



# SCIO CENTRAL SCHOOL

## DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

November/December 2023  
Volume XLI, Issue #3

### *Back to School Event*



# News From the Superintendent:

By Mrs. Jennifer Cappelletti

Greeting Scio Families,

We are off to a great start to the 2023-2024 school year. As with every school year, the safety and well-being of our students and staff are paramount.

We are dedicated to maintaining a secure learning environment, and we'd like to share some of the measures we've taken to ensure everyone's safety.

**Comprehensive Training:** Our teachers and staff undergo safety training programs regularly. This training includes emergency response protocols, preventative measures to secure the building, situational awareness, mental health, and crisis management. Specialized staff such as food service and transportation undergo training specific to their unique situations.

**Regular Drills:** To ensure that our safety procedures are second nature, we conduct various drills throughout the year. These drills cover evacuation (fire drills), shelter-in-place, and lockdown scenarios. Practicing these procedures helps us minimize panic and maximize safety in real emergencies.

**School Security Officer:** We are thrilled to announce the Board of Education has approved the addition of a School Security Officer. We are in the midst of the hiring process and hope to communicate to you in November, the successful



candidate. They will work closely with staff, students, and local authorities to enhance our security measures.

**We ask that Scio Families partner with us as well.** We encourage open and honest communication with our students, parents, and staff members. If you ever have concerns or suggestions regarding safety, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Parents can play a crucial role in maintaining a safe school environment by reminding their students to:

- **Always follow safety protocols:** Encourage your child to listen attentively during safety drills and take them seriously. Remind them to understand the importance of following safety guidelines.
- **Report any concerns:** Teach your child to report any suspicious activity or potential safety concerns to a teacher, school staff member, or the School Security Officer. We all have a role in keeping our school safe.
- **Stay Informed:** Stay updated on school announcements and safety measures. Regularly review safety procedures with your child to ensure they are aware and prepared.

We want to reassure you that we take the safety of our school community very seriously. By staying dedicated to preparedness through training, drills, and the hiring of a School Security Officer, we are committed to providing a secure and nurturing environment where all students can thrive.

Thank you for your trust and partnership in ensuring the well-being of our students.

With Scio Pride,

*Jen Cappelletti*

## Principal's Corner

By Dr. Cristy McKinley

I cannot believe that we are already into October! It has been wonderful to see everyone back in the building and what a great start to the year it has been!

I would like to thank everyone that assisted and attended our first Back-to-School Night on August 31st. What a great night! We had approximately 130 students check in with their teachers and served 170 meals. We are already working on making next year's event bigger and better.

Keeping in line with our "Better Together" theme for the year, I had the pleasure of visiting elementary classrooms and doing a read-aloud using the book "Better Together" by Amy Robach and Andrew Shue. Elementary students then decorated either a squirrel or chipmunk, the two animals featured

in the book, which were placed on a tree (designed by Ms. Preston, thank you!) in the hall (see picture below).



Our after-school program is up and running with 82 students currently enrolled. Due to staffing issues, applicants were put on a waitlist. We are hopeful that new folks will be joining the YMCA team here at Scio very soon.

The YMCA team members will reach out to families as soon as they can open enrollment back up. Also, I would like to remind everyone of the morning tutoring program (led by Mrs. Looney) from 6:30-7:30am Mondays – Thursdays and that the weight room is open every Monday – Thursday from 6:30-7:30am. Please contact the YMCA program for additional details.

In closing, I would like to thank all parents/guardians for their continued support of academics, athletics, and extra-curricular activities. Our home/school partnership makes us "BETTER TOGETHER"!

Your partner in Education,

*CMcKinley*



## Welcome to the Tiger Family



**Mindi Carley**

Mindi Carley is our new 7-12 English teacher. Now a resident of Port Allegany, Pa., Miss Carley has two years' teaching experience in Kissimmee, Fla., at Discovery Intermediate school. While there she helped run a drama program and worked with the tutoring program. Her hobbies are reading, writing and visiting Disney World.



**Catherine Ingalls**

Catherine Ingalls was recently hired as a teacher aide. She is enrolled at Western Governors University where she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in education studies in elementary and special education. She enjoys traveling, reading, gardening and spending time with her extended family. She and her husband, Jedidiah, live in Bolivar.

## Professional Development

Staff development days are always an enriching and enlightening time for our people, but this year they mixed in a bit of fun with their back-to-school training. Here, they were treated to the empowering words from Duncan Kirkwood and participated in some comical team-building activities.



**HOLIDAY CRAFT AND VENDOR SHOW & BASKET RAFFLE!**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
CRAFTS, FOOD, JEWELRY, DECOR, BASKET RAFFLES & SO MUCH MORE!

**10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
**Scio Central School**

**SPONSORED BY**  
**THE CLASS OF 2024**





# Fight Flu at Home and School

Influenza (flu), spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

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## Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

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## Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it altogether.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Make sure people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, are also vaccinated.
- The vaccine is especially important for people with certain medical conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, because the flu can make them even sicker.

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## If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems for children and teens.
- Young children and those with certain medical conditions, like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu.
- If your child gets flu symptoms and is younger than 5 or has a medical condition, call their health care provider and ask about antiviral treatment.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

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## Don't spread flu!

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.



# Help Toys for Tigers Get Ready for the Holidays



Once again, Scio's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students are sponsoring the Toys for Tigers program for this coming holiday season.

Any child age 1-18 living in the Scio Central School District is eligible to register for our annual gift program. You can do so by filling out the form below and mailing it in or dropping it off to Scio Central School, attn: Scio FBLA.

Registration is open for parents or guardians to sign their children up for this year's toy drive! Please be sure to fill out all information as completely and correctly as possible!

**Registration is due by Nov. 17.**

## Interested in donating?

There are three ways you can get involved!

1. Donate money: you can send a check to Scio Central School, Attn: FBLA. Your donations will be used to purchase toys or clothes from a child's wish list.
2. Donate toys, clothes, wrapping paper, etc: Containers will be placed in the entryway of the school, The Store, and the Allentown Methodist Church. You can drop off items anytime from Nov. 4-Dec. 15.

3. "Adopt" a family: Purchase items off the wish list for a family by

contacting Mrs. Wight at [vwight@sciocsd.org](mailto:vwight@sciocsd.org).

FBLA students will be helping to sort and pack all the presents. Donations stay in the Scio and Allentown area.

## Toys for Tigers Registration Form

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Child 1 name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M / F / NB

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Top Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Pant Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Shoe Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Toy/Gift Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Child 2 name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M / F / NB

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Top Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Pant Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Shoe Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Toy/Gift Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Child 3 name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M / F / NB

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Top Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Pant Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Shoe Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Toy/Gift Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Child 4 name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M / F / NB

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Top Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Pant Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Shoe Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Toy/Gift Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Child 5 name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M / F / NB

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Top Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Pant Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Shoe Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Toy/Gift Requests: \_\_\_\_\_



# First Day of School



## School Board Seat Available

The Scio Board of Education has an open seat available for the remainder of the 2023–24 school year.

The district has received Mary Weimer's letter of resignation effective Aug. 23 and the school board plans to appoint a community member to fill her position for the remainder of the school year.

If you are interested in serving in this position, please send a letter of interest to the Scio Central School Board of Education by Nov. 7.

## CELL PHONE POLICY

Below is a reminder of our cell phone policy, which was reviewed with students during the first week of school:

Per our student handbook and Code of Conduct, students in grades 5–8 are allowed to have their cell phones and electronic devices such as ear buds or wireless headphones, during breakfast and after school. Students in grades 9–12 are allowed to have their phones during breakfast, lunch, and after school. During regular school hours, cell phones and electronic devices should be kept in their locker.

Per the handbook and Code of Conduct, if a phone or device is taken away and it is a first offense, it will be kept in the office until the end of the following school day, detention assigned, and parent contact made. For a second offense, the device will be held in the office for two school days, not including the day it was taken away, two detentions assigned, and parent contact made. On a third offense, the phone or device will be held in the office for five days, not including the day it was taken, in school suspension will be assigned, and the parent will be notified and required to pick the phone up.

If there are additional infractions beyond a third offense, the students may receive out of school suspension or be required to attend a Superintendent's Hearing.

## Senior Picnic

To kick off what's sure to be a memorable final year as Scio Tigers, our senior class was treated to a picnic at Stony Brook State Park in September.



## The Scio History Club's Annual Veterans Day Dinner

The Scio Central History Club will be hosting its annual Veterans Day dinner on November 9th. Any and all service members in the area, both past and present, are invited to join us for a night of good food, conversation, and entertainment provided by the Scio Central elementary chorus. Any veterans who chose to pick up their dinner will be able to pick it up from 4:30–6 pm. For those that reserved a dine-in dinner, guests will register at 5:30 pm and dinner will be held at 6 pm in the Scio Central Cafeteria. If you or someone you know is a veteran and would like to partake in the Veterans Day dinner, you can contact the school at (585) 593-5510 or email Collin Charles at [ccharles@sciocsd.org](mailto:ccharles@sciocsd.org). Families are also welcome to the Veterans Day dinner. Dinner will be free for veterans and \$8 per family member. Hope to see you there!



# HOMECOMING



## PreK Music Fun

Mrs. Berardi had fun teaching our Pre-K Tigers the rules of her classroom on their first day of music class in September.





## Drama Club News

This fall our Drama Club opened their season with a virtual visit with a Broadway performer.

In early October, our students, and others throughout our BOCES region, were treated to a Career Connection conversation with Nicky Vendetti. The Buffalo native and lifelong dancer has performed on Broadway in *Wicked*, *A Chorus Line* national tour, off-Broadway's *Trip of Love* and *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular NYC*.

Besides this exciting meeting, the club spent the fall working on improv exercises, learning warmups, and doing a read-through of Susan Glaspell's classic short play "Trifles" to learn blocking and stage directions. At press time, the group had not decided on a production for the year.

The club is small and eager to expand. Students in grades 7 through 12 interested in learning more should reach out to Ms. Yanity or Miss Carley.

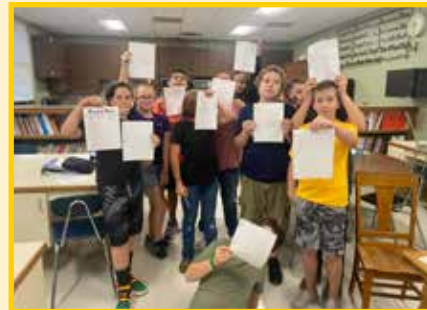
## Family Skate Night at Skateland



## Family and Consumer Science (FACS) FUN! In (and Out) of the Classroom!

The 7th grade Home and Careers and Cooking 1 class had a lab on Overnight Oats and had fun doing an activity related to the five senses as they thought of the different ways they could describe food.

The Clothing and Textile Development class worked outside on the first steps of processing raw wool (washing), and eventually processed the wool into a textile product.



## Athletics Honored with Academic Awards

Friendship and Scio Athletic Directors, Brad Gertis and Doreen Martin, were presented with the Scholar-Athlete Team School of Excellence award from the NYSPHSAA. To receive this award 75 percent of varsity athletic programs must qualify for and receive the Scholar-Athlete Team Award. Eighty-nine percent of the Friendship-Scio athletic teams received the Team Award during the 2022-2023 school year. Congratulations to those student-athletes on this accomplishment.



# Scio Memorial Library

The library has gone through so many changes this year. We added many new books and items to the libraries collection. This summer we partnered with Scio Central School to bring library time to the summer program.

This summer the library held 85 programs with 675 people in attendance. Thank you so much for your support of our summer reading program. If you missed us this year join us next summer “Adventure Begins at Your Library”. I wonder what adventures we will have.

Here are some upcoming events:

## October

- 10/1-10/31: Scarecrow contest \$10.00 Sign up
- 10/10: Paint a ghost 3 to 6:30 PM
- 10/12: Library Board Meeting 11:00 AM

- 10/14: Solar Eclipse Party 12:30 – 2:30 PM Crafts, Free Solar Eclipse Glasses
- 10/19: Book Club meets at 6:30 PM
- 10/24: Apple Craft 3-6:30
- 10/31: Halloween night Games at the library 4-5 PM. Vote for your favorite scarecrow

## November

- 11/5: “Fall Back” Fundraiser \$15.00 Chicken & Biscuit dinner, Basket Raffle & 50/50
- 11/7: Wine Cork Pumpkin Craft 3-6 PM
- 11/9: Library Board Meeting 11:00 AM
- 11/16: Toddler Fall Fingerpainting & Story 1-2 PM

## December

- Scio Lions Club Christmas Event @ the Library Date TBA
- 12/5: Movie Night 5:00 PM
- 12/13: Chocolate Covered Pretzel night 5-6 PM
- 12/14: Library Board Meeting 11:00 AM
- 12/19: Cookie Swap: 5-6:30 PM
- 12/21: Book Club meets at 6:30 PM

If you would like to volunteer, we always have ways you can help.

If you have any questions, please call 585-593-4816



## Work Hard... Play Harder

Our young Tigers are certainly enjoying the two new playgrounds to their fullest. AND ... at press time, work on the third playground is nearly complete!



# November 2023

# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesdays	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Class of 2027 Krispy Kreme Sales Begin  Superintendent's Day			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			BOE Mtg. 6:30pm	Veterans Day Dinner time 6:00pm  Science Fair	JH Area All State - Hornell  Veterans Day Offices Closed	JH Area All State - Hornell
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Class of 2027 Krispy Kreme Sales End				SR High Area All State - Elmira	SR High Area All State - Elmira
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Parent-Teacher Conferences 12:00-7:00pm  No Students	Student Recess	Student Recess	Student Recess  Thanksgiving Offices closed	Student Recess  Offices Closed	
26	27	28	29	30		
			Picture Re-take Day & Senior Portraits			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesdays	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						Class of 2024 Craft & Vendor Show 10am-4pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					Alumni Basketball Game 7:00pm	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Winter Concert PK-4th	BOE Mtg. 6:30pm		End of 15-wk. Marking Period	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Winter Concert 5-12th  Senior Citizen Dessert & Music	Santa for Lunch	Student Recess	Student Recess	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Student Recess	Student Recess			Student Recess	
31	Christmas Offices closed	Offices closed	Student Recess	Student Recess	Offices closed	





**Scio Central School**  
**3968 Washington Street**  
**Scio, NY 14880**  
<http://www.sciotigers.org>

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 Dr. Cristy McKinley, PK-12 Principal  
 Kelly Morehouse, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
 Nicky Linderman, Business Administrator

*or Current Resident*

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## Teacher Catches the Photography Bug

Our high school math teacher Ms. Yeager captured these beautiful photos of our students in September. She has been developing her photography skills for about a year, and she loves to see what she can get from her subjects. "I love to see the joy on their faces when I show them their final images. It has brought a lot of our students out of their shells," she said.

Last year's fall shoot used candy corn as a background. This year it is sunflowers. The kids were apprehensive at first but soon were lining up at her door to pose for her.

She has a chance to practice her technique, they get beautiful photos of themselves, and we are lucky enough to enjoy them. It is a win for everyone.

