

Congratulations, CLASS OF 2018!

Our Spencerport Central School District celebrated the 2018 commencement on June 22. Highlights of this year's graduation ceremony with a photo collage may be found on pages 6 and 7.



Spencerport tax rate lowest in seven years

The Spencerport Board of Education adopted a tax levy and tax rate for the 2018-19 school year, which remains:

- under the maximum allowable levy limit,
- lower than the tax rate originally estimated in May, and
- within the eligibility requirements for community members to receive tax rebates.

Each of the four towns submitted their official assessment reports in July, and the total of those assessments changed from the projected increase of 2.62% in May to the actual increase of 5.54%.

During its meeting on July 10, the Board of Education adopted the tax levy at \$37,299,816, which equates to a true value tax rate of \$23.68 per \$1,000. The levy itself increased from earlier projections by \$54,237, which lowers appropriated fund balance and results in the lowest tax rate we have experienced in seven years. The last time we had a tax rate under \$24 was in 2012-13 when our rate was \$23.86/\$1,000.

(Continued on page 3)

What's inside

- Board meeting calendar for 2018-19
- Best wishes to our 2018 retirees
- Celebration of school namesakes
- And much more

Superintendent message

Dear community,

The 2018 commencement ceremony proved to be an incredible opportunity for me to shake the hands of our newest graduates, many of whom I remember as little ones from my years as principal of Canal View Elementary School.

The Class of 2018 has grown up right before our eyes and they take with them a tremendous foundation that their families, teachers and classmates helped them to establish over the past 13 years. It has been an honor to see our young students grow, mature, blossom, struggle yet find solutions and persevere. I certainly look forward to hearing about our graduates as they continue to grow and succeed whatever their chosen paths.

This edition of *Cornerstone* highlights our year-end celebrations, events, updates, and of course, photos of our graduations – The latter is plural because we not only celebrated our seniors, but also the moving up of our kindergartners and eighth graders.

In addition, please be sure to obtain the latest news and updates on summer capital work, our alumni reunion, 2018 retirees, and Board of Education meeting dates for 2018-19.

It has been a privilege to serve as your superintendent this past year. I have enjoyed every aspect of working with this community, and I look forward to the start of the 2018-19 school year and our continued collaboration.



Dan Milgate
Superintendent
of Schools



Board of Education 2018-19 calendar

The Board of Education held its annual organizational meeting on July 10, when they adopted the 2018-19 meeting calendar. All meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month except where noted, and in Rooms 15/17 of the District Office building, 71 Lyell Ave.

Date	Time
August 7	7 p.m.
Sept. 4	6 p.m.
Sept. 25	7 p.m.
Oct. 9	7 p.m.
Oct. 23	7 p.m.
Nov. 13	7 p.m.
Nov. 27	7 p.m.
Dec. 11	7 p.m.
Jan. 8	7 p.m.
Jan. 22	7 p.m.
Feb. 12	7 p.m.
Feb. 26	7 p.m.
Mar. 12	7 p.m.
Mar. 26	7 p.m.
TBD Apr 9	7 p.m.
Apr 23	7 p.m.
May 7 (after Budget Hearing)	8 p.m.
May 21 (Budget Vote)	6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
May 28	7 p.m.
June 11	7 p.m.

New Cosgrove **assistant principal appointed**



The Spencerport Board of Education has appointed Telcie Pincelli as the new assistant principal at Cosgrove Middle School, effective July 1.

Pincelli fills the open position left by Mike Sorbera, who accepted the special education coordinator position for the district in April. Pincelli first joined the Spencerport School District faculty in 2006, as an elementary classroom teacher (2006-2015). For the last three years,

she has served as a K-5 instructional specialist, providing professional development and instructional support to faculty. During this time, she has also been working toward her administrative certification from SUNY Brockport.

“We are very excited to welcome Mrs. Pincelli as part of the leadership team at Cosgrove,” Superintendent Dan Milgate said. “We have had the good fortune to know and work with her for the last 12 years, and her instructional expertise, leadership qualities and collaborative nature will be a wonderful addition in this new capacity.”

Welcome!

Best wishes to our 2018 retirees

Congratulations to our retirees who have devoted numerous years to the students, faculty and staff of Spencerport. The district celebrated our 2018 retirees during a reception on June 12.



Pictured, left to right, are our honorees, E.J. Leccese, Joyce Quirk, Board of Education President Gary Bracken, Marilyn Law, Deserie Richmond, Dianne Robinson, Mary Anne Cellura, Judy Pray, Marlene Jensen, and Superintendent Dan Milgate. Not pictured: Judy Demchock.

(Continued from cover)

Spencerport tax rate **lowest in seven years**

District officials and the board made a concerted effort to focus on the tax rate this year, in response to property re-assessments in Ogden, Parma, and portions of Gates. Members of our Budget Focus Group agreed to share their reassessed property values to use as examples for 2018-19.

House 1		
Value Before Reassessment	<i>With STAR exemption</i>	\$215,000 (-\$30,000) \$185,000
Increase in assessment		\$30,000
Value After Reassessment	<i>With STAR exemption</i>	\$245,000 (-\$30,000) \$215,000
Example Tax Bill		
2017-18 school tax bill with STAR (-\$30,000) at \$24.33/\$1,000		\$4,501.05
Projected tax bill in May (with 0% increase in the rate) \$24.33/\$1,000		\$5,230.95
2018-19 tax bill with STAR (-\$30,000) \$23.68/\$1,000		\$5,091.20
<i>Decrease in the school tax rate will still be an increase from last year due to assessments.</i>	Annually: \$590.15 Monthly: \$49.18	

House 2		
Value Before Reassessment	<i>With STAR exemption</i>	\$245,000 (-\$30,000) \$215,000
Increase in assessment		\$13,000
Value After Reassessment	<i>With STAR exemption</i>	\$258,000 (-\$30,000) \$228,000
Example Tax Bill		
2017-18 school tax bill with STAR (-\$30,000) at \$24.33/\$1,000		\$5,230.95
Projected tax bill in May (with 0% increase in the rate) \$24.33/\$1,000		\$5,547.24
2018-19 tax bill with STAR (-\$30,000) \$23.68/\$1,000		\$5,399.04
<i>Decrease in the school tax rate will still be an increase from last year due to assessments.</i>	Annually: \$168.09 Monthly: \$14.00	

What is STAR?

According to the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance, there are two types of STAR exemptions:

Basic STAR

- available for owner-occupied, primary residences where the resident owners' and their spouses income is less than \$500,000
- exempts the first \$30,000 of the full value of a home from school taxes

Enhanced STAR

- provides an increased benefit for the primary residences of senior citizens (age 65 and older) with qualifying incomes

Summer capital work **around our district**

A number of maintenance and improvement projects will be taking place this summer as part of the 2015 Capital Project, including:

High School

- 83 window replacements in 100 and 200 wing
- Replace grease trap east kitchen
- Window shade / treatment replacement throughout school
- Room 501 office renovation

Cosgrove MS

- Exterior louver (blind/slat) replacement
- 9 classrooms floor abatement / replace with new VCT, also new wardrobe cabinet and door hardware

Canal View ES

- 37 vertical unit ventilator replacement and relief air units

Taylor ES

- Exterior door 8 replacement
- Psychology office window replacement
- Art room – build storage room

Munn ES

- Centrium renovations – art room / music room / rooms T100, 101, 102

Spencerport sixth graders celebrate school namesakes

Cosgrove Middle School sixth graders in Andrea Page's English class wanted to discover more about the individuals whose names are on our school buildings.

The class worked in teams to conduct research, write biographies, create presentations, and coordinate a special premiere to share this history with our community.

"They must have done something right, something really profound, something

worth exploring, and something worth talking about," the students wrote. "So we set out to get to know the names on our school, as people who we can learn from and embrace as a member of our Spencerport family."

Students, staff and community members attended the Spencerport Heroes event on June 12, and gave special recognition to members of the William Munn and Terry Taylor families who also attended.

Leo Bernabi
By Andrew Stocker

Dr. Bernabi was persistent. During his work life in Spencerport, he was a Social Studies teacher, an Earth Science teacher, and he was a coach. He started the wrestling program in Spencerport, and his teams went undefeated. Dr. Bernabi was also a principal and the Superintendent of Spencerport Schools.

In addition, he also has other areas that show he was a fine citizen. Leo Bernabi served in the Navy during World War II and the Korean War. Lastly, he was a role model for coaches too. He was President of the State Wrestling Officials and eventually was inducted into the Section V Wrestling Hall of Fame.

William C. Munn
By Avery Monsees

William Munn joined the Spencerport Board of Education in 1966, and served as its president from 1970-75. Also, from 1972-75, Munn was the board representative for the Curriculum Council. He ran for the board once again in 1975, and out of the others running, he received the most votes due to how he'd been seen in action with his attendance and way of handling the problems.

Sadly, though, at age 51 in 1975, Munn found that he had brain cancer and had to get surgery for it. In February 1976, he got the surgery, but sadly passed due to complications from it on February 24, 1976, just three days before he turned 52. The loss of Munn was devastating.

The school named after him was because of all he did for us, and all he did for us is greatly appreciated village-wide.

Ada M. Cosgrove
By Rachel Calderon

After graduating from high school, Ada Cosgrove was accepted into Brockport Normal School, which is now called the State University College at Brockport. After finishing college in 1904, she became a teacher, starting out in third and fourth grade in a one-room schoolhouse.

Ada Cosgrove started out with teaching at the Old Brick School and Manitou School, but soon she moved to teaching at Spencerport Schools. She taught subjects such as American History

and Math. Wherever Ada went, she left a mark of inspiration on each and every student she taught. Even kids she didn't have in her class respected and liked her.

Soon enough, students started calling her "Aunt Ada", though never directly to her face. Ellsworth Wilson said that this name was created out of respect for her.

In 1940, Ada became a vice principal, a little bit before her retirement. She retired in 1949, and was still remembered for her kindness, optimism and charisma.



Pictured, Kathy Munn Hubbard and Mary Munn Gurnett. Hubbard and Gurnett are the daughters of William C. Munn.

Terry A. Taylor
By Rachel Calderon

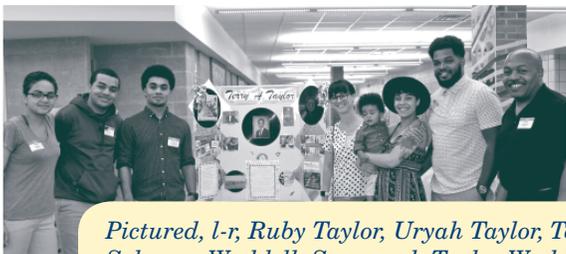
Terry Taylor started his musical career in the fourth grade, learning to play the trombone. It was not by choice, but by chance. His music teacher

had issued all the instruments and the trombone was the only one left. Terry became very skilled at his instrument, and began touring other schools for school musical programs. His sister, Louise, said that at home, Terry Taylor went to practice on the top (floor) of his home, while the rest of the family went to the basement.

offer, and began teaching music to the children. Not only that, but he helped build a music program for students in the school, so they could learn and discover more about music.

In 1981, Terry Taylor left Town Line School to teach at a high school level. Six years later, Mr. Taylor was nominated for the Olmstead Prize for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching, and became one of the only four people in the country who earned this honor. A little later, Terry Taylor received another award: the Disney American Teacher Award for the Performing Arts.

Terry Taylor was often described as a gentle man and a gentleman. He was devoted to both his music and his students.



Pictured, l-r, Ruby Taylor, Uryah Taylor, Terry Taylor III, Rebecca Taylor, Solomon Waddell, Savannah Taylor Waddell, Kr Waddell, Terry Taylor II.

During his senior year of college, Terry Taylor married a woman named Ada White. After graduating with a degree in music, Taylor was offered a teaching position in our very own Spencerport School District. Terry Taylor accepted the

Celebrations cap **great school year 2017-18**

Our Spencerport schools marked the end of the 2017-18 year, with a number of assemblies, celebrations, and culminating events. Here are a few of those highlights.

Graduates celebrate commencement with elementary parade

Spencerport high school seniors paraded through the hallways of their home elementary schools on June 18 to share their milestone of graduation with younger students, former teachers, and staff.

A total of 157 seniors participated in this third annual event, which also included time to reunite with teachers, encourage young students, and walk the halls of their former schools.



A time warp occurred at Munn Elementary School on June 5, when each grade celebrated a "Day in History". Students enjoyed hands-on, interactive and engaging mini-lessons around the time period selected for their grade-level. (2nd grade had 2030s and dressed for what they want to be when they grow up!)



Flag Day celebrations

Spencerport Elementary Schools celebrated Flag Day, with patriotic ceremonies, performances, and military recognitions. Pictured here is from the celebration at Canal View.

Students show they CARE at Taylor

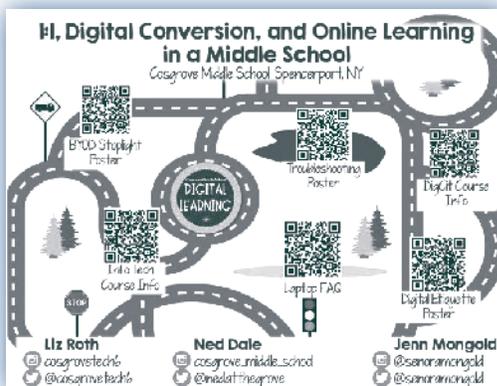
Taylor Elementary School participated in its first ever CARE Olympics on June 8. Students joined in on caring activities that focused showing kindness to others, themselves, and the planet.



Spencerport CSD continues its 1:1 laptop initiative

The 1:1 laptop initiative in grades 6-8 will be expanded to the high school for the 2018-2019 school year. The 1:1 initiative has been an ongoing effort for the past several years, in which the district has focused on extensive staff development to integrate technology into the learning process and use a blended model for instruction.

Incoming students *must complete* an online user agreement and decide if they want a protection plan. Details on the program and these agreements may be found on our website at www.spencerportschools.org. Students also take a course on digital citizenship which was developed by our Cosgrove faculty.



May vote location

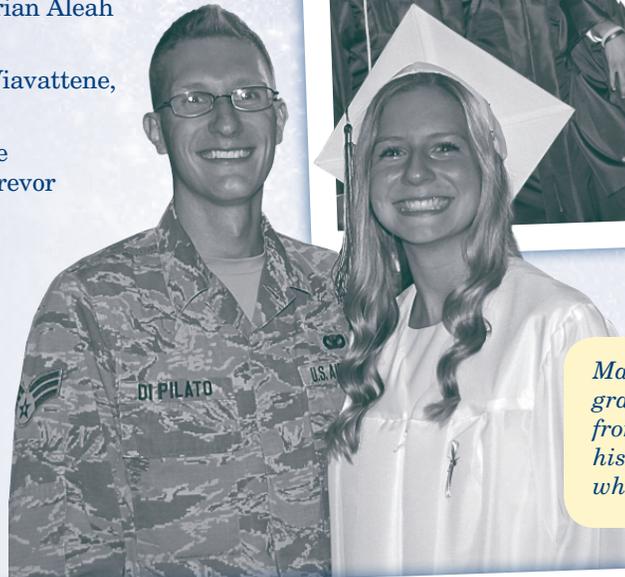
The School Budget Vote and Election of Board of Education candidates will take place on May 21, 2019 from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. at **one polling place at the District Office building, 71 Lyell Ave.** Residents who voted previously at Munn or Taylor Schools will now all vote at District Office.

Congratulations

Our Spencerport Central School District celebrated the 2018 commencement on June 22, when 296 students walked across the stage of the Brockport SERC to receive their diplomas.

The ceremony included performances and reflections from our students, as well as special recognitions. Among the 2018 highlights were:

- The Star Spangled Banner performed by: Jacob Auchman, Anna D'Angelo
- Zackery deLaroche, Luke Dempster, Pavel Galenza, Abby Spielman
- Student reflection from Salutatorian Aleah Martone
- Student reflection from Rianna Viavattene, Student Government President
- "I'll be There" performed by: Luke Dempster and accompanied by Trevor Schumann
- Address to Class by Joshua Rabadoux, Valedictorian
- "Landslide" performed by: Pavel Galenza and Abby Spielman and accompanied by Trevor Schumann
- Farewell address by Cole Viavattene Class of 2018 President,

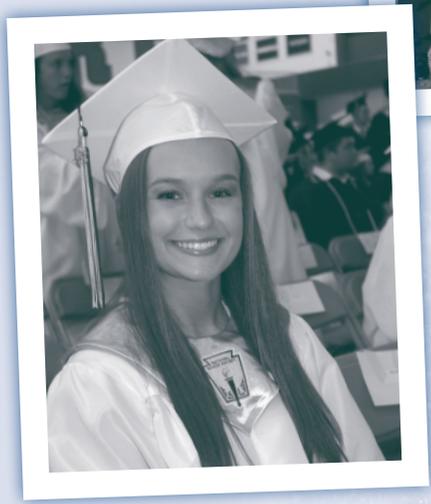
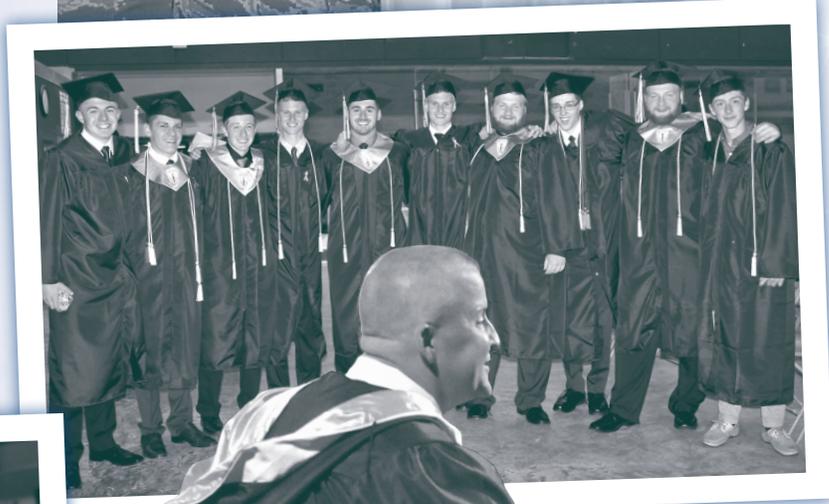


Matthew DiPilato, a 2013 SHS graduate who was home on leave from the U.S. Air Force to surprise his sister, Taylor DiPilato, on stage when she received her diploma.

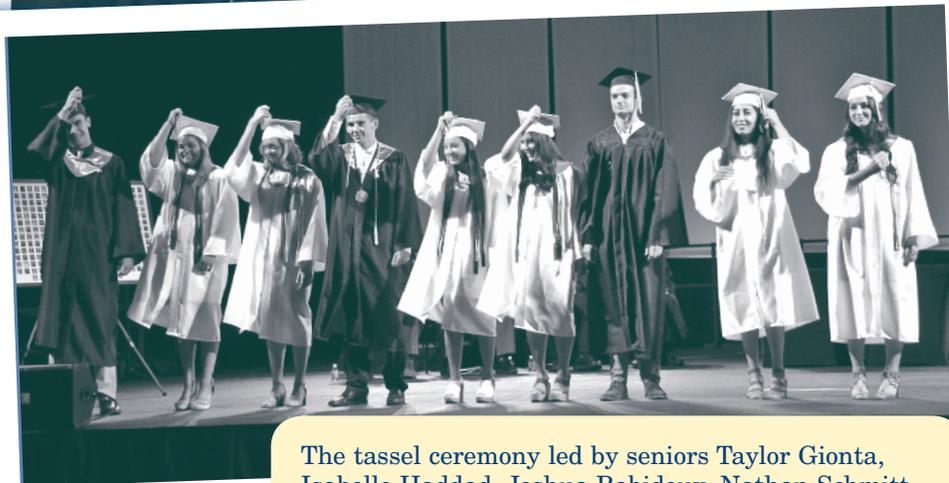
Memorable moments from the commencement also included:

Performances by the SHS Jazz Ensemble: Aleigha Binko, Jonathan Bradfield, Brian Burr, Emily Chesebro, Shayla Duong, Jackson Glozer, Trevor Schumann, Cody Toland

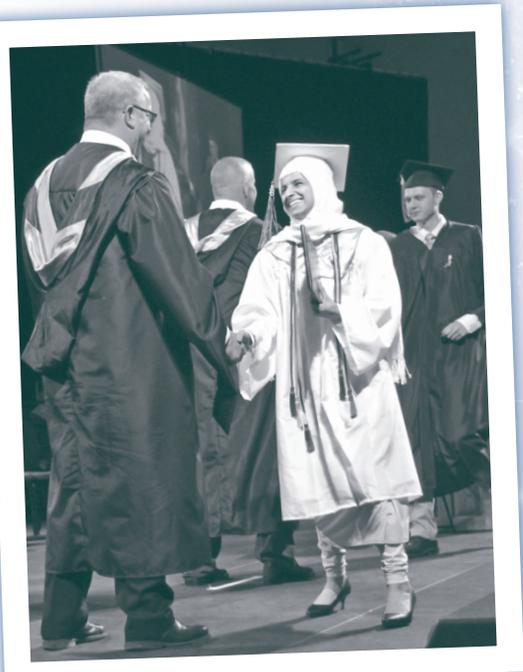
Congratulations to our graduates and best wishes for their future success!



TO OUR CLASS OF 2018!



The tassel ceremony led by seniors Taylor Gionta, Isabelle Haddad, Joshua Rabidoux, Nathan Schmitt, Gabriella Tandoi, Cole Viavattene, Rianna Viavattene, Natalie Wiebeld, Megan Willison



(Continued from page 4)

Spencerport sixth graders celebrate school namesakes

Board of Education:

- Mr. Gary Bracken, *President*
- Mr. Greg Kincaid, *Vice President*
- Ms. Kate Czarnecki
- Mr. David Gibbardo
- Ms. Jody Gillette
- Mr. Kevin Hutton
- Mr. Michael Miceli

School Board members are elected to three-year terms and serve without pay.

Superintendent of Schools

Dan Milgate

Editor:

Lanette Cypher 349-5104

Design:

Allison Mason

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*Cornerstone, NYSRA award winner
for 2015 budget newsletter*



Ellsworth J. Wilson
By Krystal Perez

In 1932, EJ Wilson graduated from the University of Rochester and got a job as a science teacher at Spencerport. He continued his studies and earned a master's degree from the State Teachers' College in Albany.

Wilson taught until 1941. He figured a person with a science degree would probably be drafted into World War II, so he enlisted and served in the 33rd Signal Corp until December, 1945.

In 1946, Wilson went back to teaching in Spencerport. He was a science teacher at the high school, then was appointed vice principal. In 1947, there were one-room schoolhouses all over Ogden and the Spencerport area. In 1947 or 1948, the district centralized and was named the Spencerport Central School District. Mr. Wilson became "District Principal" or Superintendent.



Wilson worked in the district for 40 years as a teacher, principal and district principal.

He oversaw the construction of many buildings, like the primary building, the intermedia school (now Bernabi), and the high school (now Cosgrove). He made sure that the schools had enough room on the grounds for all the playgrounds and soccer fields.

UPDATE on printed Calendar

Every summer, the printed calendar for the upcoming school year is published in July and mailed home to our current families in August. We anticipate this schedule to be met again this year. In the meantime, below please find a few upcoming events for your planning:

AUGUST 2018

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------------|
| 20 | Urban-Suburban family orientation, Cosgrove library | 9-11 a.m. |
| 27 | 6th grade orientation | 8-11 a.m. |
| 28 | 7/8th grade orientation | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| 28 | Kindergarten bus orientation | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.; 4-7 p.m. |
| 29 | Kindergarten bus orientation | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| 30 | Freshman orientation | 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| 30 | Freshman parent orientation | 5:30 p.m. |

SEPTEMBER 2018

- | | | |
|---|--|----------|
| 4 | Meet and Greet in our elementary schools | 2-3 p.m. |
| 5 | School opens: full day session | |

Alumni visit high school, share memories

Spencerport Alumni Association held its annual banquet in June, with the honor classes of 1968 celebrating their 50th year reunion and 1958 celebrating their 60th.

As part of the festivities, Director of Community Education Christina Bowerman, board member Greg Kincaid and student Megan Laubacher hosted a guided tour for the class of 1968.



Among the tour participants were Mike Wilson, EJ Wilson's son, and former coach John Berardicurti.