FALCONER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

IN THIS EDITION

- **Administrative Letter**
- 3-10 Middle/High School
- 1, 8-9 Class of 2021
- 11-15 Elementary School
- 13-15 Proposed Graduation



UPCOMING EVENTS

June

- BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
- 5 Sr. Prom @ 8:30 p.m.
- After-Prom (Jrs.:8:30-11 p.m. 5-6 Srs.:11:30 p.m.-4:30 a.m.)
- NYS Grades 3-8 8 Science Assessment
- 15 BOE Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.
- Last Day of School (All 18
- Baccalaureate (Levant 21 Wesleyan Church) @ 7 p.m.
- NYS Regents Exam 22 (Living Enviro) @ 8 a.m.
- NYS Regents Exam 23 (Algebra I) @ 8 a.m.
- NYS Regents Exam 24 (Earth Sci.) @ 8 a.m.
- **Graduation Ceremony** 24 (FCS Athletic Complex, Rain Dates: June 25-26)

July

- Independence Day
- 12-23 Summer Boost Session 1

26-Summer Boost Session 2 8/6











Falconer Central School 2 East Avenue, North Falconer, NY 14733 (716)665-6624

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I would like to thank our community for their support, as well as their approval, of the 2021-2022 school Graduation. A passed Graduation allows us to plan for the next school year with confidence. The Board of Education has been able to continue to provide the highest quality of education during this pandemic in which the safety and the well being of our community was challenged greatly. I would also like to thank our Board of Education for providing goals and direction for the education of our students during these very difficult health and economic times. Congratulations to Krissta Swanson for being re-elected to our Board of Education.

The month of June also signals the end of another school year for students and staff. Over the next few weeks, our District will be recognizing and celebrating the achievements of our students. The most significant event in June is, of course, our High School Graduation. At 6 p.m., on June 24, parents, faculty, administrators and members of the Board of Education, will gather at Bill Race Field to congratulate our students as they cross the podium to accept their diplomas. As seniors attend their final activities as students of the Falconer School District, I wish them much success.

The Falconer Central School District can take pride in the accomplishments of the Class of 2021. They have excelled in the classroom, stage, field, court, mat, and community. From the first day they entered school, the Class of 2021 have met the challenges set in front of them. We are proud of all they have done at FCS and look forward to all they will accomplish. They can be assured that their diplomas represent a significant and meaningful education delivered by an outstanding faculty. Our students are well prepared and ready to enter this next phase of their lives.

We realize that the pandemic has forced us all to make changes in our daily lives, work and schooling practices. It's been so exciting to have our kids in Pre-k through Grade 12 back full-time for in-person learning. Our goal throughout this pandemic has been the safety and welfare of our students, staff, and families. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigated this ever-changing pandemic and for your support and cooperation as we worked together to provide a healthy and safe learning environment for all.

Instruction will, of course, always be a top priority at FCS. We are committed to providing a quality education for all in the Falconer schools. Please stay safe and enjoy this summer with family and friends.

Honoring the 2021 Golden Falcon Retirees

Falconer Central School would like to wish our 2021 retirees the best, as they have dedicated many years of service to our students and community.

Ann Stearns Henry Johnson Mary Brown Brent Agett Susan Kilburn

Diane Buccilli Betty Titus

~Stephen Penhollow Superintendent



2021 Co-Commencement Speakers Chris and Tracy Schrader Class of 1991

For the first time ever, Falconer Central School will have co-commencement speakers. In keeping with the tradition of having 30-year alumni speak to the graduating class, this year we have two special alumni addressing the Class of 2021. Chris and Tracy Schrader are both graduates from the Falconer Class of 1991. After graduation, they both attended Jamestown Community College where they received Associate degrees and then transferred to Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania. Chris received his BS in Secondary Social Studies Education and Tracy received her BS in Elementary and Special Education. Finishing off their formal education, they both obtained their Master's Degrees from SUNY Fredonia.



Chris has been a 25-year teacher at Falconer Central School in the Social Studies department, where he has taught at every grade level, except 8th Grade. Chris has had the pleasure of coaching at Falconer since he was hired. He has coached at the Modified, Junior Varsity, and Varsity levels in Basketball and at the JV and Varsity levels in Baseball, winning a Section VI Championship in his final year coaching in 2019. During his time at Falconer, he has had the opportunity to serve as 7th Grade Team Leader, Technology Leader, Teacher Mentor, and Social Studies Department Chairperson. Chris has also been the Advisor for the Middle School Student Council.

Tracy is currently in her 3rd year serving on the Falconer Board of Education. She is also a 25-year Special Education teacher at Southwestern Central School. For the past 21 years, she has additionally been the Chairperson of Special Education for that District. Throughout her career, she has been a Volleyball Coach, Student Council Advisor, Teacher Mentor, and Student Support Team Member.

The Schraders have been married for 24 years and live in Falconer with their two children Benjamin ('19) and Addison (a Freshman), and their "inherited" dog, Toby. They are Disney fanatics and love to travel and vacation there as often as they can! They are also members of Our

Lady of Loreto Church in Falconer. Tracy and Chris are lifelong supporters of FCS and are very proud to serve as a Teacher and Board

Member.

Select Choir Keeps the Music Alive

Although the traditional High School Spring Musical did not occur this year, a show did go on! Fourteen members out of the High School Select Choir, under the Direction of Ann Marie Mogenhan and accompanied by Gail Espinoza, recently performed 2 Musical Revue concerts for family and friends. The 14 talented students were selected from 40



who auditioned and performed 18 tunes from 11 musicals which Falcon Productions has produced on our FCS stage since the beginning of Mrs. Mogenhan's career. Each performer was highlighted at least once with a solo and participated in all group numbers. The cast also maintained the traditional opening day breakfast at local eatery, Phil 'n Cindy's.

FALC NS

This school year has been hard on everyone. Shown here are some District Teachers and what they are most proud of achieving during this time that they would like to share.

We are FALCON Strong!

Miss Ashley Digirolamo

Kindergarten—Teaching 14 years

I am doing my best at making my kiddos' school experience as meaningful, engaging and fun as possible during this pandemic!



Mrs. Aileen Snellings

High School ELA— Teaching 25 years

I have always enjoyed watching my students grow and achieve their goals.



Miss Ruthanne Main ELA 8—Teaching 15 years

The thing I am the most proud of is having a hand in my students becoming happy, intelligent, and industrious people.



Mr. Chris Schrader

High School U.S. History— Teaching 25 years

I have always enjoyed the fact that I was able to return to my alma mater and give back to where I grew up.

Mr. Mitchell Paterniti

Living Environment, Principles of Biology, Biology of Insects, Amphibians and Reptiles, Mammals, and Birds— Teaching 36 years

Being able to work with so many great students, and I love watching my students learn and advance in higher levels of learning.



CHAMPION CHAMPION CHAMPION CHAMPION CHAMPION

Mr. Nick Spry

High School Math—Teaching 11 years

The relationships built with students through coaching Track and Cross Country



Mrs. Olivia Barnes

Special Education (ELA 9&10, Resource Room, Consultant Teaching—Teaching 2 years

I take so much pride in my students and especially how well they have been doing this crazy year. Together we have improvised, adapted, and overcome - and we have found so many ways to have fun too!

Mrs. Jamie Randazo

3rd Grade —Teaching 14 years

I am very proud to share a passion for reading with my students. This year, we dedicated a portion of our day, no interruptions allowed, to reading one high quality picture book per day. This has been a time to de-stress, laugh, smile, and engage in meaningful conversation with one another. We decided to hang pictures of each book's cover around our classroom to see how far the books would stretch by the end of the year. This

has become the best part of our day. I am very proud of my students' vocabulary development, increased attention spans, and ability to explore strong emotions that this read aloud time has provided. Most of all, it has formed a bond between us that will never be broken!

Mrs. Stearn's

Countdown to

Retirement!



Mrs. Ann Stearns

Fifth Grade Science—Teaching 30 years

I am proud that we have done real life projects in our class. In the past my students have started a recycling program at Fenner in which we collect cans and bottles and return them for money. At one time, we a vegetable garden at Fenner for a few

years. We started the plants and grew vegetables. The students the following fall were able to eat food from it. Right now, we have been weeding the gardens at Fenner around the gazebo and in the Nature Place. I would like my students to learn something that they can use in their own life.

Mrs. Barb Tordella
Grade 6 Math—Teaching 34
years

School is like tennis, you kind of know what you will be served, but may not be confident in the return. I am most proud of how much each student has grown his/her brain this year! With hybrid learning 28 weeks, the small class size and transfer of knowledge with repeated

practice on remote days, the kids developed strong math skills. Some evidence of this lies in a diagnostic test given the week of May 24. The students accepted what was served and returned outstanding results showing tremendous growth from September!

Mr. Daniel Krenzer

7th Grade Science– Teaching 21 years

1. Proud of the bond we share with our students through remote instruction, hybrid model, and now back to full return to school. Teachers and kids have had a very difficult year and as a whole

district we have been very successful.

2. Converting paper to digital media- We are paper

free in 7th grade science.



Mr. Steve Bower
Technology
Education,
Engineering I & II,
Architecture, CAD
and DDP—
Teaching 27 years

It's gratifying to see students get excited and build self-esteem as they take

what they have learned in class to solve problems as they work through an activity or project.

Mrs. Tara Swan School Counselor—6

years

Surviving COVID



MS Band and Music 8—Teaching 15 years.

The one thing I am most proud of during this year of COVID is the resilience of my students.

resilience of my students. They
accepted the changes that had to take place while
playing their instruments; wearing special band masks,
bell coverings and, at times, 12 ft. apart. They all coped
and adjusted and made my life easy by not complaining.
My students this year deserve to be recognized for their
efforts and successes during a challenging year. We are
all looking forward to a normal year next year and are
excited to bring our musical talents to you, the audience.





FCS Key Club "Grows"

Grow Leadership, Grow Love is the motto of the Falconer Key Club. Despite the challenges of this past year, the club has been very active living out this ideal.

The recurring project of Key Club is the school garden. In its 3rd year, the garden provides produce for members of our community, both through direct donations to families and by supplying the local food pantries with fresh vegetables. The success of the garden has attracted wildlife, creating a need for a fence to protect the plants from deer, rabbits and groundhogs. Key Club members designed the fence based on a similar project at the Jamestown Audubon, purchased supplies and built it themselves over the course of a few weeks this Spring. Since February, students have been working in the school greenhouse, planting and tending to seeds that have since grown into plants that will be

transferred to the garden beds in late May.

While the original garden was funded by a grant, ongoing maintenance is funded directly by our club. Our annual fundraiser, the Bunny Hop 5K, was held virtually in April and brought in about \$600 after expenses. A local organization that supports students with exceptional needs (Exceptional Stars Athletics) partnered with Key Club to provide a 5K experience for their athletes while supporting the garden project. Runners from Falconer and as far away as Albany supported the effort by signing up for the 5K race or a Virtual Distance Challenge. The money raised from the race was quickly turned around into purchasing lumber, fencing, posts and other supplies for the garden.

Earlier in the school year, Key Club provided cash donations to charities normally supported in person, including the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign and Toys for Tots. Throughout the snow season, we shoveled snow and cleared ice at a local church, raising money to support families in our district. We

High School with hygiene supplies for students that need them throughout the school year.

Looking ahead towards summer, our club is looking to collect gently used books and create free "little libraries," from which our schools' students can choose reading material to take home and enjoy.

were able to provide clothing and shoes for eight Falconer students, and restocked the nurses' office in the Middle/

Falconer Key Club was chartered in 2011. Our 20 members strive to serve the community in creative and meaningful ways, growing leadership and empowering students through experiences in which they change the world for good.

This year's officers, President, Greg H., Vice President, Lauren A., Treasurer, Mikaela L. and Secretary, Serena C. are leaving the club ready to continue serving our community. Congratulations to next year's officers, President, Jasmine S., Vice President, Ellie A., Treasurer, Emily P., Secretary, Ava F., as well as Web Master and Bulletin Editor, Michaela O.

Career Exploration

The following students participated in the Promote Program through the Resource Center. The students completed a 12-week program that consisted of classes focusing on Career Exploration, Work Readiness skills, and Work based learning. A special thank you goes out to Terri Johnson and Michael Sandquist of The Resource Center and Julie Widen, the Director of Special Education, for setting up this opportunity for members of our CDOS program.

Pictured: Matt H., Ethan C., Kaidance B., Elizabeth P.



The Woods

I have to



core classes.

teachers and students.

ns share my color.

ids come to me for 7 hours.

Students of the Month

April 2021 Hannah M. 7th Grade

May 2021 Nazariah N. 8th Grade



April 2021 Mackenzie K. 7th Grade

May 2021 Maya L. 8th Grade

> June 2021 Rachael S. 6th Grade





I am determined to look

the slightest bit likeable today.

I get dressed in my skirt

June 2021 Tyler S. 6th Grade

m a hunter

The fall is my favorite season.

Determined describes me.

I must be Confident,

I like meat. Im hungry

y children.

- cobin

e care

I get nervou in the fall.

I am a dec

be wiet. Adorable describes

I amaianxious, I should be careful.

I like pla

I take

and shirt hoping I look presentable.

anch everyday.		I have to lunch every
go to a private school.	There is nothing like a parent's love.	I go to a public so
I get escorted to school everyday by my limo.		I have to ride the bus school.
When I go to school veryone adores me.	I dream of going to	When I go to school everybody trys to avo

Clouds and p

I'm cold!

Multi-Person Poems Written

Multi-person poems were studied and created in 6th Grade Reading Class with Mrs. Hoose. Mrs. Binkley in the Media Center enhanced this unit. She provided multi voice poem books to Mrs. Hoose's center time. Students practiced reading aloud two voice poems during 7th period Book Look.

This study began by brainstorming together. Students were allowed to pick topics that were of interest to

them. Poems were drafted, edited, published and shared with peers. Here are a few

of the great ones.

Shhh! I have a secret... people don't know I'm a demi-god. My dad is the god of the sea. of thieves Without the

I feel like I have nothing to do!

in the morning. I see you in the evenu People love me! has rays. My body has craters.

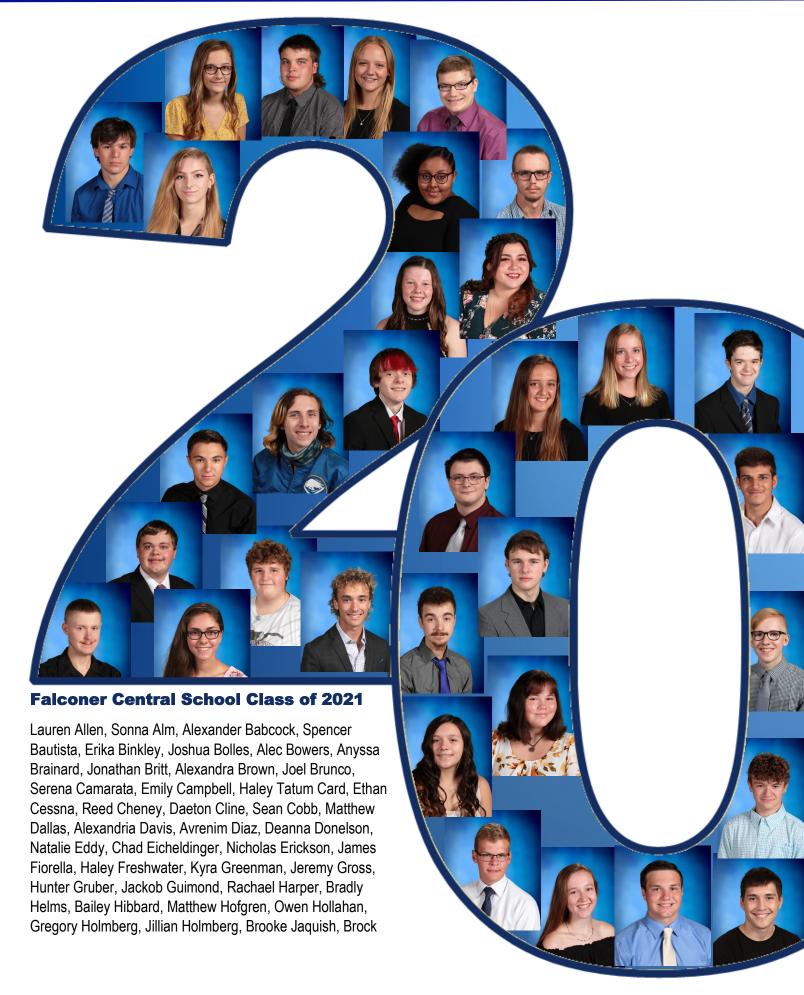
I light things up.

We are total opposites.

We are the sun and moon.

I am exhausted all the time! manage the non-ending dishes I can't wait to go camping! s wanna take ids go-carting!













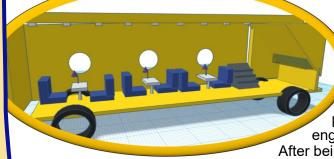
Falconer Summer STEM Camp Returns!

Falconer Central School has announced a grant award from the Falconer Region Community Fund at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation to support an educational week of science, technology, engineering and mathematics exploration for rising sixth through eighth graders in the district.

The Falconer Summer STEM Camp started in 2019 with financial support provided through a one-time scholarship awarded to Alumna Kathryn Jaroszynski. With no camp being held in 2020, the Falconer community is excited to see the program return in 2021.

The program will accommodate 25 students, run daily for one week in July, and immerse students in an engineering design environment where they will respond to challenges with creativity and collaboration, using coding, robots, 3D printers, and everyday materials to solve realistic problems. A trip to the Audubon Community Nature Center is also planned, with an investigation into the engineering design principles used in the natural environment

The theme of the week is "STEM Empowers" students with the skills needed to positively change their community and world. In addition to the grant funding, the program's success is supported by sponsorships from Wegmans, Jamestown Macadam Inc., Stuart Tool and Die, Falconer Loyal Order of the Moose, Falconer Kiwanis, and Artone.



8th Grade Engineering Design Slam

During the second semester, the 8th grade STEM classes participated in an engineering design slam.

After being introduced to the

engineering design process, students identified problems in the world that need solutions. Brainstorming and research led to the selection of an idea to develop further. Students were asked to consider their projects from the perspective of a "value proposition," prepared in such a way as to convince others their ideas should become reality. Prototypes were designed in Tinkercad, a three-dimensional design software platform, and then printed on the STEM lab's Flashforge printers. Teams reviewed and provided feedback on each other's projects before formally presenting them to the whole class.

The idea of a design slam came from Autodesk/Tinkercad for Education: "Design Slams are a challenge of creativity, skill, and presentation. They introduce the design thinking process by creating a fun environment for participants to look at problems differently and pursue solutions based on quick decision-making. Regardless of their skill level, participants have the opportunity to apply their design- and critical- thinking skills and pitch their ideas in a visible gathering that promotes youth leadership, industry and community involvement, and innovation."

Some of the problems addressed during the design slam include:

- Storm drain pollution collection and elimination systems
- Biodegradable one-time use food containers that also distribute wildflower seeds
 - Soccer cleats in the shape of a cheetah's claws to increase grip with the ground
 - A durable, reusable, machine washable shopping bag made of sustainable materials
 - A fan blade that mimics the patterns of whale fins to more efficiently move air
 - An inclusive playground for children who use wheelchairs
 - An inclusive playground for children who use wheelchairs
 An expanded notion of a school gymnasium, making a wider

variety of interesting physical activities available to students regardless of location or income

- An outdoor classroom design to maximize use of the natural environment during the school day
- School bus with reconfigured seating space, electrical outlets and wifi to support student work during their commute to and from school and sporting events.









Radiant Student Art Displayed Locally

Fenner Art classes recently completed their symmetry unit, and they did AMAZING! They ended with these incredible "Radial Name Symmetry Tiles," which all 3rd, 4th and 5th graders created over the span of 3-4 art classes. Each project displays a chosen word mirrored over and over again, creating these geometric patterned squares. Students were allowed to choose any school appropriate word they wanted, whether it was a first name, nickname or interest (bands, foods, etc.) so no two projects are exactly alike.

Projects were displayed at the Falconer Public Library for several weeks. Shown here are some examples of Student's Radial Name Symmetry Tiles.

5th Graders & Fenner Gazebo

Fifth grade students have been weeding and planting around the gazebo in their schoolyard. They have worked hard and the PTO generously gave them money for perennials to be replaced.

> had been built in memory of three much loved teachers at Fenner who passed away too young: Christine Watt, Darlyne Swanson and Rose Bower. Coincidentally, the day that the students started working on the gazebo was May 18, which was the twenty-fourth anniversary of the dedication of the gazebo. The plaque on it reads " Any good that I may do now, any kindness that I may show, let me do it now and not defer it. For I shall not pass this way again." This quote was found taped to Rose Bower's desk when her

The students learned that the gazebo

oom was cleaned out.

The whole school has been using the gazebo as an

outdoor classroom during the warm weather.

Pictured: Emma G.

& Zoie C.

4th Graders Show off Their Passions!

This year fourth graders in Mrs. Sigular's writing classes had the opportunity to learn about something new. The students created a passion project which allowed them to explore something they are very excited about and interested in. Each student was in charge of their own projects, designs, and presentations. Passion projects started with a "burning question"

that is opened-ended and cannot be answered with a simple Internet Search.

Student presentations and projects included posters, puppet shows, musical demonstrations, and slide show presentations.



April Soaring Citizens

3rd Grade

(pictured below) Addison D., Elayna B., Savannah W., Skyler N., Adelle H., Lillian N, Brienna P., Katie S., Colleen F.

5th Grade



(pictured above) Nolyn P., Wyatt S., Colton L., Katelyn H., Samuel C., Jacob K., Josiah D.

Soaring Citizens of the Month

- 1. Are respectful to all students and staff. 2. Make responsible choices at all times.
- 3. Make safe choices.
- Put forth their BEST effort.

(pictured above) Ayden C., Austin E., Olivia K., Journey W., Sage J., Elizabeth L., Memphis. M., Isiah W.

The Forces are Strong in 3rd Grade

Mrs Pawlak's third grade class has been studying invisible forces in nature and spent time learning about forces that push and pull. They worked on designing and testing bridges that could hold the most pennies over a 6 inch gap. They were only allowed to use 2 pieces of paper and nothing else. The winning bridge held 50 pennies!

The American Legion Presents Winners...

All fourth graders entered a countywide essay contest sponsored by the American Legion. The writing prompt was "What does the American Flag mean to you? The students below were honored on June 5 by the American Legion. They all won cash prizes.



From Left to right: Lauren Y., Theo K., Allison B., Elisa V. (not pictured)



Clean Up!

Mrs. Stearns' students working to clean up the Nature Trail on the Butterfly Garden.









Miss Buccola's Kindergarten Class



Miss Adam's 1st Grade Class

Class



3B's Awards

Students who receive these awards exemplify the Temple 3B's (Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible). One to two students per classroom are given this award monthly and Special Area Teachers also distribute this award to students. Award recipients are featured in the Student Spotlight found on the Temple Elementary Website (https://www.falconercsd.org/Page/4084).







UPK Learn Garden Care

UPK learned about the basic needs of plants and we have been busy in our garden planting and caring for lettuce, radish, sunflower and pumpkin seeds. We hope to be able to harvest lettuce and radishes before school lets out so we can taste test the last week of June!







May Cheer Bear Winners

Mrs. Nutt's Kindergarten Class



Penhollow's 1st Grade Class

Mrs. Brandi's 2nd Grade Class



Temple Students of the Month

Students who receive this award are featured in weekly videos, assist with the announcements, and are able to eat lunch with a friend of their choosing.

April Students of the Month (top row): Gracie, Ben, Jazzy, Simon, Kolbi, Lennox May Students of the Month (bottom row): Isla, Faith, Alyse, Zella, Logan, Nicholis



ecrwss



Graduation Edition: Reminders & Announcements





The Board of Education, collective staff, and community of the Falconer School District are committed to preparing our children to be productive members of society. Through continuous evaluation and improvement, this partnership will provide a quality educational environment for students to meet the graduation requirements.



Alma Mater

Falconer High School here's to you best in the land. 'Neath the old gold and blue, we will proudly take our stand. In classroom study, field, or track with you dear as our guide, no honor ever shall you lack. I'll win your pride.



Board of Education Agendas, Additions/ Deletions, & Minutes

To access any of the above documents, go to:

- ⇒ www.falconerscsd.org
- ⇒ District Home Page
- ⇒ Our District
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- ⇒ Click on Meeting Date



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Students Against Destructive Decisions Assembly

On Thursday, June 3, Falconer's SADD Chapter put on an end of the year assembly for those who attended the prom this year. Because of the unusual circumstances this year, it was a smaller group. The assembly began with a game of

"Falcon Feud", hosted by Mrs. Pitts and Sheriff Quattrone. Students played against teachers attempting different challenges to complete. It ended with Sheriff Quattrone discussing the serious nature of distracted driving and the consequences that result from it. We would like to thank the staff and Sheriff Quattrone for giving us the opportunity to have an assembly this year!

Fall Sports Begin August 23

Be sure to be ready!



Pictured are some of the teachers/ staff who purchased shirts to support this event.

Special Olympics Held at Falconer Central School

The Falconer Central School hosted Special Olympics for 16 district athletes. The day kicked off with a parade, with Master of Ceremonies, Scotty James, leading the way. The National Anthem was sung by athlete, Alexis M. The athletes competed in a softball throw, standing and running long jump, and running races. The accomplishments of each athlete were celebrated at the awards ceremony at the close of the day. The district would like to thank everyone in the community who played a role in making this event a success.