

New faces, places at school districts

Roundup offers primer on changes

Staff reports

Summer vacation is nearing its end and students across the region are starting to prepare to head back to school.

From new principals and other leaders to construction projects completed over the break to policy changes and building switches, here's a look at what changes students at area districts can expect to see:

BRIGHTON

There are several new leaders in the Brighton Central School District, including three new principals.

Tom Hall, former French Road Elementary School principal, is now principal at Brighton High School. He is replaced at French Road by Matt Comeau.

Matt Tappon is the new principal at Council Rock Elementary School. Carolyn Rabidoux is the district's new pupil personnel services director.

Over the summer, Brighton Summer Arts offered art classes including knitting, drawing, "funktional" furniture, ceramics and sculpture and produced four musicals: *101 Dalmatians*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Seussical* and

Schoolhouse Rock.

Students' first day of school is Sept. 4.

BROCKPORT

One of the most significant changes for the Brockport Central School District this year is new leadership.

Superintendent Lesli Myers joined the district in July to succeed Garry

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A new sign indicates the change from Apollo Middle School to Greece Odyssey Academy. SHAWN DOWD/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Districts

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Stone. Myers is a graduate of Pittsford Mendon High School and holds a doctorate in executive leadership from St. John Fisher

College and master's degrees from Fisher and the University of Rochester. She has previously served as director of student and career support with the Greece school district, and since 2007, she had been an assistant superintendent in the Ithaca schools.

Debra Waye will be serving as interim principal at Ginther Elementary School (grades prekindergarten- 1), succeeding Rosemary Custer, who retires Aug. 31. Waye served as interim assistant principal at Ginther last school year and has worked for the district in various capacities since 1995.

A technology policy at the high school has been changed. Students will be allowed to use personal electronic devices at designated times and locations.

The first day of school is Sept. 4.

CHURCHVILLE-CHILI

The capital project is on track at the Churchville- Chili Central School District's Senior High School. Additions include improved lockers and lighting in the hallways, new science classrooms and replacement floors and windows in areas of the school. The new auditorium is on track to be completed in the 2013-14 school year. The first day is Sept. 5.

EAST IRONDEQUOIT

Eastridge High School will debut a new cafeteria this fall. The renovation to the high school was one of several upgrades as part of the Generational Project that began in the spring of 2009. The project has affected all six schools in the East Irondequoit Central School District. Other renovations have included upgrades in security and new classrooms. The district is on its way of becoming Internationally Baccalaureatecertified districtwide.

Eastridge High is already an IB school, and the middle school as well as both primary schools are in the early stages of IB candidacy. The first day is Sept. 5.

EAST ROCHESTER

Carmine Peluso begins this fall as the new Junior/ Senior High School principal in the East Rochester school district. He replaces departing principal Jill Slavny.

Peluso had been assistant principal at Calkins Road Middle School in Pittsford for the past seven years. He also has worked in the Rochester and Churchville school districts. The first day of classes is Sept. 5.

FAIRPORT

There is a new principal at the high school in the Fairport school district Joseph Fantigrossi is expected to start Sept. 4. Currently an assistant principal at Pittsford Mendon High School, Fantigrossi has eight years of experience as an administrator and seven years as a social studies teacher.

Fantigrossi earned his undergraduate degree in history at Iona College and his master's degree in American history at Fordham University. He completed his administrative certification at Mercy College.

Fantigrossi is currently enrolled in the doctoral program for leadership education at the University of Rochester.

District residents have created a new foundation to support education. The Fairport-Area Community Education Trust will identify and direct community resources to augment the district's programs.

The president of the school board will be Maureen Nupp, while Margaret Cardona will serve as vice president. School starts Sept. 5.

GATES-CHILI

For the first time, the four elementary schools — Florence Brasser, Walt Disney, Neil Armstrong, and Paul Road — will offer full-day kindergarten. School starts on Sept. 5 for kindergarten through fifth grades as well as sixth- and ninth-graders. The start date is Sept. 6 for grades 7 and 8 and 10 through 12.

GREECE

Some Greece students will see considerable changes with the start of the 2012-13 school year.

The district at the end of last year closed its Kirk Road and West Ridge elementary schools. Students who had attended the former

West Ridge facility on Alcott Road will now attend school at what was the Parkland facility on English Road; and students who had attended Kirk Road will now attend Paddy Hill on Latta Road. Additionally, the district closed its Odyssey Academy building on Hoover Drive and moved the program to what was Apollo Middle School on Maiden Lane. The new Odyssey Academy is larger, and rather than being wholly populated with students who entered the district's school choice lottery to attend, it will now also serve neighborhood students.

Another major change is the addition of a new middle school program at Olympia High School on Maiden Lane. That program is in a transitional phase, and for this year, only seventh- and eighthgraders will attend middle school there. All sixthgraders who would have attended the former Apollo school this year will go to the Odyssey facility.

The first day is Sept. 6.

HILTON

Students will welcome Renee Mulrooney as the new Northwood Elementary School assistant principal in the Hilton district. She previously served as principal of Holmes Road Elementary School in Greece. Another new addition is Crimson Cadets Marching Band director Matthew Nordhausen.

Nordhausen, a 1998 graduate of Hilton High School and former Crimson Cadets member, joins the district from the Le Roy district, where he had served as a full-time music teacher and band director since 2002. He was co-director of the Le Roy Marching Knights. School starts for kindergarten through 12 th-graders on Sept. 5. Prekindergarten begins Sept. 6.

HONEOYE FALLS-LIMA

Work is progressing on a \$32.3 million capital project that is expected to wrap up in coming weeks in the In Honeoye Falls- Lima district. Superintendent Michelle Kavanaugh said the project is ahead of schedule for the high school library and science rooms and the Lima Primary school library and gymnasium. There is a new roof at Manor Elementary School, and additions are under way for the middle school, including extension of the home and careers room and the addition of a music wing.

A new main entrance will be completed by the beginning of the year that will provide additional security to the building.

Plans call for a Oct. 5 dedication ceremony for the high school. School begins Sept. 4.

PENFIELD

The Penfield school district has a new superintendent, Stephen Grimm.

Grimm previously served as superintendent for the Lansing school district in Tompkins County. He also has worked in Greece, Wheatland-Chili, Canandaigua, West Irondequoit and Geneseo schools. He has degrees from the University of Rochester, Nazareth College, The College at Brockport and SUNY Buffalo. Grimm replaces former superintendent John Carlevatti, who is retiring.

In June, Scribner Elementary School was rated the top elementary school in the Rochester area by Buffalo business journal *Business First*. Harris Hill was fourth, Cobbles was sixth and Indian Landing was 21st.

The first day is Sept. 4.

PITTSFORD

Residents in the Pittsford Central School District may be headed to the polls in December to consider a \$33.8 million capital project.

Details are still being worked out, but the tentative scope would include improvements at Barker Road Middle School, Calkins Road Middle School and both Mendon and Sutherland high schools.

Voters also could vote on a second proposition to spend more than \$7.7 million for synthetic turf fields and related work at the two high schools. Officials are still considering moving some items from the first proposition to the second, or possibly adding a third proposal. Also, elementary school start and end times will be made uniform in the coming school year.

In the past, Pittsford elementary schools operated with one time schedule for students in grades four and five and a different schedule for K-3 students. To simplify things, elementary schools will operate with one daily schedule this year.

Grades one through five will start at 8:40 a.m. and end at 3:05 p.m. Morning kindergarten will be from 8:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m., and afternoon kindergarten will be from 12:23 to 3:05 p.m.

Classes start Sept. 4.

ROCHESTER

A number of City School District students will start the year in new surroundings, with the opening of several new schools and others moving location because of construction projects.

September will mark the official opening of the All City High, which will welcome students from several high schools the district is closing. Students from five other schools will spend the next year in a new building because their original schools are being renovated as part of the district's massive modernization project. Hundreds of students will be leaving traditional public schools to enroll in the two new charter schools: Young Women's College Prep, Rochester's first public school exclusively for young women, and the Rochester Career Mentoring Charter School. And while staying put on their campus, students at the city's Northeast College Preparatory High School will participate in an experimental program through a partnership with Wegmans. The program will have them attending school for longer hours, using the extra time to participate in extracurricular enrichment activities such as fitness and cooking classes. The school year begins Sept. 5.

RUSH-HENRIETTA

The school district is beginning construction on facility renovations at the high school. The project, approved by voters in February 2011, calls for new instructional space, a new counseling center and gymnasium, locker room renovations and improvements to the athletic fields. Construction is expected to last for several years. School begins Sept. 4, a day earlier than usual.

SPENCERPORT

Spencerport Central School District will welcome new assistant principals Kristin Paolini, David Caiazza and Jason Shelter. Paolini, a new addition to the High School, joins the Ranger staff with 10 years of educational experience, previously working in the Gates Chili district. Paolini will serve as the assistant principal to the class of 2016 and the Spencerport High School Academy.

Caiazza, now assistant principal at Cosgrove Middle School, has worked in the district since 2003, serving as a teacher at Taylor Elementary School, and as Cosgrove's dean of students last year.

From 1999 to 2012, Shelter taught in Rush-Henrietta schools. He is now assistant principal of Cosgrove Middle School.

Other changes on campus include a new adaptive playground for children with special needs at Canalview Elementary School.

The first day is Sept. 5.

VICTOR

A \$28.7 million capital project is under way in the Victor school district. Construction is expected to be completed by August 2014.

There will be renovations and additions at all five district buildings, including 21 new classrooms, five new science classrooms, two new locker rooms and a pool addition.

Students will come back to a temporary bus loop at the secondary complex. The regular bus loop will be closed for about two years because of the new pool construction, which is expected to be finished by August 2013, and other renovations that will replace the space where the old pool was located. The project is a response to the district's rapid growth in enrollment, which is expected to increase from about 4,000 currently to 5,000 by 2019. New staff in the coming school year includes 11 new teachers in various areas, plus several parttimers.

Sept. 4 is the first day.

WEBSTER

John Sheehan is the new assistant superintendent for instruction in the Webster district and Robert Hathaway is the new principal at Plank South Elementary School. Over the summer, students entering middle school and high school in the fall participated in leadership development programs, Where Everyone Belongs (for middle school students) and Link Crew (for high school students).

The first day will be Sept. 5.

WEST IRONDEQUOIT

For the first time, lunch will be served to the district's kindergarten through third-grade students. Lunches will be prepared in off-site kitchens and transported.

Students districtwide will now have the option to purchase breakfast or lunch. Classes begin Sept. 5.

WHEATLAND-CHILI

In the Wheatland-Chili school district, middle school principal Brad Zilliox will serve as acting secondary principal for both the middle school and high school after former high school principal Patrick Brimstein left the district. The first day is Sept. 5.

Includes reporting by staff writers Frank Bi, Bennett J. Loudon, Meaghan M. McDermott and Justin Murphy.



School facilities employee Steve Ruef helps move music equipment into two new music rooms as staff prepares the new Greece Odyssey Academy for students. The school was formerly known as Apollo Middle School. SHAWN DOWD/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The construction site of the new aquatic center that will be built at Victor High School. The aquatic center is scheduled to be finished by September 2013. ANNETTE LEIN/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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