

# SCHOHARIE CENTRAL SCHOOL



*Schoharie, New York*



*National Tech Honor Society 2009-2010*

Capital

*Vol. LXXXIII, No. 7*

*"Learning is the Mission"*

*SEPTEMBER 2010*

## *Message from the Superintendent...*

Welcome back!

The beginning of the school year has started off very well. I never thought I would hear this, but walking down the hallway behind two high school boys on opening day, one stated to the other "I couldn't wait to get back here". That certainly made my day! On other notes, the maintenance staff has been very busy this summer and improvements can be seen throughout the district. Everything from new paving to renovated classrooms. Our teachers have also been active working on curriculum enhancements in the area of writing (a special focus at the Elementary School) and providing study skills programs for middle-level students.

Parents of students in grades three through eight will soon receive ISR or Individual Student Reports on the performance of their children on the NYS English/Language Arts and Mathematics Assessments administered this past spring. Much has been mentioned in the media about the controversial nature of changes made by the State Education Department over the summer when the department increased its scoring targets. These changes on "cut scores" will impact your children and require students to score higher on the assessments in order to be considered proficient. This does not mean that our students are learning less than in previous years; it means that the bar has now been set higher. It is our obligation as your children's educators to help your children not only meet but exceed these new competency levels.

These changes were brought about in an effort to bring the state standards in line with the national standards as well as better prepare our students for college and also entry into the more technical workforce. To that end, a task force is being formed to address the District's graduation rate concern. You will hear much more about these efforts to adjust to the new standards, and increase our graduation rate, in the coming months. Additional information will also be provided at the Open House meetings later this month.

Again, welcome back to school! We hope that your children have an exciting, enjoyable, and rewarding school year.

**Brian Sherman**  
*Superintendent of Schools*



# ADULT EDUCATION – FALL 2010

**CONTACT PERSON: STACEY A. ADAMS –JR. / SR. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL (518) 295-6601**

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Once again it is exciting to provide the opportunity to the community Adult Education Courses here at SCS for the purpose of fun and the opportunity to learn new skills. Please review the proposed course offerings for the fall program. Courses will be offered on Tuesday evenings, October 12, 19, 26 and November 2, 9 and 16. Classes will take place at the Jr./Sr. High School, 136 Academy Drive, Schoharie. If you are interested you need to register in advance by filling out the attached registration form. All classes need a minimum of 10 registrants. Classes with less than 10 participants will not be held. Non residents of the district may also attend. Please make checks out to: **SCS Adult Education** and mail them by September 24, 2010 to: **Principal Stacey A. Adams, Schoharie Jr./Sr. High School, PO Box 430, Schoharie, NY 12157.**

Date	Computer w/Jen McClure – Room 33	Aerobics w/ Bonnie Newberry – HS Cafeteria	Photography w/ Brian Sherman – Computer Lab A
October 12	Intro to Microsoft Word 2007	Cardio Strength Class 6-7pm	
October 19	Intro to Microsoft Excel 2007	Cardio Strength Class 6-7pm	
October 26	Intro to Microsoft Powerpoint 2007	Cardio Strength Class 6-7pm	Course 1 6-8pm
November 2	Intro to Microsoft Publisher 2007	Cardio Strength Class 6-7pm	Course 2 6:30-9pm
November 9	Intro to Windows Movie Maker	Cardio Strength Class 6-7pm	
November 16	Intro to Windows Movie Maker	Cardio Strength Class 6-7pm	

**Cardio/Strength Class** – Bonnie Newberry, Instructor - 6 weeks, 6-7pm, HS Cafeteria, \$25.00

Get in shape with a high/low floor workout to actively burn calories, strengthen and firm abs, arms, and legs, lower stress and cholesterol levels. Wear loose fitting clothing and aerobic footwear. Bring light to medium hand weights, a matt/towel for floor work, and a water bottle.

**Digital Photography** – Brian Sherman, Instructor - October 26, 6 - 8pm, Computer Lab A, \$15.00

This workshop is designed to introduce digital camera owners (point and shoot or digital SLR cameras) to the more unknown menu settings and features available in your digital camera. You will be taught how to use scene settings, white balance, slow sync, histograms, and sepia conversion to improve your shooting. Also to be covered are easy to use composition techniques to immediately improve the quality of your photography. The composition portion of the workshop will apply to both digital and film photographers. Class size limited to 30 people

**Introduction to Digital Photo Editing** – Brian Sherman, Instructor - November 2, 6:00-9pm, Room 41, \$15.00

Simple editing techniques for improving your digital photographs will be demonstrated. Participants will then use the techniques in a hands-on session to edit sample photographs. Some of the techniques included will be cropping strategies, cloning, changing resolution for use in printing or with websites, conversion to sepia or black and white, and using filters. Several free software applications will be demonstrated and provided to participants. Class size limited to 16.

**Computer Classes** - Jennifer McClure, Instructor - 6-8pm, Room 33, \$30.00 for all five courses or \$10 each (Class size limited to 20)

**Intro to Microsoft Word 2007:** October 12– Learn how to create, edit, save and print basic documents. We'll also learn some advanced skills, such as inserting pictures and tables and mail merging.

**Intro to Microsoft Excel 2007:** October 19 – Learn how to create worksheets quickly using formulas, conditional formatting, etc. We'll also learn how to sort and analyze data and create charts and graphs.

**Intro to Microsoft PowerPoint 2007:** October 26 – Learn how to create exciting slideshows that contain text, objects, animation, media clips, hyperlinks, and more.

**Intro to Microsoft Publisher 2007:** November 2 – Learn how to use Publisher's templates to create your own unique documents, such as newsletters and brochures.

**Intro to Windows Movie Maker:** November 9 – Learn to create a video that includes special effects, titles, credits, still photos, music, and more.

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# SCS ADULT EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Course Title:

Dates Held or Session:

Your Name:

Street:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Phone (H)

Phone (W)

Phone (C)

School District of Residence

Fee Paid \$

Check #

Course Title:

Dates Held or Session:

Your Name:

Street:

City:

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Phone (C)

School District of Residence

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Course Title:

Dates Held or Session:

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# LEGAL NOTICES

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## Pesticide Neighbor Notification Law

The Schoharie Central School District is taking an aggressive, yet precautionary approach to dealing with pesticides in and around its schools. The development and implementation of the District's integrated pest management (IPM) program is the key in achieving pesticide use reduction, while providing effective and economical pest control. Any public or nonpublic elementary or secondary school that decided to use a pesticide product as a last resort in addressing a pest problem must comply with the Pesticide Neighbor Notification Law (section 409-h of the Education Law). This notice is to inform all parents, guardians and staff that pesticide products may be used periodically throughout the school year. Anyone who wishes to receive a 48-hour written advanced notice from the school of an actual pesticide application should contact Shawn Gathen, Buildings and Grounds, Supervisor at 295-6689.

## Parents' Right To Know

In accordance with the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, parents/guardians have the right to request information about the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers. Specifically, you have the right to request the following information concerning your child's teachers:

- Whether the teacher has met NYS qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas he/she teaches
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status under which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived
- The teacher's college major
- Whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and if so, the subject of those degrees
- If your child received services from any instructional assistants or similar paraprofessionals, the qualifications of those individuals.

## Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

Please take notice that the Schoharie Central School District has performed the annual reinspection and updated its files in accordance with the Federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) with regard to all school buildings in the district. Periodic surveillances are performed every six months. Interested persons may review a copy of the AHERA management plan in the Business Office, 136 Academy Drive, Schoharie, New York daily during regular business hours.

## Student Privacy

Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, parents may exercise their right to opt their child out of participation in any survey that reveals information on certain types of personal behavior or political beliefs. In addition, parents have the opportunity to exclude their child from any activities in which personal information will be gathered from students and used for marketing purposes. Policies are also in place to address the administration of physical exams and screenings by the district.

## Disclosure to the Military

Pursuant to the federal education legislation also known as No Child Left Behind Act, Schoharie Central School District must disclose to the military recruiters, upon request, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of high school students. Parents and students have the right to request that the district not release such information without prior written parental consent. Parents (or students, if they are age 18 or older) wishing to exercise their option to withhold their consent to the release of the above information to military recruiters are asked to contact the Guidance Department at 295-6611.

## Firearms Prohibited

By Board of Education policy, no student shall bring a firearm on any portion of the premises of this school district. In accordance with the Gun Free Schools Act of 1994, any student who, after a hearing held pursuant to Education Law Section 3214, is found guilty of bringing a firearm onto the premises of any property of Schoharie Central School District will be subject to a penalty of at least a one-year suspension from school. However, in determining an appropriate penalty, the Superintendent of Schools may modify the suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis, considering among other things the totality of circumstances surrounding the offense and the student's previous record. These may include, but are not limited to, the age of the student; the student's grade in school; the student's prior disciplinary record; the Superintendent's belief that other forms of discipline may be more effective; and other extenuating circumstances. Police officers on duty are the only people permitted on school property to have a weapon in their possession. NYS Penal Law Section 265.01 (d) addresses possession of firearms on school property.

## Emergency Management Plan

The Schoharie Central School District has developed an Emergency Disaster Preparedness Plan as required by the State Education Law, Section 155.13. It is required that each public school district has emergency plans in place and that the information on emergency procedures be provided to all students and staff. We will provide training throughout the school year and conduct at least 12 fire drills as well as a "Go Home" drill to test the transportation and communication systems. Emergency evacuation information is posted in each classroom. If you desire more information, please contact Brian Sherman, Superintendent of Schools, at 295-6679.

## Release of Student Directory Information

From time to time, student directory information (name, grade level, awards, activities, sports, photographs, etc.) is published on the Schoharie Central School District website, in school publications or released to the media to recognize student achievement or to depict activities of the Schoharie Central School District. Parents who object to the disclosure of their child's directory information should notify BOTH the Superintendent of Schools and their child's building principal - in writing - on or before October 15<sup>th</sup> of each school year.

## Drug Free/Tobacco Free School Zone

Schoharie Central School is considered a Drug Free/Tobacco Free School Zone. Anyone arrested and convicted of selling or using illegal drugs within 1,000 feet of school property will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, by civil authorities. Penalties are harsher in this zone than in the community at large. Signs are posted at the entrances to our buildings and on the grounds, to serve as a warning that our District has no tolerance toward illegal drugs.

## Access to Student Records

Schoharie Central School District complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). This law states that parents and students over 18 years of age have the right to inspect and review their child's education records or to request the amendment of records believed to be inaccurate or misleading. Student records are private unless the parent or student older than 18 consents to disclosure of personally identifiable information. An appointment may be arranged for the review of official records by contacting the Guidance Department at 295-6611. Appropriate school personnel must be present at the time of inspection to prevent any misinterpretation of the records.





# LEGAL NOTICES *continued*

## NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of Schoharie Central School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability in admissions, participation or employment, as required by Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, the Age Discrimination Act, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Therefore, the Schoharie Central School District hereby advises students, parents, employees, and the general public, that it offers employment and educational opportunities, including vocational education opportunities, without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability. Inquiries regarding this non-discrimination policy may be directed to Title IX Officers, Mrs. Linda Nevulis at 295-6657 or Mr. Robert Bonaker at 295-6673.

## Special Needs

Children with special needs may be entitled to additional services from the school district. If your child has special needs which may not be known to the school administration, please call the Special Education Office at 295-6657. NYS Education Law also requires that each public school district account for the education of all resident minors. Please help SCS comply with this requirement. If your child is home-schooled or attends a private or parochial school and has not previously been registered, please call the Elementary Office (K-6) at 295-6651 or the High School Guidance Office (7-12) at 295-6611.

## Homeless Students

Parents of homeless students and unaccompanied youths (youths not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) have the following rights:

- The right to attend the school they previously attended or to attend school in the district of current location
- The right to be enrolled even though the admission requirements have not been completed and prior student records are not available
- The right to transportation to and from school

For more information regarding these rights, please contact the Homeless Children and Youth Liaison, Mrs. Linda Nevulis at 295-6657.



## ***PLEASE, Help our School Get Free Equipment!***

Log on to [www.pricechopper.com](http://www.pricechopper.com) to register your **Price Chopper AdvantEdge** card for our school code 15847

This will automatically earn credit for the school every time you use your AdvantEdge Card. Your purchases will earn points between August 1, 2010 and February 12, 2011.

Although **AdvantEdge** cardholders who signed up for our Tools for Schools program last year are automatically re-enrolled this year, it's a good idea to check your card number to ensure you're enrolled and that the school you chose last year is still valid. Because card numbers are occasionally entered incorrectly, we recommend you confirm your enrollment status.

**No Internet?** Send your full card number to:

**Bonnie Newberry at Schoharie High School,  
PO Box 430, Schoharie NY 12157**

As a result of your shopping last year, you earned us a total of 48,932 points. These were used to purchase a graphics calculator, a mobile utility table with electric outlet, laminating pouches and a variety of office supplies for our library media center. With your help, we can increase our total and purchase even more educational equipment. Thank you for your support and **KEEP SHOPPING!**



## **INSTRUMENT DONATIONS WANTED**

***Do you have a used instrument stored away in a closet that hasn't been played in years? If so, please consider donating it to the SCS Band program. Needy students who cannot afford the rental fees are allowed to borrow donated instruments for as long as they are actively involved in SCS band. If you would like to give to the program or have questions please contact: Mrs. Gould or Mr. Pracher at 295-6601, or Mrs. Quandt at 295-6663. Thank you for your consideration.***



# JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL INTERIM AND GRADE REPORTING SCHEDULE

1st Quarter	Mid-Marking Period Ends & Computer Entry Begins	-	10/08/10 (Fri.)
	Interim Reports Home With Students	-	10/13/10 (Wed.)
	Marking Period Ends & Computer Entry Begins	-	11/05/10 (Fri.)
2nd Quarter	Report Cards Home With Students	-	11/10/10 (Wed.)
	"Incomplete" Work Due To Teacher by 2:45 p.m.	-	11/18/10 (Thurs.)
	Mid-Marking Period Ends & Computer Entry Begins	-	12/10/10 (Fri.)
3rd Quarter	Interim Reports Home With Students	-	12/15/10 (Wed.)
	Marking Period Ends & Computer Entry Begins	-	01/21/11 (Fri.)
	Report Cards Home With Students	-	02/01/11 (Tues.)
4th Quarter	"Incomplete" Work Due to Teacher by 2:45 p.m.	-	02/03/10 (Thurs.)
	Mid-Marking Period Ends & Computer Entry Begins	-	02/18/11 (Fri.)
	Interim Reports Home With Students	-	03/02/11 (Wed.)
4th Quarter	Marking Period Ends & Computer Entry Begins	-	04/01/11 (Fri.)
	Report Cards Home With Students	-	04/06/11 (Wed.)
	"Incomplete"Work Due To Teacher by 2:45 p.m..	-	04/14/11 (Thurs.)
4th Quarter	Mid-Marking Period Ends & Computer Entry Begins	-	05/06/11 (Fri.)
	Interim Reports <u>Home With Students</u>	-	05/11/11 (Wed.)
	Marking Period Ends	-	06/14/10 (Tues.)

### Report Cards Mailed – On or about July 1st



## SNN – A GREAT WAY TO STAY INFORMED



If you haven't already signed up for Schoharie Central School's News Notifier, now is the time to do it!

School News Notifier (SNN) is a system designed to help keep parents and the community in touch with what is happening at Schoharie Central School. It is an opt-in e-mail and cell phone alert system that parents, residents, and staff members can sign up for. With SNN, the school has the ability to send updates and reminders about district activities or information regarding emergency school closings and delays. Users can choose to receive some or all of the alerts, and they can unsubscribe at any time. Note: All e-mail addresses and personal information will be kept confidential.

To sign up, simply click on the SNN icon, located

on the district website ([www.schoharie-schools.org](http://www.schoharie-schools.org)) and create a profile. You will be asked to fill in your name, your e-mail address, and to select a password. Once you have created your profile, you will be asked to select which alerts you would like to receive. After you have chosen your alerts and clicked "subscribe" you are all set!

Should you wish to change your selected alerts, you may do so by logging in to the system and updating your profile. If at any time you decide that you no longer want to receive ANY updates from Schoharie's SNN system, it is easy to unsubscribe. When you visit the SNN home page, there is an "unsubscribe" link on the right hand navigational rail. Click on it, fill in the form, and you're done!





## BUS SAFETY PROCEDURES



District school bus drivers receive regular instruction about methods to maintain or improve safety on the bus and

each year there is a thorough review of all safety procedures. All of our drivers consider the safety of the students to be of the utmost priority. Our drivers take great pride in their excellent safe driving record. Parental support plays a vital role in helping the school to safely transport your child. Please take the time to review with your children, the 10 RULES OF BUS SAFETY that are posted on each bus. The rules include:

1. Observe same conduct as in the classroom
2. Be courteous, use no profane language
3. Do not eat or drink on the bus
4. Keep the bus clean
5. Cooperate with the driver
6. Do not smoke
7. Do not be destructive
8. Stay in your seat
9. Keep head, hands and feet inside the bus
10. Bus driver is authorized to assign seats

Live animals, large objects (except band instruments) and glass will not be permitted on buses. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter.

Please note, after the first week of school the pick-up times will be firm. We urge you to have your children at their stop, ready to board the bus. Buses will not be permitted to wait for children that are not in sight. Drop-off times will vary,

especially on late bus runs (3:30pm). There are only two late buses to cover the entire district and the number of students that stay for after-school activities on a given day will effect the time.

Over the years, many parents have called the bus garage (295-6684) to let us know their children won't be riding the bus that day. These calls are appreciated, especially when there are children at the end of the bus route. One of the best ways to cut-down on confusion between children and bus drivers is to have a consistent schedule. One spot for pick-ups and drop-offs is best!

Kindergarten Parents – You, or an authorized adult, are required to escort your child to and from the bus to ensure the proper release of your child. No kindergarten student will be dropped off without the presence of an authorized adult.

**Field Trips, Sports Trips and After-School Bus Trips** - All buses have forms to be utilized in case a student, staff member, or chaperone requires transportation to a hospital. The form has sections in which the nature of the injury or illness can be recorded, along with the name of the hospital. This would be helpful information for school officials and family members in case of a bus accident, especially out of the area. Also, an accurate roster of all students who are on the bus trip is completed and available to the bus driver. This procedure about incident forms and a roster of students was previously implemented on regular school bus runs many years ago.

Thank you for your continued support of the Schoharie Central School transportation department. We look forward to a safe and happy school year for all!





# SCHOHARIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SCHOHARIE,  
NY 12157  
PERMIT No. 5

## BOARD of EDUCATION

F. Christian Spies – *President*  
Linda Isles – *Vice President*  
Terry Burton – *Trustee*  
Marion Jaqueway – *Trustee*  
Barbara Monsees – *Trustee*  
Edie Schultz – *Trustee*  
Carol Wilber – *Trustee*

P.O. Box 430, 136 Academy Drive  
Schoharie, New York 12157  
www.schoharieschools.org

## RURAL ROUTE/STAR ROUTE BOXHOLDER



.....  
Brian D. Sherman –  
Superintendent of Schools  
Robert W. Bonaker –  
*Business Administrator*

### Prepaid Lunch Ticket Prices for 2010-11

<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Jr/Sr High</b>
<b>1 Week \$8.75</b>	<b>5 day ticket \$10.00</b>
<b>2 Weeks \$17.50</b>	<b>4 day ticket \$8.00</b>
	<b>3 day ticket \$6.00</b>
	<b>2 day ticket \$4.00</b>



### S.C.S. LUNCH MENU

**Served daily in the Elementary:**  
**Breakfast** – cereal, milk, juice, and a daily special

**Lunch** – peanut butter/jelly sandwich on whole wheat bread, and fresh fruit

**Served daily in the High School:**

**Breakfast** – cereal, bagels, breakfast sandwiches, milk, juice, and a daily special

**Lunch** – deli sandwiches, chicken patty on a bun, fresh fruit, and a salad bar on Mondays and Thursdays

**Varieties of milk available:**

1% chocolate, 1% strawberry, 1% white, nonfat, and whole

**Ala carte items available during lunch time:**

Bottled water – 8oz. \$.25, 16oz. \$.50, 24oz. \$.75

Chips (baked or regular), pretzels, fruit snacks, cookies, ice cream – ranging from \$.25 to \$.60

NOTE: Many snacks offered meet the Choose Sensibly Guidelines of 7 grams of fat or less, 2 grams of Saturated Fat or less, 0 Trans Fat, 360 mg of sodium or less and 15 mg of sugar or less per serving.

Elementary Breakfast.....	\$1.00
Jr./Sr. High School Breakfast .....	\$1.25
Elementary Lunch .....	\$1.75
High School Lunch .....	\$2.00
Second Entree .....	\$1.00
Snacks.....	\$.60

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

### 2010-2011 Start Time - 7:00 p.m.

- September 8th and 22nd – Regular Meetings
- October 6th and 20th – Regular Meetings
- November 3rd and 17th – Regular Meetings
- December 1st and 15th – Regular Meetings
- January 5th and 19th – Regular Meetings
- February 2nd and 16th – Regular Meetings
- March 2nd and 16th – Regular Meetings
- April 6th – Budget Adoption
- April 25th – BOCES Budget Vote
- May 4th – Public Budget Hearing
- May 17th – Public Budget Vote, 9am – 9pm
- May 17th – Regular Meeting and Vote Results
- June 1st and June 15th – Regular Meetings

## SCHOOL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN DRILL



Section 155.17 of the Amendment to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education requires school districts to conduct annual drills to exercise their School Emergency Management Plan. Schoharie Central School District is planning to carry out its annual practice “Go Home Drill” approximately fifteen minutes before dismissal time (11:15am) on Wednesday, November 10, 2010. If you have any further questions about this drill or about our school district’s Emergency Management Plan, please contact Superintendent – Brian Sherman at (518) 295-6679. Thank you in advance for understanding.