

GLENDALE ELEMENTARY
HERITAGE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY
MAPLEMERE ELEMENTARY
WILLOW RIDGE ELEMENTARY
SWEET HOME MIDDLE SCHOOL
SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL



CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2023-2024 CALENDAR & HANDBOOK







"Every Student, One Community, Ready for the Future."

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



From all of us at the Sweet Home Central School District, welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! Each year, we start a new campaign with optimism and hope, but this year has an added energy level meant to propel our District to new heights. This year we will

implement the first phase of our Sweet Home Strategic Plan. The plan is our roadmap to develop all Sweet Home students and prepare them for graduation and beyond by using three guiding principles: Teaching and learning; a future-focused mentality; and the development of the whole child.

Under the teaching and learning principle, Sweet Home will begin implementing learning experiences for our students that are focused on developing strong literacy skills through experiential learning. This will be done through the amplification of the student voice. To prepare our students to be future focused, we will create and implement course work that provides real-world experiences to engage students across a series of pathways, while nurturing critical life skills in all we serve. And in developing the whole child, students will grow and learn in an environment that is fully engaging, welcoming, accepting and safe. We want our students to know that their voices are heard and that they have the opportunity to actively engage with each other in all subject areas through relationships and the real world.

This year we will also develop the scope of our next major capital project. It is well documented that our enrollment is increasing, the services we provide continue to expand, and that the needs of our students continually evolve. At the elementary level in particular, we need to develop facilities that meet these challenges and fall in line with our Strategic Plan. Using the Building Use Committee and community input, we will develop a plan for our next capital project that updates

our elementary buildings while maintaining our Middle School and High School facilities, all to provide spaces that meet the needs of every Sweet Home student. Our entire school community can expect a Thought Exchange and/or survey in the first quarter of the school year to assess your expectations and needs for our facilities that support student achievement for all.

Speaking of every student, our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiative, heading into year three, will take another giant leap forward as we continue to audit each practice in the District and make recommendations to close achievement gaps. The District-wide DEI committee, along with the five subcommittees, will continue to examine the operations of the District to determine that opportunities exist for all. Our strength is our diversity, and this work is critical to meet our mission of "Every Student, One Community, Ready for the Future." We must ensure that all students at Sweet Home are embraced for their differences, that we learn from one another, that equal opportunities exist for all, and that everyone has a voice in our school community. Of course, we will also ensure that our students are taking every opportunity to develop outside of the classroom as well. We will continually examine our UPK - Grade 12 extracurricular activities to ensure all students have equal access to these opportunities and that they are the very best programs a school district can offer. Athletics, music, clubs, service activities and opportunities for positive social interaction outside of the classroom must be in abundance and they must prepare our students for the world that lies ahead.

We have an incredible level of excitement for the 2023-2024 school year at Sweet Home. As one community, we will ensure that each student is prepared for success. We look forward to working with every stakeholder in our District to make Sweet Home the very best experience for all we are fortunate to serve.

Best Wishes for a Great 2023-2024!

DR. MICHAEL V. GINESTRE

Superintendent of Schools



ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The delivery of the 2023-24 calendar signals the start of a series of communications that will reach out to the Sweet Home community throughout this school year. You will see that we have taken some recommendations, from you, the community, to make this piece a useful tool of communication. Each of the calendar's months highlights some bigger events particular to individual school buildings and all New York State testing periods are highlighted in bold in the calendar. Also, on the inside back cover you will see many of the religious holidays celebrated by the diverse student body of Sweet Home Central School District. We listed these days again this year with the hope that staff, students and community members will become more aware and begin to understand the many religions of their community.

We hope that you find the calendar an excellent resource and please be sure to visit us at our new website at www.sweethomeschools. org. find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sweethomeschools. or follow us on Twitter and Instagram @SweetHomeCSD to check out the many great things happening at Sweet Home each and every day.

DON FELDMANN *Editor*







Thank you to high school student Thuriea Zaid for providing the design of this year's calendar cover as part of a class project in her Mass Media class.

2023-2024 YEAR AT A GLANCE

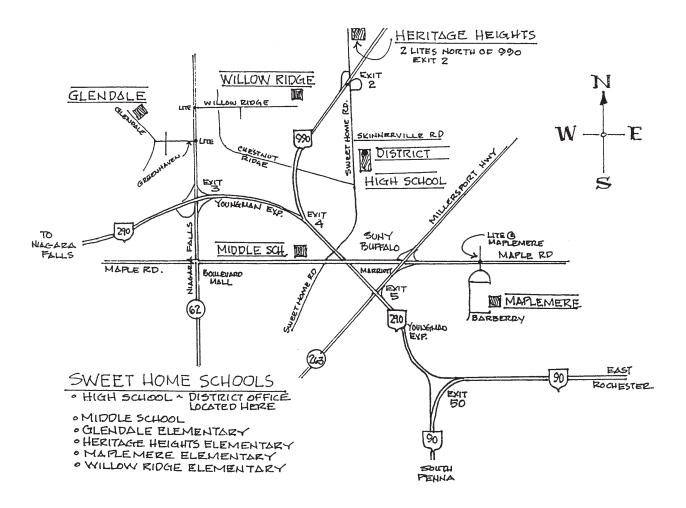
9/6 10/6	First Student Day Emergency/Evacuation Drills	12/7	Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-8pm	3/8	Secondary Staff Development Day NO SCHOOL 6-12
	Early Dismissal	12/7	Afternoon/Evening Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences	3/29-4/8	Spring Recess NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES
10/9	Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	12/8	Full Day Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences – NO SCHOOL UPK-5	5/27	Memorial Day NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES
11/7	Staff Development Day NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	12/25- 1/1/24	Winter Recess NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	6/14-25	Regents Examinations
11/10	Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	1/15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day		6/24	Elementary Early Dismissal
11/22-24	Thanksgiving Recess	1,10	NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	6/25	Elementary Early Dismissal
11/22 27	NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	1/23-26	Regents Examinations	6/25	Elementary Last Student Day
12/1	Elementary Staff Development Day/	2/19-23	Mid-Winter Recess	6/25	Commencement Ceremonies
10/7	Report Cards – NO SCHOOL UPK-5	0.10	NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	6/26	Last Teacher Day
12/7	High School Parent-Teacher Conferences, 2:30-6:30pm	3/8	Elementary Staff Development Day/ Report Cards – NO SCHOOL UPK-5		

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DISTRICT MAP



SCHOOL FACILITIES

The use of school facilities by community organizations is encouraged. Contacts should be made to the building principal. Where less than 50 percent of the participants are district residents, facilities may also be used, though a fee may be charged. For further information regarding facility rentals or use by non-residents, contact, Donald Feldmann, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Plant Services, at 250-1406.













BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Sweet Home Board of Education was created under the Education Law of New York and has full authority to interpret and carry out the will of the people in matters of education within the limitations of federal/state laws, regulations of the State Board of Regents and judicial decisions. Board of Education members are not compensated for their service.



AMY BATTAGLIA

President



PETER BELLANTI
Vice President



JOSHUA FELDMANN



MARIANNE JASEN



SCOTT M. JOHNSON



BRIAN LAIBLE



KAILEY McDONALD

CANDIDACY/TERM

The Board consists of seven members who serve terms of five years. Members must meet the following qualifications:

- A citizen of the United States
- · At least eighteen years of age
- A legal resident of the District one year prior to the election
- Cannot be an employee of Sweet Home Central

BOARD MEMBERS AND THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR TERMS

Amy Battaglia	2027
Peter Bellanti	2026
Joshua Feldmann	2024
Marianne Jasen	2027
Scott M. Johnson	2028
Brian Laible	2025
Kailev McDonald	2025

STAFF

Board Secretary	Sherry McNamara
School District Clerk	Sherry McNamara
School District Treasurer	Nicole Kuss

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Sweet Home Central School District is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. Further, the Sweet Home Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of religion or creed, sexual orientation, military status, genetic status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, criminal arrest or conviction record, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal non-discrimination laws.

Inquiries regarding Sweet Home Central School District's non-discrimination policies and grievance procedures should be directed to:

JoAnn A. Balazs,

Assistant Superintendent for Talent & Equity 1901 Sweet Home Road Amherst, New York 14228 716-250-1417

MEETING DATES

The Sweet Home Board of Education meets the second and third Tuesday of every month in the Norman C. Vergils Community Center in the High School. Study sessions are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month, while regular voting meetings are held the third. Meetings begin promptly at 6:30pm and the public is encouraged to attend. Special meetings for 2023-24 include:

- January 9, 2024 Public Comment Session on the District Budget
- May 7, 2024 Annual Public Hearing on the Budget and "Meet the Candidates" Night
- May 21, 2024 Annual District Budget Vote

As required by law, the district will be notified if any other special meetings are scheduled.

All Board of Education voting meetings are also available in the Video on Demand section of the District website at sweethomeschools.org.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Letters are received as official communications unless otherwise requested. Address written communication to:

Sweet Home Board of Education 1901 Sweet Home Road Amherst, New York 14228

Residents are invited and encouraged to make comments at the beginning and end of each Board of Education Meeting. There is an opportunity for public comment on the agenda at the business meeting before voting by the board members. Individuals are asked to state their name and address before addressing concerns. Permission to make any long statements must be sought prior to the meeting.

SEPTEMBER 2023











GLENDALE

- 14 PTA Meeting
- 21 Chicken Dinner
- 21 Open House

HERITAGE HEIGHTS

- 11 PTA Meeting 11 Book Fair **Begins**
- 14 Open House

MAPLEMERE

- 13 PTA Meeting 20 Picture Day
- 20 Open House
- & Fall Fest

WILLOW RIDGE

- 1 Welcome Back Picnic
- 7 PTO Meeting 13 Book Fair Begins
- 15 Open House & Welcome Back

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 11 Open House 18 PTSA Book Fair Begins
- 19 Open House

HIGH SCHOOL

7 PTSA Meeting 13 Open House

CMEETHUMECCHUUI C UDC

		Picnic		2M	EETHUMESCH	UULS.UKG
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Welc	1	2			
		ANTHER			WR : Welcome Back Picnic, 6:30-8:30pm	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

LABOR DAY

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

DAY

NO SCHOOL UPK-12

FIRST DAY OF **SCHOOL UPK-12**

HS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ HS Library WR: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm

DO: Homecoming Community Day Carnival, 12pm - 2pm @ HS





District Office DO

Family Support Center FSC

Glendale GL

HH Heritage Heights Elementary HS High School

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

TBA To Be Announced

UB University at Buffalo

Willow Ridge Elementary

Board of Education

NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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OCTOBER 2023

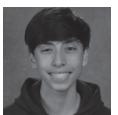
MAPLEMERE

Fundraiser

3 PTA Fall











GLENDALE

- 5 Picture Day13 Trunk or Treat
- 18 PTA Meeting
- 24 Family Math Night

HERITAGE HEIGHTS

- 16 PTA Meeting20 Trunk or Treat25 Picture Retake
 - Picture Retake Begins
 Day 4 PTA Meeting
 - 27 Trunk or Treat

WILLOW RIDGE

- 4 PTO Roller Skating Party 5 PTO Meeting
- 11 Picture Day
- 20 Fun Run 20 Fall Fest

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 2 PTSA Meeting20 Picture Retake
- Day 27 Fall Activity Night

HIGH SCHOOL

12 PTSA Meeting

SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	DO: Alumni Association Meeting, 5pm @ NVCC DO: Education Foundation Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC MS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ MS Library	MM: PTA Fall Fundraiser Starts	WR: PTO Roller Skating Party, 5-7:30pm @ Rainbow Rink MM: PTA Meeting, 6pm	GL: School Picture Day WR: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm	EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILLS EARLY DISMISSAL	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	COLUMBUS DAY/ INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	DO: District Safety Committee Meeting, 4:15-5:30pm @ NVCC DO: BOE Study Session, 6:30pm @ NVCC	WR: School Picture Day DO: Dollars for Scholars Meeting, 8am @ DO	HS : PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ HS Library	MM: PTA Fall Fundraiser Ends GL: Trunk or Treat Event, 6pm	





Family Support Center **FSC**

Glendale GL

Heritage Heights Elementary НН

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

TBA To Be Announced

Willow Ridge Elementary

BOE Board of Education

NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

SEPTEMBER							Ν	OV	ΕM	BE	R		
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24 25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30			

NOVEMBER 2023









NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

GLENDALE

- 9 Skating Party 15 PTA Meeting
- 20 Holiday Gift Card Sale Begins

HERITAGE HEIGHTS

- 13 PTA Meeting
- 17 Turkey Trot

MS: PTSA Meeting,

6:30pm @ MS Library

3 Turkey Trot

MAPLEMERE

- 1 PTA Meeting 2 Picture Retake
- Day

WILLOW RIDGE

- 2 PTO Meeting 29 Picture Retake
- Day 30 McTeacher Night

NO SCHOOL

ALL GRADES

HIGH SCHOOL

- 8 Symphony Orchestra, Concert
- 15 Concert Orchestra, Mixed Choir, Concert

- Chorale, Wind Ensemble Concert
- Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble

SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

NO SCHOOL

ALL GRADES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HAPPY	arkiseli.	Viale)	MM: PTA Meeting, 6pm	MM: School Picture Retake Day WR: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm	JUNIOR HIGH AREA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVAL,11/3-11/4 MM: Turkey Trot, 1:30pm	4
5	DO: Alumni Association Meeting, 5pm @ NVCC DO: Education Foundation Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC	ELECTION DAY/ STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	HS: Symphony Orchestra, Concert	GL: Skating Party, 6-8pm HS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ HS Library	10 VETERANS DAY	11

Chorale, Wind Ensemble

Concert, 7:30pm

MS/HS: End of 1st

Marking Period





CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS

District Office HS **Family Support Center FSC**

Glendale

DO

Heritage Heights Elementary HH

High School

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

To Be Announced

University at Buffalo

Willow Ridge Elementary

Board of Education

NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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DECEMBER

1 2

DECEMBER 2023











GLENDALE

- 4 PTA Meeting Merry Moose
- **Shop Begins** 11 Holiday Gift
- Card Sale Begins 20 Chorus Concert

HERITAGE HEIGHTS

- 5 Roller Skating Party
- 11 Merry Moose **Shop Begins**
- 11 PTA Meeting 20 Chorus Concert

MAPLEMERE

- 5 Chorus Concert
- 6 Holiday Gift **Shop Begins**

WILLOW RIDGE

- 5 Chorus Concert Winter
- Wonderland **Shop Begins**
- 14 PTO Meeting

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 6 Grade 7 Band, Grade 7-8 Treble Choir. Grades 7-8 Bass Choir Concert
- 7 Parent-Teacher Conferences

HIGH SCHOOL

18 Holiday Concert

SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

SUNDAY MONDAY WEDNESDAY **SATURDAY TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY ELEMENTARY STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY/** REPORT CARD DAY NO SCHOOL UPK-5 DO: Dollars for Scholars Meat Raffle, 7pm @ St. Leo's DO: Elementary 1st Trimester Ends

DO: Alumni Association Meeting, 5pm @ NVCC DO: Education Foundation Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC GL: PTA Meeting,

6:30pm



GL: Merry Moose Shop, 12/5-12/7 **HH:** Roller Skating Partv MM/WR: Chorus

Concert, 7pm @ HS Aud

6

MM: Holiday Gift Shop, 12/6 - 12/8MS: Grade 7 Band. Grade 7-8 Treble Choir. Grades 7-8 Bass Choir Concert, 7pm

@ MS Aud

EVENING ELEMENTARY PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

WR: Winter Wonderland Shop, 12/7-12/8 MS: Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-8pm **HS:** Parent-Teacher

Conferences

8

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

> **NO SCHOOL** UPK-5

9

10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	GL: Holiday Gift Card Sale Ends HH: Merry Moose Shop, 12/11-15 HH: PTA Meeting, 6:30pm	DO: District Safety Committee Meeting, 4:15-5:30pm @ NVCC DO: BOE Study Session, 6:30pm @ NVCC DO: Elementary Gold Band, Grade 8 Band Concert, 7pm @ MS Aud	DO: Dollars for Scholars Meeting, 8am @ DO DO: Elementary Gold Orchestra, Grades 7-8 Orchestra Concert, 7pm @ MS Aud	WR: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	HS : Holiday Concert, 7:30pm @ HS Aud	DO: BOE Voting Meeting, 6:30pm @ NVCC	HH: Chorus Concert, 6:30pm GL: Chorus Concert, 7pm @ HS Aud			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31		N	WINTER RECESS O SCHOOL ALL GRADE	ES .		



CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS

District Office Family Support Center

Glendale GL

FSC

Heritage Heights Elementary

HS High School

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

TBA To Be Announced

University at Buffalo

Willow Ridge Elementary

BOE Board of Education

NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

NOV	EMBER	JANUARY
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19 20 21	22 23 24 25	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
26 27 28	29 30 31	28 29 30 31

JANUARY 2024









JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

GLENDALE 18 PTA Meeting

HERITAGE HEIGHTS 8 PTA Meeting

MAPLEMERE

10 PTA Meeting 19 Virtual Dance Party

WILLOW RIDGE

4 PTO Meeting 24 PTO Skating Party

MIDDLE SCHOOL

8 PTSA Meeting 10 Grade 6 Band, Chorus, Orchestra Concert

19 Winter Activity Night

HIGH SCHOOL

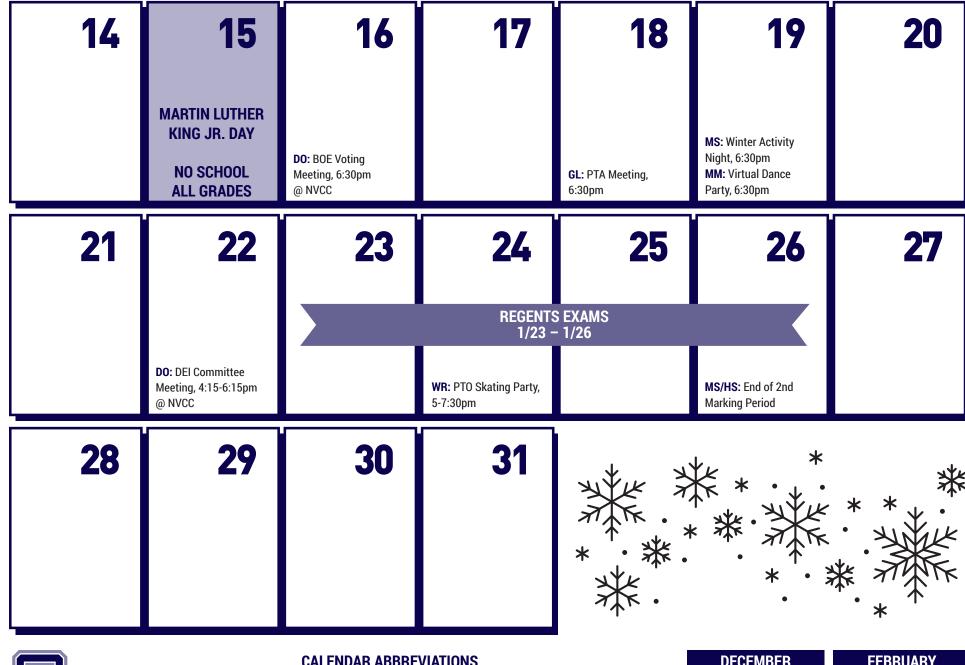
11 PTSA Meeting





SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	NEW YEAR'S DAY OBSERVANCE NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	SCHOOL RESUMES		WR: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm		ELEMENTARY INSTRUMENTAL, JR HIGH VOCAL & JAZZ SOLO FESTIVAL
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	DO: Education Foundation Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC HH: PTA Meeting, 6:30pm MS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ MS Library	DO : BOE Study Session, 6:30pm @ NVCC	MM: PTA Meeting, 6pm MS: Grade 6 Band, Grade 6 Chorus, Grade 6 Orchestra Concert, 7pm @ MS Aud	HS : PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ HS Library		JUNIOR HIGH INSTRUMENTAL SOLO FESTIVAL





CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS

District Office **Family Support Center FSC**

Glendale

DO

ΗН Heritage Heights Elementary

High School HS

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

TBA To Be Announced

University at Buffalo

Willow Ridge Elementary

Board of Education NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29		

FEBRUARY 2024







FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

GLENDALEHERITAGE HEIGHTS
Winter Dance
12 PTA Meeting

12 PTA Meeting 7 PTA Meeting 29 Family Night 9 Ice Skating

Activity Night 26 Spirit Week Begins

MAPLEMERE

WILLOW RIDGE

1 PTO Meeting 9 Musical 10 Musical

MIDDLE SCHOOL
9 Musical
10 Musical
14 Pops Concert

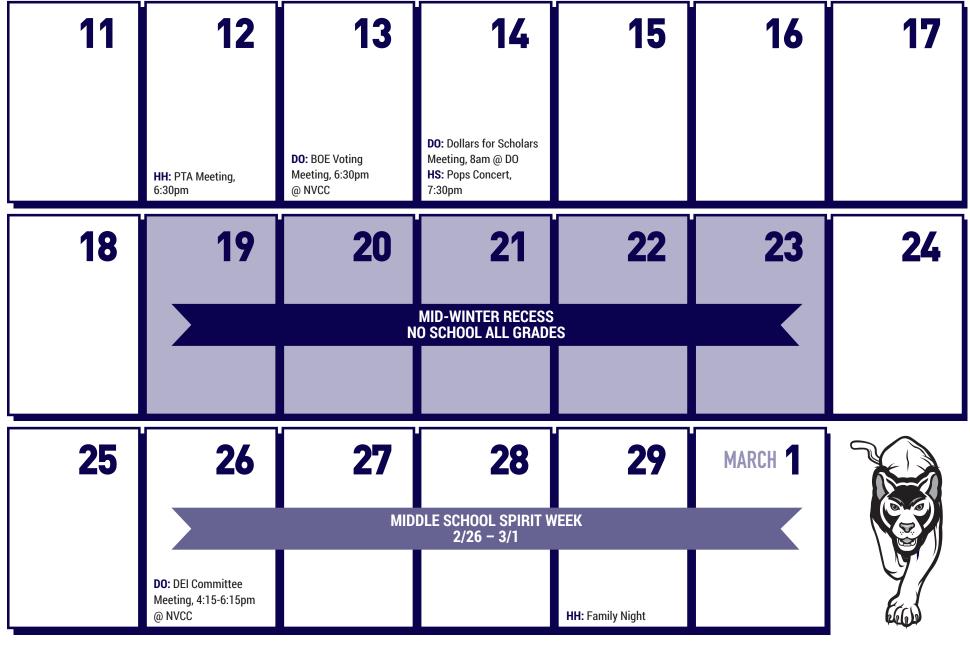






SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

SUNDAY	UNDAY MONDAY TU		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
	9			WR : PTO Meeting, 6:30pm	GL: Winter Dance, 6-8pm	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DO : District Music Festival	DO: Education Foundation Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC MS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ MS Library	DO: District Safety Committee Meeting, 4:15-5:30pm @ NVCC DO: BOE Study Session, 6:30pm @ NVCC	MM : PTA Meeting, 6pm	HS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ HS Library	MM: Ice Skating Activity Night, 6-8pm MS: Musical, 7pm	MS: Musical, 2pm





CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS

District Office HS **Family Support Center FSC**

Glendale

DO

Heritage Heights Elementary HH

High School

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

To Be Announced

University at Buffalo

Willow Ridge Elementary

Board of Education NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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MARCH

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MARCH 2024







MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

GLENDALE

- 6 PTA Meeting 21 McTeacher Night
- HERITAGE HEIGHTS
- 11 PTA Meeting
- 1 Winter Dance 6 PTA Meeting

MAPLEMERE

- 14 McTeacher Niaht
- 20 Spring Picture Day

WILLOW RIDGE

- 1 Multicultural Night
- 7 PTO Meeting 27 PTO Skating
 - Party

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 4 PTSA Meeting
- Begin
- 14 PTSA Meeting

HIGH SCHOOL

11 Spring Sports

15 Musical **Begins**







SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY SATURDAY WEDNESDAY **THURSDAY FRIDAY**

ANTHERS

MM: Winter Dance, 6-8pm

WR: Multicultural Night,

6-8pm

DO: Alumni Association Meeting, 5pm @ NVCC DO: Education

Foundation Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC

MS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ MS Library

6

MM: PTA Meeting, 6pm GL: PTA Meeting, 6:30pm

WR: PTO Meeting. 6:30pm

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY **NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES**

JUNIOR HIGH ALL-COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL 9



JUNIOR HIGH ALL-COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL

10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	HH: PTA Meeting, 6:30pm HS: Spring Sports Begin	DO : BOE Study Session, 6:30pm @ NVCC		MM: McTeacher Night, 4:30-7:30pm HS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ HS Library	ELEMENTARY ALL-COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL HS: Musical, 7:30pm	ELEMENTARY ALL-COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL HS: Musical, 7:30pm DO: Dollars for Scholars Craft Show & Basket Raffle, 9am-3pm @ HS
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
HS : Musical, 2pm		DO : BOE Voting Meeting, 6:30pm @ NVCC	MM: Spring Picture Day	GL: McTeacher Night, 4:30-7:30pm	SENIOR ALL-COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL	SENIOR All-County Music Festival
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31					SPRING RECESS BEGINS	
			WR : PTO Skating Party, 5-7:30pm		NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES	
		CALENDAR ABBRE	VIATIONS		FEBRUARY	APRIL



DO District Office

Family Support Center **FSC**

GL Glendale

НН Heritage Heights Elementary HS High School Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

TBA To Be Announced

University at Buffalo

BOE Board of Education

Willow Ridge Elementary 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 **NVCC** Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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APRIL 2024







APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

GLENDALE

- 11 PTA Meeting
- 17 PTA Meeting 29 Teacher Appreciation Week

HERITAGE HEIGHTS

- 15 PTA Meeting 22 Book Fair
- **Begins**
- 25 STEM Evening

MAPLEMERE

- 17 PTA Meeting
- 25 Book Fair Begins
- 25 Art Show
- 29 Teacher Appreciation Week

WILLOW RIDGE

- 11 PTO Meeting 25 Science Night
 - & Spring Book Fair
- 25 Spring Book Fair Begins

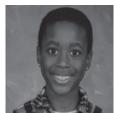
MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 15 PTSA Meeting 12 End of 3rd
- Marking Period

HIGH SCHOOL

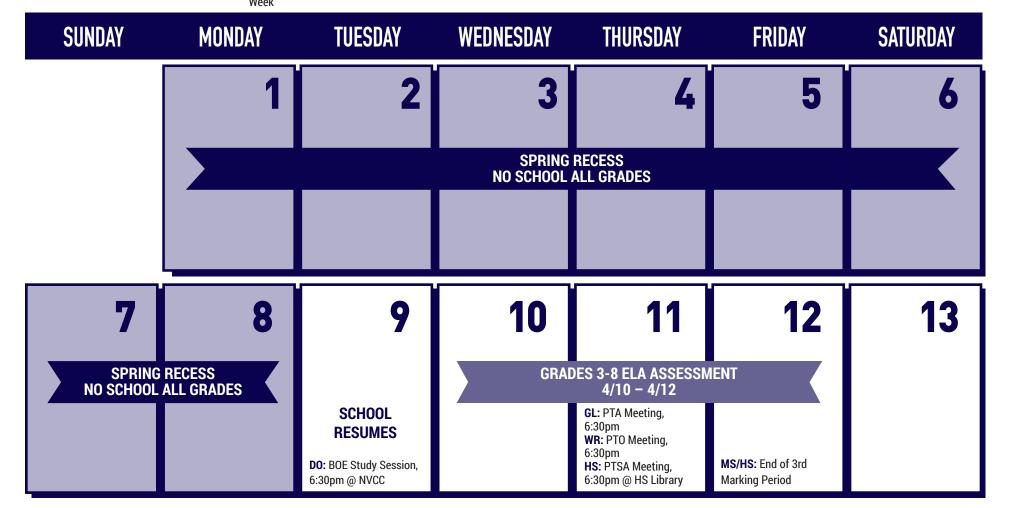
11 PTSA Meeting 12 End of 3rd Marking Period







SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG







CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS

District Office **Family Support Center**

GL Glendale

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University at Buffalo Willow Ridge Elementary

Board of Education

NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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MAY 2024







MAY HIGHLIGHTS

GLENDALE

- 3 Chorus Concert
- 9 Spring Flower Sale
- 15 PTA Meeting
- 31 Fun Run

HERITAGE HEIGHTS

- 13 PTA Meeting 31 End of Year
 - End of Year Family Picnic
- Flower Delivery
 15 Grade 5
 Panoramic Picture
- 17 Fun/Color Run

MAPLEMERE

PTA Meeting

Chorus Concert

Special Persons

24 Leadership Day

WILLOW RIDGE

- 1 Chorus Concert
- 2 PTO Meeting

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 6 PTSA Meeting
- 15 Gr 7 Band, Treble Choir, Gr 7-8 Bass Choir, In Sweet Harmony Concert
- 20 MS/HS Jazz Ensemble Concert
- 21 Multicultural Night
- 22 Gr 6 Band, Chorus, Orchestra Concert

HIGH SCHOOL

- 9 PTSA Meeting 21 Orchestras
- Concert
- 20 MS/HS Jazz Ensemble Concert
- 23 Bands Concert





SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY 1 2 3 GL/MM: TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK 3/29 - 5/3 MM/WR: Chorus Concert, 7pm @ HS Aud GSL/HH: Chorus Concert, 7pm @ HS Aud

5

6

7

8

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11

HH/WR: TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK 5/6 - 5/10

GRADES 3-8 NYS MATH ASSESSMENT 5/7 - 5/9

Meeting, 5pm @ NVCC
D0: Education Foundation
Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC
D0: Elementary Gold
Band, Grade 8 Band
Concert, 7pm @ MS Aud
MS: PTSA Meeting,
6:30pm @ MS Library

DO: Alumni Association

DO: BOE Study Session, 6:30pm @ NVCC HS: Choirs Concert, 7:30pm @ HS Aud

MM: PTA Meeting, 6pm

GL: SPRING FLOWER SALE 5/9 - 5/10
MM: Special Persons

MM: Special Persons Flower Delivery HS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ HS Library



12	13	DO: BOE Voting Meeting, 6:30pm	DO: Dollars for Scholars Meeting, 8am @ DO MM: Grade 5 Panoramic Picture GL: PTA Meeting, 6:30pm MS: Grade 7 Band, Treble Choir, Grades 7-8	DO: Elementary Gold Orchestra, Grades 7-8 Orchestra, Honors	17 GL: Leadership Day	18
	HH: PTA Meeting, 6:30pm	@ NVCC	Bass Choir, In Sweet Harmony Concert, 7pm	Ensemble Concert, 7pm @ MS Aud	MM: Fun/Color Run	
19	20		22 ISA BOOK FAIR 5/20 – 5/2	23	24	25
	MS/HS: MS Jazz Ensemble, HS Jazz Ensemble Concert, 7pm @ HS Aud	DO: Dollars for Scholars Chicken BBQ, 4-7pm @ NVCC MS: Multicultural Night, 5:30-7pm HS: Orchestras Concert, 7:30pm @ HS Aud	MS: Grade 6 Band, Grade 6 Chorus, Grade 6 Orchestra Concert, 7pm @ MS Aud	HS: Bands Concert, 7:30pm	MM: Leadership Day	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	MEMORIAL DAY NO SCHOOL ALL GRADES				GL: Fun Run HH: End of Year Family Picnic	
		CALENDAR ABBRE	EVIATIONS		APRIL	JUNE



CALENDAR ARRESIATIONS

District Office HS **Family Support Center**

GL Glendale

D0

НН Heritage Heights Elementary **High School**

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

TBA To Be Announced

University at Buffalo

Willow Ridge Elementary

BOE Board of Education **NVCC** Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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JUNE 2024

















JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

MAPLEMERE

5 Volunteer Appreciation Event

GLENDALE HERITAGE HEIGHTS 7 Field Day 10 PTA Meeting

14 Flag Day

21 Grade 5

20 PTA Meeting

Moving Up Day

- 21 Friendship Day
- 5 PTA Meeting 14 Flag/Field Day
- 21 Grade 5 Moving Up Day
- 24 Kindergarten Graduation
- 25 Staff Appreciation Luncheon

- **WILLOW RIDGE**
- 6 PTO Meeting 14 Flag/Field Day
- MIDDLE SCHOOL
- 3 PTSA Meeting 20 Grade 8 Night Out

HIGH SCHOOL

6 Senior Prom 17 Music Banquet

SWEETHOMESCHOOLS.ORG

SUNDAY SATURDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY **THURSDAY FRIDAY** Time to Soar... CLASS OF 2024

8

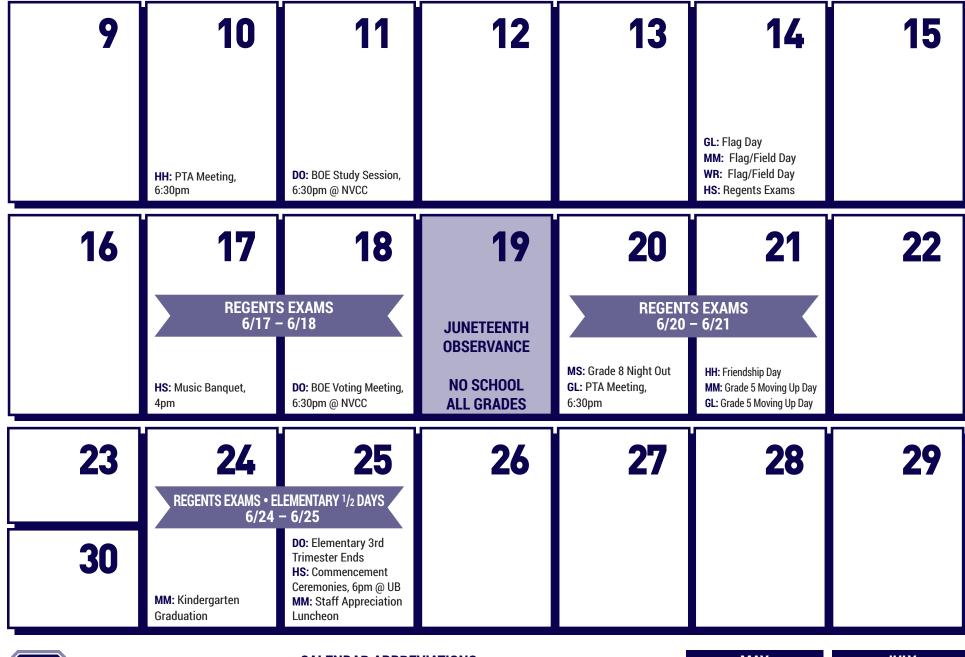
DO: Alumni Association Meeting, 5pm @ NVCC DO: Education Foundation Meeting, 6pm @ NVCC MS: PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm @ MS Library

MM: Volunteer Appreciation Event, 5:30pm

MM: PTA Meeting, 6pm

HS: Senior Prom. 6pm @ Wurlitzer **Event Center** WR: PTO Meeting. 6:30pm

GL: Field Day





CALENDAR ABBREVIATIONS

District Office **Family Support Center**

Glendale GL

DO

FSC

Heritage Heights Elementary

High School

Maplemere Elementary

Middle School

To Be Announced

University at Buffalo Willow Ridge Elementary **Board of Education**

NVCC Norman Vergils Comm. Ctr.

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* JULY 2024

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	1	DO: BOE Reorganization & Voting Meeting, 6:30pm @ NVCC	3	4	5	6
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*AUGUST 2024

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GETTING TO KNOW YOUR DISTRICT

OUR BUILDING PRINCIPALS



Glendale Elementary 250-1500



Heritage Heights Elementary 250-1525



Maplemere Elementary 250-1550

JAMES RYAN



ROBERT POLINOWillow Ridge Elementary
250-1575



MARISSA DAURIA Middle School 250-1450



DEREK BAKER
High School

250-1200

The Sweet Home Central School District has four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school- each with its own unique identity. They have in common the same high standards and enthusiasm for students.

At Sweet Home, we teach students human values like respect, responsibility, honesty and concern for others. All of this is encompassed in the District's Values Education Program. Our staff, from the teachers to the bus drivers, strive to ensure that Sweet Home is helping each child to realize his/her unique notential

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

At Sweet Home, we teach students to be productive citizens while preparing them for success in their chosen endeavors. Whether they plan to continue their education or enter the workforce, students will leave Sweet Home knowing how reading, writing, math, science, language, social studies, music, and art all relate to their future.

We strive to nurture the talents of every student, and to help them overcome their challenges. We want them to be excited about learning, and we hope that they will learn to work cooperatively as well as individually to ensure a smooth transition into post high school life.

Sweet Home is fortunate to have an outstanding faculty. The enthusiasm, knowledge and genuine concern for students gives children a distinct advantage, both academically and socially. The qualifications of Sweet Home teachers far exceed those of most other schools in the nation. The district provides constant support and continued encouragement of staff development through seminars and in-service programs.

DISTRICT STATISTICS

Dimensions — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
Number of School BuildingsFour (4) Elementary Schools
School Budget\$96,886,588

DISTRICT BUDGET

Residents will be asked to ratify the 2024-25 District Budget Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Norman C. Vergils Community Center in Sweet Home High School, 1901 Sweet Home Road, Amherst.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED TO VOTE

All eligible voters need to provide proof of residency in order to cast their ballots at the annual budget vote Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

According to Chapter 775 of the Laws of New York, voters must present one form of proof that testifies to their legal address. This form of proof must be one of the following:

- Board of Elections Card
- Post-Marked Mail
- Non-Driver Identification Card
- ation Card Rei
- Sheriff's Card
 Driver's License
- Rental/lease receipt

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The Sweet Home Central School District allows for the use of Absentee Ballots at all district votes and elections.

Request an application by calling 250-1402 or writing the District Clerk's office, 1901 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, NY 14228.

ITING TO KNOW YOUR DISTRICT

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

knowledge and skills needed to compete after graduation from high school. to life experiences. Teaching and learning are directed toward acquiring the with the New York State Standards, the student is able to relate what is learned become self-directed learners. Through an inter-disciplinary approach, aligned The elementary program is designed to give students the skills needed to

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sweet Home Middle School provides a quality educational experience for its students. Middle School faculty and staff strive to meet the scholastic and social needs of students through a flexible and constantly updated curriculum, complemented by an outstanding faculty and an exciting extracurricular program. Your child's personal needs are a major concern of every teacher, administrator and staff member.

the interchange of ideas and viewpoints. In the three important and influential years in which your child will be attending Sweet Home Middle School, we hope their explorations and experiences help them develop self-respect and respect for others as well. Our hope is that the students' sense of responsibility and integrity reach far beyond the classroom. Basic learning skills and study habits are introduced and reinforced through

HIGH SCHOOL

State and national averages on standardized testing programs. The school also has an excellent record in the annual number of winners of National Merit Sweet Home High School students consistently score at or above New York

indicated that they plan to attend a post-secondary educational institution. The high school honors program has been recognized throughout the state for its emphasis on enrichment. From drama to Indian culture, the program offers a fresh perspective about the world for students and teachers alike. Traditionally, approximately 80 percent of our graduating seniors have

other outstanding programs. soccer, lacrosse, gymnastics, cheerleading, track, baseball, tennis, and many The athletic program is extremely diverse, offering field hockey, basketball, championships. We are home to a nationally recognized girls volleyball team Sweet Home sports teams have consistently captured divisional and Section VI

the highest possible rating in state competitions while competing at the most Sweet Home's vocal and instrumental music students have routinely achieved

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PROGRAMS

cosmetology, early childhood education, culinary arts and welding. Courses are offered in topics such as advertising design & production, automotive trades, building trades, certified nursing assistant, computer aided drafting, Drive in Cheektowaga or the Kenton Center on Two Mile Creek Road in Tonawanda Many Sweet Home students attend CTE courses at the Harkness Center on Aero

of an emergency, we will do what is necessary to first protect children and then inform you as accurately and fully as possible. Together with emergency response officials, the District will make every effort to provide a reliable flow of information Programs are conducted under the auspices of the Erie County Board of Cooperative Services, also known as BOCES. Sweet Home buses transport to parents and the public as quickly as possible. school day in regular Sweet Home classrooms. Please know that in the event students, who spend part of each school day in the CTE centers and part of each

available to any student years in length and are full-year subjects. All courses are middle level and are is awarded to each student who meets the requirements. Most programs are two upon graduation. A certificate indicating successful completion of the program Programs are designed for those students who wish to have a vocational skill

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTERS

been developed to assist students needing help in a number of academic areas. The academic achievement centers are open throughout the day, students are encouraged to check each center's individual schedule of hours. The academic achievement centers at the High School and Middle School have

OUR MISSION

their future." Inspiring students to be: "Sweet Home Central School District...Every student, one community, ready for

- Innovative Self-Directed
- Curious
- Compassionate Resilient
- Persistent
- Learners Lifelong



SAFETY IN OUR SCHOOLS Safety in our Schools is our First Priority

learning environment for all students and staff The Sweet Home Central School District is committed for providing a safe

The SAVE Legislation (Schools Against Violence in Education) and the NYS Commissioner of Education regulations require all school districts to take **CRISIS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS**

- proactive steps to ensure school safety, including but not limited to:
 Developing district-wide and building-level safety plans regarding crisis
- intervention and emergency response and management, Establishing district-wide and building-level safety teams; Coordinating with local law enforcement; and
- safety training and drills for students and staff. Developing and implementing policies and procedures for annual school

District Safety Plan, adopted by the Board of Education, which outlines specific actions and responses to emergency situations, violence prevention, and mental health matters. Our emergency responses are governed by the FEMA Incident Command System (ICS). In addition, each of our buildings have Building Level Emergency Response Plans. The District and Building Level ensure that we are well prepared and that our children are protected. Emergency drills based on the FEMA recognized emergency responses (Shelter in Place, Hold in Place, Evacuate, Lockout and Lockdown) are conducted routinely in collaboration with the Town of Amherst Police Department and the Town of Plans are reviewed annually by safety teams comprised of Board of Education practices Tonawanda Police Department at all of our schools to further enhance our provides ongoing training to school administrators and other staff members to emergency or safety personnel, parents, and community members. The District members, administrators, teachers, service employees, law enforcement and The Sweet Home Central School District has developed a comprehensive

to provide a reliable flow of information to parents and the public as quickly as possible Together with emergency response officials, the District will make every effort first protect children and then inform you as accurately and fully as possible. Please know that in the event of an emergency, we will do what is necessary to

DISTRICT SAFETY COMMITTEE

The District Safety Committee is comprised of various stakeholders including Board of Education members, administrators, teachers, service employees, law enforcement and emergency or safety personnel, parents, and community members. The committee annually reviews the District Safety Plan, Code of Conduct, and various safety initiatives.

For further information about District Safety, contact our Chief Safety Officer, JoAnn Balazs, at 250-1408 or jbalazs@sweethomeschools.org

SCHOOL REGISTRATION

The Sweet Home Central School District has a centralized registration process for all grades Pre-K-12. We are located in District Office at 1901 Sweet Home Road, Door #6. The office number is 250-1600, fax 716-250-1378. Our email address is registration@sweethomeschools. org. Registration packets for new students can be obtained by visiting our office, the school district website or you may request one be sent via mail.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

The following documentation is required to register a new student:

- TWO proofs of residency in the school district which include:
- A current lease agreement or proof of home ownership (mortgage statement, school/ county/town tax bill, homeowners insurance) AND
- A current utility bill (shit off or disconnect notices are not accepted) for that location (electric, gas, water, cable/satellite, internet)
- Photo ID of the parent/guardian registering the child
- Proof of Custody if the child is not residing with both biological parents
- Child's original birth certificate
- Passport or current VISA if child is not a US citizen
- Current immunization records from clinic or health care provider
- Documentation of a New York State physical examination within 12 months of the start of school
- For new High School students, if possible, the student's transcript from the school last attended.

UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN (UPK)

The Pre-Kindergarten program is a full-day program. Enrollment is dependent on space availability. Children must be four years of age on or by December 1, 2023 in order to enroll. Transportation is provided to all students who are 4 years old.

VINDEDGADIEN

Children that will be five (5) years old on or by December 1, 2023 are eligible for Kindergarten. Sweet Home offers a full day Kindergarten program in all four elementary schools.

FAO'S

WHAT IF I DO NOT HAVE A LEASE? If you do not have a current lease, you must provide the following: 1.) A notarized statement from the landlord acknowledging you and your child(ren) are residing at that address, 2.) Proof of homeownership for the property from the landlord AND 3.) A utility bill in your name for that address. Landlord statements can be found on our website. **If you are unable to provide this please contact Central Registration to discuss your situation.

WHAT DO I DO IF WE MOVE DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR? You must formally change your address with the Central Registration Office. Parents cannot notify the student's building personnel verbally or in writing about a change of address. Parents must visit our office to complete a change of address form. This should be done as soon as your move takes effect to avoid interruption in transportation, your child's school attendance or receiving important school related information

IF YOU MOVE WITHIN THE DISTRICT: Parents must complete a change of address form AND provide the two required proofs of residency. This form can be completed in person, mailed, emailed or faxed (but then the form must be notarized) and provide us with copies of your proof of residency.

Please note that elementary school attendance is assigned by street address. If you move outside of your child's school attendance zone (but still live within Sweet Home District boundaries) during the school year, your child can attend the same school until the end of the year by parent transportation only. If attendance to or pick up from school becomes problematic, this special permission may be revoked. The student will then be transferred to the building assigned to the address for the following school year. A district street listing with assigned elementary schools can be found on our website.

CAN I USE A POST OFFICE BOX AS MY MAILING ADDRESS? YES. However, if you choose to change your mailing address to P.O. Box, the school district will not honor this request unless you recertify your continued residency in the school district by providing a current rental agreement, mortgage statement or tax bill AND a current utility bill. You must complete this change at Central Registration.

WHAT IF I MOVED OUT OF THE DISTRICT? New York State Education Law and Sweet Home School Board Policy state that students must attend the school district in which his/ her custodial parent or legal guardian resides. The school district does not have an open enrollment policy. Therefore if you move out of the Sweet Home School District, you must enroll in the school district in which you are now living. Non-Residents who continue to send their children to Sweet Home while living outside the school district are at risk for paying tuition for the time that their child is enrolled.

*If you have moved because of a life emergency or were displaced from your home due to an unplanned crisis, please call Anne Nowak at 716-250-1229 to discuss your situation to determine whether you may qualify for special circumstances.

*SENIOR STATUS: This may also be granted for students who move after July 1 in the year in which they are in Grade 12. Students in good academic standing with no discipline issues, can submit a request in writing to the High School Principal. If Senior Status is granted, the parent/guardian is responsible for transportation to and from school. In addition, the district has the right to revoke this status if the student does not remain in good standing.

IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

New York State Department of Health - Bureau of Immunizations [Public Health Law [Section 2164] mandates updated proof of immunizations for school entry. Proof of immunization, history of disease, or serology must be presented at registration. Without proper documentation, students are not officially registered and will not be admitted to school.

The following vaccines are required for your child to attend school:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTP, DTap, Td), Polio
 Three to five doses are required of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis
- and polio, depending upon the grade and the age of the student.

TETANUS DIPHTHERIA AND PERTUSSIS BOOSTER (TDAP)

One Tdap is required for those born on or after January 1, 1994 and entering grades 6-12 or a comparable age-level special education school or program. Documentation of Tdap vaccine must be submitted before September school entry or by the child's 11th birthday.

HEPATITIS B

Three doses are required of Hepatitis B. A fourth dose may be required depending on the age of the child when the series was started.

MEASLES, MUMPS, RUBELLA (MMR)

Two doses are required for students in grades K through 12. The first dose of MMR should be given no more than four days prior to the first birthday. The second dose should be given after the age of 15 months. One dose is required for Pre-K.

VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)

Two doses are required for entry into Kindergarten through Grade 12. One dose is required for entry into Pre-K.

HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZA TYPE B (HIB) – PRE-K ONLY

One to four doses are required for Pre-K students depending upon the age at which the series was started.

PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE VACCINE (PCV) - PRE-K ONLY

One to four doses are required for Pre-K students depending upon the age at which the series was started.

MENINGITIS (MENACWY, MCV4)

One dose is required for students entering Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11. Two doses are required for students entering 12th grade (the second dose must be given on or after 16th birthday; if the first dose was given at age 16 or older, only one dose is required; if the second dose was given before age 16, a third dose is required).

EXEMPTIONS:

SEROLOGY: Immunizations can be waived if there is laboratory/serological evidence of immunity for measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, or hepatitis B. A note stating that the student has had varicella disease from the student's health care provider is acceptable.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION: There is no religious exemption in New York as of June 13, 2019.

MEDICAL EXEMPTION: A physician licensed to practice in New York State must certify in writing that there is a health reason or condition for not immunizing a student with one or more of the vaccines. These medical exemptions must be reviewed and renewed every year. Forms for medical exemptions are available from your school nurse.

IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION AND APPOINTMENTS

Parents are encouraged to contact their child's Health Care Provider for scheduling needed immunizations. Erie County Department of Health Immunization Program at 858-7687 can provide limited immunizations for those without a medical home.

Contact your school nurse, the New York State Department of Health Immunization Program at 847-4501, or Erie County Department of Health at 858-2373 for further immunization information. Visit ECDOH website for updated immunization information and appointments at http://www.erie.gov/health/services/immunization.asp.

SCHOOL HEALTH

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES PERSONNEL

WE HIGH 250-120	SWEET HOME HIGH
SWEET HOME MIDDLE250-146 Mrs. Shannon Hutchinson, RN School Nurse; Mrs. Connie Aarum, RN Health Assistant	SWEET HOME N Mrs. Shannon H
WILLOW RIDGE ELEMENTARY250-157: Mrs. Kristin Puff, RN School Nurse	WILLOW RIDGE Mrs. Kristin Puf
MAPLEMERE ELEMENTARY250-155: Mrs. Yelena Suffoletto, RN School Nurse	MAPLEMERE E Mrs. Yelena Suf
HERITAGE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY250-152: Mrs. Ashley Neuman, RN School Nurse	HERITAGE HEIC Mrs. Ashley Neı
GLENDALE ELEMENTARY250-150: Mrs. Gilda Bonnevie, RN School Nurse	GLENDALE ELE Mrs. Gilda Bonr

FIGAT NURSE: TRD

Mrs. Barbara Baer, RN School Nurse; Mrs. Erica Duerr, RN

SCHOOL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The following are required for school enrollment:

- All students must be properly immunized to register and attend school (See separate section "Immunization Regulations"). Any exception to this mandate will be addressed on an individual basis.
- A Health Appraisal Report is required for students in grades Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11, for new entrants, and for students entering a Committee of Special Education Program. The student's primary Health Care Provider or School Physician may complete the physical examination.
- 3. A Dental Health Certificate also is requested for students in Pre-K, Kindergarten, Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11, and for new entrants.
- 4. Proof of lead testing for preschool entry will be requested at registration. If your child does not have proof of lead testing, you will be provided with information on resources to obtain a lead test. Further information on lead poisoning is available at: http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/

STUDENT HEALTH INFORMATION

Each student has an individual health file in the School Health Office. This file includes immunization dates, screening data for height, weight, body mass index, vision, hearing, scoliosis, and blood pressure, along with physical exam summaries and other health history information. New York State requires body mass index information to be reported on a bi-annual basis.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Student health and medical information, which is maintained by the district as part of a student's education record will remain confidential in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), other applicable federal and state laws and regulations, and/or district policy. Such information will not be disclosed without prior written consent of the parent (or the student if 18 years of age or older) to any individual or organization within or outside the district, unless otherwise permitted by law and/or district policy. Parents are encouraged to review the district's Annual Notice about rights concerning student records, for additional information about access to, and disclosure of, information in student education records, including health and medical information contained in those records.

STUDENT EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Parents/guardians must complete and return a Student Emergency Information Form during the first weeks of each school year. This form includes emergency contact and health history information.

Although your child's medical history and health conditions are confidential, emergency information will be shared on a need to know basis with school and transportation personnel to protect your child's health and safety while at school. In addition, parents are responsible for discussing with the Transportation Supervisor and their child's bus driver(s) any medical condition that may require any emergency treatment during transport.

Under the law, schools may give nothing more than first aid treatment. Immediate notification of parents or an alternative person designated by the parents may be necessary when hospitalization or emergency medical care is required.

In the event of an accident or serious illness requiring medical intervention, every effort will be made to contact the parent/guardian. If the school is unable to contact the parent/guardian or a designated person on the emergency information form, the student will be transported by community emergency response team personnel according to medical direction provided by Emergency Medical System [EMS]. A hospital of choice might not be honored.

SCHOOL PHYSICAL EXAMS

Buffalo Pediatric Associates, LLP provides physician coverage for Sweet Home Central School District. Dr. Robert Kaplan, MD is the SHCSD Medical Director and is responsible for school physical examinations.

SCHOOL SCREENINGS

Vision and hearing screenings will be conducted for all students in grades Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 11 and on an as-needed basis. Scoliosis screenings will be conducted for boys in grade 9 and for girls in grades 5 and 7.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Parents should not send students to school who are ill, or who present with an undiagnosed rash. Parents should contact their child's Health Care Provider and School Nurse for any questions or concerns regarding communicable diseases, and/or criteria for staying home and returning to school.

Students who are immunocompromised or who are not vaccinated against a communicable disease will be exempt from school during an outbreak until local health department personnel and/or Sweet Home Central School District Medical Director authorizes re-entry.

MEDICATION

According to the New York State Education Department and New York State Department of Health Administration of Medication in the School Setting Guidelines, any medication to be administered in school must be brought to school by an adult to the School Nurse, and must be stored in the original bottle or container in which the medication was purchased or prescribed. Parents also are responsible for picking up any medication no longer being given or any medication left at the end of the school year.

A medical note from the student's Health Care Provider and written permission from the parent or guardian must be received before any medication is to be administered. The note(s) should include permission for school health personnel to administer the medication, along with a statement of the reason, the name of the drug and the amount and time to be given. This policy includes prescription medication as well as over-the-counter medication such as cough drops, aspirin, ibuprofen, acetaminophen, nasal sprays and inhalers, eye and ear medications, sprays and ointments for the skin.

Medication is secured in each Health Office. School Nurses are staffed in each school building and administer medication to students. Students will not be permitted to carry or have medication in their possession, unless designated as a 'Self-Directed-Self Carry' student by their health care provider. Parents should contact their child's School Nurse for further information.

Students may carry and use FDA approved sunscreen products as long as the student's parent or guardian provides written permission for the student to carry and use sunscreen. A student who is unable to physically apply sunscreen may be assisted by unlicensed personnel when directed to do so by the student, if permitted by a parent or guardian and authorized by the school.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT & AWARENESS

Sweet Home Central School District follows the New York State Education Department Guidelines for Concussion Management in the School Setting. This provides school district personnel, parents/ guardians, students, and private health providers with guidelines on head injury management in school settings. This protocol assists in identifying a student with a potential concussion, and ensures that a student who has been diagnosed with a head injury receives the appropriate care and attention at school to aid in his/her recovery.

DISTRICT HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Representatives of various disciplines from all school buildings, service center, food service, and administrators, along with school board, parents and students meet regularly throughout the school year to discuss health initiatives and promote better health with improvements in curricula, food service and safety. Wellness related initiatives and activities are reviewed and discussed, and students empowered to make informed choices about their health and well-being.

Section 204 of the Child Nutrition and Women, Infants and Children Reauthorization Act of 2004 includes a provision which requires schools that participate in the School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program, Summer Food Service Program or Special Milk Program to establish a local Wellness Policy by September 2006.

The intent of this legislation is for local school communities to model, foster and teach children to eat well and be physically active in order to achieve a lifetime of good health. The policy should include goals for nutrition and physical activity that reflect the unique needs of the student body and community. Included in the intent is transforming the way children eat at school. The legislation recognizes the vital role of schools in promoting healthier lifestyles.

Questions, comments or further input about health and safety issues throughout the district are welcomed by the committee. They can be directed to chairperson Donald Feldmann at 250-1406 or via email at dfeldmann@sweethomeschools.org.

COMPREHENSIVE STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

responsibility of all students. attendance is a critical factor in student success. School attendance is both a right and a All children in New York State ages 6 to 16 are required to attend school. Regular school

The Sweet Home Central School District is an active partner with parents and students in ensuring that all students meet or exceed the New York State Learning Standards. To help Policy are available in the main offices of all district school buildings. Student Attendance Policy. Complete copies of the District Comprehensive Attendance reach that goal, the Sweet Home Central School District has adopted a Comprehensive

reasons for absence or tardiness: The New York State Education Department only considers the list below to be legal

- sickness or death in the family
- medical appointments
- religious holiday
- court appearance
- road test or college exploration counseling appointment
- school sponsored activities
- CSE meetings

ABSENCE EXCUSES

means of transportation. Students should be picked up in the main office of the school. tardiness. Early dismissal also requires a note from parents designating time, reason and the reason for the absence/ tardy/early and specify the date(s) and time of the absence or or when tardy. Excuses should be written and signed by the parent/guardian, and include A written excuse is required of all students when they return to school from an absence

ABSENCES / TARDINESS

weeks of school. Excessive early dismissals may be addressed as well. absences in the first twenty weeks of school, or 15 days of absences in the first thirty a student reaches 8 days of absences in the first ten weeks of school, or 12 days of intervention will be implemented. The second intervention will be implemented when thirty weeks of school will be flagged as a possible attendance problem and the first of absences in the first twenty weeks of school, or 12 days of absences in the first A student who reaches 5 days of absences in the first ten weeks of school, or 8 days

District also reserves the right to conduct a home visit as a method of intervention at When it is determined that intervention is necessary, the following steps will be taken. Where appropriate, the student will be present / involved in levels of intervention. The

District Wide Daily School Attendance Interventions

District also reserves the right to conduct a home visit as a method of intervention at Where appropriate, the student will be present/involved in levels of intervention. The

- that had attendance issues the school year prior, promoting regular school attendance as well as an excuse form that parents/guardians can fill out and sign in the instance of District will provide ways to make the form available for translation purposes. absence and/or tardiness. This form will be also available on the District website and the A. Prior to the Start of School – A letter will be sent home to all students, including those
- letter will encourage the parent/person in parental relation to promote regular school attendance and to monitor future absences. The school attendance policy and a copy of the student's attendance record will be included in the mailing. Acknowledgement of to the parent/guardian. receipt of the letter is expected and will be accompanied by a phone call from the school relation requesting more information about the student absences and/or tardiness. The First Intervention – The first intervention is a letter sent to the parent/person in parental
- re-evaluation of appropriate school placement (if the student receives special education services). The parent will also be informed of possible building actions should the issues that may be impacting the child's ability to attend school. This may include actions such as referral to the Family Support Center, referral community support services, or a tor educational neglect. attendance issue continue including home visits or a referral to Child Protective Services plan to improve attendance which includes offering the parent assistance to address any record will be included during the meeting. In the conference, the committee will create a of action that will improve the student's attendance. A copy of the student's attendance of student and school officials. The purpose of the conference is to determine a course Second Intervention – The second intervention is a meeting between parent/guardian
- calls, letter and request for a conference have been unsuccessful, or if the student continues to be absent from school (10 days absent in first ten weeks; 20 days absent D. Additional Interventions - If attempts to reach the parent/guardian through phone

in first twenty weeks; 30 days absent in first thirty weeks), the district will conduct a home visit as a further attempt to reach the parent/ address the issue. When a family has received two interventions, and exceeds the total number of days allowable absences by the District plan, school officials will pursue formal sanctions such as referral to CSE for a re-evaluation of appropriate placement, or referral to Child Protective Services for educational neglect, if appropriate

Middle/High School Period-to-Period Attendance Interventions

- absences and/or tardiness. The communication will encourage the parent/person in parental relation to promote regular school attendance and to monitor future absences teacher sent to the parent/person in parental relation notifying about the student A. First Intervention – The first intervention is a phone call or email from the student's
- conference is to determine a course of action that will improve the student's attendance. persons in parental relation will be sent by the school counselor. The purpose of the that further intervention is necessary, a letter requesting a conference with the parents/ or when the attendance patterns do not show improvement and the teacher decides B. Second Intervention – If there is no response to the communication sent to the parent
- letter and request for a conference have been unsuccessful, or if the student continues to be absent from class periods, a building level administrator will contact the home in a further attempt to reach the parent/ address the issue. Third Intervention – If attempts to reach the parent/guardian through phone calls,

SICKNESS

A student who is absent due to a communicable disease will be readmitted only when all symptoms have subsided. A medical evaluation/note from a Health Care Provider is direction. required before returning to school. Please contact your child's school nurse for further

PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXCUSES

All students are required to take physical education. Requests to be excused from elementary levels (Grades K-5) physical education classes for one week or less may be made with a note from the parent or a Health Care Provider. Exemptions beyond one week must be made in writing by a Health Care Provider. All requests to be excused from secondary level (Grades 6-12) physical education classes must be made in writing by a Health Care Provider.

HOME INSTRUCTION

week at the elementary level and two weeks at the secondary level) because of illness or injury may be eligible for home instruction. Elementary students receive up to one hour about the Home Instruction program, please contact the Office of Special Programs at immediately upon learning that a child faces prolonged absence. For further information the school nurse at the elementary level and the school counselor at the secondary level of instruction each day and secondary students up to two hours. Parents should notify Any student who will be absent from school for a lengthy period of time (typically one

WORKING PAPERS

Applications for working papers for all 14-17 year-old students who plan to work part or full-time may be obtained in the Student Services office of the high school. Applicants who live in the district, whether or not they attend Sweet Home Schools, must apply in person at the Sweet Home High School Student Services office

must be signed by the student while in the Student Services office. The Student Services office is open from 7:15am to 3:15pm Monday through Friday. Employment certificates for news carriers, ages 11 to 17, may be obtained by Sweet Home Middle School students in their school health office. All others should go to the high school Student Services physical education. nurse at their school is needed to indicate a physical examination, or participation in participates in regular physical education classes at school. However, a form from the office. A medical examination is not necessary for newspaper permits if the student recorded in the nurse's office. A parent signature is necessary. The employment certificate unless the student has had a physical examination for sports at school which would be of physical examination conducted within one year by a health care provider is needed, Applicants who attend the High School do not need proof of age; all others do. Proof

CODE OF CONDUCT

sweethomeschools.org complete Sweet Home Code of Conduct is available on the Sweet Home website at: www This document is a plain language summary of the Sweet Home Central School District (SHCSD) Code of Conduct; it does not replace the complete Code of Conduct. A copy of the

The SHCSD has established a Code of Conduct that identifies:

- Students Rights & Responsibilities
 - The Role of Essential Partners

 - Prohibited Student Conduct
 - Reporting Violations
 - <u> Disciplinary Consequences, Procedures & Referrals</u>
 - Alternative Instruction
 - Discipline of Students with Disabilities
 - Prohibition of Corporal Punishment
 - Student Searches & Interrogations
 - Visitors to the Schools
- Public Conduct on School Property
 Dissemination of the Code of Conduct

1. INTRODUCTION

The SHCSD and the Sweet Home Board of Education are committed to providing a safe and orderly environment where our students will receive, and district personnel will deliver, quality educational services without disruption or interference. Appropriate and responsible behavior by students, teachers, district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to providing such a safe school setting

respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty, and integrity. and at school-related functions. These expectations are based on the qualities of civility, mutual Sweet Home School District continually sets high expectations for conduct on school property

conduct and ensuring that discipline is administered promptly and fairly. acceptable conduct on school property, identifying the possible consequences of unacceptable The Sweet Home Board of Education supports the importance of clearly defined expectations for

All SHCSD employees must abide by and enforce school rules in a fair and consistent manner, and are expected to maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, sex or other legally protected category. Employees must report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to their attention to the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Dignity Act Coordinators (DAC's) or Civil Rights Compliance Officer (CRCO) in a timely manner. and/or bullying for resolution Similarly, students and parents are expected to report incidents of discrimination, harassment

SHCSD DAC's are as follows:

Willow Ridge Elementary Maplemere Elementary Heritage Heights Elementary Sweet Home Middle School Sweet Home High School

Lynn Kawa Donald Feldmann Wendy Januchowski Sal Glorioso Morgan Messineo Dr. Keli-Koran Luchey JoAnn Balazs Julie Eberle (716) 250-1408 (716) 250-1406 (77,000) (77,000) (77,000)) 250-1215) 250-1455) 250-1512) 250-1533) 250-1558) 250-1558

Sweet Home District Office Sweet Home District Office

SHCSD CRCO's are as follows:

2. DEFINITIONS

utilized throughout this document. Please refer to the full length version of SHCSD Code of Conduct for definitions of select terms

laws. Conversely, we expect our students to carry out their responsibilities in order for all students to receive the best education possible. Please refer to the full length version of SHCSD STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIESSHCSD is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal Code of Conduct for rights and responsibilities of students.

4. ROLE OF ESSENTIAL PARTNERS

Students, parents/guardians, instructional start, administrators, the District Superintendent and the Board of Education all have an essential role in maintaining safe, orderly and effective schools. The roles and expectations for each of these individuals are specified in the full length instructional staff, administrators, the District Superintendent

will be appropriate and civil. Students are expected to behave with dignity and treat others with courtesy and respect. Students should respect peers, teachers, administrators, and other school personnel. Individual behavior should not interfere with the rights of others. STUDENT CIVILITY AND DRESS CODEAll student interaction and communication between one another, and with adults

Students are expected to utilize language that is appropriate and respectful. Vulgar language including, but not limited to, negative comments based on race, ethnicity, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, sex, or other legally protected categories, and obscene comments or gestures toward others will not be tolerated.

should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress. All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. All district personnel, including student teachers,

A student's dress, grooming and appearance shall be safe, appropriate and should not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.

see-through garments and the exposure of undergarments are not appropriate in an educational setting. Students may not wear head covers, hoods, coats, jackets, earbuds/headphones, blankets or sunglasses during the course of the instructional day, except for those whose spiritual belief or denigrate others. Clothing/accessories may not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities, and extremely brief garments, School authorities may prohibit dress, which is so distracting as to interfere with the I process. Students are not permitted to wear items that are vulgar, obscene or libelous medical condition dictates otherwise. Students must wear proper footwear. interfere with the learning or that

PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT

All students must promptly report any prohibited conduct to an administrator or teacher. No one who, in good faith, reports a violation will be retaliated against. However, a student who knowingly makes a false accusation will face disciplinary action

Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Conduct that is disorderly or disruptive, including engaging in behavior that interferes with the health and safety of others, the learning environment, the school community, or community; or trespassing; SHCSD activities; engaging in any act which disrupts the normal operation of the school
- Conduct that is insubordinate, including failure to comply with the reasonable directive of teachers, administrators, and other SHCSD staff;
- weapons and/or firearm, or the intentional destruction of property;

 Conduct that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others, including lying to Conduct that is violent, including threats of violence, acts of violence, possession of
- school personnel; stealing; defamation; discrimination; harassment or sexual harassment; intimidating, bullying or hazing; cyber violations, including inappropriate or unauthorized use of technology and/or the internet to engage in behaviors including, but not limited to bullying, intimidating, threatening, harassing, maligning and/or defaming others, accessing websites for non-academic purposes (e.g. social networking; media downloads, etc.), as well as use of unauthorized proxies or "tunneling; possessing, using or selling alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, and other prohibited substances and/or paraphernalia; using vulgar or abusive language; smoking of any form; gambling; inappropriate touching or indecent exposure; or initiating a false report of an emergency; failure to comply with Federal or State mandates related to a pandemic or other emergency or natural disaster.

 Misuse of technology, including displaying, using or having powered on, any personal technology equipment (i.e. mobile/cellular telephone, Smartwatch, camera, iPod, video camera, laptop, iPad, tablet, e-reader, laser pointer, etc.) or any other type of telecommunication, multimedia or imaging device during class or instructional time, except as expressly permitted in connection with authorized use in classrooms. This
- includes audio and video recording.

then he/she is subject to discipline under this provision and/or any other provision in this Code of Conduct that may be applicable to the circumstances involved. privacy of, or compromises the safety of students, employees, volunteers, or visitors. This includes in the restrooms and/or locker rooms and/or the videotaping of a physical or (i.e. headphones, earbuds) during the school day, they are prohibited from using them in any manner that interferes with, or is disruptive of the educational process or invades the harassment is generally referred to as cyberbullying. If a student violates this prohibition verbal altercation. Students are not permitted to use any form of information technology, including their own personal devices to intimidate, harass, or threaten others. This type of While students are permitted to possess such devices and their associated accessories

responsible for loss or damage to any electronic device; Any electronic device that is permitted on school property is encouraged to be kept on the person and in a concealed manner. The Sweet Home Central School District is not

- Misconduct while at the bus stop or while on a school bus, including eating; smoking violation of the SHCSD Code of Conduct; and the bus; extending any body part from the window of the bus; opening the main door of the bus; using the emergency door except in the case of a real emergency; or any other fighting, using foul language, bringing unauthorized items on the bus, throwing items from
- Academic misconduct, including plagiarism (use of e.g. ChapGPT), cheating, collusion, aforementioned actions; forging, altering records, other forms of cheating or assisting others in any form of the

responsibility for their own behavior and who violate district/school rules will be required to property or engaged in a school function specific and clear. Students who will not accept The Board recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school

CODE OF CONDUCT continued

7. REPORTING VIOLATIONS

against by students, school staff or other individuals on school property. All students are expected to promptly report any violation of the Code of Conduct to a teacher or administrator. This includes incidents of other students or staff being harassed or discriminated

8. DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES, PROCEDURES AND REFERRALS

against by students, school staff or other individuals on school property. All students are expected to promptly report any violation of the Code of Conduct to a teacher or administrator. This includes incidents of other students or staff being harassed or discriminated

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Written notification to parents/guardians
- Detention
- Suspension from transportation
- Suspension from athletic participation
- Suspension from extracurricular activities
- Suspension of privileges
- Community service In-school suspension
- Removal from classroom
- Short-term suspension from school (five days or less)
 Long-term suspension from school (more than five days)
- Permanent suspension from school

Offenses by students in the following areas would usually result in building-level suspension of five days along with a referral to a Superintendent hearing: 1) use of alcohol/drugs; 2) fighting/physical altercation; 3) deliberate destruction of school property/vandalism; 4) theft of any kind; 5) sexual misconduct.

9. ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION

take immediate steps to provide alternative means of instruction for the student When a student of any age is removed from class by a teacher or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the district will

10. DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Board of Education recognizes that the need to address disruptive or problem behavior within its schools may result in the suspension, removal or other discipline of students with disabilities eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Article 89 of the Education Law (Article 89) and their implementing regulations. It also recognizes that these students with disabilities enjoy certain procedural protections whenever school authorities intend to impose discipline upon them.

11. PROHIBITION OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

No teacher, administrator, officer, employee or agent of the District shall use corporal punishment against a pupil. Corporal punishment means any act of physical force upon a pupil for the purpose of punishing that pupil

However, reasonable physical force may be used: to protect oneself, another pupil, teacher or any other person from physical injury; to protect the property of the school or others; or to restrain or remove a pupil whose behavior is interfering with the orderly exercise and performance of District functions, powers and duties, if that pupil has refused to comply with a request to refrain from further disruptive acts.

12. STUDENT SEARCHES OR INTERROGATIONS

guardians before questioning a student. All students will be told why they are being questioned School officials who are authorized to discipline students may question a student about any alleged violation of the law or the Code of Conduct. Officials are not required to contact parents/

complete Code of Conduct document any time. Officials may also search students and/or their belongings if they have reasonable suspicion that the search will result in evidence that the student violated the law or Code of Conduct. More information about student searches and interrogations can be found in the In addition, school property including lockers are subject to search by school officials at

detailed in the complete Code of Conduct. and child protective services to maintain a safe school environment. Specific procedures are It should be noted that district officials are committed to cooperating with police officials

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

visitors to the schools: Parents and other district citizens are encouraged to visit the district's schools and classrooms to observe the work of students, teachers and other staff. Since schools are a place of work and learning, certain limits must be set for such visits. The building principal or his or her designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. The following rules apply to

- Anyone who is not a regular staff member, district employee, or student of the school will be a visitor.
- through our Raptor Visitor Management System and will be issued a visitor's identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. The visitor Prior to entering the building, all visitors should be prepared to provide government issued must return the identification badge to the attendance office upon exiting the building photo identification and state the purpose for their visit. They will be required to register

- Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher(s).
- Teachers are not to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors
- Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave the building.

 All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property and at all school functions.

14. PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves a respectful and orderly manner, following all established school and district policies ar regulations. All persons on school property or attending a school are expected to be proper attired for the purpose they are on school property. policies and be properly

Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers or specifically authorized by the school district.
- Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.

 Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities
- Refuse to comply with any reasonable request of school district personnel, including but not
- limited to, leaving the property or moving a vehicle.

 Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the
- school program.

 Intimidate, threaten, harass, bully, or discriminate against any person on the basis of the person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, creed, national origin, ethnic group, religion,
- Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, or other district employee, or any person lawfully on school property. religious practice, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.

This includes graffiti or arson.

- Obstruct the free movement of any person is any place to which this Code applies.
- restrictions on vehicles Violate traffic directions, signs or traffic control devices, parking regulations or other
- substances, or be under the influence of any such item on school property or at a school Possess, consume, sell, distribute, share, or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled runction
- or grounds Smoke or use any tobacco or nicotine products, including e-cigarettes, on school property
- Loiter on or about school property
- Gamble on school property or at a school function.

 Violate the Acceptable Use of Technology procedures established by the District
- Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this Code
- school property or while at a school function. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or Board of Education policy while on

- Persons who violate this Code of Conduct shall be subject to the following penalties:

 1. Visitors/Spectators: Their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at school functions may be withdrawn/suspended and they may be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection by designated security or law enforcement officials. The length of said suspension shall be determined by the severity of the violation, and violators will receive written notice of the District's determination.
- 5 with due process requirements.

 School Personnel: They may be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in Students: They may be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance
- ယ accordance with due process requirements

ᇊ DISSEMINATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Home website at: www.sweethomeschools.org. The complete Sweet Home Central School District Code of Conduct is available on the Sweet

Superintendent for Talent & Equity, at (716) 250-1408. Copies of the complete Code of Conduct are available by contacting JoAnn Balazs, Assistant

Sweet Home Board of Education. The Code of Conduct is reviewed and updated as necessary each year. It is also approved by the

This summary document is being distributed to all students and parents pursuant to New York

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STUDENT RECORDS

Family Rights and Privacy

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) provides certain rights related to confidentiality of student records. Parents, those acting in a parental relationship, noncustodial parent(s) whose rights are not limited by court order or formal agreement, or eligible students Privacy Act (FERPA) and Board of Education Policy #7240, including: (those over 18 years of age) of the Sweet Home Central School District are hereby notified that you have certain rights in relation to a student's education records under Family Rights and

The right to inspect and review any and all education records maintained by the District, unless otherwise limited by court order or other legally binding document, within 45 days of receipt of request. The term "education records" is defined as all records, files, documents, and other materials containing information directly related to a student; and maintained by the education agency or institution, or by a person acting for that agency or institution.

part of the record they want changed, and specify why they believe it is inaccurate, misleading or an invasion of privacy. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested, you will be notified of your right to a hearing regarding the request, and provided with additional student believes are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise a violation of the student's privacy or other rights. Parents or eligible students currently enrolled should write to the building information regarding the hearing procedures. principal (or Assistant Superintendent for students no longer enrolled), clearly identifying the The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible

Under FERPA, unless otherwise exempted in accordance with law and regulation, the District may release personally identifiable information (PII) contained in student education records only if it has received "signed and dated written consent" from a parent or eligible student.

which allow for disclosure of education records, without consent, which include the follow There are exceptions under FERPA and the applicable regulations at 34 CFR Section 99.31

- a) Directory Information below); Directory Information and Limited Directory Information** (see Designated Directory
- seeks or intends to enroll, or after the student has enrolled or transferred, so long as the disclosure for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, d) Health and safety emergencies:
- Juvenile justice systems

- f) Foster care agencies, where such agency or organization is legally responsible for the care and protection of the student;
 g) Pursuant to a subpoena or court order;
 h) Financial Aid purposes;
 l) Accrediting organizations;
 l) Parents of a federally recognized dependent student even when the student tums 18 years of age or older;
 k) Audit/evaluation by the Comptroller General of the U.S., the Attorney General, the Secretary of Education, federal, state, or local educational authorities to evaluate programs or enforce compliance with federal requirements;
- improving instruction. developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, Participation in research studies conducted on our behalf to the district with the purpose of 2

In addition, other entities outside of the District may occasionally disclose PII from education records that the District has previously shared with that entity, to organizations conducting studies on behalf of the District. For example, a State Education Agency (SEA) may disclose PII from education records provided by the District without consent to an organization for the purpose of conducting a study that compares program outcomes across school districts to further assess the effectiveness of these programs with the goal of providing the best

to ensure to the greatest extent practicable complies with FERPA and its regulations. by law, the District will enter into a written agreement with organizations conducting studies for the District, or, with its designated authorized representatives in connection with audits or evaluations of education programs within the District. In the event that the District discloses PII from education records to its own designated authorized representative in connection with an audit or evaluation of an educational program within the District, it will use reasonable methods With regard to audit/evaluation or studies exception (see items k and l), to the extent required that its designated authorized representative

unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems or that is displayed on student ID badge but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records. the following: student's name; address; telephone listing; date of birth, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities or sports; weight and height (if members of athletic teams); dates of attendance; honors, degrees and awards received; the student ID number, user ID, or other **Designated Directory Information:**Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 7242, the District defines student Directory Information as

> media (newspaper, television, radio) for articles or announcements about school activities; in public displays sponsored by the District or an individual school (including the honor roll, merit roll or other recognition lists); in the annual yearbook, in District or school sponsored promotional information (graduation programs; school newsletters; programs or playbills sports or cultural events; videotapes, etc.); or via the World Wide Web, in District or sch From time to time, the District releases this type of directory information about students within the District or to outside organizations without prior consent. Examples include: to local news sponsored web-sites or other Internet- related activities. in District or school

Opt out: If you do not want Directory Information released, you must notify the building principal in writing and specify what types of directory information you do not want released. The written notice to the principal about Directory Information must be received no later than September 15 of each year (or within 15 days of enrolling in the district).

Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 7243 Military Recruiters and Institution of Higher Learning, the District is required under federal law to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of its secondary school students upon request. If you object to release of that information, you must notify the building principal in writing, and specify whether you object to release of the information to military recruiters, institutions of higher education, or both. The written notice to the principal about military recruiters and institutions of higher education must be received no later than September 15 of each year (or within 15 days of enrolling in the district).

You have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if you believe that the District has violated your rights regarding education records. You may send your written Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605. the District has violated your rights regarding education records. You may send your written complaint to the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland

If either a student's parent, those acting in a parental relationship, or the eligible student desire to obtain copies of the policies pertaining to student records, notification should be presented to the Assistant Superintendent, 1901 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, NY 14228.

For further information, please refer to the full texts of Board Policy 7240 Student Records: Access and Challenge, 7242 Student Directory Information, and 7243 Military Recruiters and Institution of Higher Learning, which can be found on the District's website at: sweethomeschools.org.

Student Data Privacy and Protection
The District posts a Parents' Bill of Rights for data privacy and security on its website. The Bill of Rights informs parents of the legal requirements regarding privacy, security, and use of student data when the district contracts with third party vendors

Protection of Pupil RightsThe Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams

These include the right to:

following protected areas if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education or is issued by a "third party": Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
- 87.554321 Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
 - Sex behavior or attitudes;
 - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior
 - Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships; Legally recognized privileged relationships such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers; Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents;
- Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

- health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law;
 3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others unless Any other survey seeking information about these 8 protected areas regardless of funding;
 Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate
- mandated by Federal or State law and/or regulation.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

Protected information surveys of students

- Instruments used to collect personal information from students , sales or other distribution purposes ₫ any of the above
- Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum

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does this policy supercede the requirements of FERPA. These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law. Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-8520. to surveys administered For further information see Board of Education Policy 7250. in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, nor These requirements do not apply

FOR PARENTS

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

insurance. The Sweet Home Central School District does not have or provide student accident

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME & SCHOOL

At Sweet Home, we feel that it is vitally important for children to see a distinct spirit of cooperation between home and school. We encourage parents to become active in the educational development of their children, and to do what they can to help make learning a positive experience. Parents who wish to arrange for a personal visit and a constructive exchange of views should feel free to call their child's school. If requested, calls or meetings between parents and teachers or administrators can be kept confidential

OPEN HOUSES

see classrooms and special projects and introduce themselves to other parents. and community members to see the schools. Here, they will meet teachers and principals, Each of the six district schools holds an Open House in the fall for parents, grandparents

Open Houses scheduled for 2023-2024:

Middle School: Willow Ridge: Maplemere: Heritage Heights: 6pm; Tuesday, September 19 5:30pm, Friday, September 15 6pm; Wednesday, September 20 6pm; Thursday, September 21 6pm; Thursday, September 14

High School: 5:30pm; Wednesday, September 13

Sweet Home Central School District is very proud of its relationship with its school community. The parent-teacher organizations in each school building are critical in supporting strong school to parent communication. Information on each organization for the 2023-24 school year. can be found on school websites. We thank these individuals for serving as presidents PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATIONS

PTA PRESIDENTS

GL – Vicki Wilkinson

HH – Katie Mikos

MM – Julie Thompson WR – Deepa Saini & Sara Juico MS – Michelle Thorpe

HS – Missy Liska

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled during the school year to help parents get to know their child's teacher and classroom. Conferences also allow parents and teachers to work together to solve problems and establish goals for students

Elementary Conferences for 2023-24

Half day of conferences Full day of conterences December 8, 2023 December 7, 2023

Middle School Conferences for 2023-24

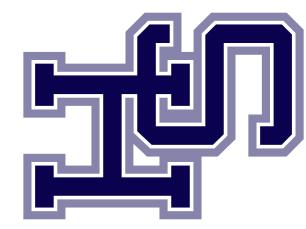
Evening conferences December 7, 2023

High School Conferences for 2023-24

Evening conferences December 7, 2023

PARENT IDENTIFICATION

other family member or friend, the person calling for the student must meet the student in the school office. This arrangement ensures proper identification. Estranged parents may be required to prove custody or be cleared through permission of the other parent. When an elementary school or middle school student is picked up or met by a parent or



SWEET HOME FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

The Family Support Center is another level of intervention in the district's student support services. If students are struggling with issues such as anxiety, depression, low self-esteem/self-image, substance use, family conflicts, peer relationships or serious school academic or behavior concerns, we can help. Our program will assist parents with getting their children and families the most appropriate, affordable support in a timely manner. We can also assist parents/ caregivers with their own counseling needs or parenting support.

For the convenience of our families and students, we currently offer on-site mental health counseling from Gateway-Longview Behavioral Health Clinic, BestSelf Behavioral Health, and Williamsville Wellness Center. Families can also be linked to counseling with other providers in the community.

In addition, if families are looking for health insurance, financial assistance, housing or recreation programs, we can help find those services in our community as well. We strive to be "one-stop shopping" for Sweet Home families.

Throughout the year, the Family Support Center sponsors programs on a variety of topics including parenting, anxiety, depression, abuse prevention and drug/alcohol awareness/prevention.

The regular offices hours are 7:30am to 3:45pm Monday through Friday.

The Family Support Center is made possible through a collaboration of many agencies: Autism Services of WNV, Amherst Task Force for Healthy Communities* Healthy Youth, Town of Amherst Police Department, Town of Amherst Youth and Recreation Department, BestSelf Behavioral Health, BryLin Behavioral Health, Mental Health Advocates of WNY, The Prevention Council of Erie County, Gateway-Longview Behavioral Health Clinic, Horizon Health Services, People Inc., Parent Network of WNY, St. Christopher's Outreach and Williamsville Wellness Center.

For more information call Anne Nowak, Coordinator, at 250-1229 or Kim Caruana, Administrative Assistant at 250-1228. We can be reached by email at anowak@ sweethomeschools.org or visit our web page on the District's web site.

STUDENT SERVICES, GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

All Sweet Home schools have qualified/certified counselors and staff in the Student Services, Guidance & Counseling Departments to assist students with scheduling and career and course planning. These individuals also assist students to solve problems in many areas.

HIGH SCHOOL 250-1216

Students in grades 9-12 are assigned to a counselor according to the student's last name.

COUNSELORS

Grade 12:	Grade 11:	Grade 10:	Grade 9:
Scott Harriger	Collin Reid	Andrea Siwiec	ly criteiii

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students in grades 6-8 are assigned to a counselor according to the student's grade level.

COUNSELORS

Grade 8:	Grade 7:	Grade 6:
Brandon Woods	Cheryl Palmer	Morgan Messineo

ELEMENTARY

Sweet Home is pleased to provide one, full-time guidance counselor per elementary building. Counselors along with their phone numbers are listed below.

GLENDALE

Lynn Kawa	
250-1500	

HERITAGE HEIGHTS

Salvatore Glorioso 250-1525

MAPLEMERE

lie Eberle 250-1550

WILLOW RIDGE

Wendy Januchowski 250-1575

SWEET HOME COMMUNITY

Sweet Home's alumni is one of the largest, most diverse groups of the district. The Sweet Home Alumni Association, formed in 1990, brings that group together to support education and to keep in contact with one another through gettogethers, reunions and monthly planning meetings.

All alumni are welcome to attend any Alumni Association meeting. Meetings normally are held at 5:00pm the first Monday of each month in Vergils Community Center. Specific meeting dates are indicated on this calendar.

The Alumni Association will publish its thirty-forth newsletter in November 2023. The \$25 fee for membership dues supports the newsletter, as well as the scholarship fund. Each year at least four scholarships are awarded, one of which goes to the son/daughter of a Sweet Home graduate. Donations to this fund are welcome and tax deductible. Contact Nicole Kuss, Alumni Coordinator, at 250-1295 to update your address so that you will be contacted for reunions and other alumni activities.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

An unusually comprehensive program of community education is offered at Sweet Home. For adults, there are evening classes ranging from fitness to business skills to special interest and craft courses. We offer opportunities to learn English and obtain a high school diploma through BOCES at 821-7196. Senior citizens will find discounted prices on certain programs.

For children, several sports camps and leagues are available. Classes in SAT preparation and five-hour safe driving courses are among the offerings for high schoolers.

Those wishing to suggest new programs or obtain further information regarding Sweet Home Community Education should call 250-1424. Course brochures are mailed three times per year and are included as part of the District newsletter, Your Schools.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & SERVICE

Throughout its history, the Sweet Home Central School District has traditionally had strong ties with the community. Through school-community partnerships and the wide range of community service activities undertaken each year at all Sweet Home schools, civic-minded alliances and efforts are highly visible throughout the District.

As outlined in Sweet Home's strategic plan, "school- community partnerships are essential to education." This statement is reflected by district institutions such as the Sweet Home Family Support Center, the Dollars for Scholars Program, Sweet Home Community Education and active Parent Teacher Associations at each school building. From the elementary schools to the high school, community service initiatives have raised several thousand dollars for local charities and community causes. Examples include: school service clubs, collecting change and selling flowers for Hospice, gathering food and personal care items for the Food Bank of WNY and volunteering time at local nursing homes and soup kitchens.

LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP

The Sweet Home Schools have formed a productive partnership with the Amherst libraries. A committee representing school librarians, teachers and administrators meets regularly with Amherst Library representatives to create joint programming that encourages parent/child enjoyment of public libraries and cooperation in sharing of resources.

The Sweet Home Schools encourage the use of public libraries. Following is a listing of hours for the libraries within the Sweet Home Central School District:

Main Library of Audubon

350 John James Audubon Parkway, West Amherst

HOURS: M-Th, 10am - 9pm / Fri. & Sat., 10am - 6pm

"YOUR SCHOOLS"

The Sweet Home Community Newsletter

In an attempt to keep parents and district residents informed of school programs and progress, the district publishes a newsletter entitled "Your Schools."

This publication is mailed regularly throughout the year to all District homes. "Your Schools" is the official publication of the District, and as such is the definitive source of information about Sweet Home.

Sweet Home believes in two-way communication and the district welcomes suggestions and ideas from residents. Questions or comments about school publications, including "Your Schools," should be directed to Community Relations Coordinator, Christine Slagle, at 250-1267.

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

Sweet Home's Dollars for Scholars chapter was formed in 1989 to initiate focused scholarship fund-raising efforts. The chapter's affiliation with the Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of America permits Dollars for Scholars awards to be matched by participating schools, colleges and universities.

Dollars for Scholars' purpose is to encourage all students to pursue post-high school education, including students not traditionally thought to be scholarship winners. Approximately \$100,000 in scholarships was awarded to graduates this year under the direction of Dollars for Scholars.

Sweet Home's Dollars for Scholars sponsors several fund-raising activities each year, including a craft show, phone-a-thon, District Music Festival, golf outing, chicken barbeques and meat raffles.

Community members are welcome to become involved with Dollars for Scholars. The committee meets regularly to discuss projects and fund-raising ideas to generate scholarship money for Sweet Home students. For more information, call Don Feldmann, Chairperson, at 250-1406.

TRANSPORTATION

the bus. Additional bus safety training is conducted in the classroom for our more than 60 other public, private and parochial schools in the Buffalo area. minute intervals. Sweet Home buses deliver students to our six schools and Home are checked daily for safety prior to morning departure and receive a thorough inspection each month. When roads are wet or icy, some delay a road test every other year. Drivers are subject to random drug and alcohol history checks are conducted before a driver is hired. Each driver must pass and a minimum of five additional hours each year thereafter. Every two years a minimum of 20 hours of classroom training during the first year of service and fuel consumption and to maximize student safety. All drivers complete out to all areas of the District. The routes are worked out to minimize mileage Our Sweet Home buses travel more than 730,000 miles annually reaching youngest passengers. Emergency safety drills are conducted a minimum of three times a year on in bus schedules can be expected. Most buses serve three schools on 30 testing and must pass a physical performance test. All buses at Sweet drivers are encouraged to take a 10 hour advanced driving course. Criminal

If you move within the school district, you must officially change your address with the Central Registration office by completing the necessary paperwork and providing proof of your new address. Central Registration will then notify the Transportation Department and your child's bus arrangements will be made for your new address. Parents should not call transportation to request a change in bussing.

Questions regarding transportation may be directed to the Supervisor of Transportation. The transportation offices are south of the High School on Sweet Home Road and the telephone number is 250-1435.

BUS REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS

STUDENTS SHOULD ALWAYS:

- Allow 3 to 5 minutes before the bus arrives. Drivers will not stop unless the student is visible to the driver.
- Board and leave the bus at the appropriate stop
- Board in an orderly manner and be seated as quickly as possible.
- Remain seated until the bus stops or the driver signals.
- Cross the street at least 10 feet in front of the bus, wait for the driver's hand signal and make sure that all traffic has stopped.
- Respect the bus driver and obey instructions.

STUDENTS SHOULD NOT:

- Wait on private lawns or in the street or approach the bus before it comes to a complete stop.
- Bring live animals, unwrapped glass containers, aerosol cans or packages having any dimension (length & height & width) exceeding three feet.
- Extend legs, arms or head out of the bus windows.
- Throw items out of the window or within the bus.
- Smoke, eat, fight or use foul language.
- Open the doors themselves.
- Use the emergency door except in emergencies

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Should you suspect that your child may have a disability, please contact the Sweet Home Special Education Office to make a referral:

- Mrs. Kathryn Barillari, Director of Special Education: (716) 250-1234
- Mrs. Lindsay Marcinelli (716) 250-1237

COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Committee on Special Education reviews all student referrals for special education eligibility as required by law. This Committee is made up of professionals involved with the individual student, the student's parent as well as a parent representative.

The Committee determines the appropriate services for students with academic, emotional, social and /or physical disabilities. Recommendations may include special education teacher services, full or part-time special education classes, and/or related services such as speech, physical therapy, occupational therapy and counseling.

COMMITTEE ON PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

All children with disabilities ages 3-5 are eligible to receive Special Education services as determined by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education. The Committee is made up of individuals from the school district, the evaluating agency, Erie County, the child's parent and a parent representative. This Committee determines the appropriateness of services for pre-school children, which may include full and half-day center- based programs, integrated programs, speech therapy or occupational and physical therapy.

CONSULTANT PROGRAM

For students in regular classes who require special education assistance, Sweet Home provides consultant teacher services. These services can be provided to an individual or groups of students and are delivered by a special education teacher in the general education class. The services can be provided directly to the student or indirectly through the child's regular education teacher. Services are offered for a minimum of 120 minutes a week.

SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSES

Sweet Home offers more intensive special education support for students with disabilities that interfere with their ability to benefit from regular class placement.

RESOURCE ROOM PROGRAM

Sweet Home provides resource room assistance for some students needing special education assistance at the Middle School and enrichment support for students at the High School. Students are assigned to the resource room on a regularly scheduled basis, while continuing their other studies in regular classrooms during most of each school day.

PROGRESS REPORTS

ELEMENTARY

K-5 will not be in attendance. elementary parent/ teacher conference day is scheduled, students in Grades time for the home and school to review student progress. Whenever an for review. Parent/teacher conference days are scheduled in order to allow Elementary students receive periodic progress reports that are sent home

MIDDLE SCHOOL

conferences are scheduled in December. Conference days are scheduled The fourth marking period report card is mailed directly to the home. Parent Report cards are sent home with students the first three marking periods.

doing less than satisfactory work for their ability. Interim reports are normally to the teacher. required to sign the interim report card and have it returned by the student sent home with the student, but are occasionally mailed home. Parents are Interim report cards are issued at any time in instances where students are in order to allow time for the home and school to review student progress

HIGH SCHOOL

marking periods. Report cards are mailed directly to the home following each of the four

instances where students are doing less than satisfactory work. As with Middle School students, interim report cards are issued at any time in

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

conditions, parents should turn to the following radio and television stations: If the cancellation of the school day appears possible during poor weather

WBEN AM 930 WGR AM 550

WHTT FM 104.1 WNED AM 970 WKSE FM 98.5 WYRK FM 106.5

WTSS FM 102.5 **WJYE FM 96.1**

WGRZ-TV Channel 2 -"Daybreak" beginning at 5 a.m

WIVB-TV Channel 4 -"Wake-Up" beginning at 5 a.m.

WKBW-TV Channel 7 – "Eyewitness News This Morning" beginning at 5 a.m.

posted on the district website at: www.sweethomeschools.org District website: When closing information becomes available it will be

Bureau, the district transportation office, local police and highway authorities. School cancellation is decided only after a thorough check with the Weather

local radio and TV stations and local police officials. Where possible, school officers will attempt to make telephone contact with PTA officers to seek emergency card will be notified. assistance in notifying parents. If parents are not home when elementary youngsters are scheduled for early dismissal, those named on the student's If school has to be closed earlier than usual, the school district will contact

Community Education classes are automatically canceled if school is closed

BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAM

for the 2023-24 school year. be implementing a meal certification option for all six of our district buildings available to schools participating in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs Elementary students receive periodic progress reports that are sent home Sweet Home Central School District is pleased to inform our families that Sweet Home will

What does this mean for children that attend a Sweet Home Central School District school?

High are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school for NO CHARGE every day for the entire 2023-24 school year. All students enrolled at Glendale Elementary, Heritage Heights Elementary, Maplemere Elementary, Willow Ridge Elementary, Sweet Home Middle and Sweet Home

a Household Income Form which can be found below or in any one of the district buildings. To ensure your child continues to receive free meals - and to ensure the free meal program can continue - the district is requesting each and every household complete

Further questions on this program can be directed to our Food Service Director, Mrs. Kristi Sajdak, at 250-1446 or via email atksajdak@sweethomeschools.org.

ALL HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION. DO NOT FILL OUT MORE THAN ONE FORM FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD. (1) Print the names of the children, including foster children, for whom you are applying on one form. (2) List their grade and school. (3) Check the box to indicate a foster child living increase.

- List their grade and school.

 Check the box to indicate a foster child living in your household, and check the box for each child with no income

PART 2

- HOUSEHOLDS GETTING SNAP, TANF OR FDPIR SHOULD COMPLETE PART 2 AND SIGN PART 4.

 (1) List a current SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number of anyone living in your household. Do not use the 16-digit number on your benefit card. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- 2 FDPIR number. An adult household member must sign the form in PART 4. SKIP PART 3 - Do not list names of household members or income if you list a SNAP, TANF or

PARTS 3 & 4 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE ALL OF PARTS 3 AND 4. (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get

- 2 earnings, welfare, pensions and other income. If the current income was more or less than usual, write that person's usual income. Specify how often this income amount is received: weekly, every other week (bi-weekly), 2 x per month, monthly. If no income, check the box. The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant, TANF and At Risk Child Care Programs should not be considered as income for this program. Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are completing the form for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people living in your household. Use another piece of paper if you need more space. Write the amount of current income each household member receives, before taxes or anything else is taken out, and indicate where it came from, such as

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)/Provision 2 non-base year Household Income Eligibility Form

Student Name		School				
		301001	Grade/Teacher	Foster	No	
				Child	Income	
				Ц		
Household Gross Income: List al no income, check box Name of household member	Il people living in your household, l k. If you have listed a foster child al Earnings from work before deductions	bove, you must report their persona Child Support, Alimony	income. Pensions, Retirement Payments		nth, monthly). Do not leav Other Income, Social Security	No Income
	Amount / How Often	Amount / How Often	Amount / How Often		Amount / How Often	lilicome
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	\$/ \$/	\$/_ \$/		9	3/	
	\$/_ \$/		\$/ \$/ \$/	\$	S /	
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SUMMARY OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

The mission of the District's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is to "cultivate a community where all members experience a sense of belonging". To this end, it is important to honor and celebrate the many religious holidays celebrated throughout our community. The purpose of listing these days is to assist staff, students and community members in their awareness and understanding of the many religions in the Sweet Home community.

Please note that: 1) all Jewish and Baha'i holidays begin at sunset the previous day; 2) Hindu and Jain holidays are calculated on a lunar calendar and therefore observed at different times in different regions of the country and; 3) some religions have different sects which may celebrate different religious holidays on different dates.

We have worked hard to ensure as accurate a representation of the religions of our community as possible. The calendar is not intended to include all religious holidays. Additional religious holidays are shared with District staff prior to the opening of school for use in the instructional program and to maintain sensitivity to the needs of students from differing religions. If you have a question or suggestion for future calendars, please call JoAnn Balazs, Chair of the DEI Committee, at 250-1408.

Below is a summary of 2023-24 religious holidays. Sources for the descriptions were local community members, The Multifaith Calendar and the Interfaith Calendar at www.interfaith-calendar.org. For more information of our DEI work, please visit the District website at www.sweethomeschools.org and click on the DEI tab right on the home page.

SEPTEMBER 16

Rosh Hashanah: Jewish New Year. A time of introspection, abstinence, prayer and penitence. (J)

SEPTEMBER 25

Yom Kippur: Jewish Day of Atonement. This holiest day of the Jewish year is observed with strict fasting and ceremonial repentance. (J)

SEPTEMBER 30

Sukkot: Jewish Feast of Tabernacles which celebrates the harvest and the protection of the people of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness dwelling in tents. (J)

OCTOBER 7

Shemini Atzeret: Jewish completion of the annual cycle of reading of the Torah. (J)

OCTOBER 8

Simchat Torah: Jewish day to celebrate the reading of the Law. Synagogue services involve readings, processions and blessing of the children. (J)

OCTOBER 16

Birth of the B'ab: Baha'i honoring of the founder of the Babi religion, forerunner to Baha'u'llah and the Baha'i faith. (BA)

OCTOBER 17

Birth of Baha'u'llah: Baha'i celebration of the birth of their founder and teacher. Refrain from work. (BA)

OCTOBER 24

Dasara: Hindu celebration of victory and valor. Lord Rama is remembered as winning a victory over evil. (H)

NOVEMBER 12

Diwali: Hindu Festival of Lights symbolizing the human urge to move toward the light. Gift exchanges, fireworks and festive meals. (H & JA)

NOVEMBER 27

Birth of Guru Nanak: Sikh honoring of the birthday of their founder. (S)

DECEMBER 7-15

Hanukkah: Jewish Festival of Lights. Special readings and praise songs focus on liberty and freedom. (J)

DECEMBER 8

Bodhi Day (Rohatsu): The celebration of the Enlightenment of the Buddha. (B)

DECEMBER 25

Christmas: Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. (C)

JANUARY 17

Birth of Guru Gobindh Singh: Sikh honoring of the birth of the founder of the Khalsa who lived from 1469 -1539 c.e. (S)

FEBRUARY 14

Ash Wednesday: Christian observance to begin the 40 day season of Lent that precedes Easter. Ashes are marked on worshippers as a sign of penitence. (C)

MARCH 8

Maha Shivaratri: A Hindu festival in honor of Lord Shiva and his marriage to Goddess Parvati. Ceremonies involving prayers and hymns take place mostly at night. Special foods are not used. (H)

MARCH 11

Ramadan: the ninth month of the Muslim year, during which strict fasting is observed from sunrise to sunset. (I)

MARCH 20

Naw Ruz: Baha'i observance of the vernal equinox symbolizing spiritual growth and renewal. (BA)

MARCH 24

Purim: Jewish celebration of the deliverance of the Jewish minority in Persia from genocide. Charity to the poor, sharing food with friends, and vigorous merrymaking mark the observance. (J)

MARCH 24

Palm Sunday: Christian celebration of the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The day begins Holy Week. It is observed by worship celebrations and parades using palm branches. (C)

MARCH 29

Good Friday: the day of Jesus' crucifixion. (C)

MARCH 31

Easter: The most holy of Christian sacred days. The day commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from his death by crucifixion. (C)

APRIL 13

Baisakhi (Vaisakhi): Hindu start of the New Years. Greetings that wish good life in coming days are exchanged.

APRIL 17

Ramanavmi: Hindu celebration of the birth of Lord Rama, hero of the religious epic poem, The Ramayana. The day involves telling of stories and going to the temple. (H)

APRIL 21

Ridvan: Baha'i commemoration of the twelve day period in 1863 when Baha'u'llah declared that he was God's messenger for this age. Work is to be suspended on days 1, 9, and 12 of the festival. (BA)

APRIL 23

Passover: First day of Passover/Pesach (eight days): marking deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt. (J)

MAY 22

Declaration of the Bab: Baha'i recognition of the declaration in 1844 by Ali Muhammed that he is the anticipated "Coming One" of all religions. Work is suspended. (BA)

MAY 28

Ascension of Baha'u'llah: Baha'i celebration of the rising of the spirit of Baha'u'llah to the heavenly dwelling. (BA)

JUNE 12

Shavuot: Jewish celebration of Moses' descent from Mt Sinai with the ten commandments. (J)

JUNE 16

Guru Arjan Dev Martyrdom: Sikh time of remembering those who have suffered for the faith. (S)

JULY 9

Martyrdom of the Bab: Baha'i - Ali Mohammed was executed in 1850 by Persian political and religious powers. Observed by abstaining from commerce and work. (BA)

KEY

I = Islam J = Judiasm
BA = Baha'i B = Buddhism
H = Hinduism S = Sikh
C = Christian

SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AMHERST & TONAWANDA

1901 Sweet Home Road Amherst, New York 14228 NON-PROFIT ORG. US POSTAGE **PAID** Buffalo, NY Permit No. 4095

SCHOOL HOURS

GLENDALE / HERITAGE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY

8:20am - 2:30pm

MAPLEMERE / WILLOW RIDGE ELEMENTARY

8:50am - 3:00pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL	
Doors Open 9:00	
Warning Bell9:07	
Final Bell9:10	
PA Announcements/ Attendance 9:12	
1a 9:15 - 9:35	
1b 9:35 - 9:55	
Morning Show - 1st Per 9:55 - 10:00	
2a10:03 - 10:23	
2b10:23 - 10:43	
3a10:46 - 11:06	

....11:06 - 11:26

4a-Lunch 1a-Gr 811:29 - 11:49	Н
4b-Lunch 1b-Gr 811:49 - 12:09	Α
5a-Lunch 2a-Gr 6 12:12 - 12:32	1
5b-Lunch 2b-Gr 6 12:32 - 12:52	١
6a-Lunch 3a-Gr 7 12:55 - 1:15	2
6b-Lunch 3b-Gr 7 1:15 - 1:35	3
7a1:38 - 1:58	4
7b1:58 - 2:18	5
8a2:21 - 2:41	6
8b2:41 - 3:01	7
9a3:04 - 3:24	8
9b/Dismissal3:24 - 3:45	9
Late Bus 4:25	

)	HIGH SCHOOL	
)	Arrival/Breakfast	7:15 - 7:25
	1st Period	7:25 - 8:05
	Morning Show	8:08 - 8:12
i	2nd Period	8:12 - 8:52
i	3rd Period	8:55 - 9:35
}	4th Period	9:38 - 10:18
}	5th Period	10:21 - 11:01
	6th Period	11:04 - 11:44
	7th Period	11:47 - 12:27
1	8th Period	12:30 - 1:10
i	9th Period	1:13 - 1:53
i	Dismissal	1:53 - 2:00

PHONE DIRECTORY

ACCOUNTING Nicole Kuss, Treasurer250-1401
ATHLETICS Athletic Director Christopher Schiumo
ATTENDANCE High School 250-1211 Middle School 250-1462
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS Stephen Rozler, Supervisor
CENTRAL OFFICE FAX250-1361
Superintendent of Schools Michael V. Ginestre
Assistant Superintendent for Talent & Equity JoAnn A. Balazs250-1417
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Toyia Wilson
Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Plant Services Donald G. Feldmann
Director of Pupil Personnel Kathryn Barillari250-1234
Asst. Director of Special Education Lindsay Marcinelli250-1237

Director of Curriculum & Instruction Elizabeth Kosakowski	250-1419
Director of Human Resources Finune Shaibi	250-1413
Asst. Principal for Data Management Thomas Roberts	& Support 250-1416
Systems Engineer Robert Ehlenfield	250-1420
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	250-1424
SWEET HOME FEDERAL CREDIT UNION	691-9187
COMMUNITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS Christine Slagle	
DISTRICT CLERK Sherry McNamara	250-1402
FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER Anne Nowak, Coordinator Kim Caruana	250-1229 250-1228
FOOD SERVICES Kristi Sajdak, Supervisor	250-1446
GUIDANCE/STUDENT SERVICES Middle School Cheryl Palmer Morgan Messineo Brandon Woods Homework Requests	250-1455 250-1458

High School Ty Critelli 250-1221 Scott Harriger 250-1218 Collin Reid 250-1222 Andrea Siwiec 250-1223
PAYROLL
CENTRAL REGISTRATION 250-1600
SCHOOLS Glendale Elementary 101 Glendale Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150 Karen DeLaPlante, Principal
Heritage Heights Elementary 2545 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, NY 14228 Antonio Perry, Principal250-1525
Maplemere Elementary 236 E. Maplemere Road, Amherst, NY 14221 James Ryan, Principal250-1550
Willow Ridge Elementary 480 Willow Ridge Drive, Amherst, NY 14228 Robert Polino, Principal250-1575
Middle School 4150 Maple Road, Amherst, NY 14226 Main Office

High School 1901 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, NY 14228 Main Office
READY ACADEMY ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION250-1635
SCHOOL NURSES Glendale Gilda Bonnevie, RN
200 1 100

DISTRICT EMAILS:

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