

THE CORNERSTONE

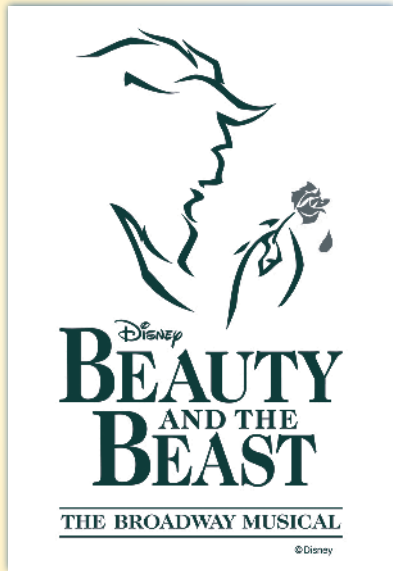
The Newsletter of the Spencerport Central School District

October 2021

HOMECOMING 2021



More Homecoming photos inside!



Save the date for STAGE Drama production

Spencerport High School STAGE Drama Club will present the *Beauty and the Beast* in November.

Shows will be in the performing arts center at Spencerport High School as follows:
Nov. 18 at 7 p.m., Nov. 19 at 7 p.m., and Nov. 20 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tickets will be sold online and at the door. Be sure to check our HS website for more details as we get closer to the date.

What's inside

- From the Superintendent.....p. 2
- Bivona and student safety....p. 3
- Report card rollout.....p. 4
- We're Hiring!p. 5
- Have a question?.....p. 6
- Homecoming 2021.....p. 6-7
- Calendarp. 8

Superintendent message

Dear Community,

I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve as your new Superintendent of Schools, and would like to thank the community for the kind words of congratulations, encouragement and support. In a short time, I can see why Spencerport is a close-knit community that takes pride in its schools, and I feel honored to be part of the Ranger team.

The first month of any school year brings such energy and excitement, and I am so happy to report that 2021 has been no different. Seeing our buses on the road; observing students reconnect with classmates and teachers; and experiencing some of the normalcy again has been the boost we all needed. One such boost has been our Homecoming week, and a photo collage from the festivities may be found on pages 6 and 7 of *Cornerstone*.



Superintendent Kristin Swann greets Bernabi students on the first day of school.

This edition of *Cornerstone* also highlights news and updates from around our district, such as:

- an introduction of our new director of facilities;
- our continued efforts related to student safety and our work with the Bivona Advocacy Center;
- a resource guide for who to contact in the district with various questions; and
- an appreciation for local community partners for back-to-school donations for our students.

Finally, I would like to let our community know that our COVID-19 related updates will continue to be sent to our families via email, then posted on our website. The speed with which information changes is just not conducive to a two-week, newsletter production schedule, so please continue to check our website for COVID-19 updates, resources, and our family messages. https://www.spencerportschools.org/district/2021-22_c_o_v_i_d-19_updates_and_resources

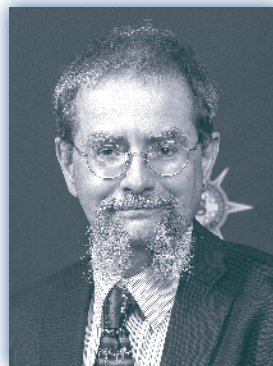
The transition to Spencerport has been wonderful, and I am looking forward to a great year ahead and partnering with you. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or introduce yourself at our upcoming district and school events.

Sincerely,

Kristin M. Swann

Kristin Swann
Superintendent of Schools

Longtime facilities director **retires**



Nelson Drake, the SCSO director of facilities, will officially retire on Oct. 28, after 16 years in the district and more than 50 years in the project management, maintenance, and operations field.

Under his leadership, the district completed several capital improvement projects, and for many years, he earned the district high honors for school safety excellence from Utica National Insurance Group.

Drake said, "I have enjoyed my work in Spencerport, and have always wanted to be part of the operations team to make sure our schools, buildings, and grounds are maintained, safe, secure, and healthy for our students to learn."

Please **welcome** our new facilities director

Please join us in welcoming Darin Price as our new director of facilities. Price has officially started with the district on Oct. 1, and will have an opportunity to work with Drake for a few weeks to ensure a smooth transition.



Price will oversee multiple areas within the department, including operations, maintenance, grounds, and security.

Price comes to us with more than 14 years of experience in management of facilities and project leadership, along with hands-on trade experience in the private sector. He brings a great deal of industry experience that we believe will transition well to our district and leading the facilities team.

Price notably shared in the interview process, the importance of facilities and its support of student learning. In his personal life, he shared that he has a focus on service and community.

Congratulations to Drake on his retirement and please join us in welcoming Price to the Ranger team!

Bivona and student safety is a continued focus for **Spencerport CSD**

The Spencerport Central School District has a long-established partnership with Bivona Child Advocacy Center, and we appreciate the guidance and support they provide as we work diligently to maximize student safety.



Bivona works with us on many levels, with student curriculum, staff trainings, and consultation support. They have also assisted us with the implementation of Erin's Law ([http://](http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/erins-law)

www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/erins-law). Bivona's wealth of knowledge and expertise is invaluable, and we are grateful they hosted a virtual forum on Oct. 13, for interested Spencerport community members to learn more about their program and curriculum.

A recording of this forum will be posted on our YouTube channel, @SpencerportCSD and website, www.spencerportschools.org.

A safe and secure learning environment

The district remains committed to achieving academic excellence, while providing a safe and secure learning environment for students.

As mentioned above, the district has partnered with Bivona Child Advocacy Center to offer the MBF Child Safety Matters program to our students. The age-appropriate curriculum educates students on how to spot and respond to bullying, cyberbullying, child abuse, and digital dangers. Most importantly, it teaches that adults are responsible for children's safety. The program is based on the latest research; has been reviewed by national experts; and once again, will be taught to our elementary students this year.

Educating our students in partnership with Bivona and the MBF curriculum is one aspect of our district's efforts around safety. Following the news of alleged abuse in neighboring school district last spring, we created a student safety committee consisting of principals, teachers, counselors, directors, and district leaders to review our existing policies, procedures, reporting, staff training, curriculum and security. The action steps resulting from this review have included:

- Coordinating the Bivona forum on Oct. 13,
- Continuing the Bivona lessons for students,
- Enforcing protocols when staff must meet with students (making sure all the vision panels on classroom doors, stair and corridor doors remain uncovered, clear visibility from the hallway at all times, doors open if appropriate, include another adult or student when possible, and keep clear records),
- Ensure proper bathroom and locker room procedures are followed (students and adults are not to share lavatories at the same time),
- adopting a new board policy (6180) that specifically addresses staff-student relations,
- providing staff training during the Oct. 8 Superintendent's Conference Day, titled "Darkness to Light" through Bivona, and
- purchasing the app tool, Remind, for teachers to safely communicate with students and parents/guardians without exchanging personal information.

We hope our students, parents and community recognize our commitment to safety, and we will continue to provide updates on our efforts in Cornerstone. To learn more about Bivona Child Advocacy, and MBF Child Safety Matters, please visit these links:

<https://www.bivonacac.org/school-programs>

https://www.spencerportschools.org/parents__community/student_safety_and_security/bivona_program_for_elementary_students

<https://www.mbfpreventioneducation.org/>

REMINDER Meals are free for 2021-22, reduced meals available

Last year, the federal government announced free breakfast and lunch for all students in school districts across the country, and this waiver has extended through the 2021-22 year. All students opting for a free meal must take the full offering each time.

Families applying for the free and reduced meals in previous years are still asked to fill out the form before the Oct. 17 deadline, to ensure their student (s) receives the benefit until the next year's deadline without interruption. This form may be found at this link, https://www.spencerportschools.org/departments_and_programs/food_services

For more information, call 349-5190.



CORNERSTONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT CARD ROLLOUT: 4-PART SERIES

As we communicated in a Cornerstone series last spring, the Spencerport elementary schools will be using a revised report card aligned to the NYS Next Generation Learning Standards for ELA and Math, as well as the NYS Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks.

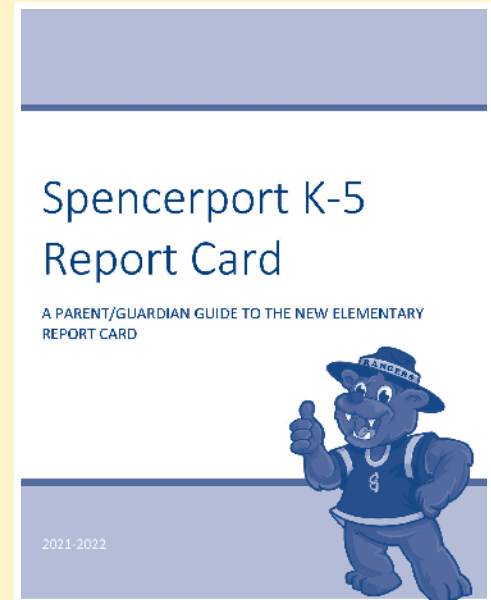
Part 3: new elementary school report card features “growth mindset”

The most significant change to the updated report card is the transition from “moment in time” grading to “end of year standard” grading. For example, instead of setting a series of benchmarks throughout the year which the grading is based upon, all grading is based on one end-of-year goal.

“The target will remain the same,” said Director of Curriculum Kristen Paolini. “The target will always be the end-of-year standard. We will report your child’s progress toward meeting that end-of-year standard throughout the course of the year. So, typical growth could be a 2 in November and a 3 or 4 in June.”

Students’ progress will be indicated by use of the numbers 1-4. These numbers do not correspond to letter grades or achievement levels, as might be inferred. A “4” is not an A. These numbers represent growth, not grades.

If parents choose to share the report card with their students, they will be able to see their work in school moving them further toward the goal of meeting the end-of-year standard. So, instead of learning to achieve a grade, students will be learning to take pride in the learning process.



For more information on the elementary report cards, a family guide, videos, and the previous Cornerstone articles, please visit our website at https://www.spencerportschools.org/district/instruction/elementary_report_cards



Supplies, support, and donations prove invaluable for students

Thank you once again to the Spencerport Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, Feltner Group and Howard Hanna/Spencerport Office for donating back-to-school supplies and backpacks to our schools.



The auxiliary donated school supplies for students whose families needed assistance, and the Feltner Group and HH Office organized a drive for client donations, shopped for supplies, and filled numerous backpacks for distribution in our schools.

The auxiliary also sponsors a hat and mitten drive around the holidays to collect hats, mittens and scarves to donate to our students. The Feltner Group also chooses two district families around the holidays to donate gifts. Thank you to our thoughtful and generous community partners!



WE'RE HIRING!

SPENCERPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES:



BUS DRIVERS*

TEACHER AIDES

CLEANERS

BUS ATTENDANTS

FOOD SERVICE HELPERS

*RECEIVE PAID TRAINING TO OBTAIN COMMERCIAL LICENSE TO TRANSPORT STUDENTS (CDL-B)

SUBSTITUTE OPENINGS:

TEACHERS*

FOOD SERVICE HELPERS

BUS DRIVERS & ATTENDANTS

CLEANERS

NURSES

TEACHER AIDES

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

LUNCH MONITORS

*IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE EDUCATION PROFESSION, NEW TO TEACHING OR RETIRED FROM TEACHING, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR TEAM AND SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE. NEVER SUBBED BEFORE AND HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT 349-5124.

SCAN HERE TO APPLY TODAY!



OR

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SPENCERPORTSCHOOLS.ORG OR CALL 349-5124 FOR ASSISTANCE WITH AN ONLINE APPLICATION.



FOF

SPENCERPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. SPENCERPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ENSURES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, SEX, OR DISABILITY. FURTHER, THE DISTRICT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RELIGION OR CREED, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY STATUS, GENETIC STATUS, MARITAL STATUS, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS, CRIMINAL ARREST OR CONVICTION RECORD, OR ANY OTHER BASIS PROHIBITED BY STATE OR FEDERAL NON-DISCRIMINATION LAWS.

Have a question?

The Spencerport Central School District encourages open, transparent and respectful lines of communications with our students, families and learning community. To expedite responses to inquiries more quickly and efficiently, please refer to the chart below for the appropriate communication channels depending on the topic.

If your question is not resolved after completing these steps, the district clerk may assist you in contacting the superintendent, and then, if unresolved, the board of education.

TOPIC	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4
Academics/Instruction				
Curriculum	Classroom/Subject Teacher	School Principal	Director of Curriculum	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction
Schedules	School Counselor	School Principal	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction	
Student access (Technology/Infinite Campus/Schoolology)	Access: School Database Manager or Student Services	Help Desk 585-349-5106	Chief Information Officer	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction
Student progress (Infinite Campus/Schoolology/Grades/Assignments)	Classroom/Subject Teacher	School Counselor	School Principal	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Director	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction	
Budget/Financial/Federal Stimulus	District business office	Asst. Superintendent for Business		
Buildings/Grounds	Building Custodian	School Principal	Director of Facilities	Director of Operations and Special Projects
Building usage	Reserve rooms/fields on website	Community Programs Director	Director of Facilities	Director of Operations and Special Projects
Food Service	School cafeteria manager	Director of Food Service	Director of Operations and Special Projects	Asst. Superintendent for Business
Human Resource/Jobs	HR office	Asst. Superintendent for Human Resources		
Special Education	Classroom/Subject Teacher	Elementary or secondary Special Education coordinator	Director of Special Education/School Principal	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction
Student Classroom Behavior/Concerns	Classroom/Subject Teacher	School Counselor	School Principal	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction
Student health issues	School Nurse	District Medical Director	Director of Student Services	
Student social emotional & mental health well-being	Classroom/Subject Teacher	School Counselor or Psychologist	School Principal	Family Support Center
Safety and Security				
Dignity for All Students Act	Dignity Act Incident Report Form (on website)	School Dignity Act Coordinator (aka School Counselors)	School Principal	Director of Student Services
Report of concerning delinquent activities (Code of Conduct violations, or non-emergency incidents, ie, altercations, property damage)	Confidential tip line 1-877-474-9403	Director of Security	Ogden Police Department	Asst. Superintendent for Instruction or Director of Operations and Special Projects
Report of criminal activities	Ogden Police Department or 911			
Transportation	Driver	Director of Transportation	Director of Operations and Special Projects	Asst. Superintendent for Business



Homecoming Court 2021:

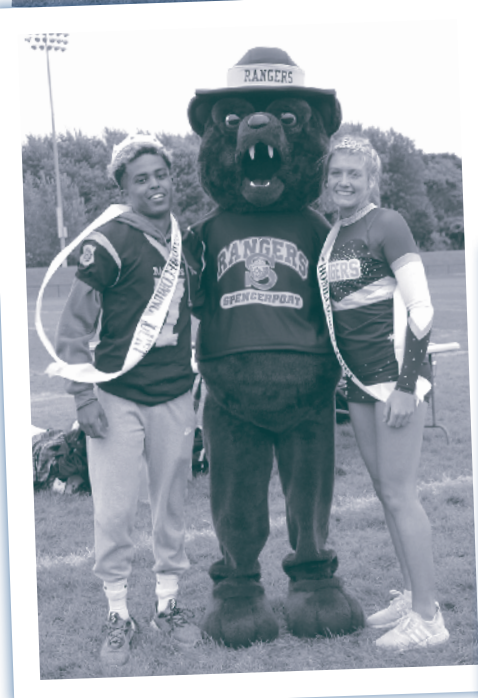
Freshman Lord and Lady:
Adriano Palotto and Iris Clements

Sophomore Duke and Duchess:
Nathan Divincenzo and Jersey Cio

Junior Prince and Princess:
Trevor Pettit and Gianna Nucci

Senior King and Queen:
Michael Shiferaw and Julia Neu

HOMECOMING



Board of Education:

- Mr. Kevin Hutton, *President*
- Mr. Greg Kincaid, *Vice President*
- Mr. Gary Bracken
- Ms. Leah Brown
- Ms. Kate Czarnecki
- Mr. David Gibbardo
- Ms. Lori Stone

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

Superintendent of Schools

Kristin Swann

Editor:

Lanette Cypher 349-5104

Communication Specialist and Contributors:

Gretchen Spittler, Amanda Dedie

Design:

Allison Mason

www.SpencerportSchools.org

©2021 SCSD Public Information Office

Designed and printed at
Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES

*Cornerstone, NYSPRA award winner
for 2015 and 2018 budget newsletters*



Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Spencerport, NY
Permit #22

Spencerport
Central School District
71 Lyell Avenue
Spencerport, NY 14559
585-349-5000

OCTOBER

- 19 Board of Education, D.O. 6 p.m.
- 21 Bernabi Open House/Curriculum Night 6-7:30 p.m.
- 21 Taylor Open House/Curriculum Night 6-7:30 p.m.
- 25-29 Red Ribbon Week

NOVEMBER

- 2 Board of Education, D.O. 6 p.m.
- 5 SHS Red Cross Blood drive
- 11 Veterans Day: no school
- 12 UPK classes: no school for Parent/Teacher confs.
- 16 Board of Education, D.O. 6 p.m.
- 17 Munn Parent/Teacher Confs. 3:45-6:45 p.m.
- 18 Bernabi Parent/Teacher Confs. 7:45-8:15 a.m.; 3:45-6:15 p.m.
- 18 Canal View Parent/Teacher Confs. 3:45-6:45 p.m.
- 18 Taylor Parent/Teacher Confs. 3:45-6:45 p.m.
- 18 Beauty and the Beast, SHS Stage Drama 7 p.m.
- 19 CMS/SHS 1st quarter report cards in the Parent Portal
- 19 Beauty and the Beast, SHS Stage Drama 7 p.m.
- 20 Beauty and the Beast, SHS Stage Drama 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- 22 SHS Parent/Teacher Confs. 3-6 p.m.
- 22 Bernabi Parent/Teacher Confs. 3:45-6:45 p.m.
- 23 Canal View Parent/Teacher Confs. 3:45-6:45 p.m.
- 23 Munn Parent/Teacher Confs. 3:45-6:45 p.m.
- 23 Taylor Parent/Teacher Confs. 3:45-6:45 p.m.
- 24 K-5 Report cards in the Parent Portal
- 25-26 Thanksgiving Recess: no school

**COVID updates
and resources**

The Spencerport Central School District has dedicated a section of our website to providing the most up-to-date resources, information, and family messages related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please be assured that all our decisions prioritize the health and well-being of our students and staff and follow the latest CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. We also remain in contact with the Monroe County Department of Public Health to inform our district decisions. We encourage our families and community to continue to check our website for updates given the speed with which information is often released.

