

## Graduation at a Glance

The 2023-24 school year has flown by and in just a few short weeks it will culminate with graduation ceremonies at each of our high schools! Webster CSD is set to graduate approximately 680 students in its Class of 2024! Here are a key factors families need to know:



### Webster Schroeder Graduation

**Rehearsal** – Friday, June 21, 9:00 a.m., seniors meet in the Webster Schroeder Warrior Stadium, 875 Ridge Road. REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.

**Commencement** – Friday, June 21, seniors line up at 6:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Procession begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. at the Webster Schroeder Warrior Stadium, 875 Ridge Road.

Rain date – Saturday, June 22, time TBD.



### Webster Thomas Graduation

**Rehearsal** – Tuesday, June 25, 10:30 a.m., seniors meet in the Willink Middle School cafetorium, 900 Publishers Parkway. REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.

**Commencement** – Tuesday, June 25, seniors line up at 6:45 p.m. in the Willink Middle School cafetorium. Procession begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. at the Webster Thomas Titan Stadium, 800 Five Mile Line Road.

Rain date – Wednesday, June 26, time TBD.

Both ceremonies will last roughly two hours. No tickets are required. These are open seating events. Gates open to the public approximately one hour before each procession begins. There is ample seating for families and other guests in the stands and on the field.



## Webster Central School District - Summer 2023-24

### Register Your Kindergartner Today!

The 2023-24 school year may be wrapping up, but now is the time to register your incoming kindergartner for the 2024-25 school year!

Children who will be 5 years old on or before December 1, 2024 are eligible for kindergarten enrollment for the 2024-25 school year. Webster CSD parents/guardians of incoming kindergartners and new students are encouraged to complete the online registration at [websterschools.org/registration](http://websterschools.org/registration). More information available at [wcsdschoolregistration@webstercsd.org](mailto:wcsdschoolregistration@webstercsd.org) or (585) 216-0029.



### Schroeder Shines in Return to Stars of Tomorrow

After a decade-long hiatus, Webster Schroeder Musicals returned to Rochester Broadway Theatre League's (RBTL) Stars of Tomorrow theater education competition with stunning results!

On May 10, student performers from throughout the Greater Rochester area attended the gala at the sold out Auditorium Theatre, where they performed condensed versions of songs from their shows. Webster Schroeder Musicals' production of *Catch Me if You Can* was judged by adjudicators from dance, vocals, acting, production, and more. Competing in the Large Schools division, they received recognition for Excellence in Overall Production, Excellence in Vocal Ensemble, Excellence in Dance Ensemble (**Maura Ugine, Cam Stone, JimmaLy Ortega, Emily Mueller, Jayliana Jenkins, and Lilah Kastrinos**), and Excellence in Production Design. Also, honors for Achievement in a Leading Role went to **Emily Schiffhauer, Ryan Parody, Jack Baker, Anika Peterson, and Aidan Jacobs**. Receiving a Tip of the Hat award were **Brody Walrath** and the backstage crew, while **Aubrey VanLeuven** and **Eden Durkin** were named All Stars, and **Emma Grant** and **Sarah Painton** received Special Recognition.



**Emily Schiffhauer**

Additionally, Ryan Parody and Emily Schiffhauer placed in the top 40 students (20 girls, 20 boys) out of more than 250 who were adjudicated. As such they will be competing in the NYC Bound Competition, at the end of which two winners will be chosen to be sponsored by RBTL to compete in the Jimmy Awards (National High School Musical Theatre Awards) in New York City.



**Ryan Parody**

## Robertson, Braithwaite, Alexander Named Outstanding Seniors for Webster, BOCES

The Monroe County Council of School Superintendents' Michael C. O'Laughlin Outstanding Senior Recognition Dinner was held on May 8 at East High School in Rochester. Webster CSD is proud to announce that three of its students were honored at this event: **Ainsley Robertson** for Webster Schroeder High School, **Maxwell Braithwaite** for Webster Thomas High School, and **Analise Alexander** for Monroe One BOCES (and a Webster Schroeder senior).

The Outstanding Senior Recognition Dinner is the only program which recognizes excellence in all of our county and city high schools at one event. Students are selected for this honor based on their scholarship, leadership, service, and character. The honorees were presented a gift by Monroe One BOCES District Superintendent **Dan White** and Webster CSD Superintendent **Brian Neenan**.

## RPO Names Derse Outstanding Music Educator

Webster Schroeder High School music teacher **Kimberly Derse** is the winner of the 2024 Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO) Musicians' Award for Outstanding Music Educator in the category of instrumental music – strings.

Kim was honored at an awards ceremony on May 9 where she joined RPO Conductor **Andreas Delfs** on stage at the beginning of the concert that evening. Following the concert, the RPO musicians hosted a reception for family and friends in her honor, along with the 2024 award recipient for the band category. The RPO Educator Award recipients received further accolades at the RPO Centennial Gala at the Riverside Convention Center on May 18.

"I have been so blessed to have a career that has allowed me to work with so many amazing students and colleagues. My 34 years of teaching have been so fulfilling and incredible," Kim said. "It was an amazing evening and I am certainly honored by the many Webster colleagues and friends that came to share the special evening with me."

Kim has been with Webster CSD since 1994 and has a legacy of positively impacting generations of students, having taught every level of strings in the district, including working at four elementary schools and Spry Middle School before enjoying a long tenure at Webster Schroeder High School.



## NAMM Foundation Names Webster Among Best Communities for Music Education

For the 19th time, Webster CSD has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. Now in its 25th year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement for providing music access and education to all students.

Last year more than 150 Webster CSD students were selected to perform in honor ensembles in Monroe County, NYSSMA Zone 2, Area, and Conference All-State.



Superintendent **Brian Neenan** with Outstanding Seniors (l-r) **Maxwell Braithwaite**, **Ainsley Robertson**, and **Analise Alexander**.

## From the Superintendent

Dear One Webster Community,

Webster CSD is buzzing with excitement as we anticipate so many end-of-year celebrations, including commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2024. We can't wait to shine a spotlight on this outstanding group of graduates. Congratulations to every student crossing the stage in late June. We're proud of you and thrilled to count you among our Webster CSD alumni. We thank our students, staff, and community members for their ongoing support of the Class of 2024 during their time with us.

We are also grateful to district community members for exercising their right to vote on May 21 during the annual budget vote and board of education election. The 2024-25 budget and bus proposition were approved and the following candidates were elected to the board of education: **Jeffrey McCaffrey** and **Michele Lowes**. Board members serve in a volunteer position that is of vital importance to more than 8,100 preK-12 students, their families, and our 1,600+ staff members. We're thankful to Jeff and Michele for stepping forward to lead as board members. We are grateful to our outgoing board members **Jennifer Birdsong-Ng** and **Shanna LaDelfa** for their years of service to the district. They have been instrumental in moving our district forward in a positive direction.

Enjoy the many ways our district is celebrating our students and staff in this summer newsletter. We're looking forward to finishing the year strong and anticipating another exciting school year in 2024-25.

Have a wonderful summer, everyone!

All my best,

**Brian Neenan**  
Superintendent of Schools



## Names in the News

### First at State SkillsUSA

Eastern Monroe Career Center had 37 students compete at the New York State SkillsUSA competition, held April 24-26 at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse. Seven of those students took first place and one placed third. Among the first place finishers was **Julia Sablosky**, a senior at Webster Schroeder High School, who finished first in Nail Technology Model.



At the statewide SkillsUSA, students competed in areas ranging from cosmetology and aesthetics to collision repair and construction electricity and more. Students who took first place, such as Julia, are eligible to compete at the national level. This year the SkillsUSA Championships is June 24-28.

### YEA Investors Panel Winner

The 15th Annual YEA Investors Panel was held March 21 during which 18 student businesses were awarded a total of \$6,300. The business chosen to move on to the YEA Saunders Scholars Competition at Rochester Institute of Technology is Expressive Echo Tutoring created by **Roman Pidkova**. The first runner up is J 'ND J Marketing established by **Jake Inasley, Nick Sellitto, Drew Hilfiker, Jack Simpson, and Maya Podzorov**, and the second runner up is On The Line by **Juliana Frumusa**.



### Scholastic Art Awards

Webster CSD celebrates the outstanding achievements of its talented students in the 2024 Scholastic Art Awards. A total of 183 artists from Webster Thomas and Webster Schroeder high schools showcased their creativity, submitting an impressive combined total of 373 pieces. Their dedication and skill have garnered an impressive 162 awards as regional winners in this esteemed competition. Notably, among these accolades are 44 coveted Gold Keys, positioning these young artists for consideration in the national arena, with results to be unveiled in June. Such remarkable recognition underscores the district's commitment to fostering and nurturing artistic excellence among its students.

### Oak Tree Award Winners

Congratulations to the 2024 Oak Tree Award winners: **Jeff Darling** and **Carolyn Stahl!** The award, presented annually by the Webster Teachers Association (WTA) and the Webster Central PTSA, recognizes excellence in teaching in the district at the elementary and secondary levels. Each was surprised with the announcement at their respective schools on April 24. Stahl, the secondary level recipient, is an English teacher at Webster Thomas High School. She is a 25-year veteran educator in the district and currently teaches grades 9 and 12. Darling, the elementary level recipient, is an instructional specialist at Plank Road North Elementary School. He has also taught fourth grade, fifth grade, and has been an enrichment specialist in his 17 years in the district.



## Ferruzza Honored as Winningest Webster Athlete

Webster Schroeder High School senior **Sarah Ferruzza** has been honored as the winningest varsity athlete to ever grace the halls of Webster's high school - be that at Webster Schroeder, Webster Thomas, or Webster High.



No other boy or girl, from any Webster school, has accomplished what she has. A three-sport athlete, she has won state championships in volleyball (setter), basketball, and softball (catcher). And on May 9, she was a part of the girls softball team's victory over Fairport, giving Sarah win 179. She received a commemorative plaque in front of teammates, family, friends, and fans.

In the 12 separate varsity seasons she has played - between volleyball, basketball, and softball - Ferruzza's numbers are impressive. Her 179 wins have since been extended as the softball girls again seek a state title. In 2023 hoops, the Warriors ended the season 25-1 as they won the NYS Class AA championship. In 2022, the softball team finished with 22 wins during their Class A state championship run. In 2024, Ferruzza's volleyball team won the Class AA state title finishing the season with 21 wins.

"Tonight, we had the opportunity to honor an all-time great... throughout 12 Varsity seasons and 3 State Championships, Sarah sits at the top in Wins of ANY WARRIOR EVER. Read that again," **Shawn Strege**, director of physical education, athletics and health for the Warriors, tweeted that evening. "Tonight was 179. Happy to recognize her wins but more proud of the person she is."

Sarah will be pursuing a degree in nursing at Nazareth College, where she will also be a member of the Golden Flyers softball team.

## Spring Sports Roundup

Schroeder Girls Softball - Division I Champions (competing toward States as the newsletter went to press)

Schroeder Boys Tennis - Division 3 Champions

Schroeder Baseball Coach **Matt Knight** recorded 300 varsity wins and counting.

Schroeder Girls Flag Football - Sportsmanship Award

Schroeder Track and Field County Individual County Champions (still competing toward sectionals) - **Kevin Brown** 110Hurdles, Girls 4X100 Relay (**Corintia Griffith, Lauren Curry-Wilburn, Jordan Smith, and Rebecca Schroeder**), Corintia Griffith long jump and triple jump

Thomas Flag Football - undefeated regular season, first seed in sectionals, Coach **Eric Thurely** Coach of the Year Class A Flag Football, **Catherine Rogers** Offensive player of the Year Class A Flag Football

Thomas Softball - Division 2 Champions (still in sectionals possibly playing Schroeder in section V finals.)

Thomas Boys Lacrosse Coach **Rob Ruller** recorded 250 varsity wins and counting.



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**Voters Approve Budget,  
Elect McCaffrey, Lowes to BOE**

Thank you to all who came out to vote on May 21 in the annual budget vote and election of school board candidates.

Results are as follows:

**Budget = APPROVED**

YES = 1,885 (63%)

NO = 1,112 (37%)

**Proposition #1 for purchase of school buses = APPROVED**

YES = 1,911 (64%)

NO = 1,083 (36%)

**Board of Education Election** (two positions for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2024, elected in bold):

**Jeffrey McCaffrey = 2,337**

**Michele Lowes = 2,096**



**Kindergartners Invited to  
Strive for Five School Bus Event**

Families of incoming kindergartners for the 2024-25 school year, save the date! The Webster CSD Transportation Department will once again offer its Strive for Five for School Bus Safety, introducing our One Webster kindergartners to riding a school bus with the comfort of their parents/guardians riding along with them.

The program will take place August 5-8 at 6:00 p.m. with schools assigned the following dates:

- Plank South Elementary, August 5
- Klem North and State elementary schools, August 6
- Klem South and Plank North elementary schools, August 7
- DeWitt and Schlegel elementary schools, August 8

Incoming kindergartners (no additional children, please) and their parents/guardians will be picked up promptly at 5:50 p.m. at Willink Middle School and transported to the bus garage for a fun and informative safety program before being returned to Willink.

Families will receive a letter detailing the Strive for Five program prior to the event.

**Free Meals Availability for Students**

The close of the school year is fast approaching, and some Webster CSD families may be thinking about what their students will do for meals while school is out. The good news is that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will once again partner with Greece CSD to serve FREE meals to students throughout Monroe County at the Autumn Lane Elementary School, 2089 Maiden Lane, Rochester 14616. Meals will be served Monday-Friday, July 8-August 16; breakfast is 8:00-9:30 a.m. and lunch is 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

There are no income requirements and no registration necessary. The Summer Food Program is fully funded by the USDA. Any child 18 and younger is eligible to participate. Meals must be eaten on site. Transportation will not be provided. For more information call (585) 966-2316.

**WCSD IS HIRING**



- Bus Drivers - Bus Monitors - Teaching Assistants - Student Aides - Cleaners - Food Service Staff - Substitutes - Health Office Aides - Tutors - WonderCare Staff - Cafeteria Aides - Clerical Positions

**APPLY ONLINE:**

**WEBSTERCSDJOBS.ORG**

- NYS RETIREMENT**
- TUITION DISCOUNTS**
- COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS**
- GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES**

