

### Jan. 6, 2023

Dear Spencerport Families,

Happy New Year to all of you! There is always a sense of joy and excitement when we return from break and children get reunited with teachers and friends. This reunion seemed extra special since our school cancellation on December 23, disrupted several holiday parties and special traditions that were planned this year.

I had the pleasure of spending time in the lunchroom with our elementary students this week and I heard all about your holiday celebrations and family get togethers. As you can imagine, I was fighting back laughter as I heard story after story of wonderful holiday antics.



As we take the time to count our blessings and think about all the possibilities that the new year holds for us, please know that I count your continued partnership twice. Thank you for entrusting us with the care of your students. They are truly the best gifts of all!

# **Updates**

#### ThoughtExchange: We hope to hear from you

The development of our school budget is a year-round process that becomes more active over the next few months. 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?"

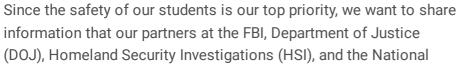
Please participate in the ThoughtExchange at this link: <a href="https://tejoin.com/scroll/275261754">https://tejoin.com/scroll/275261754</a> All voices matter, so your participation is crucial and valued. We will keep this exchange open until January 9 so we ask that you respond to our questions; consider and assign stars to some of the

ideas shared by others (20 to 30 is ideal); and learn what's important to the group. You can revisit as often as you'd like 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.



#### FBI issues public safety alert

As you may recall, this past fall we welcomed Max Stossel to our community to speak to students and parents on the impact social media has on our lives. I recognize that your child/teen may have been gifted a phone, tablet, etc.. over the holidays.





Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), have released to school districts. As the new year begins, the FBI is seeking to inform students and families about sextortion, so they know how to avoid risky situations online and ask for help if they are being victimized. It is important to know what sextortion is, how to protect your children, and monitor their social media activity and friendships. Below are resources proactively provided by the FBI & NCMEC:

- fbi.gov/Sextortion
- <u>fbi.gov/StopSextortion</u>
- FBI and National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Sextortion PSA



#### See Something. Say Something.

When it comes to keeping our school community safe, we all have a role to play. If you become aware of something that appears suspicious or might be a risk to students or staff, we would ask that you contact a school official immediately. To make this as easy as possible, we have partnered with Safe Schools Helpline to anonymously report concerning behaviors or issues via phone, text or online. The Safe School Helpline is well established nationwide, and as we vetted this service, we found that it is being used by the majority of districts in our area.

To access the helpline, please

• Call: 1-800-4-1-VOICE (1-800-418-6423), ext. 359

• Text: "TIPS" to 614-426-0240

• Report online: <a href="https://www.safeschoolhelpline.com/">https://www.safeschoolhelpline.com/</a>

Our Spencerport Security Department will provide the internal oversight for the new helpline, and we anticipate a minimal transition to the platform. This information will be permanently placed on the homepage of our website so you can access it at any time, 24/7. Additional information about the helpline may be found on their website: <u>Safe School Helpline | Creating a safe learning environment for all students</u>.

## **Bright Spots: alumni highlights**



#### Alumni return for caroling tradition

Thirty-five alumni returned to Spencerport High School on Dec. 22 to go caroling in the hallways! It was wonderful to see them again and enjoy their amazing performance.



### Alumni discuss college with AP bio students

Former students of high school science teacher, Nancy Mancuso, visited her Advanced Placement Biology classes on Tuesday to talk about their college experiences.

The 11 alumni shared their insights on how they chose a college, what activities to get involved in, and how to study. Thank you so much to these SHS alumni. It was a great morning!



## **Upcoming Events**

- 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
- Jan. 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no school

Sincerely,

Kristin Swann Superintendent of Schools



**Spencerport Central School District**