



# REBEL ALLIANCE

May/June 2019  
Budget 2019-2020

ALTMAR-PARISH-WILLIAMSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Academics at its best • Pursuit of excellence • Where students come first.*

## Special Budget Section Inside

pages 3-6

### Budget Overview

Budget Total: \$ 32,854,385

Propositions: Two

% Increase/Decrease: 1%

Board Seats: Two

Vote Date: May 21, 2019

Polls open 12 Noon to 9 pm

## Budget Dates to Remember

May 14<sup>th</sup>

Budget Hearing

6:00 pm APW JSHS

Auditorium

### Meet the Candidates

Candidates will have the opportunity to address the public

May 21<sup>st</sup>

Budget Vote and

BOE Election

Noon to 9:00 pm

APW District Office Boardroom

## Students Perform Well at Central New York Science Olympiad

Students from APW Junior/Senior High School performed very well at the Midstate Regional Tournament of the New York Science Olympiad, finishing in an outstanding 13th place overall. Dozens of teams from all across the Central New York region came together at North Syracuse Junior High School to compete in categories from Anatomy and Physiology to Write It Do It.

The Junior High School team, coached by Jessica Halsey saw several members score in the top 10 of five different competitions, with the school earning 13th place overall at the event.

Medal Winners included: Alex Wejko and Ryder Ault (Experimental Design); Ashley Lowry and Julliana Phillips (Solar System), Julliana Phillips and Peyton Flanagan (Water Quality), Julliana Phillips and Alex Wejko (Heredity), and Jayden Allen and Alexis Hemmerick (Mystery Architecture).



Junior High School students participating in the NYS Science Olympiad are pictured, in front, left to right: Christina Morse, Elyse Waite, Merrick O'Brien, Jayden Allen, Ryder Ault, Julliana Phillips, Jessica Halsey, adviser. In back, left to right: Tanya Rutter, Alexis Hemmerich, Ashley Lowry, Gabby Janack, Peyton Flanagan, Alex Wejko, Austin Priest, and Charley Skellington-Bice.

## APW National Honor Society Inducts New Members



The APW National Honor Society Chapter members are shown following their induction ceremony where eight new members were welcomed. Current members Joshua Ostrander, Anthony Frank, Lara Kinney, Cierra Stone and John Pluff III, Nova Kowalski, Cassidy McConnell and Julieann Parker welcome new member inductees included: Abigail Babcock, Ainsley Brouse, Kindl Leja, Anna Mullin, Bailey Nadeau, Makaila Reid, Jasmyn Trumble and Jocelyn Zender. They are pictured with advisers Becky Wagoner and Shaun Carter and Principal Joe Olsen.



## Superintendent's Message



Greetings APW family,

I am so pleased to see green on the ground once again and our students practicing outdoors as our long winter has finally come to an end. In conjunction with our business offices and Board of Education, we have

been hard at work preparing the 2019-2020 school budget. We remain committed to providing high quality rigorous academic programming and expanding opportunities for our children, while continuing our long tradition of fiscal responsibility to you, our taxpayers. In May, when you come out to vote please consider the following.

-This year APW joined in partnership with all school districts across Oswego County in an historic early literacy initiative offered in partnership with the Reading League. This program provides common research-based reading instruction to all students entering school through third grade.

-We continue to expand our partnerships with area colleges and universities to offer free college credit-bearing coursework to our high school students. In addition our students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of CTE programs at CiTi, New Visions programs at SUNY Oswego, Early College High School through OCC, PTech and various dual enrollments and distance learning programs offered at the high school.

-We continue to expand our community partnerships to bring additional resources to APW students including mobile dentistry, on-site mental health services as well as continued and expanded partnerships with area health and human services providers. We remain committed to supporting each of our students and addressing their individual needs.

-This year we welcomed two School Security Officers, Jeff Bzdick at the Jr/Sr High School and Rob Ocker at our Elementary School. These gentlemen have quickly become part of the APW family and remain committed to keeping our children safe and secure.

-Our faculty will have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of professional development opportunities over the summer months and throughout the school year to constantly improve upon the quality of instruction provided to APW students.

-We will once again offer expansive enrichment opportunities for both Elementary and Jr/ Sr High School students over the summer months.

-We are extremely pleased with our community eligibility provision that provides free breakfast and lunch for every APW elementary student in grades pre k-6. We hope to expand this program to our JSHS for the 2019-20 school year as we meet eligibility requirements at all grade levels.

With all of the additional offerings and services provided to your students, we continue to manage our spending and operational costs. We recognize that people and programs are vital to student success and the preservation of opportunities for our children. Thanks to the leadership and fiscal stewardship of both our Board of Education and Business Office, we are once again able to stay well below the state mandated 2% tax cap and move forward with a 1% school tax levy.

I am extremely proud to have become part of this community and we will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of your children. We remain committed to building and sustaining an environment of positive relationships and a culture of high expectations at APW.

Warm regards,

Eric Knuth  
*Superintendent of Schools*  
 APW Central School District  
 eknuth@apw.cnyric.org  
 315-625-5251

## APW National Junior Honor Society Inducts Six New Members

Six students were inducted into the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District National Junior Honor Society recently.

Following a welcome by Mr. Jim Heffron, Director of Instructional Technology, Evaluation and Discipline, the following students were inducted into the APW National Junior Honor Society: Jason Bobanick, Noah Clark, Hailey Comstock, Alexis Hemmerich, Emma Lee and Alexander Wejko. The students participated in a candle lighting ceremony representing demonstrated characteristics of scholarship, service, leadership, character and citizenship.

Each student recited an oath as they were inducted. A reception honoring the new and current members and their guests followed the ceremony.

Adviser for the NJHS chapter is Shaun Carter.



*Six students are inducted into the APW National Junior Honor Society. From left, Hailey Comstock, Alexis Hemmerich, Noah Clark, Jason Bobanick, Emma Lee and Alexander Wejko.*

# 2019-20 SCHOOL BUDGET

**Special Section**

## School Budget Vote and School Board Elections

**Tuesday, May 21 | Noon - 9 p.m. | APW District Office**

### Understanding Tax Levy and Tax Rate

### A Message From Your Board of Education

It is that time of the year again when your Board of Education (BOE) presents to the community the proposed budget for the 2019-2020 school year. The budget process is a job the BOE takes very seriously and with the help of Superintendent Knuth and his administrative team we are committed to achieving the district goals. We remain committed to maintaining fiscal responsibility in order to maximize programming and physical safety for all students while recognizing the importance of investing in our future.

Your Board of Education is committed to providing opportunities for growth and development for all students, guiding them from where they are to where they want to be. Your Board of Education will continue to invest in our students through people and programs such as, the Oswego County Early Literacy Initiative, free breakfast and lunch in both buildings next year, continued enrichment offerings, and student support services which are only a few of the programs that will help to prepare our students to be career and college ready. Each year it becomes more expensive to maintain and develop programs and operations. Some of these additional costs are reflected in a slight increase in the proposed 2019-2020 budget where we are asking for a 1% increase in property tax levy. We will also allocate money from the Debt Service Fund to reduce the proposed increase while we continue to provide high quality opportunities for APW students.

In addition to the budget proposition we will also be asking you to approve

the purchase of three passenger buses, (2) 60 passenger school buses and (1) 20 passenger school bus. The purchase of these buses will help keep our fleet up to date and our students and staff safe.

We welcome the community to come out on May 14th @ 6pm when the proposed budget will be presented to the community at the Public Hearing in the High School Auditorium. The presentation will also be available on the District's website. If you have questions you can always call the District Office at (315) 625-5251 and ask to speak with Superintendent Eric Knuth or the school Business Administrator Victor Holl.

As I mentioned previously your BOE is committed to investing in our students and their future. We are now asking you, our taxpayers, to invest in our students and come out and vote on the proposed budget and transportation propositions on May 21st from noon to 9 pm in the District Office.

It is with great pleasure and honor that I sit on a board with six other volunteers who have, and will always, act in the best interest of children. On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to thank you, the community, for your continued support and helping us to achieve.

***Academics at its best!***

***Pursuit of Excellence!***

***Where students come first!***

**Mark Mattison**

*APW Board of Education President*

### How is the tax levy different from the tax rate?

The **tax levy** is the total amount that a school district raises each year in taxes from all property owners.

The **tax rate** is the amount of tax paid for each \$1,000 of assessed value of property.

### How does the tax levy cap work?

Under New York state tax cap rules, school districts must use a complex formula to calculate their own unique tax levy limit, then applying exclusions set forth by law to determine the maximum allowable tax levy for a simple majority vote.

### Is the tax levy within the tax cap?

Yes. In fact, the proposed tax levy is below the district's maximum allowable tax levy limit. This will allow residents who are eligible for STAR rebates to receive them from the state.

### Budget Hearing (Presentation and Q&A)

Thursday, May 14, 6:00 pm  
APW Jr/Sr High School Auditorium

### Budget Vote and Board Election

Tuesday, May 21, Noon to 9:00 pm  
APW District Office Board Room



# School Budget Vote and School Board Elections

**Tuesday, May 21 • Noon - 9 p.m.**  
**APW District Office**

## Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2018-19 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2019-20 School Year*
Total budgeted amount (Not Including Separate Propositions)	\$ 32,809,723	\$32,854,385	\$ 32,312,227
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$44,662	-\$ 497,496
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		0.20%	-0.016%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.44%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 6,067,762	\$6,182,148	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ 65,000	\$65,000	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable**	\$ 0	\$ 0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ 0	\$ 0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 6,132,762	\$6,247,148	\$ 6,132,762
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 0	\$ 0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 6,316,249	\$6,503,732	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$ 6,067,762	\$6,182,148	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$248,487	\$ 321,584	
Administrative Component	\$ 4,217,340	\$ 4,219,221	\$4,174,111
Program Component	\$ 21,475,285	\$ 22,972,333	\$22,475,285
Capital Component	\$ 7,117,098	\$ 5,662,831	\$5,662,831

*The Contingent Budget that could be implemented in the event that the Proposed Budget is defeated will eliminate non-contingent items including: vehicles and equipment, capital construction and repairs, student supplies, staff increases, technology allocations and staff development.*

Shall the Board of Education purchase and finance three (3) student transportation vehicles at an estimated cost not to exceed \$275,000, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$275,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and levy a tax for the foregoing in the amount of \$275,000, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$275,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

Description	Amount
Proposition II School Bus Purchase	\$275,000

**May 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Budget Vote and BOE Election**  
**Noon to 9:00 pm APW District Office Boardroom**

Don't  
Forget to

**v**ote

## Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Three factors that determine the tax rate on your home include tax levy, equalization rates and property assessment. The tax levy is set by the school district in May; equalization rates are established by the New York State Office of Real Property Services in August and each respective town establishes assessments and equalization rates, but these are just estimates. Therefore, tax rates are not finalized until late August, at which time school tax bills are printed and mailed.

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings Based on a Hypothetical Home Within the School District with a Full Value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000). Not all of Altmar, Parish and Williamstown municipalities are at full valuation.

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2019-2020 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$438
<small><sup>1</sup>The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.</small>	

### Voting Information:

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2019-2020 by the qualified voters of the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District, Oswego County, New York, will be held at the APW Junior-Senior High School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 between the hours of noon and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the APW Junior-Senior High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

### Absentee Ballots:

Eligible voters may submit absentee ballots under certain conditions. For information, contact the District Office at (315) 625-5251. Ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on May 21, 2019.

## Voter Qualifications

- Eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of the APW Central School District for at least thirty (30) days prior to the vote.

Voters may be required to show proof of eligibility before casting their vote. The following forms of proof may be accepted (not limited to): birth certificate, driver's license, non-driver ID card, utility bill, voter registration card or passport. Any person not qualified to register or vote under the provisions of Sections 5-100 and 5-106 of the Election Law shall not have the right to register for or vote in an election.

## APW School Tax Levy

Understanding the tax levy limit as it applies to APWCSD. The NYS formula calculates the maximum allowable tax levy for the 2019-2020 school year.

### New York State Tax Levy Limit Formula

Tax Levy (for school year ending 6/30/19) .....	\$6,316,249
	x
Tax Base Growth Factor .....	1.0096
	+
PILOTS (receivable for school year ending 6/30/19) .....	\$368,908
	-
Tax Levy to Pay for Court Orders/Judgements.....	\$0
	-
Capital Tax Levy (for school year ending 6/30/19) .....	\$0
	x
Allowable Levy Growth Factor .....	1.02
	-
PILOTS (receivable for school year ending 6/30/20) .....	\$376,977
<b>Total Tax Levy Limit Before Exclusions .....</b>	<b>\$6,503,732</b>
Exclusions (2019-20 Capital Tax Levy & Pension Contribution Costs) .....	\$0

**APW's Maximum Allowable Levy for the 2019-2020 School Year** **\$6,503,732**

### APW 2019-2020 Proposed Levy

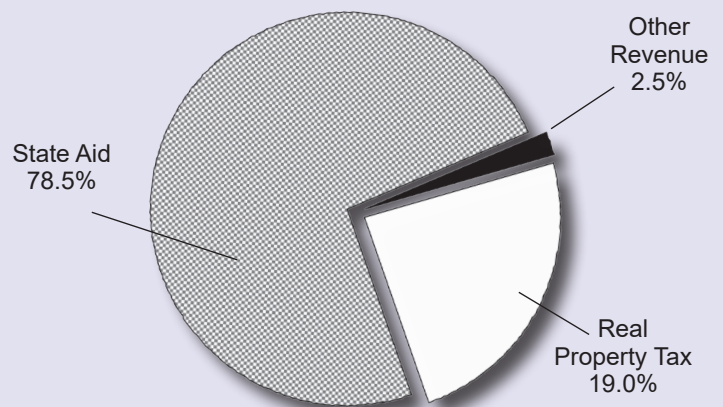
Proposed Budget:	\$ 32,854,385
Estimated State Aid:	\$ 25,812,767
Appropriated Fund Balance & Reserves:	\$ 729,865
Other Revenue:	\$129,605
<b>APW Proposed Levy for 2019-2020</b>	<b>\$6,182,148 or +1.0%</b>

**Maximum Allowable Levy: +2.90%**

**Proposed Levy 1.00%**

APW's proposed 2019-2020 levy is below the maximum allowable levy. Voter approval requires a simple majority vote (60% +1)

## 2019-2020 Revenue



# Propositions on the Ballot

**Voters will be asked to decide upon two propositions and to elect two (2) Board of Education members.**

**PROPOSITION I - Budget.** To vote upon the adoption of a budget for said school district for the school year commencing July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. Shall the proposed budget of \$32,854,385.00 (THIRTY TWO MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY FIVE DOLLARS) for the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District as recommended by the Board of Education for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, be adopted and shall the Board of Education be authorized to levy the necessary taxes therefor?

**PROPOSITION II - Transportation.** Shall the Board of

- Education purchase and finance three (3) student transportation vehicles at an estimated cost not to exceed \$275,000, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$275,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and levy a tax for the foregoing in the amount of \$275,000, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$275,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

<b>Budget Comparison</b>	<b>2018-2019 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>2019-2020 Proposed Budget</b>
Central Administration and Board of Education	\$316,022	\$332,750
Business Administration	\$705,771	\$820,886
Personnel	\$60,000	\$83,728
Instructional and Program	\$8,137,880	\$8,429,326
BOCES Administration and Insurance	\$496,742	\$480,673
Supervision and Curriculum Development	\$1,279,723	\$1,469,230
Students with Disabilities	\$5,497,335	\$6,573,448
Athletics	\$634,955	\$666,702
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	\$2,031,450	\$1,899,508
Transportation	\$1,899,570	\$2,175,445
Employee Benefits	\$7,611,319	\$6,989,914
Debt Service	\$4,138,956	\$2,932,775
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,809,723</b>	<b>\$32,854,385</b>

## School Board Members

To elect two members of the Board of Education for the terms of **three (3) years**, expiring on June 30, 2022.

**Two Three-Year Terms,**  
Name of last incumbent -

*Kristina Brouse*

*Nicole Nadeau*

**Candidates are: (Vote for two)**

**Kristina Brouse**

**David Starkey**

**Nicole Nadeau**



**Kristina  
Brouse**



**David  
Starkey**



**Nicole  
Nadeau**

**Meet the Candidates May 14, 6:00 pm**

**Budget Hearing  
(Presentation and Q&A)**

Thursday, May 14, 6:00 pm  
APW Jr/Sr High School  
Auditorium



# Assessment Data Tracks District Goals of High Academic Expectations

At APW, we believe in fostering positive relationships, setting high expectations for students, and making decisions based on evidence. Given those three district goals, we asked how we could improve student engagement, Regents outcomes, and academic preparedness, while also equipping our staff with valuable assessment data to inform instruction.

We are excited to report that students enrolled in Regents courses welcomed the opportunity to take the corresponding exam in January. The expectation is that students will also participate in the June exams and will keep the higher of the two scores. Challenging students to reach mastery and encouraging them to focus on growth rather than achievement, even if that requires multiple attempts, aligns with our goal of having high expectations.

In addition, the January administration yielded valuable data that was useful for evidence-based decision making. Content area teachers collaborated for a half-day to participate in professional development that focused on reviewing standards, identifying student misconceptions, and developing instructional plans to target learning needs.

## Oswego County Academic Youth League Competitions Come to a Close

The Oswego County Academic Youth (OCAY) League final two competitions have been held with teams from eight districts in Oswego County participating.

In the third competition, held on March 14th (3/14) featured all things “pi” related. Pi is the mathematical constant used in many formulas and areas of math and physics. The competition tested the students’ knowledge of math and all things related. Team members from APW included: Charles Stanard, Bailey Nadeau, Anna Mullin, Autumn Baum, Amelia Auringer, Lilly Sweeney, Katie Trumble, Mike Kinney, Trevor Johst and Wyatt Stanard. The team is coached by Danni Miller.

The third competition was won by the team from Central Square.

In the final competition, teams were tasked with developing a new inclusive sport using 1-3 balls. The APW team came up with Bing Bong Ball - Fun for All! Their sport is played on a rectangular court with a low net similar to tennis but uses a larger, soft ball that is hit over the net to another player, similar to volleyball. The team designed the uniforms, created rules of play and provided for inclusion with variables to the game.

Team members for the final competition are pictured below and included: Cassidy McConnell, Kylie Trumble, Tim Trumble, Cierra Stone, Ethan Pernisi, Kindl Leja, Tori Ware and Zoey Ware. The team is coached by Danni Miller.



The fourth competition was won by the team from Oswego and the season overall champion was the team from Central Square.

Overall, feedback was positive. We are appreciative of the community’s support in this endeavor, and we look forward to the continued opportunity to support our students and staff.



Follow our Facebook pages for information updates and events coming up as the year draws to a close:

- ➔ **APW Elementary PTSA**
- ➔ **APW Jr/Sr High School PTSA**

## Calendar of Events

- May 6-10 Grades 3-8 Math Assessment Make Ups
- May 8 ES Spring Concert and Art Show K-3, 6:30 pm
- May 9 ES Spring Concert and Art Show 4-6, 6:30 pm
- May 14 Public Hearing and BOE Meeting, 6:00 pm
- May 18 JSHS Prom
- May 21 Budget Vote and BOE Election, Noon-9:00 pm
- JSHS Music & Arts Festival, 6:00 pm
- Dollars for Scholars Meeting, JSHS, 6:30 pm
- May 21-22 NYSSMA Majors Festival
- May 22-23 Envirothon State Competition
- May 22-24 Grades 4 & 8 Science Performance Test
- May 23 JSHS Spring Concert, 6:30 pm
- May 27 Memorial Day - School Closed
- May 28-31 Grades 4 & 8 Science Performance Test
- May 29 Community Connections with the Superintendent, DO Boardroom, 9-11 am
- May 30 Varsity Sports Banquet, 6:00 pm
- June 1-7 APW ES PTSA Book Fair
- June 3 Regents Exam
- June 4 Senior Awards Night 6:00 pm
- June 6 APW ES PTSA Learning Fair
- June 8 APW Alumni Banquet, JSHS Cafeteria 5 pm
- June 13 BOE Meeting, 6:00 pm
- June 18 Community Connections with the Superintendent, DO Boardroom, 4:30 pm
- June 18-25 Regents Exams
- June 25 6th Grade Moving Up, 10:00 am
- June 26 Last Day of School for Students
- June 28 Graduation Ceremony, 6:30 pm

# REBEL ALLIANCE

Altmar-Parish-Williamstown  
Central School District  
District Office  
Post Office Box 97  
Parish, NY 13131

315-625-5251  
www.apwschools.org

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## Kindergarten Students Work to Build Robots

Students in Melissa Pond's kindergarten class at APW Elementary School were hard at work building robots recently. The students were so eager and excited to get started that they couldn't wait to begin the assembly process. Coming up soon, the students will learn to code the robots to perform tasks and procedures. The initiative is one of the first of its kind in the county using these unique robotic components. The STEAM education equipment is on loan from the CiTi instructional technology department under the guidance of Peri Nelson-Sukert.



## APW Central Schools Open Forum - School Budget Talks

*Please join us for information and discuss the APW School Budget with Superintendent of Schools, Eric Knuth*

Date	Time	Location	Address
Apr. 29	4-6 pm	Parish Fire Dept.	16 Union St., Parish
Apr. 30	4-6 pm	William Britton Community Center	2910A Co. Rt. 17 N., Williamstown
May 2	9-10 am	APW Bus Garage	639 Co. Rte. 22, Parish
May 8	4-6 pm	Altmar Hotel	6 Mill St., Altmar
May 9	4-6 pm	Altmar-Albion Municipal Bldg.	15 Bridge Street, Altmar
May 13	11 am-1 pm	New Hope Presbyterian Church	108 Rider Street, Parish

## Community Connections

**Mark your calendars for Community Connections with the Superintendent**

May 29th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and June 18th from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm in the District Office Conference Room. Stop in and talk with the Superintendent!