



**Dec. 23, 2022**

Dear Spencerport Families,

If you are anything like me, you were planning to spend the next few days trying to finish up shopping, wrapping, and baking. Our winter storm has changed my plans but if I'm being honest, I'm looking forward to simply being home with my husband and children. Sometimes our world can feel more fast-paced, busier and hectic than ever. I hope over the next few days, our holiday break allows you the time to mindfully notice and savor all the small moments that bring you joy. I hope your days are filled with those you love and care for and that your New Year is happy and blessed.



With that in mind, I know the last thing you need is a lengthy Friday message cluttering your inbox. I did, however, want to pass along a couple updates before the holiday break.

**Bright Spots**



## December is for giving

With the holiday season in full swing, the spirit of giving is evident in our schools. Students, staff, and families continue to forge a legacy of generosity and service to our community. We are seeing countless examples of this including food drives, toy donations, gift giving, community service initiatives, direct support for families in need, and spreading holiday cheer throughout the community. Here are just a handful of highlights:

- Taylor's Finley Barton is pictured here with a collection of drawings, cards, and ornament designs that are shared with the veterans/residents at Eagle Star House in Spencerport. Students in Mrs. Bensons' classes helped to spread holiday cheer with their artwork created with teacher, Mrs. Broussard.
- Cartons for Christmas. Many of our buildings collected non-perishable foods to donate to the Spencerport Food Shelf and our local food cupboards.
- Donations to the Willie Bee Foundation. This foundation was established in memory of Spencerport native William Beeman and supports families in our community who have a child facing a serious illness. Our staff and schools have made donations of funds and toys this holiday season.
- Giving Trees. Staff and families adopt an ornament that contains items from a wish list provided by parents or guardians in our school community in need of support. This initiative certainly makes a difference for recipients and lifts the holiday spirits for all.

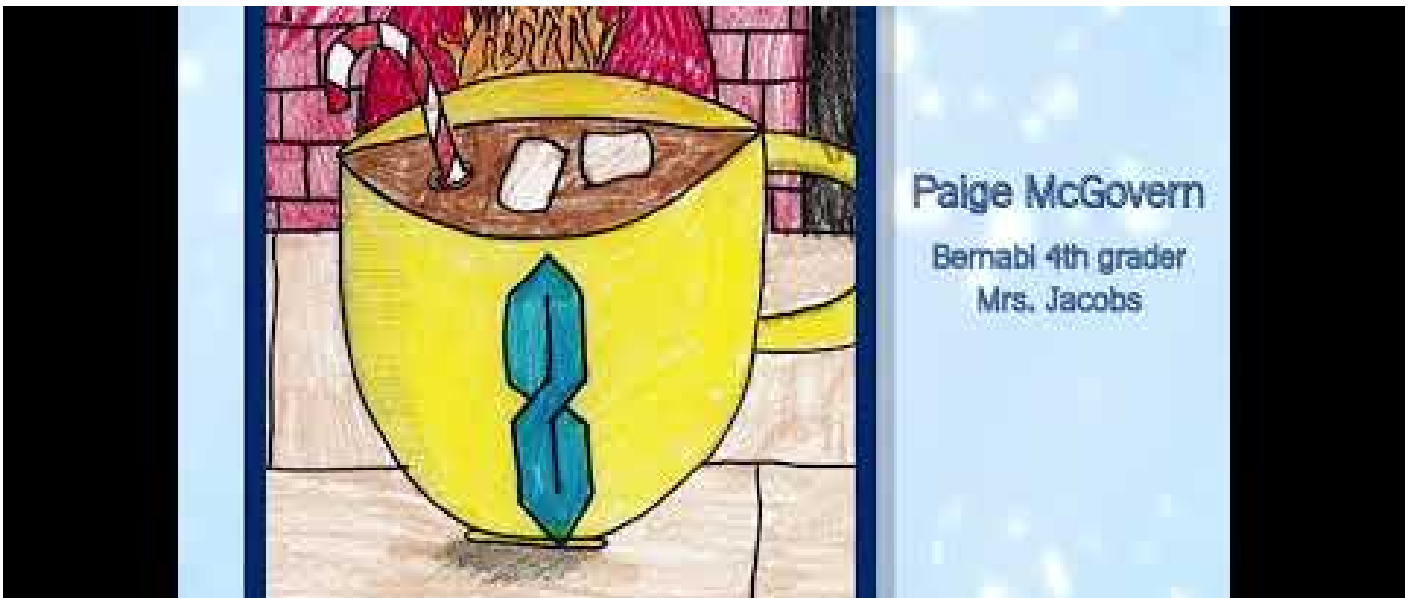


- Munn Elementary is celebrating a schoolwide effort to "give" kindness for the month of December. If they reached 2,000 acts of kindness, Principal Michael Canny agreed to lead a parade in costume.
- Our transportation department hosted a collection drive for Cartons for Christmas and Eagle Star Housing of Spencerport. The department also decorated a bus and participated in Santa's Magical Express Parade.
- Students in the high school French Club delivered presents to the Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services. Thank you to Trevor and Delaney Pettit, Maverick Yarger, Alli Snarr, Ariana Burns, Ella Button, Anabelle Karas, and Isabella Marlatt. A shoutout also to the students and staff who brought in presents but were unable to attend the delivery.
- Our Ranger swim team collected non-perishable items from area teams, coaches, and attendees as part of the SST Annual Holiday Relays and Food Drive on Dec. 17.
- We've mentioned before, but it is worth noting again our community's generosity. Kiwanis donated mittens and hats; Rotary donated supplies and books; Feltner Insurance Group has celebrated 10 years of giving to the district whether it is with school supplies, bookbags or various needed items.



## Holiday card tradition

Each year, I have the privilege of selecting student artwork to highlight in our district holiday greeting card. Thank you to Isabella Infield, Michael Nguyen, Paige McGovern, Gideon Tomasso, Lillian Harmon, Lucianna Petrosino and Zoe Weckesser for making this year's card one to remember. The submissions featured in this year's card may be found in this video. Enjoy and Happy Holidays!



## Updates

### An invitation to join our Equity Committee

Now in its fourth year, Spencerport's Equity Committee provides community members with an opportunity to partner with the district on various issues. This work supports the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiative that the New York State Education Department launched to ensure that all students are represented.

This committee has met two to three times annually, offering feedback, suggestions and perspectives as it relates to the New York State Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Framework, board policies, code of conduct, data and curriculum analysis, and student and family engagement. One of the objectives of this committee is to provide community members with insight on the work that takes place throughout the school district and the professional learning that staff experience. The Equity Committee also serves as a platform for students to voice their experience so that we can refine districtwide practices accordingly.

Anyone interested in volunteering on this committee may contact [info@spencerportschools.org](mailto:info@spencerportschools.org) with your name and phone number. The first meeting will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, in the District Office building (71 Lyell Avenue).

### Seeking your input on the 2023-24 budget

The district is in the initial stages of developing the 2023-24 school year budget and we would like to seek your input on "What are the most important things to consider as we begin to plan for the 2023-24 school budget?". To gather your feedback, we're using a tool called ThoughtExchange. All voices matter, so your participation is crucial and valued.

ThoughtExchange confidentially captures all voices to inform the Board of Education (BOE) and District as we develop the 2023-24 school budget. We ask that you respond to our questions, consider and assign stars to some of the ideas shared by others (20 to 30 is ideal), and learn what's important to the group. Your thoughts and stars are confidential. You can revisit as often as you'd like to participate and, in fact, we ask that you do come back to star



some of the new ideas shared since you first participated. The ratings will help us understand the most important areas of focus. Your input is important as we used our community's feedback to help prioritize our current year school budget and the allocation of federal stimulus funds. [Click here to read more](#) about our use of stimulus funds.

Please click here to participate in the ThoughtExchange: <https://tejoin.com/scroll/275261754>

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 26-Jan. 2: Holiday recess: no school
- Jan. 3: School reopens
- Jan. 10: Board of Education meeting, 6 p.m., District Office
- Jan. 11: Canal View Winter Concert, 7 p.m., HS PAC
- Jan. 12: Parent/Teacher Conferences at Bernabi and Taylor

Finally, this will be my final update for 2022. I'd like to wish our staff, students and families a wonderful and safe holiday season. See you on Jan. 3!

In peace,

Kristin Swann  
Superintendent of Schools



**Spencerport Central School District**