



# Eagle Eye

FALL 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

#### **COMMON CORE**

Discover how Bolton CSD students have fared with the new learning standards and testing.

#### **MORE THAN A PRETTY FACE**

Improvements made to the building and lower field run deep and right to the core. Read the details of the project.

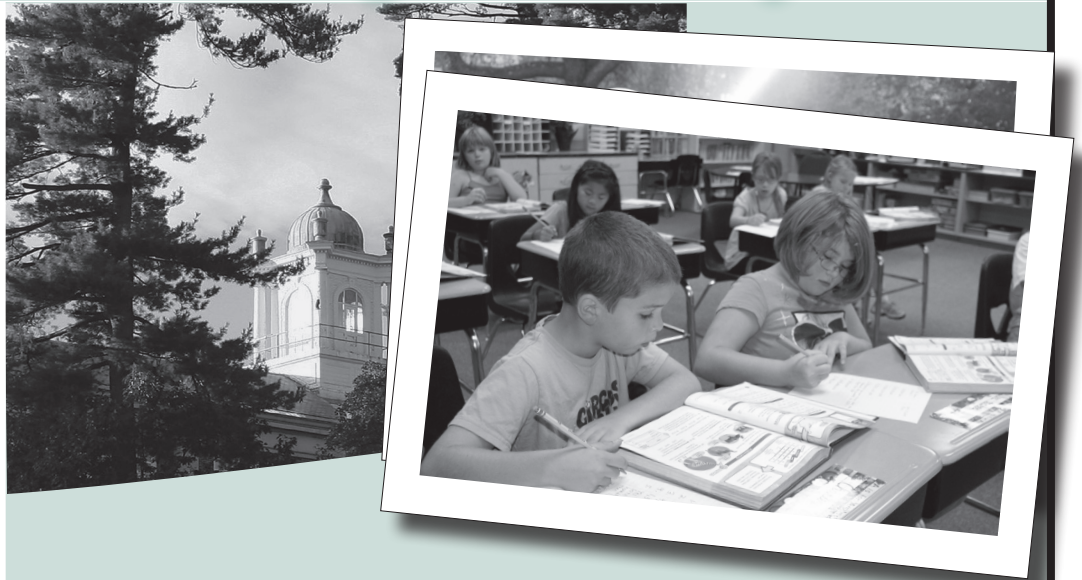
#### **PTO'S KICK OFF CARNIVAL**

For the third year in a row, the PTO has kicked off the school year with a carnival. Read all about it.

#### **I AM BOLTON**

Find out what's on the minds of three randomly-selected BCS students.

"We strive for academic excellence and remarkable experiences in a supportive community, which will exceed all expectations."



## Bolton Central School Students Off to a Great Start This School Year!

**Having survived and even thrived the shift from the New York State Standards to the new Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS), Bolton Central School students continue to move forward academically.**

The new standards were created with the focus of preparing students for the real world and how to be successful in college and careers empowering them to compete in the global economy.

Most states adopted Common Core initiatives, but New York is only the second to move forward with testing.

Shifting to reflect the new standards, the state assessments given to students last school year emphasized analysis and creative problem solving using short answers, multiple-choice questions and memorization.

The State Education Department warned the public that the test results would not look good compared to last school year's assessments, which were calculated differently and based on the old standards.

Continued on page 2



# Shifting to the Core

Continued from front page

"While the change in scoring is troublesome and the grading looks different, we know that our students' actual academic growth is right on target because we also did our own testing so we could see the results comparing apples to apples," commented School Superintendent Raymond Ciccarelli.

That testing established benchmarks of student achievement in the fall, winter and spring and provided data to drive instruction as well as indicate where extra help was needed.

"We owe our success to building a strong foundation," said Mr. Ciccarelli. "Mr. Michael Graney and our staff worked really hard to implement the CCLS."

Mr. Graney added, "Our staff put in countless hours to align the curriculum to the new standards laying the groundwork that is paying off this year."



Students in English Language Arts work on a project.

BCS students also did really well on the New York State Regents exams in the 2012-13 school year.

Mr. Graney explained that 87 percent of BCS students passed the New York State Regents in the 2012-13 school year, which is up 6 percent from the 2011-12 school year. Within that 87 percent of students who passed the Regents in 2012-13, 42 percent reached a "mastery" level, which means they scored an 85 or better on the exam, compared to 35 percent from the previous year. Students in grades 3 through 8 received favorable test results compared to neighboring schools.

In the future, Regents exams are supposed to be phased out and replaced by a national exam for high school known as The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers or PARCC.

The Common Core initiative will soon involve an online assessment format.

I am **Bolton** Central School

Kaitlin Urtz is in 11th grade

What I like best about school is the fact that I can see my friends almost every day and that there's a bunch of activities to participate in from Key Club to sports.

My favorite subject is Advanced Science Research. It's an individualized course through the University at Albany. I have my own mentor from the college and Bolton's science teacher Mrs. Williams oversees the course. You come up with your own experiment. For my experiment, I have combined the Mozart Effect with the Gum Chewing Effect. Basically, it's the thought that if you listen to Mozart and/or chew gum while studying, your cognitive ability will increase during test performance. Next year, I plan on continuing with this course and then I will be the first Bolton student to go all three years and will earn 12 college credits for taking it.

I'm still undecided about what I want to be when I grow up. I want to see the world. I went to HOBY (Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership) weekend in May and was very inspired.

I play basketball and softball outside of school and work. I work at F. R. Smith & Sons and Lakeside Lodge and Grille.

I love to take pictures and just got a new Canon camera.

My favorite food is lasagna, only made by my step-mom.

I have two dogs; one lab and one rescue dog.

I have one brother who is going to SUNY Plattsburgh and one sister in seventh grade at North Warren.

The person I'd most like to meet (dead or alive) is Neil Armstrong when he walked on the moon.

Everything makes me laugh. I love to bring out laughter in people. My teachers call me Giggles.

I love to read. The last book I read for pleasure was "Mercy" by Jodi Picoult.

My favorite recent movie is "Identity Thief." I love Melissa McCarthy.



# More than a Pretty Face

During the 2012-13 school year, district voters approved improvements to the Bolton Central School's facilities that were identified by the facilities committee of the Board of Education.

The improvements consisted of replacing the entire roof on the 1928 portion of the building including new copper flashing and restoration of the cupola. The cupola restoration work has been completed, except for waiting on the arrival and installation of the windows that are specifically manufactured for the cupola.

School Superintendent Raymond Ciccarelli said, "We are pleased with the quality of work and its appearance. However, as beautiful as it is, the majority of the work was structural and not really visible."

One of the most time consuming parts of the facility improvement project was the cleaning and repointing of the joints in the exterior limestone façade of the building. Without proper maintenance over the years, water infiltrates cracks in the limestone, which through summer heat and winter freezing compromises the integrity of the structure. The entire limestone exterior of the school building was



The limestone exterior of the school building was refurbished, a very time consuming project.



A newly refurbished cupola sparkles atop the school building.

refurbished.

Basement waterproofing and refurbishing of areas in the electrical service room were also addressed.

Aside from the roof exterior, the most visible renovation was the lower field that is used by the physical education and athletic departments for student programs. "Much like the 1928 building roof, the surface of the lower field, which is very visible, is now a beautiful sight to see," added Mr. Ciccarelli. "But, the sod is only the icing on top of the cake." The majority of the work on the lower field was below the surface. Significant work was done on the aging drainage systems, soil was enhanced and regraded, and new fencing was installed. As soon as the sod surface properly roots itself into the ground, use of the field will resume.

An expanded parking area between the lower field and the Bolton Fire House was also added.



I am **Bolton** Central School

Ian Daken is a first grader in Mrs. Kaveny's class.

What I like best about school is recess and seeing my friends.

My favorite subject is music because I get to play instruments and listen to songs. Yesterday, we played drums.

I want to be a lifeguard when I grown up. Last summer, when we went to the Jersey Shore I saw a lifeguard.

On Mondays I practice soccer and Saturday I play soccer games.

My favorite TV shows are "SpongeBob SquarePants" and "Full House." I like to play the video game, "Skylander."

Pasta is my favorite food. I have a Samoyed named Coda. My little sister Hannah is in PreK. The person I'd most like to meet is the president and the vice president.

I like to read. One of my favorite books is, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."

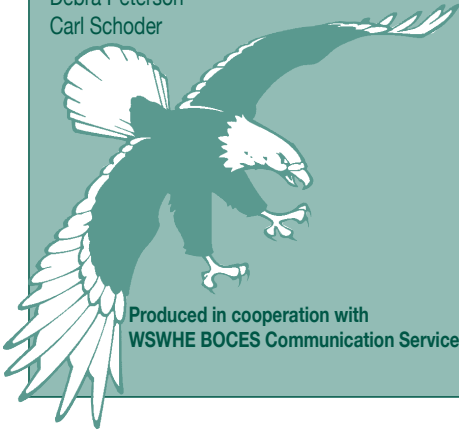
My favorite movie is "Narnia."



**Bolton Central School District**  
**Horicon Avenue**  
**Bolton Landing, NY 12814**

Raymond Ciccarelli, Jr., Superintendent

Board of Education  
Kathleen Pfau - President  
Pamela Quigan - Vice President  
Julie Beebe  
Chris Gabriels  
Thomas Herrick  
Debra Peterson  
Carl Schoder



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT # 5  
BOLTON LANDING, NY 12814

**CAR - RT - SORT**  
**POSTAL CUSTOMER**



# Kicking Off with Another Successful Carnival

**The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) held its third annual Kick Off Carnival on September 8.**

PTO president Mrs. Melanie Persons said, "We had an outstanding turnout and everyone had a fantastic day! We had our very first 'ride' that was sponsored by many generous local businesses."

Carnival activities included bounce rides, carnival games, face painting, pie throwing contests, and food that was donated by several local businesses.

"We could not pull this event off without the generosity and support of our community, school staff/administration, and our student volunteers," added Mrs. Persons. "All funds raised from the carnival go toward all of our other programs that we offer throughout the year, such as the Fall Festival, BEST Program, Post-Prom Party, Senior Scholarship, and Camperships."



Students compete in sack races at the Kick Off Carnival.



Face painting was a popular activity at the carnival.

"All funds raised from the carnival go toward all of our other programs that we offer throughout the year, such as the Fall Festival, BEST Program, Post-Prom Party, Senior Scholarship, and Camperships."

The PTO would like to thank all of their sponsors and volunteers: McDonald Real Estate; Ron's Hardware; Rebecca Herrick, CPA; Adirondack Roofing; Blue Water Manor; Ron Conover, Town Supervisor; Performance Marine; Sotheby's; The Sagamore; Kris Gage; Lakeside; Demattos Insurance; Perry Enterprises; and Ideal Cesspool Service.

Additional thanks go to the Bolton Volunteer Fire Department, the Town of Bolton Parks Department, and DJ Andy Pratt who donated his equipment, as well as his services.

Printed on recycled paper using soy-based ink.

