Dear Waverly Wolverine Community,

Serving as the Waverly superintendent this past year has allowed me to meet many people and to learn more about our strengths and weaknesses as we continue to build a top-notch educational program. I hope you have noticed our commitment to our community and our children. We have spent many hours partnering with the village and other local organizations so our children can learn what it means to be a part of a community. We have focused our efforts on academic improvement and student interest. We added agriculture to our curriculum. Next year, we will have a drone pilot school in place, as well as an emphasis on work-based learning. We have created opportunities in gaming, outdoor recreation and summer and afterschool programming. The goal is to create programming that excites students and makes them want to be a part of the Wolverine Team.

Our tax cap is estimated at 1.88 percent this year. The Board of Education will set a tax rate under that number. If they choose a 1.5 percent increase it will raise about $105,000 in local tax revenue. This equates to about $22.50 per $100,000 of assessed value, with the average current assessment. Our budget is approximately $32.85 million for this fiscal year, which is 0.66 percent more than last year’s budget.

This year’s budget will allow us to continue to build a social emotional support system in all of our schools as our children continue to need support in this area. We will increase staffing in the area of social-emotional support and counseling, as well as elementary instruction due to class size increases. This budget will support our focus on the K-6 literacy curriculum and continued growth in the overall academic program. It also will pay down debt service on capital projects and support the maintenance of our facilities.

Along with the budget, you will elect two school board members. I appreciate all the time and effort dedicated by the members of the Board of Education to insure our school is centered on children and fiscally responsible.

Our children will decide the future of our community and we welcome your input and support as we continue to grow and develop our educational programs. We feel we can be competitive and create increased opportunities not only for our students but also for our senior citizens and district residents. We believe the school is the center of the community and we will continue to work at being a welcoming and supportive entity in the community.

Sincerely,

Eric Knolles
THREE-PART BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Program $22,937,597 69.83%

The Program Component includes all instructional program expenditures, including the salaries and benefits of teachers and any school administrators or supervisors who spend a majority of their time performing teaching duties, and all transportation operating expenses. This total includes regular instruction, education of those with special needs, occupational education, curriculum and staff development, summer school and pupil services such as health, guidance, library, co-curricular activities, athletics and transportation.

Capital $6,601,552 20.10%

The Capital Component includes all transportation capital, debt service and lease expenditures; and costs resulting from court judgments, administrative orders, settled or compromised claims. It also includes all facilities costs of the district, including facility lease expenditures, annual debt service and total debt for all facilities financed by bonds and notes of the district, costs of construction, acquisition, reconstruction, rehabilitation or improvement of school buildings and all expenditures associated with custodial salaries and benefits, service contracts, supplies, utilities and maintenance repair of school facilities.

Administrative $3,308,301 10.07%

The Administrative Component includes office and central administrative expenses, travel expenses, salaries and benefits of all certified school administrators and supervisors who spend a majority of their time performing administrative or supervisory duties, all expenditures associated with the operation of the school board, the superintendent, general administration, the school business office, any consulting costs not directly related to student services and program planning and all other administrative activities.
Where Does the Money Come From?

State aid - 63.31%
Local tax levy - 21.76%
Other* - 14.93%

*Other includes: Operating balance - 5.07%; BOCES aid - 6.23%; Miscellaneous - 1.88%; Payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) - 1.46%; SACC Program - 0.21% and Interest/Earnings - 0.08%

How is the Budget Money Spent?

Instructional salaries - 28.70%
Fringe benefits - 23.70%
Other* - 8.65%
Debt service - 13.75%
BOCES services - 17.32%

*Other includes: Equipment - 1.33%; Contractual - 4.73%; Materials and supplies - 2.18%; Textbooks - 0.41%
On Tuesday, May 21, Waverly residents will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed 2019-20 school budget and the proposition to lease school buses, as well as elect two members to the Board of Education. The polls will be open from noon to 8:00 p.m. in the High School gym. Residents will see the following on the ballot:

**Proposition 1:**
The proposed 2019-20 budget in the amount of $32,847,450.

**Proposition 2:**
The leasing of four 66-passenger buses and two 30-passenger buses at a cost not to exceed $115,000 per year.*

*While the district is required to vote on a proposition to lease buses, the amount for the lease has already been included in the total proposed 2019-20 budget of $32,847,450.

**Board of Education Candidates:**
Choose two candidates to serve five-year terms. Candidates are:

David Ackland and Janel Golden

**Important Information for Voters**

**Budget Vote and Board of Education Election**

**Tuesday, May 21**
**Noon to 8:00 pm**
**High School Gym**

**Voter Eligibility**
Voters must be US citizens who are at least 18 years of age and have been a resident of the district for 30 days prior to the vote.

**Absentee Ballots**
If you are unable to appear in person on Tuesday, May 21, you may vote by absentee ballot. To receive an absentee ballot, please pick up an application in the District Office.

If you would like the absentee ballot mailed to you, return the application seven days before the vote.

If you will pick up the absentee ballot, return the application at least one day before the vote.

Absentee ballots must be returned no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 21.

**Public Budget Hearing**

**Thursday, May 9**
**6:00 pm**
**HS Learning Commons**
Lincoln St. Celebrates Military Families

In April, students and staff at Lincoln Street School celebrated the Month of the Military Child. Teaming up with PET-ALS, the school community recognized the sacrifices made by the children of active and retired military families.

Activities to honor these families included creating a Wall of Heroes with photos of students and members of their families who serve or are retired from service. Twenty students in Pre-K through first-grade are members of military families.

Also during the month, a drive to collect personal care items and other goodies to make care packages for service members brought in numerous donations.

Finally, on April 26, students and staff dressed in purple, a color that symbolizes the combination of all military colors. Students of military families said the Pledge of Allegiance during morning announcements and each received a purple carnation.

Above, Christopher and Harper Seeley and their father, Christopher Seeley, a staff sergeant in the US Air Force, pose with some of the many donations for military care packages. Above right, the children of military families salute after saying the Pledge of Allegiance during morning announcements.
Middle School, Elm Street Boast 100 Percent Participation Rates for State ELA Exam

Students in grades 3-8 were busy in the weeks leading up to the state ELA exams as they reviewed material and took practice tests. The students showed grit, determination, perseverance and positive attitudes about the exams, earning them tickets for prizes.

A Spirit Week with themed dress up days and a pep rally at the Middle School the week before the exam was a time to celebrate all that the students know and build excitement to do their best work.

At Elm Street School, Principal John Cheresnowsky agreed to be slimed as a reward for the grade 3-4 students’ hard work, positive attitudes and 100 percent participation rate on the English/Language Arts exam.
Guest Readers Visit Elm Street School

Students in second through fourth grade surpassed their goal to read for more than 60,000 minutes with the help of some special guests. Members of the Varsity baseball and softball teams visited Elm Street School in April to read with students for the Pick a Reading Partner (PARP) program. During the two week sports-themed reading incentive program, students were asked to read daily and log their time, which totaled 60,954 minutes of reading. The students earned a school-wide ice cream party and additional prizes from the Valley Bowling Center, Coaches Pizza and Subway (Keystone Ave.) for their hard work. Varsity baseball and softball players visited Elm Street School to read with students during “Swing Into Reading” incentive program.
Lincoln Street School Offers Family Fun Nights

Lincoln Street School students and their families recently enjoyed an evening fun and fitness during Family Ninja Warrior Night. The health and wellness event, organized by PE teacher Lauren Hassler, was a chance for families to have fun together while challenging themselves physically.

Lincoln Street also hosted Family Literacy Scavenger Hunt in March.
During the 2018-19 school year, two new club teams formed at Waverly High School that appeal to the varied interests of all students. The Skeet Team and eSports Team each fill a void for students who may not be interested in joining traditional athletic teams or visual and performing arts programs.

The Skeet Team, advised by School Resource Officer Ben Hettinger, currently has 18 members that include boys and girls in grades 9-12.

According to High School Assistant Principal Ryan Alo, the formation of the team was solely student-driven. “The students proposed the idea, found an advisor and presented their ideas to the Board of Education for approval,” he said.

The team competes through the USA High School Clay Target League. According to the league’s website, the organization's priorities are “safety, fun and marksmanship – in that order.”

To participate, students must have passed a hunter safety course or a six-hour online safety course.

The club meets on Saturdays and has various practice opportunities throughout the week to accommodate students’ athletic and work schedules or other events. The Waverly Sportsman’s Club, which hosts the club, waived membership fees and has gone out of its way to accommodate the team.

The eSports Team, coached by IT professionals Frank Brown and Kyle Ackland, was made possible by a grant from the Smart Schools Bond Act. The district was able to purchase 25 special gaming PCs, along with related equipment including gaming monitors, keyboards, mice and headsets with the funds.

Students who are part of this competitive gaming league participate in multiplayer video game competitions online.

Continued on page 10
WOLVERINE DEN COFFEE SHOP PARTNERS WITH INGERSOLL RAND FCU TO HOUSE STUDENT-RUN BANK AT HIGH SCHOOL

The student managers of the Wolverine Den recently presented an update about the coffee shop to members of the Board of Education. Students discussed their vision for the business and described the adjustments they have made to make the business successful. As a result of an internal audit, changes include downsizing from five to three managers and adopting a new tracking and accounting system. Another exciting change coming to the Wolverine Den next school year is the addition of a student-run bank, sponsored by Ingersoll Rand Federal Credit Union. IRFCU will remodel the space to house both the coffee shop and bank and provide all equipment and training for students. Credit union employees will supervise student tellers to offer transactions including deposits, withdrawals, transfers and check cashing. Students must apply and be interviewed for positions, as well as maintain professional workplace standards and perform the duties expected of regular IRFCU employees.

Objectives of the partnership include:
• To create an educational environment in which students have a hands-on experience in a real financial setting.
• To increase students’ knowledge of money management and financial products and services.
• To encourage the concept of saving money, establishing credit and the importance of a credit score.
• To provide work-based learning experiences that instill professionalism, work ethic, interpersonal and communication skills.

NEW TEAMS MEET THE VARIED INTERESTS OF HS STUDENTS, CONTINUED

Many of the life skills learned by playing on a traditional athletic team also can be honed by members of eSports teams, including teamwork, communication and problem solving skills. In addition, academics and attendance improve when students feel connected to their school team. Online safety and good digital citizenship also are stressed for members.

The eSports Team meets every day after school and members can have up to five matches each week. The team participates in the High School eSports League and competes with other gamers from the East Coast.
Students Excel on the Field and Stage

Five Varsity athletic teams recently were named Scholar Teams by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA). To qualify for this honor, 75 percent of team members must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 90 percent. Scholar teams were:

- Girls Track and Field, with a 96.09 percent team average, including Sheridan Talada, Liz Fritzen, Kaitlyn Clark, Kennedy Wheeler, Melina Ortiz, Aubrey Akins, Sydney Nierstedt, Alyssa Simonetti, Stephanie Hyland, Olivia Nittinger, Paige Ackley, Marissa Eisenhower, Cora Smith, Rachel Ovedovitz and Luci Burnett.
- Girls Golf, with a 94.68 percent team average, including Faith Svoboda, Gianna Picco, Alex Tomasso, Marnie Sweeney, Gabby Picco, Abigail Durgin, Sidney Tomasso, Paige Pierce, Lauren Newman, Haley Kittle and Gretchen Sowle.
- Softball, with a 92.59 percent team average, including Morgan Adams, Wendi Hammond, Sydney Meyers, Alyssa Sindoni, Sabrina Pierce, Paige Lewis, Riley Hall, Morgan Lee and Jordan Mente.
- Tennis, with a 91.93 percent team average, including Seth Lloyd, Siara Tompkins, Preston Tompkins, Hailey Onofre, Fenna Henze, Michael Zimmer, Justice Johnson, Chloe Croft, Rachel Shambo and Madelyn Goodwin.
- Boys Track and Field, with a 93.84 percent team average, including Brandon Clark, Caden Wheeler, Nick Janzen, Gavin Schillmoeller, Brandon Bubniak, Skyler Dengler, Collin Wright, Max VanDyke, Dylan Ward, Trenton Wright, Liam Wright, Ralph Johnson, Sam VanDyke, Alex Gadow and Tyler Saxon.

In addition, the following students were named individual scholar athletes: Ethan Lloyd (baseball), Colby Sindoni (baseball), Jason Pipher (baseball), Joe Tomasso (baseball) and Hunter Elston (golf).

The Drama Club recently staged a production of Clue. More than 20 students made up the cast and crew. Bravo!
Supporting Grandfamilies

A night of support for families affected by substance abuse.

Thursday, May 16, 2019
Waverly High School
1 Frederick Street, Waverly, NY 14892
Doors Open at 5:30pm

5:30 - Connect with Tioga County Resources
6:30 - The Science of Addiction
7:00 - "The Healing Journey" Film Screening

Pizza and Refreshments Provided!
Supervised Children's Room with Activities During Event
(Please RSVP by May 10 for Children Attending)

Have Questions or Need to RSVP? Call Stephanie at 607-223-4066