson Strickland!



Facilities Team Takes Pride in Work

Schalmont's Facilities Team takes great pride in not only maintaining our buildings and grounds but improving them for our students and community.

Our Facilities Team built a new shot put area and helped install an equipment shed for our Track & Field teams in the fall and recently repainted the sports weight room. Last fall our staff also built a beautiful stone and landscaped base for our American flag outside the Middle & High School campus.

The projects are just a few examples of in-house projects that not only save the district money but lets our staff show off their great work!



Veterans Day Celebration

a Family Affair

Schalmont Middle School's Veterans Day Celebration was extra special this year as many students welcomed their family members who serve our country.

Families enjoyed a breakfast together in the school cafeteria after a ceremony honoring veterans for their service.

As always, one of the highlights was the walk through hallways where students cheered, applauded and fist bumped veterans as they made their way through the school.

Thank you to our veterans for your

service and our students for honoring them so proudly!

Scan the QR code to watch a video of the veterans walking through the school.



Students Sing to Senior Citizens

Jefferson students brought joy to Kingsway Manor Assisted Living during the holiday season by singing holiday songs virtually!

Students in Ms. Pink, Mrs. LeRoy and Mrs. Wood's classrooms gathered for the 2nd Annual Virtual Sing-Along, drawing applause and thank

you from seniors. Kingsway Manor residents also sang to students and asked them questions, like what presents they were hoping to receive.

"Little things like this make a big difference," Ms. Pink told students. "They'll be thinking about this for days and the joy you brought them."





Students Shine at All-County Music Festival

In February, Schalmont Middle and High School students had the incredible opportunity to participate in the Schenectady County Music Association's All-County Festival.

"Middle School Choir and High School Band students gathered at Mohonasen High School for a memorable experience, collaborating with talented musicians from seven local districts," explained Music Teacher Mr. Christy. "Under the guidance of their guest conductors, our students not only honed their musical skills but also made lasting connections with fellow young artists. It was an unforgettable weekend of music, growth, and community for all involved!"

Congratulations!



High School Band: Annabella Brunette, Lily Burgess, Madelyn Erschen, Sidney Flowers, Grace Hill, Jarrett Jaster, Zara Kushner, Hayden Mac Entee, Alexandra Middelkoop, Raegan Montrym, Jack Moyer, Logan Opalka, Leah Pauquette, Lucy Reece and Michael Spina Jr.

Middle School Choir: Madeline Bargy, Hayleigh Bate, Anna Catalano, Gunner Foley, Peter Gorman, Shea Haggett, Jordan Iyer, Kiara Juarbe, Jude Lacis, Emaryis Maisonet, Maria Ndeme, Miriam Pierce, Richard Salvati, Gabby Tice and Lily Weatherwax



Schalmont Helps Red Cross Provide Shelter

Schalmont would like to share our great appreciation for our Facilities Team who stepped up to help the American Red Cross Eastern New York provide emergency housing for displaced residents from Burnt Hills.

On a Saturday night in February, the Red Cross contacted Schalmont to see if they could use our facilities for overnight shelter to help families in a trailer park who were displaced because of lack of water in the community. While other closer locations were

unable to help, Schalmont quickly jumped in and within hours our Middle School gym and cafeteria were ready to help any families who needed emergency housing for the night.

"A special thank you to [Director of Facilities] John O'Donnell for his immediate arrival on-site to provide support to the Red Cross, and for all



"I couldn't be more proud that yet again, Schalmont rises to the occasion in a time of need. That's what defines a Sabre."

— Superintendent Dr. Thomas Reardon

those who stepped in to work in this endeavor," said Superintendent Dr. Thomas Reardon.

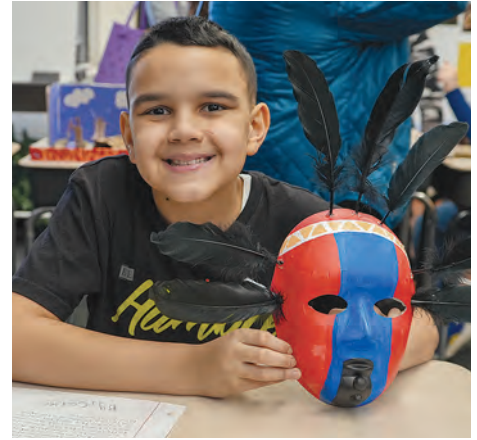
Native American Artifact Museum

Fourth graders in Ms. Week's class proudly shared their research projects in February during their Native American Artifact Museum!

From longhouses to drums to meticulously made wampum jewelry, students proudly shared their creations with families and other classes who complimented their work and asked questions.

Students were only too eager to share what they learned, often describing in great detail the importance of their items to Native American culture.

Great job, students, and thank you to our families who took time to visit!



Snowshoe Fun at Jefferson



First graders enjoyed some snowshoe fun this winter thanks to Thacher State Park staff who spent several days teaching our 1st graders how to snowshoe!



Thacher State Park provided plenty of snowshoes for students to try as they learned how to put them on and trekked across the back fields. Students also learned about animal tracks and enjoyed pretending to be rabbits and river otters as they jumped, ran and slid in the snow!

Thank you so much to the wonderful staff at Thacher State Park who spent so much time with our students over the week!



Schalmont CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Central School District



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1,000th Day of School Celebration

Fifth graders joined together to celebrate their 1,000th day of school in February by creating a paper chain from 1,000 pieces of paper!

Each link represented a school day, from the 1st day of kindergarten to the 100th day of school this year. Students gathered in the hallway at the end of the school day to hold the chain and see how far it would stretch (which was the entire hallway!)

