



# TORCHLIGHT

Newsletter of the Marathon Central School District  
East Main Street, PO Box 339, Marathon, NY 13803

**EMBRACE \* EDUCATE \* EMPOWER**

VOLUME XXXVI, ISSUE 4

[www.marathonschools.org](http://www.marathonschools.org)

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

## Golden Sleds

National Honor Society students worked with kindergarten and UPK students to complete the Annual Golden Sleds activity.



Both the JV and the Varsity Marathon Girls Basketball teams won the Miss Holiday Hustle tournament that we hosted. JV had a thrilling come from behind 2 point win to beat Tully 40-38. Varsity won the championship for the 2nd year in a row with a 53-34 win over Tully as well.

*JV Individual Awards*  
All tournament team - Alina Parker  
Holiday Hustle Award - Kennedy Eaton  
Tournament MVP - Faith Baker

*Varsity Individual Awards*  
All tournament team - Addison Oram  
Holiday Hustle Award - Catherine Newkirk  
Tournament MVP - Abby Ensign





# From the Superintendent

I can't believe we're over half way through the school year already. We celebrated our 100th day of school on Tuesday February 13th.

The Career Center is officially open. Thanks to the collaborative work being done between Mrs. Trabucco and the Guidance Department. We have begun offering a guest speaker series, relative field trips, and have rolled out the student internship program. Area Superintendents visited the Career Center earlier this month. They were all excited to hear more about what Marathon is doing and offering students. This is an amazing compliment to what we're building. There is a buzz amongst the community, staff, and students and we're very proud of that.

We're heading into the playoffs in Athletics. Mr. James has confirmed that we will be well-represented in the postseason, as all of our programs have advanced. In addition to our teams working towards successful team records, this season we've watched Abby Ensign achieve 1000 career points; the Cheer program is on the rise and placed at three Section IV Tournaments, and competed in the IAC Championships on February 10th; Indoor Track and Field has numerous state qualifiers; Wrestling placed 3rd at the IAC Championships; and in Girls Wrestling, Mel Sutton earned a spot on the podium at the NYSPHSAA Girls Tournament. What an amazing resume by not only our student athletes, but also the coaches that lead those programs.

Our music department continues to grow in band and chorus. They are currently rehearsing for the school musical, "Emma", that will be held March 7, 8, and 9 in the Jr.-Sr. High School Auditorium. I'm hopeful everyone will be able to attend and support our talented students on at least one of these days.

We are currently in the heart of budget season. Our Public Budget Forum was on Wednesday, February 7th. The state has come through for a second year in a row with aid to our district. Although we did not receive the overall state aid that was forecasted, we feel confident in presenting a responsible budget focused on enhancing opportunities for our students. There will be budget updates at all BOE meetings lead-

ing up to the Annual Hearing and state-wide budget vote in May.

We are also engaged in the work of developing our next three-year Strategic Plan. I provided an update to the Board at the last meeting. Thanks to all of you who participated in our strategic plan survey that closed in early February. There will be additional updates and opportunities for participation as we move through the process. Time will be spent working through the feedback received from the comprehensive school community including staff, parents, students, and local stakeholders.

Go Olympians! Andy Buchsbaum



*Veteran's Day in November*

### Upcoming Board Meetings and Budget presentations: (All are in the High School Library)

- Budget Draft 3 - March 6, 2024 – 7:00 PM
  - Adopt Final Budget – April 15, 2024 – 7:00 PM
  - Annual Budget Hearing/Meet the BOE Candidates – May 13, 2024 - 6:30 PM (HS Auditorium)
- Budget Vote: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 from 12-8 PM in room 107 (CSE Office)

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## SUBSTITUTES WANTED

In the following areas  
**TEACHERS - ALL AREAS (PK-12)**  
(minimum 2 years of college – submit resume)

**TEACHER AIDES  
NURSES**

**BUS DRIVERS  
CAFETERIA HELPERS  
CLEANERS (evenings)**

**MARATHON CENTRAL SCHOOL  
Cortland Co. Civil Service**

Application to:  
Marathon Central School District Office  
P.O. Box 339  
Marathon, NY 13803

## Spring Break

**April 22-26,  
2024**

**No student  
attendance  
grades UPK-12**

*(School Resumes April 29th)*

## New York State Assessments for the 2023-24 School Year

Students in grades 3-8 will be taking assessments in both English Language Arts and Math. Students in grades 5 & 8 will also be tested in Science.

Grades 3-8 ELA- April 9-12, 2024,  
Grades 3-8 Math - May 7-9, 2024,  
Grade 5 and 8 Science Test - May 14, 2024  
January Regents - January 23-26, 2024;  
June Regents - June 4, 2024 (Algebra I)  
June 14-25, 2024.  
No Regents on 6/19 (Juneteenth day)

The requirements for graduation for incoming ninth grade students include regents exams to graduate with either a Regents or Advanced Regents Degree. The State has also raised the passing grade on all regents to 65.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Elementary Office, 849-3281 or the HS Guidance Office, 849-3229.



### FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Marathon Central School District is now on Facebook. Go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/MarathonCSD/>

Or go to Facebook.com and in the search box type in 'marathon central school district'.

Our Facebook page is updated regularly and contains pictures, events, and announcements in a timely fashion. For additional information, please contact the District Office at 849-3117.

## Positions Open MCS Board of Education

Are you interested in becoming a Board Member? There will be two positions open this year. If you are interested, you can pick up a petition in the District office or the Business Office during regular school hours. School Board candidate nominating petitions are due in the district clerks office by 5PM **April 18th**. We are always looking for civic minded new members.

## Financial Aid

### Do you want help filling out the FAFSA?

The FAFSA will be undergoing updates this year and is tentatively set to open in December. Students and parents will need to bring parents' W2s and tax information and the student's license (if applicable) with them. If you are interested in help filling out please email

[camengaj@marathonschools.org](mailto:camengaj@marathonschools.org)

or call Ms. Camenga to set up an appointment at 849-3229.

## ATTENTION

### Marathon Central School Residents

### PRE-KINDERGARTEN and KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for September of 2024

### NOTICE to PARENTS of Pre-K & KINDERGARTEN AGE CHILDREN

If you intend to send your pre-kindergarten or kindergarten age child to Appleby Elementary School in the fall of 2024

**YOU MUST CALL 607-849-3281  
to preregister your child.**

ONLY CHILDREN BORN ON OR BEFORE  
DECEMBER 1, 2020 ARE ELIGIBLE for UPK.  
CHILDREN WHO TURN 6 BEFORE  
DECEMBER 1, 2024 MUST ATTEND SCHOOL.

Thank you,  
Jonathan Hillis, Appleby Elementary Principal

## SENIOR TRIP UPDATE

For planning purposes, we wanted to let you know that the senior trip will be May 7-10, 2024. As of right now, there are 35 seniors going on the trip. Students going on the trip are expected to be in attendance on Monday, May 6th. Seniors not going on the trip will be expected to be in attendance the entire week. We will meet in the gym, more details to follow.

## Maple Festival Queen Pageant Ticket Sales



Admission tickets for the 2024 Marathon Maple Festival Queen Pageant will be on sale Saturday, March 23rd, 9-10am at the Civic Building. Tickets are \$8.00 each.

The pageant, which will be Friday, April 12th at 7:30 p.m., and leads off the 52st Annual Marathon Maple Festival weekend. To inquire as to the availability of tickets, please call Kacie Penrose at the high school Main Office (607-849-3252), Sue Mauser at the high school Business Office (607-849-3230) or check the CNY Maple Festival website or the Maple Festival Facebook page.

# Transportation News

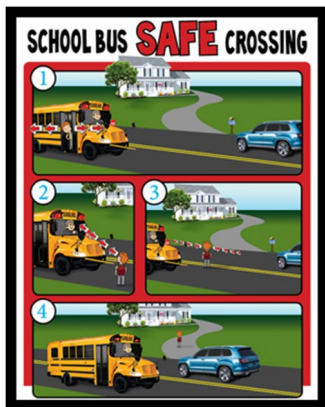
## Extra Eyes and Ears on the Safety Team

Bus drivers make sure traffic has come to a halt before letting students exit. Students also have learned to wait for the bus driver's signal to tell them when it is safe to cross the road. However, traffic has become so unpredictable that these steps are not enough to keep children safe from harm. We have had instances when motorists have had plenty of time to stop for the red lights on the bus, but they did not. Also, some drivers stop and then start to move again even though the lights continue to flash.

We are teaching students to put their own eyes and ears to work to be aware of careless drivers. In addition to waiting for a signal that it is safe to cross the road, students are now learning to make a second stop when they reach the driver's side of the bus. The additional stop allows them to look around the bus to see if any vehicles are ignoring the red flashing lights.

Despite laws and safety guidelines, some people still text or talk on their phones while driving. There are times they become so distracted that when they finally notice a bus in front of them, it is too late to stop. Sometimes these people actually swerve around the right-hand side of buses. To address this problem, we are teaching students to "Check Before You Step" off the bus. When they are on the last step, they pause and look before exiting the bus.

Our students are learning skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. They are essential partners in our safety team.



# Emergency School Closings:

**Emergency School Closings:** Parents will be notified by phone using the K12 Alerts. Only students' primary contact will be notified. Also Emergency closings due to weather will be broadcast over the following radio and television stations between 6:00–7:00 am.



### Radio Stations:

- 1290 AM - WNBCF (Binghamton)
- 1360 AM - WKOP (Binghamton)
- 98.1 FM - WHWK (Binghamton)
- 99.1 FM - WAAL (Binghamton)
- 101.5 FM - WXHC (Homer)
- Cayuga Radio Group (Ithaca)

### Television Stations:

- WBNG - Channel 12 (Binghamton)
- WIVT - Channel 34 and 9 (Binghamton)
- WTVH - Channel 5 (Syracuse)
- YNN - (Binghamton and Syracuse)
- Spectrum News (Vestal & Syracuse)
- WICZ - TV8

## Student/Parent Access to Grades

Marathon Central School District will be providing access to attendance, contact information, and discipline for students in UPK-12th grade. Parents of students in grades 7-12 can get access to student grades.

Grades and assignments are available online for parents/guardians. We just need an email address to send the instructions for signing up. If parents already have an email on file with us, it should have already been sent. Students grades 7-12 can even go to the app store and put in the URL <https://marathon.schooltool.cnyric.org/schooltoolweb/> (If you go to the Marathon CSD website it is under the District dropdown) Students who do so then will receive notifications each time a teacher inputs a grade.

We hope this will help you stay better informed on your students' progress.

# The 2024 Yearbooks Are On Sale '2024 - Locked-In Memories'

**Yearbooks are on Sale!** Order before January 26th, 2024 the cost is \$59.40 (tax included in price), after January 26th, the price will move up to \$64.80 (tax included in price), so get your order in today!

Please return this form with cash or check (Make checks payable to "Marathon Yearbook") to Miss Froio. Don't miss out!

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$59.40 each before January 26th -@ \$64.80 after January 26th

Total Price: \_\_\_\_\_



Contact Miss Froio with any questions at: [froioa@marathonschools.org](mailto:froioa@marathonschools.org)

Please return filled out form to Miss Froio in room 108 or the Main Office at the High School with payment.



# 2024 CNY Maple Festival

## Planning is in full swing!

### Saturday & Sunday, April 13th and 14th

Come and join our Festival Experience  
Over 50 years of sticky sweet goodness!



Attractions as of right now for the 52nd Maple Festival:

- Pancake eating contest.
- Music is available in the school auditorium and other entertainment available.
- Pancake Breakfast location will take place at the High School Cafeteria.
- There will be transportation available as always to and from the Legion.
- Crafters will be in the gym of the school, also at the Civic Center.
- There will be music on the green in the Gazebo; WEATHER PERMITTING.



For updates on locations and events check out the website : [www.MapleFestival.org](http://www.MapleFestival.org)  
Or go to the Facebook page : <https://www.facebook.com/CNY-Maple-Festival-414977561928284/>



## Marathon Drama Club Presents:

Based on **Emma** by  
**Jane Austen**



With Songs by **Shania Twain, Whitney Houston,**

**Katy Perry, and more**

March 7th and 8th @ 6PM

March 9th @ 2PM

Marathon High School Auditorium

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 students.

## LOOKING FOR BUS DRIVERS

The Marathon Central School District is actively recruiting Full-Time and Substitute Bus Drivers.

Our current team of drivers is caring and dedicated, but our school district like most others, is experiencing the effects of the nationwide driver shortage.

Please consider joining our solid team of professionals. Working with our students, staff, and the Marathon community is an amazing experience

In addition to compensation our Full-Time Drivers are eligible for generous Benefits

Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.applitrack.com/marathonschools/onlineapp/default.aspx> to apply today for these and other openings in the district!



Any questions or for assistance applying please contact the District Office at 607-849-3117.

## The Class of 2024 Silent Auction and YETI Raffle

SAVE THE DATES!

Tickets for the raffle will be on sale March 4<sup>th</sup>-March 15<sup>th</sup>. See a member of the senior class or a class advisor for more information. Ticket sales are ONLINE only! Tickets are \$10 each. The drawing for the raffle will take place on the afternoon of March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

The silent auction will also be ONLINE only. Bidding opens on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 9AM and will close on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. The highest bidder will be announced LIVE during the raffle drawing on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Stay tuned for more information!

**NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 6PM ON MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>!**

\*\*Please note: this event is taking place of the traditional senior auction typically held each Spring\*\*

It is the middle of February and I'm looking outside the window of my office at the high school seeing green grass and just recently in the past few days was feeling the 60 ° air! . Last year I started my article home to you with happy mid-winter. I feel as though I need to say Happy Spring! LOL I'm sure we still will get a little bit of that white stuff before winter is over.

We have just passed the halfway mark of this current school year and now we are on the countdown towards high school graduation and at the end of the school year. The 3rd marking period is under way and students have some new classes and others still have the exact same schedule for the remainder of the year. February break this year seems early.

There is no school from February 19th through February 23rd. We return on February 26th. When we return from February break we will be handing out an orange vinyl folder to every student in grade 7-12. This folder is labeled **Remote Instruction** at the top and has your child's name at the bottom. Inside that folder will be plans in the event that we need to have a remote school day. This is now a requirement from the New York State Education Department to be prepared. We have many plans in place in the event of emergencies and this is another one to add to the list. Inside the folder there are directions of what to do in the event we have a remote instruction day. If you have any questions when the folder comes home on February 29th please feel free to contact the school and we will answer your questions.

In March we have the annual field trip to New York City for some students, and our High School Musical is on March 7th, 8th, and 9th. Look for the posting on Parent Square to purchase your tickets in advance.

Jamie Coppola, JR/SH Principal

## P. S. I love you day.

Friday, February 9, Mental health awareness day. Everyone was encouraged to wear purple.

There is a PS I love you day foundation. That was founded by two girls in New York. If you Google it, you can see what it is about. It was the Kindness Klub that did the advocating for this day. Lisa Nitsch is the advisor Kindness Klub



Marathon has a lot of BOCES students that are also involved in SkillsUSA. Many students placed in the top 3 in their competitions for the SkillsUSA Regional Competition held at SUNY Morrisville on February 9th. They qualify to go to the States Competition in April which will be held at the NYS Fairgrounds. If they place, they will be qualified to compete at Nationals. Congratulations goes to:

- Hailey Contri- 1st place- Cosmetology Jr
- Morgan Wright- 1st place- Auto Vehicle Mtn Basic
- John Root- 1st place- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Aubrie Brown- 1st place- Early Childhood Education
- Justin Baez- 2nd place- Computer
- Brooke Morsey- 3rd place- Health Knowledge Bowl

## Pure Olympian Performance



The first and second quarters of the 2023-2024 school year have ended at the Junior-Senior High School. We are pleased to announce that we are going to continue honoring our students in grades 9-12 with quarterly POP Star awards. Students have been working hard and it shows. The 1st Quarter POP Stars are:

- Brenna VanDee (gr. 12), Service to Community: Abigail Ensign (gr. 12), Athletic Achievement or Commitment to Team/Individual Excellence; Abigail Edsall - Grade 11 - Student Leadership; Camdyn Kashuba - Grade 10 - Academic Achievement or Demonstration of Personal Desire to Excel; Andrew Edsall - Grade 9 - Athletic Achievement or Commitment to Team/Individual Excellence

Students in grades 9-12 are nominated by teachers and staff at the end of each marking period. Students can be nominated for character, academic achievements, athletic achievements, student leadership, community service, artistic/musical achievements or a personal achievement.

The 2nd Quarter POP Stars are:  
Robert Anderson - grade 11 - Academic Achievement or Demonstration of Personal Desire to Excel; Wyatt Hall - grade 9 - Academic Achievement or Demonstration of Personal Desire to Excel; Mya Wyant - grade 10 - Athletic Achievement or Commitment to Team/Individual Excellence; Maddyson Alnutt - grade 10 - Athletic Achievement or Commitment to Team/Individual Excellence; Evan Brown - grade 11 - Academic Achievement or Demonstration of Personal Desire to Excel; Mya Romans - grade 12 - Artistic, Musical & Dramatic Accomplishments or Dedication to Program.



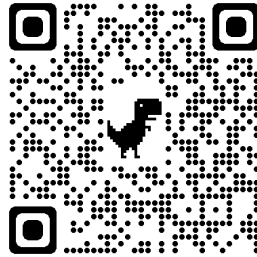
STEM activities at indoor recess



# Marathon FFA Alumni & Supporters 2024 Hanging Basket Fundraiser

Payment due on pickup. Cash or Check payable to "Marathon FFA Alumni & Supporters"  
Pickup: Wednesday, May 8th, 2pm-6pm, South end Civic Center

Scan Code to Order Online



Red/White/Blue w/ Lobelia



Geranium



Petunia



Fuchsia



Geranium



Geranium



**\*\*colors will vary, we cannot guarantee any colors\*\***  
\*pictures for example only\*

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <br>This plant grows best with full sun | <br>This plant requires partial shade | <br>This plant prefers shade |
|--|--|---|

Marathon FFA Alumni & Supporters 2024 Hanging Basket Fundraiser

**Sale Dates: March 25 - April 28**

Plants from Schaefer's Gardens - Wholesale Growers

**Cost: \$25/basket**

For any questions and order form, please email:

[MarathonNYFFA@gmail.com](mailto:MarathonNYFFA@gmail.com)

# Appleby News and Notes

Wonderful things are taking place in our classrooms here at Appleby Elementary and I am proud of all of our students! We have reached the midway point of the school year and I can't say enough about the students, faculty and staff here at Appleby and the tremendous job they have all done this school year. If you have questions regarding your child's education, please let me know so that I have an opportunity to discuss this with you.

Two of the most important links to student success is for students to be well-rested and prepared for each day of learning. Video games and screen time can make that a challenge, especially with the additional use of laptop use this year in schools and for academics. Many students play video games daily, and while some research shows that a few hours of video gaming a week can have benefits, the impacts can be negative when it's too much (nine or more hours a week), or when screen time and gaming impact sleep. I am not asking anyone to remove all video game consoles and/or tablets, but I am suggesting that you find a balance between screen time and other activities.

Gaming provides many pros: following directions, problem-solving, pattern recognition, multitasking and quick thinking, but at a cost: lack of sleep, inability to socialize, mood swings, not getting proper nutrition or skipping meals, not being attentive in school, not completing homework, being tired and/or falling asleep in class.

To help minimize the negative impacts mentioned above, here are a few healthy tips:

- two hours before bedtime should be kept screen-free. This keeps the excitement of gaming or the blue light emitted from devices from disrupting sleep.
- If video gaming is going to happen, try to limit it. Keep it in the earlier hours of the afternoon and evening. Some quality time with the people at home and the world around them is the best way for students to spend those hours right before bedtime.
- A book, some quiet music and time away from screen are good ways to ease into better sleep at night and be ready for the next day.

I am looking forward to a fantastic second semester! Please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or the main office for any questions or concerns you have.

Jonathan M. Hillis, Appleby Principal

## MARATHON MARCHING BAND & COLOR GUARD

The Marathon Marching Band & Color Guard have been practicing to get ready for their 2024 performances. This year you can come out and see us at:

- ◆ Marathon Maple Festival on Saturday April 13th
- ◆ Memorial Day Monday May 27th
- ◆ Sherburne Pageant of Bands Saturday June 1st
- ◆ Cortland Dairy Parade Tuesday June 4th
- ◆ Dryden Dairy Parade Saturday June 8th
- ◆ Marathon Music Department Awards Night June 11th

## Physical Exams

Effective, 7/1/2018, The State of New York changed the mandated years for health exams. Health exams are now required in grades UPK, K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th. In addition, only the approved NYS Health Examination Form may be used to document health exams to provide consistency across the state. The form can be found on the Marathon web site or you can call and request a form to be sent home with your child.

The School Health Program at Appleby and the High School would like to offer health exams to all students each year. If you would like to schedule a physical for your child please call Carol at Appleby 849-3180 or Teresa at the HS 849-3900. If your child has had a physical this year or is planning to have one elsewhere, please be sure to have your physician use the approved form and send the office a copy for your child's school health record. The School Health Program can again see enrolled kids from home. This means if your child stays home you can call either office and come into school for just the appointment. . If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the School Health Program at the numbers above.

## Dental Services

Thank you for your participation in the School Based Health Center Program. A dental need has been identified in our community. The Family Health Network School Health Program will be having Alicia Burke, RDH in the spring of 2024. She will be providing basic dental services, such as cleanings, at Appleby Elementary. Her time will focus on grades 2 & 3, but she is not limited to them. If you have any questions or would like to get your child registered, please call the School Based Health Center at Appleby at 849-3180.

## Lots of Room to Grow!

Would you like to honor a graduate of The Class of 2024? Or remember a past graduate or favorite staff member?

We have lots of spaces for new bricks in the path under the new high school awning.

**\$50 per brick or  
2 bricks for \$90**

Contact **PO Box 1, Marathon, NY  
13803** for an order form or  
Email to [bush335@frontiernet.net](mailto:bush335@frontiernet.net)



(All profit\$ \$upport Graduation award\$)



# Reading Initiative at Appleby



Dear Parents and Students,

Enchanted Forest Water Safari and Appleby Elementary School would like to send your (Pre)K-6 grade student on a Reading Safari! In an effort to promote extracurricular reading and literacy, students who read a minimum of 6 hours outside of school will earn one (1) free ticket to Enchanted Forest Water Safari, New York's Largest Water theme park in Old Forge, NY for the 2024 summer season! All parents and students need to do is track time spent reading at home by filling out the (weekly) reading log (attached) and turning it in to their classroom teacher (each week) to gain credit towards the 6-hour minimum. The eligible reading materials must be non-school-related, and can include picture books, newspapers, magazines, comic books, novels, and nonfiction. Our Reading Safari program will be held from **February 6th - May 1st**.

In turn, Enchanted Forest Water Safari will reward qualified students for their hard work with one child admission ticket to the park, good any day during the 2024 season! Please note that the Reading Safari student tickets are only valid for students/children in grades (Pre)K-6. (Tickets may not be used for adults. Water Safari is strict about this at the entrance gate.) Enchanted Forest Water Safari is open for the 2024 season June 12 – September 2, 2024. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. McDougal. We hope your student has a fun filled Reading Safari!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. McDougal, Librarian  
mcdougalt@marathonschools.org  
(607) 849-3282

## Private Transportation Requests Due by April 1st

NYS Education Law Section 3635(2) requires that a written request be made to the Board of Education of a School District when transportation of a student to a non-public, private or parochial school is required. The written request must be made annually and received by the school district no later than April 1st for transportation for the next school year. Most non-public schools have a form or you may pick one up at the Marathon School District Office. Please have these requests sent to Marathon Central School District, District Office, Attn: Heather Euson P.O Box 339, Marathon, NY 13803 no later than April 1, 2024.

THE TIME TO  
**GIVE BLOOD**  
IS NOW   
American Red Cross

Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
8:45 am– 1:45 pm  
Sponsored by National Honor Society  
**Marathon High School Auditorium**  
**Location: Follow signs**  
**1 East Main Street**  
**Marathon, NY 13803**  
Please sign up with the Red Cross online at  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

## **Principal Leadership** 2nd Quarter 2023-2024

### UPK

Mrs. Davis  
Mrs. Brevetti:

### KINDERGARTEN:

Mr. Hoyt: Isabella Brame  
Mrs. Densmore: Elionna Whritenour  
Miss Jennison: Brynlee Cornell

### FIRST GRADE:

Mrs. Colvin: Cullen Brown  
Mrs. Grisel: Adalynn Nicoson  
Miss Mclyman: Greyson Pilkington  
Miss Gillette: KayLee Abbott

### SECOND GRADE:

Miss DePuy: Ethan Vinson  
Mr. Mikels: Carson Storey  
Miss Horton: Kennedy Quail

### THIRD GRADE:

Miss Norris: Katalina Galindo  
Mrs. Newkirk: Owen Mauser

### FOURTH GRADE:

Ms. McEvoy: Sophia Hayes  
Mrs. Lung: Grayson Standish  
Mrs. Mauser: Mark Niggli

### FIFTH GRADE:

Mrs. Brandstadt: Mya Hartman  
Dr. Widdall: Tanner Coleman  
Mrs. Chase: Anders Hodel

### SIXTH GRADE:

Mrs. Hayes: Emma Cornell  
Mrs. Ludden: Oliver Parker  
Mr. Riggs: Naomi Oare

## **Read Across America Week!**

March 4 - 8

Monday - Sleep Book  
Wear your pajamas or comfy clothes

Tuesday - Green Eggs & Ham  
Wear the color GREEN

Wednesday - Wacky Wednesday  
Wear your wackiest outfit

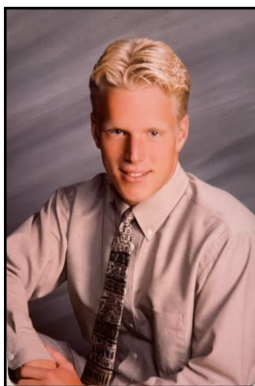
Thursday - Cat in the Hat  
Wear your favorite hat

Friday - Oh The Places You'll Go  
Wear your favorite school, college, or team shirt

# The Torchlight Spotlight

*(If you know of a graduate to Spotlight please contact the Editor, Thayer Miller at millert@marathonschools.org)*

Chad Parker graduated from MCS in 1998, joining a second generation of Parkers to proudly call Marathon their alma mater. It would probably be fair to say that his experience included as much amusement as it did academics, with his involvement in a number of sports and his jokester nature. In college, he studied Accounting and Early Childhood Education, while in pursuit of baseball play, ultimately landing on the field with SUNY Cortland. He ended up calling his college career short of a degree, and branched out into entrepreneurship: purchasing, renovating, and maintaining a few properties in Cortland as student housing. While in the midst of this venture, his father suddenly passed away. Overnight, Chad picked up the operation of his father's business, Blue Moose Sanitation, initially with the expectation this would be short-term, until the business could be sold. He ended up moving to Virginia part-time and managed the business from afar. While there, he met his wife Rachel and they had their first child. He ultimately decided to retain Blue Moose and move back to New York. Over the years he has continued to grow the business, and the family, now with a passel of precious kids who also call MCS home. These days, when not busy running the business, he is often remodeling or expanding the family residence, and spectating or coaching at one of his kiddos' sporting events.



Submitted by Julie Parker



## Telephone Directory of District Offices

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Appleby Health Office .....                | 849-3180                    |
| Appleby Main Office .....                  | 849-3282                    |
| Bus Garage .....                           | 849-3295                    |
| Transportation Office .....                | 849-3325                    |
| Business Office .....                      | 849-3226                    |
| Cafeteria - Francis Zaryski .....          | 849-3149                    |
| District Office & Fax Number .....         | 849-3117/<br>..... 849-3305 |
| Family Health Network (Appleby/HS) .....   | 849-3900                    |
| Guidance Office .....                      | 849-3229                    |
| HS Health Office .....                     | 849-3210                    |
| HS Main Office .....                       | 849-3252                    |
| Director of Curriculum, & Enrichment ..... | 849-1228                    |
| Special Education/CSE .....                | 849-3169                    |

## Fitness Center Schedule

**Fitness Center Hours:**

**Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 6:15-7:15 AM**

At this time, the fitness center is open to the community morning hours only! We have a supervisor on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. It is open from 6:15-7:15AM. It is free for community use.

**Golden Sneaker Awards**



**NO LATE BUS  
ON MARCH 19TH**

**Due to Mandatory Training for the  
Transportation Department**

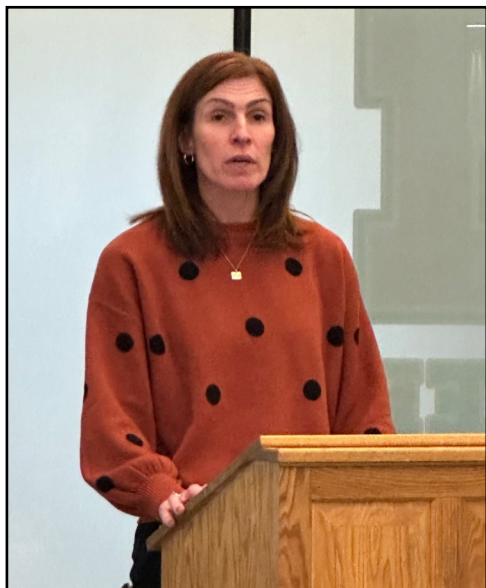


# CAREER DAY

## CAREER CENTER OPENING

On Thursday, January 18, 2024 Marathon CSD had a grand opening of the new Career Center with a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting. The welcome was given by the Superintendent of schools, Andy Buchsbaum. The Career Center Vision was addressed by Patti Trabucco our new Director of Instruction, Career Pathways, and Enrichment. Our Guest Speaker was Bob Haight, President & CEO, Cortland Area Chamber of Commerce, followed by a ribbon cutting.

The Career Center will prepare students to be future ready providing engaging experiences and opportunities that build individual skills. The Career Center will work in partnership with the Guidance Office to obtain information on job and career options, collage pathways, and other resources available to students in grades 9-12. The Career Center will offer internships with in the district in a variety of areas allowing students to make connections with professional while learning work-based skills. Students will be given opportunities to hear guest speakers, visit college campuses, explore community resources and attend fairs to hone their interests and develop a plan moving forward. The opening of the Career Center is an exciting opportunity for the students of Marathon who can pursue unlimited possibilities, locally and globally.







# MARATHON FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER



## March/ April 2024 Events

**CAPCO** will be at the Marathon Food Pantry providing resources and services on the 4th Tuesday of every month.

### CARE & SHARE PROGRAM

CAPCO is able to assist eligible individuals with National Grid apply for the Care & Share Program. Care & Share is a program that may be able to help with heating and electric assistance.

### High School Equivalency Diploma

CAPCO offers two FREE pathways to get your High School Diploma: GED or NEDP. Contact Theresa (607-753-6791

or [theresar@capco.org](mailto:theresar@capco.org) to learn more.

### CNA PROGRAM

CAPCO is happy to be partnering with TC3 again this year and provide assistance for Cortland County residents who qualify for the CNA Program.

Contact Theresa for further information.

### DIAPER DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Eligible families can sign up to receive diapers every month! Please contact Sara to learn more about this program.

### Prom Dress Giveaway

We will have our Prom Dresses available at the Marathon Food Pantry again at the end of March.



### PECK MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS:

Contact Mary Franks for information at 849-6135

We are open and look forward to seeing you:

Monday 1-5 pm

Tuesday 9 am - noon; 1-7 pm

Wednesday & Thursday 1-7 pm

Friday 2-5 pm

Saturday 9 am - noon

Curbside service is available during all of our open hours.

**Story Time:** Every Tuesday at 10:30 am.

### MARATHON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Contact Connie White at 849-3960. Meetings are the last Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Old Town Hall on Brink Street.

### FOOD SENSE:

Each month the packages can be found on the Marathon Food Pantry Facebook page. A monthly unit costs \$20.50. Monthly specials are extra. Orders can be placed by calling Mary Bliss at 607-849-3246 or in person at the Presbyterian Church on the dates listed on Facebook or by mailing your order and payment to the Marathon Food Pantry at PO Box 824 Marathon 13803. We do accept EBT as payment now. **EVERYONE CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS FOOD BUYING CO-OP** Stretch your food budget!!

### MARATHON FOOD PANTRY:

Marathon food pantry is open every Tuesday from 4:00-6:00. Located at the North end of the Civic Building. You must be a resident of the Marathon School district to receive services. Recommended usage is 2 times per month, however **NO ONE** is ever turned away. Income guidelines do apply .

## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

## Graham Cracker Decorating Contest Winners

1st period

1 Hailey Contri and Abby Trabucco

2 Melodie Sutton

3 Destiny Abbott

2nd period

1 Jordan Welch and Bonnie Jade Kinsman

2 Cassie Forrest

3 Senior table: Ella McConnell, Elliot Morse, Erika Olsen,

Mya Romans and Ryn Hafer

3rd period

1 Kendy Chum Guzman




2 Gabbi Smith

3 Tie: Audrey Ensign and Riley Ward






# MARCH 2024

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|
|  |   |   |  |  | 1  | 2<br>NYSPHSAA<br>Championship<br>Indoor Track<br>Boys/Girls<br>IV Basketball-<br>Finals   |
| 3  | 4<br>Athletic Booster<br>Club 6 PM HS cafe                  | 5   | 6<br>FBLA NYC<br>Trip<br><br>BOE Mtg 7PM<br>HS Library | 7<br>High School<br>Musical<br>Performance<br>6PM    | 8<br>Appleby Progress<br>Reports go Home<br><br>High School Musical<br>Performance 6PM     | 9<br>SAT<br><br>High School<br>Musical<br>Performance<br>6PM                              |
| 10   | 11<br>JV/V Spring Sports<br>Begin                           | 12<br>Honor Society Blood<br>Drive  | 13   | 14   | 15<br>Grds 7-12 Spring<br>Fling Dance<br>NYSPHSAA<br>Championship<br>Boys/Girls Basketball | 16<br>NYSPHSAA<br>Championship<br>Boys/Girls<br>Basketball<br>FFA Sub States              |
| 17<br>NYSPHSAA<br>Championship<br>Boys/Girls<br>Basketball                               | 18<br>Ag Literacy Week<br><br>JH Spring Sports<br>Begin T&F | 19<br> | 20   | 21<br>Class of 2025<br>Dinner<br>Texas Road<br>House | 22<br>Senior Switch Day  | 23<br>Senior Auction  |
| 24<br> | 25<br>JH Spring Sports<br>Begin Basketball &<br>Softball    | 26<br>Spring Sport Pictures   | 27<br>Spring Sport<br>Pictures                         | 28   | 29<br>NO SCHOOL<br>Good Friday   | 30<br> |

# APRIL 2024

| Sunday                  | Monday  | Tuesday                    | Wednesday                           | Thursday  | Friday  | Satur-<br>day                      |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|
|                         | 1<br>Athletic Booster<br>Club 6 PM HS<br>Café | 2                          | 3<br>FFA Hanging<br>Basket Sale     | 4   | 5   | 6                                  |
| 7                       | 8   | 9                          | 10<br>3-8 ELA Testing               | 11<br>Marathon Track<br>&<br>Field Spring Fling | 12<br>Maple Festival<br>Pageant 7:30PM  | 13<br>ACT<br><br>Maple<br>Festival |
| 14<br>Maple<br>Festival | 15<br>BOE Meeting 7PM<br>HS Library           | 16                         | 17<br>Torchlight<br>Submission Date | 18  | 19<br>Appleby Awards<br>Program<br><br>JH/HS/Appleby<br>Report Cards                  | 20                                 |
| 21                      | 22  | 23                         | 24                                  | 25  | 26  | 27                                 |
|                         | SPRING BREAK                                  |                            |                                     |   |   |                                    |
| 28                      | 29  | 30<br>Torchlight Mail Date |                                     |   |  |                                    |

# Olympian Sports

It's Section IV Tournament Time for Winter Sports.  
**Come Cheer on the Olympians!**



## Class of 2024 Butterfly Release Ceremony



*Immediately Following Graduation  
Marathon Village Green, June 23, 2024*

### *The Butterfly Release Program*

The release program is being provided to allow parents, family, and friends the opportunity to recognize the hard work of any individual graduating senior. You will have the opportunity to recognize, through words, your support for a graduate by having your personalized message printed in a Commemorative Butterfly Release Ceremony Program.

Please support this program and take the opportunity to recognize your loved ones by releasing a monarch butterfly following graduation ceremony. By releasing a butterfly, you are also symbolizing the letting go of your loved one so they may fly free and experience the opportunities that await them in the world.

It is a privilege of The "Pure Olympian Performance Program" to offer the Butterfly Release Program as an opportunity to you and also as a way to continue a program that encourages healthy lifestyles for all. It is through these healthy lifestyles that we can help reduce tragic accidents to our fellow students.

### **For an Information Sheet-Please Contact**

Mr. Todd James at [jamest@marathonschools.org](mailto:jamest@marathonschools.org)

**"May the wings of the butterfly soar the world free, recognize your current successes, and provide you the opportunity to spread your wings to a life that brings you health, happiness and success, today, tomorrow and beyond" Anonymous**



Follow Us  
**@GoMCSOlympians**

## ***10 WAYS TO SUPPORT THE WHOLE OLYMPIAN PROGRAM***

### **The "Pure Olympian Performance" Way**

1. Go to another teams game with your own teammates.
2. Make posters to support other teams during big games or for games that you may not be able to attend.
3. Put a good luck statement on the announcements to another team.
4. Have your team dress in the same color or a similar outfit when you go to cheer on another team.
5. Have people's faces on a popsicle stick and dedicate a specific game to cheer them on.
6. After the game congratulate the team for their win on the announcements. Highlight specific people who make outstanding contributions.
7. Provide a healthy "Pure Performance Snacks" to a team during a big competition.
8. Make up cheers specific to the program you are cheering for that day.
9. Send good luck cards to all the members of a team.
10. Be supportive of each other's successes and defeats.

## ***53rd ANNUAL INTERSCHOLASTIC JV & Varsity Athletic Awards Night***

**Wednesday, June 12th at 6:00 PM-High School Auditorium**

The Athletic Awards Night is an opportunity for all **JV & Varsity Athletes** to receive recognition for their accomplishments during the Fall, Winter and/or Spring Season. Since all Junior Varsity and Varsity Athletes will be recognized with their Junior Varsity and/or Varsity Letter we encourage all Athletes and their Parents to attend this special evening of recognition.



## ***Congratulations Varsity Winter Athletes***

### **BOYS & GIRLS INDOOR T & F**

#### **Section IV Class Second Team All Stars**

Andrew Edsall 2nd Team –3200 Meters  
Abigail Trabucco, 3200 Meter Relay, 600 Meters,  
and Pole Vault

Sophia Hansen 3200 Meter Relay  
Shaelin Phillips, 3200 Meter Relay  
Hannah Prestigiacomio 3200 Meter Relay

### **BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL**

#### **IAC North Small 1st Team All Star**

Abigail Ensign

#### **IAC North Small 2nd Team All Star**

Bryce Hartman, Zachary Birdsall, Anna Hoyt

#### **IAC North Small Honorable Mention**

Addison Oram

### **WRESTLING**

#### **IAC 1st Team All Star**

Brendan Gumaer, Julian Spizzirri  
Dawson Cole

#### **IAC 2nd Team All Star**

Braydon Homer, Dominick Homer  
Andrew Infante-Franks, Brittany Keller John  
Root, Zander Sutton  
Trenton Vinson

#### **Section IV Class First Team All Stars**

Dawson Cole, Brendan Gumaer  
Braydon Homer, Julian Spizzirri

#### **Section IV Class Second Team All Stars**

Paxton Galeotti, Andrew Infante-Franks  
Brittany Keller

### ***Indoor Track & Field Record Breaking News Flash***

Congratulation to Abigail Trabucco and Andy Edsall for both broking school records in the Pole Vault. Andy jumped 9-7 and Abigail Jumped 8-7.



## ***Congratulations***

**Melodie Sutton  
6th Place  
Girls NYSPHSAA  
Wrestling Invitational**

## ***Congratulations-JV Girls Basketball IAC Small School Champions***



## ***Congratulations Cheerleading***

## ***IAC Champions 2nd Place Team***

## ***Sectional Qualifiers***



**2023-24 NYSPHSAA Winter Scholar Athlete Teams**  
*Boys & Girls Basketball, Cheerleading  
Boys & Girls Indoor Track & Field, Boys & Girls Wrestling*



MARATHON CSD  
PO Box 339  
Marathon, NY 13803

Carrier Route Presort  
NONPROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
BULK RATE  
Permit No. 15  
Marathon, NY  
TO BOXHOLDER



# MARATHON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENT

DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE RUSH



# EMBRACE\*EDUCATE\*EMPOWER

## Appleby Holiday Doors



*Second Grade Hallway*



*4th Grade Hallway*



*Mr. Hoyt for UPK and K*



*Mr. Riggs 5-6*



*Mr. Riggs Special Areas*