



THE TORCHLIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARATHON
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



VOLUME XXXVI, ISSUE 6 | JUNE 2026

CLASS OF 2026 SENIOR TRIP



Featured on page 3

EMBRACE • EDUCATE • EMPOWER

SUPERINTENDENT LETTER

Dear Families:

As we approach the close of another wonderful school year, I want to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of our schools and our students. It has truly been a year filled with growth, achievement, resilience, and celebration.

First and foremost, thank you to our community for your support in the successful passing of the school budget. Your partnership and commitment to our district make it possible for us to continue providing outstanding opportunities and experiences for all students. We are deeply grateful for the trust you place in our schools.

I also want to personally thank you for the support and kindness you have shown me during my first year serving as your superintendent. It

has been an incredible honor to join this community and work alongside such dedicated families, staff, students, and Board of Education members. From my very first day, I have felt welcomed and inspired by the pride and spirit that define our district.

As the school year comes to an end, we have so much to celebrate. Our students have excelled in the classroom, on the stage, in the arts, in athletics, and through service to others. None of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our teachers, staff, and families, as well as the resilience and determination of our students themselves. Thank you all for making this such a fun, exciting, and successful year.

I encourage everyone to join us in celebrating our students during the many special events ahead, including academic awards night, athletics awards night, and, of course, graduation. These ceremonies are meaningful opportunities for our community to come together and recognize the accomplishments of

our students and the bright futures ahead of them.

We are also excited to continue the progress of Capital Project Phase 2. This important work will bring beautiful new kitchens and cafeterias to our schools, helping create welcoming spaces for students and staff for years to come. The new high school kitchen and cafeteria are scheduled to open this September, followed by the elementary school facilities in January. We look forward to sharing these exciting improvements with our community.

As summer approaches, I hope your family finds time to relax, recharge, and enjoy time together. Thank you once again for your partnership, your encouragement, and your unwavering support of our schools.

Have a safe and wonderful summer.



Sincerely,
Jamie M. Coppola
Jamie M. Coppola,
Superintendent

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2026 SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 8** - Appleby Band & Chorus Concert (6 p.m., Appleby Gym)
- June 9** - High School Academic Awards (6 p.m., High School Auditorium)
- June 11** - Athletic Awards (6 p.m., High School Auditorium)
- June 26** - Athletic Hall of Fame Induction (7 p.m., High School Auditorium)
- June 27** - 5K Run for Scholars (9 a.m. start)
- June 27** - Alumni Banquet (Appleby Elementary big school gym)
- June 28** - Graduation (2 p.m., High School Gym)

CLASS OF 2026 TRAVELED TO ORLANDO, FLORIDA FOR THEIR SENIOR TRIP

From May 4–9, 2026, the Class of 2026 traveled to Orlando, Florida, for an unforgettable senior trip filled with excitement, laughter, and memories that will last a lifetime. For many students, the trip represented far more than just a vacation — it was a reward for four years of hard work, dedication, fundraising, and countless hours spent working together as a class.

Throughout the week, students experienced all four Walt Disney World parks — Magic Kingdom, EPCOT, Hollywood Studios, and Animal Kingdom — along with three Universal parks, including Universal Studios Florida, Islands of Adventure, and the newest addition, Epic Universe. From thrilling roller coasters to unforgettable shows and attractions, every day brought new adventures and plenty of smiles.

The class also enjoyed an evening at Medieval Times, where students cheered on knights during an exciting tournament while enjoying dinner together. Between busy park days, students relaxed by the pool, shared meals, and simply enjoyed each other's company. Before beginning the trip home on Saturday, the class gathered for one final meal together at Rainforest Cafe.

While the parks and attractions were incredible, the most meaningful part of the trip was the time spent together. As the final weeks of senior year quickly approach, students were able to slow down and enjoy being with friends they have grown up alongside for the past thirteen years. Whether it was laughing together in long lines, staying up late talking at the hotel, or sharing inside jokes throughout the week, the trip created memories and strengthened friendships that will last long after graduation.

The Class of 2026 returned home exhausted but incredibly grateful for the opportunity to celebrate the end of their high school journey together in such a special and memorable way.



SPRING CONCERT



PROM



JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you all for a wonderful school year! I appreciate you welcoming me into your community! This year has been a wonderful learning experience for me, and I look forward to more to come! The end of the year ramps up with so many celebrations and exciting things happening.

Congratulations to our 2026 seniors; you will be missed, but I am so proud of all of your hard work and dedication. Our building has been busy between concerts, yearbook dedication, senior ranking, and Regents exams. Our graduation ceremony will be held on June 28 at 2 p.m.

Soak in this moment and be proud of every effort it took to get you here. This is the result of years of hard work and dedication, and you should be proud! I wish everyone a great summer, and I look forward to seeing you all in September!



Megan Tracy,
Jr./Sr. High School Principal

COURTNEY FARKAS RECEIVES ROTARY CLUB TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Marathon Central Schools congratulates science teacher Courtney Farkas on receiving the Teacher of the Year award from the Rotary Club of Cortland, New York. We are proud of you and this accomplishment!



CELEBRATING OUR BUS DRIVERS!

Thank you to our hard-working transportation staff, who work to ensure our students arrive safely each and every day!

Katie Fox	Ed Daugherty
Albert Stevens	Jim Robinson
Gene Shafer	TerriAnne Hammond
Ron Birdsall	Jennifer Fox
Cyndee Monk	Tabitha Carman
Jamie Bush	Kelly Burvee
Larry King	Anna Pestridge
Ed LoPresti	Brittany Ayers
Ron Powell	Karl Morsey
Greg Marvin	Brittany Newlen

THANK YOU!



2026 NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES RECOGNIZED

Fourteen Marathon CSD students were inducted into the MA-CE-HI chapter of the National Honor Society on Wednesday, April 29, and Mr. Albert Stevens was recognized as an honorary member, a tradition at Marathon that began in 1994.

The NHS was established to recognize outstanding high school students. Student eligibility is based on her or his record of scholarship, leadership, character, and service at Marathon Central Schools and the communities served by the school district.

Students who demonstrate scholarship with an overall GPA of 92% or higher for 12 consecutive marking periods (2 years) are invited as candidates to join NHS. Each member must complete 18 hours of service over 12 months to maintain their membership status in NHS.

Congratulations to the following students on their commitment to character, leadership, scholarship, and service:

- Aydan Brown
- Elliot Coleman
- Paityn Contri
- Alexander Decker
- Kimberlie Edwards
- Charles Forkey
- Abigail Kemak
- Ethan MacKenzie
- Ella Jane Monnat
- Colton Oram
- Clara Parker
- Macie Quail
- Delaney Reilly
- Megan Stewart



FIFTEEN MARATHON STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY

Fifteen Marathon Central School students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) during a special ceremony at the OCM BOCES Cortlandville Campus, joining 109 students from eight Cortland-area school districts recognized for excellence in Career and Technical Education.

Students inducted were:

- Abigail Trabucco — New Vision Medical Professions
- Johnathon Irwin Jr. — Auto Technology
- Barrett Trabucco — Auto Collision
- Caedence Gleason — Cosmetology
- Cheyenne Mathews — Cosmetology
- Delaney Reilly — Cosmetology
- Jamie Randall — Heavy Equipment
- Lukus Hawley — Welding
- Scout Morse — Cosmetology
- Preston Thorington — Culinary Arts
- Mya Wyant — Culinary Arts
- Mattie Potter — Engineering Technology
- Riley Ward — Heavy Equipment
- Zoey Gleason — Physical Therapy
- Maddyson Alnutt — Welding

Students earned membership through academic excellence, instructor recommendation, leadership, citizenship, and dedication to their technical studies. Each student received a purple honor cord to wear at graduation in June.



Congratulations TO THE CLASS OF 2026!



Nevaeh Abbott



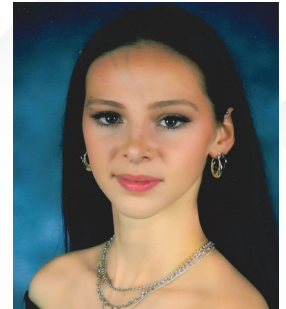
Maddyson Alnutt



Brycen Aukema



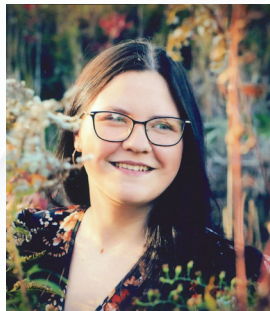
Faith Baker



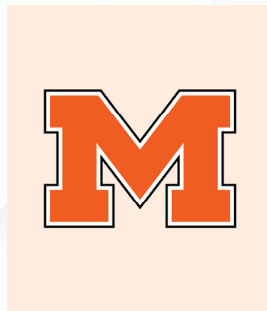
Charish Bevins



Blake Birdsall



Emmally Brown



Makaya Brown



Malachi Brown



Nash Coleman



Izabella Conklin



Aidan Courtney



Emma Crumb



Faith Darling



Reiley Doughty



Kennedy Eaton



Audrey Ensign



Caedence Gleason



Zoey Gleason



Brendan Gumaer

Congratulations TO THE CLASS OF 2026!



Mercedez Gumaer



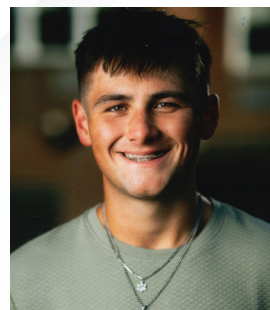
Trinity Hartwick



Lukus Hawley



Johnathon Irwin Jr.



Camdyn Kashuba



Hunter Kenyon



Jared LaBonte



Dominik Letts



Issac Marvin



Cheyenne Mathews



Daniel Merihew



Scout Morse



Alina Parker



Aliviah Pendell



Brenden Phillips



Gabreella Phillips



Mattie Potter



Brooklynn
Powierski-O'Neill



Emma Randall



Congratulations TO THE CLASS OF 2026!



Jamie Randall



Delaney Reilly



Santiago Reyes



Aliyah Roberts



Liam Roberts



Dominic Romans



Gabriel Spizzirri



Megan Stewart



Preston Thorington



Elijah Ticknor



Abigail Trabucco



Barrett Trabucco



Tucker Trabucco



Elizabeth VanCise



Riley Ward



Savanna Warfield



Matthew Washbourne



Kayla Wood



Mya Wyatt



APPLEBY ELEMENTARY NEWS

As the school year ends, we would like to dedicate this section of the Torchlight to those who are retiring from the Appleby and Marathon Central School family – Mrs. Soda, Mrs. Contri, and Mrs. Morrison upon their retirement. To replace these dedicated individuals will be an impossible task - tremendously missed, but never forgotten. Thank you for all that you gave to the students of Appleby, and good luck with all that you do in the future.

News, Notes, and Reminders:

- We are in the preliminary stages of looking at class assignments for the 2026-2027 school year. Once again, we will not honor requests for a particular teacher at a grade level, even if given to your child's current teacher. Not only are teacher assignments subject to change, but parental requests also hinder the creation of heterogeneous groups in classroom settings, which benefits all members of the class. If you have concerns about a possible placement for your child, please let me know by sending me a note or calling me at 849-3281. Class lists will be completed and distributed by the end of the school year.

- On May 19th, our District's budget passed, allowing the District to purchase all school supplies for next year, meaning parents will not need to provide school supplies for their child or their child's classroom again this fall. Thank you for your support!

ATTENTION:

Marathon Central School Residents

Kindergarten Registration for September 2026

If you intend to send your pre-kindergarten or kindergarten age child to Appleby Elementary School in the fall of 2026, please call 607-849-3281.



Jonathan Hillis,
Appleby Principal

APPLEBY STUDENTS SHINE AT OPEN HOUSE

Appleby Elementary welcomed parents, guardians, and friends for an open house event this spring, where students showcased all their hard work throughout the year. Families visited classrooms, walked through a neon art gallery, and accompanied students to a book fair and learning opportunities.



MARATHON'S ASL CLUB TEACHES EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS

The ASL (American Sign Language) Club started meeting every Tuesday after school from January to May. The club advisors included Mrs. Soda and Ms. Evans, as well as two special guests who volunteered their time every week to work with us, Mr. Brian Adams and his mother, Mrs. Doris Adams.

In a remarkably short time, these students have done an incredible job mastering foundational sign language. Their inspiring goal was to communicate more effectively with Mr. Adams, who is closely connected to our Appleby family. Throughout the course, the students built an extensive vocabulary, covering everything from the alphabet, numbers, and calendar terms to colors, feelings, animals, food, and clothing. They also learned to sign everyday expressions and successfully combined their skills to form complete sentences. A highlight of the class was celebrating birthdays by both signing and singing "Happy Birthday!" Through interactive games like Bingo, the Hand-Shape game, and whiteboard races, the children enthusiastically reinforced their learning.

At the April 8th Board of Education meeting, members of the ASL Club delivered a wonderful performance of the Pledge of Allegiance and proudly introduced themselves

by signing their first names. These students did an amazing job, and we could not be prouder of the time, dedication, and commitment they have shown in learning a new language.



The students pictured, left to right, front row: Ethan V., Avery H., Ryan N.; second row: Zoie T., Cheryl M., and Payton M.; back row: Mrs. Soda, Katalina G., Mr. Adams, Gillian G., and Ms. Evans.

MARATHON STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN CORTLAND COUNTY OLYMPIAD

Marathon students recently participated in the annual Cortland County Olympiad at SUNY Cortland alongside hundreds of student-athletes from across the region. The event featured a variety of activities and competitions, including races, field events, cycling, games, and more.

Students enjoyed a day filled with teamwork, encouragement, and school spirit as families, volunteers, educators, and community members came together to celebrate the athletes and make the event a memorable experience for all involved.



Olympian Sports



VARSITY BASEBALL

The Varsity baseball team had a very successful season. The Olympians jumped out to a 3-0 start to begin the year and continued to play good baseball all season long. The Olympians, led by senior captains Blake Birdsall and Tucker Trabucco, finished the regular season with a 10-6 record, earning them the #7 seed in the Class C Section 4 Tournament. The boys hosted the first home sectional baseball game since 2019, and the boys delivered a great game. Taking on the #10-seeded Newfield, Marathon came away with a 7-1 victory. Santiago Reyes threw a complete game, recording 6 strikeouts and allowing only 1 run on 5 hits. Marathon next traveled to take on the #2 seed Deposit/Hancock in the Sectional Quarterfinal. The Olympians put up a great fight but ultimately came up short. This year's team featured 10 seniors who were the driving force behind the resurgence of the baseball program. These seniors put in the time and effort while raising the bar of expectations for the program.

IAC NORTH 1ST TEAM ALL-STARS:

Blake Birdsall:

Batting Statistics .517 BA, 30 hits, 22 RBI, 4 doubles, 1 homerun.

Pitching Statistics: 1 win, 3 losses, 2 saves, 7.00 ERA, 35 strikeouts thrown.

Camdyn Kashuba:

Batting Statistics .386 BA, 22 hits, 9 RBI, 5 triples.

Pitching Statistics: 3 wins, 1 loss, 2.72 ERA, 17 strikeouts thrown.

IAC NORTH 2ND TEAM ALL-STARS:

Santiago Reyes:

Batting Statistics: .293 BA, 13 hits, 14 RBI

Pitching Statistics: 6 wins, 1 loss, 3.87 ERA, 49 strikeouts thrown

Tucker Trabucco: .260 BA, 13 hits, 12 RBI

Pitching Statistics: 1 win, 1 loss, 1 save, 5.02 ERA, 15 strikeouts thrown



VARSITY BOYS GOLF

Despite finishing the regular season with a 2-11 record, this year's golf season was filled with growth, competition, and memorable experiences. Many of the boys' matches were decided by extremely close margins, showing just how competitive this young team was throughout the season. Leading the way was Brady Standish, the number one golfer, who posted an impressive 8.5 stroke average and finished ranked 25th in the entire IAC.

Most importantly, the team made the most of every opportunity this season. The boys embraced every

match and were eager to add as many away contests as possible so they could experience new courses together. It was a fun and meaningful season that created lasting memories for everyone involved.

The team competed in the IAC League Tournament on May 26 at Soaring Eagles Golf Course. The boys posted a 4th-place finish with a team score of 506. Top scorers were freshman Brady Standish, 99, and 8th grader Cohen Forkey, 99. The team will close out the year by hosting a Modified Tournament for the junior high golfers on June 1 at Maple Hill Golf Club.

Olympian Sports



VARSITY GIRLS GOLF

The Marathon girls' golf team has had a very successful season. They wrapped up the team competition on Thursday, May 28, with sectionals at Soaring Eagles Golf Course. There are four individuals who qualified and will have the opportunity to play and earn one of the 9 spots for the state golf team: Savanna Warfield, Audrey Ensign, Sophia VanCise, and Paityn Contri. The team had an overall record of 14-1 for the regular season. A Marathon player has earned the title of medalist or co-medalist at 8 of their matches this season. There were 3 birdies among the team for the regular season. The team had a great and exciting win at the IAC Championship, held Thursday, May 21, at Hillendale Golf Course. This was the first-ever Team League Championship for the girls' golf program. Savanna Warfield placed second overall individually, shooting a score of 88.



Savanna Warfield finished in 2nd Place in the Individual IAC Championship



2026 IAC Girls Golf Champions

From left: Audrey Ensign, Paityn Contri, Savanna Warfield, Sophia VanCise, Alina Parker, Kennedy Eaton

VARSITY TRACK AND FIELD

The Marathon Track and Field team has had an outstanding season, highlighted by record-breaking performances, all-star selections, and state qualifier appearances.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL RECORDS

- Owen Marsh — 200-Meter Hurdles
- Adylyn Howe — Triple Jump
- IAC Small School First Team All-Stars
- Colton Oram — 800 Meters
- Abigail Trabucco — Pole Vault

IAC SMALL SCHOOL SECOND TEAM ALL-STARS

- Aydan Brown — 200 Meters and 400 Meters
- Hannah Prestigiacomo — 1,500 Meters
- Trinity Hartwick — Triple Jump
- 400-Meter Relay Team — Mia Williams, Trinity Hartwick, Aliyah Roberts, Scout Morse
- 3,200-Meter Relay Team — Trinity Hartwick, Abigail Trabucco, Scout Morse, Delaney Reilly

SECTION IV CLASS D FIRST TEAM ALL-STARS

- Colton Oram — 800 Meters
- Abigail Trabucco — Pole Vault

QUALIFIED FOR THE SECTION IV STATE QUALIFIER CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Colton Oram — 800 Meters
- Abigail Trabucco — Pole Vault
- Boys 1,600-Meter Relay Team
- Boys 3,200-Meter Relay Team
- Girls 3,200-Meter Relay Team



Check out more athletics highlights at Marathon High School Athletic Website

<https://marathoncentral.rst7.rschooltoday.com>

Olympian Sports



SCHOLAR-ATHLETE TEAM AWARD

Congratulations to the Varsity Baseball, Varsity Softball, Varsity Boys Track & Field, Varsity Girls Track & Field, Varsity Girls Golf and Varsity Boys Golf Teams for earning the New York State Spring Scholar-Athlete Team Award. We are extremely proud of your hard work both in the classroom and on the athletic fields.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

55TH ANNUAL INTERSCHOLASTIC JV & VARSITY ATHLETIC AWARDS NIGHT

Thursday, June 11, 6:00 p.m.
High School Auditorium

MANDATORY CODE OF CONDUCT MEETING

Wednesday, June 24, 6 p.m.
High School Auditorium

There will be a mandatory Code of Conduct meeting for all Fall, Winter, and Spring athletes.

MARATHON ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME 2026 INDUCTION CEREMONY

Friday, June 26, 7 p.m.
High School Auditorium

Marathon Athletic Hall of Fame will have its induction ceremony on Friday, June 26. The ceremony, which is open to the public, will take place in the High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m.. Names of individuals being inducted will be announced in the near future.

MARATHON'S 5K RUN/WALK FOR THE SCHOLARS

Saturday, June 27, 9 a.m.

A fun event for runners & walkers

(There is also a fun run for kids)

Applications Available at
runsignup.com/Race/NY/Marathon/Marathons5KRunfortheScholars

Scan the QR code to sign up.



NEW YORK STATE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE 2025-26 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 - Computer-based, April 6-May 15
- Grades 3-8 Math - Computer-based, April 6-May 15
- Science 5 & 8 - Computer-based, April 6-May 15
- January Regents - January 20-23
- June Regents - June 9 - 18 (Life Science Biology & Earth & Space Sciences)
- June Regents - June 23-25 (Geometry)
- Rating Day - June 22 & 26
- 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, 607-849-3281 or the HS Guidance Office, 607-849-3229.

STUDENT/PARENT ACCESS TO GRADES

Stay informed on your students' progress! Marathon Central School District provides access to attendance, contact information, and discipline for students in UPK-12th grade. Parents of students in grades 7-12 can access student grades.

Grades and assignments are available online for parents/guardians. If we have your email on file, instructions for sign-up and access have been sent. Students in grades 7-12 can also access their grades here:

marathon.schooltool.cnyric.org/schooltoolweb/

Signing up will allow notifications each time a teacher inputs a grade.

Contact Heather Brown
(brownh@marathonschools.org)
for the Jr./Sr. High School
and
Jessica Elwyn
(elwynj@marathonschools.org)
for Appleby Elementary.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Appleby Health Office. . .	607-849-3180
Appleby Main Office. . . .	607-849-3282
Bus Garage.	607-849-3295
Transportation Office. . .	607-849-3325
Business Office.	607-849-3230
Food Service Director. . .	607-849-3149
District Office Phone. . . .	607-849-3117
District Office Fax.	607-849-3305
Family Health Network (Appleby/HS).	607-849-3900
Guidance Office.	607-849-3229
HS Health Office.	607-849-3210
HS Main Office.	607-849-3252
Special Education/CSE. .	607-849-3169

JUNE 2026

All dates and events are subject to change.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Athletic Booster Club Meeting, 6 p.m., HS Café	2 Cortland County Dairy Parade	3 BOE Meeting, 7 p.m., HS Library	4 Class of 2029 Dinner FFA Banquet, 6 p.m., Owl Barn	5 UPK-6 Parent/Child Dance	6 SAT
7	8 Appleby Band/Chorus Concert, 6 p.m., Appleby Gym	9 Academic Awards, 6 p.m.	10 REGENTS	11	12	13
14	15 Athletic Awards, 6 p.m.	16 Health & Wellness Meeting, 7:15 a.m.	17 REGENTS	18 Dedication to Dads	19 No School Juneteenth	20
21 Father's Day	22	23 REGENTS	24 Fall, Winter, Spring Code of Conduct Meeting, 6 p.m.	25	26 Rating Day Graduation Rehearsal Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions, 7 p.m.	27 5K Run for Scholars, 9 a.m. Alumni Banquet Class of 2027 Serves
28 HS Graduation, 2 p.m.	29	30				

MARATHON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENT

DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE RUSH



EMBRACE • EDUCATE • EMPOWER

The Marathon School District does not discriminate on employment or in the education programs and activities which it operates, including access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups, on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, religion, race, or handicap in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, or 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the New York State Human Rights Law. For questions, concerns or grievance procedures for resolving complaints of discrimination and harassment, contact one of our Civil Rights Compliance Officers Patricia Trabucco, trabucco@marathonschools.org, 1 Park Street, Marathon, NY.

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