

August 2025

In this Issue

- Pg. 1** From the Director's Desk
- Pg. 2** The Class of 2025
- Pg. 11** 60 Years of Shine
- Pg. 17** The Slugger Award
- Pg. 17** U-S Scholarship Recipients
- Pg. 18** Meet Our New Team Members
- Pg. 19** 2025 Black Scholars
- Pg. 20** Student Spotlights
- Pg. 25** U-S Scholarship Committee
- Pg. 26** District News
- Pg. 34** Back to School BBQ
- Pg. 34** Join the PAC

Participating Districts:

- Brighton
- Brockport
- East Irondequoit
- East Rochester
- Fairport
- Hilton
- Honeoye Falls-Lima
- Penfield
- Pittsford
- Rochester
- Rush-Henrietta
- Spencerport
- Webster
- West Irondequoit
- Wheatland-Chili

From the Director's Desk

Greetings and Happy Summer!

We are thrilled to share the summer edition of Urban-Suburban's newsletter, commemorating our 60th Anniversary Celebration, also known as the Diamond Anniversary. Our theme this year is "60 Years of Shine: Illuminating Pathways to Brilliance." Together, we're celebrating the past, present, and future of Urban-Suburban!

Over the past six decades, our program has successfully championed equity, access, and voluntary collaboration in education. Our primary goal has been to reduce racial isolation and strengthen our communities, even amid significant societal challenges. We honor the contributions of countless individuals who have dedicated themselves to expanding educational opportunities and supporting the growth of our students, families, staff, districts, and communities. We cherish our past while looking forward with excitement and passion to building successful futures and thriving communities.

A heartfelt thank you to Monroe One BOCES, the Governance Board, the Urban-Suburban Program staff, our partnering districts, friends of the program, families, and students for your unwavering dedication to excellence in education!

We hope you enjoy the incredible program highlights and have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Felicia A. Smith
Program Director



Celebrating the Class of 2025

This year's seniors mark the largest graduating class in Urban-Suburban Program history. Throughout their time in the program, they've made lasting contributions - in classrooms, on stages and fields, and in their communities. We're proud to honor their accomplishments and cheer them on as they move forward.

Brighton High School



TyMere Boose



Da'vonna Burroughs



Mohammed Ghassat



Efrain Gonzalez



Aaron Hagos



Aleigha Lenear



Kaleb Matthews



Carmello Miranda

Brockport High School



Ikran Abdi



Dae'Jon Davidson

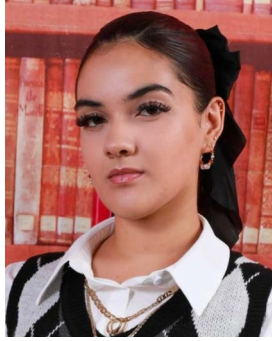


Madison Howard



Alisha Irizarry

Eastridge High School



Jaileen Betances



Ashton Brooks



Egypt Jones



Phillip Knight



Jordan McNeil



Tyshawn Miller



Kiran Ray



Jazelle Rodriguez



**Marquis
Salters-Rhodes**



Araice Valentin



Amarion Wiggins

Rush-Henrietta High School



Isaiah Maher



Anatasha Majors



Kebron Tadios

East Rochester MLA/Sr. High School



Amiah Alexander-Glenn



Ta'Niyah Carter



Treasure Chambers



Amariyanna Cochran



Alexander Entz



Neveyah Fair



Kasey Fernaays



Markus McClurkin



Jordan Nunn



Clinton Robinson, Jr.



Cadearell Sneed, Jr.



Shay Wald

Hilton High School



Jewell Tibbs

Webster Schroeder High School



Brycen Robinson

Webster Thomas High School



Kamora Bates-Ryland



Legacy Mason

Fairport High School



Kosisochi Azogi



Avery Harris



Lashard Lowry



Anthony Marshall



**Quay-Marr
Ragsdale-Harvey**



Rayanya Reed



Giuliana Rosario

Wheatland-Chili High School



Ashton Manley



A'Nari Trotter

Irondequoit High School



August Anderson



Abigail Bowen



Torrance Burton



Jaiana Byrd



J'nyiah Gerald



Alex Hernandez



Malachi Kelly



Zyaire Killings



Rasheen Mapp



Shanell Miller



Aniya Pascoe



Aa'liyah Roberts



Analysia Sosa



Georgia Warren



Myles Wynn

Penfield High School



Aasera Amiger



D'Aisyah Andrews



Kyla Batiste



Chandler Bowman



Serene Brady



Alannah Brooks



De'Aiyah Campbell



Amarianna Cummings



Sinai Ho



Cesario Irizarry



Ashwakh Jeylaani



Zaiden Ruiz-Quintana



Malachi Stock



Kevaya Thomas



Leeyah Williams

Pittsford Mendon High School



Kamille Burgess



Amia Murray



Adriana Rivera



Jalen Williams

Pittsford Sutherland High School



Aijalon Cromartie



Dahmoni Gano



Zamaria Harmon



Quintin Lewis, Jr.



Jayden
Morale-Cleggett



Jayla Walton



Perris Wilson

Spencerport High School



Nahriel Figgins



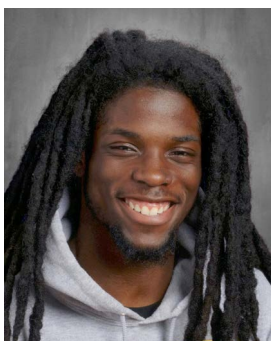
Joel Garcia



Ameerah
Garrett-Davis



Denzel Gray



Tyquan Green-Dees

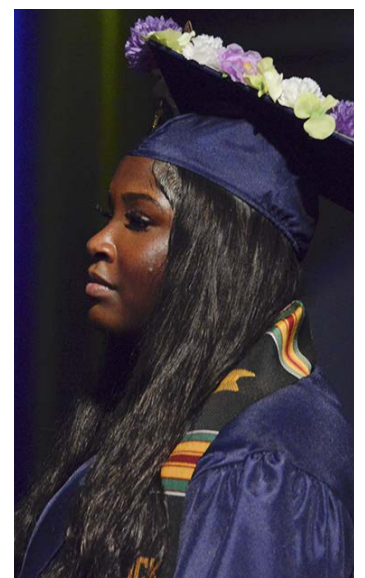


Ah'Layah Rodriguez

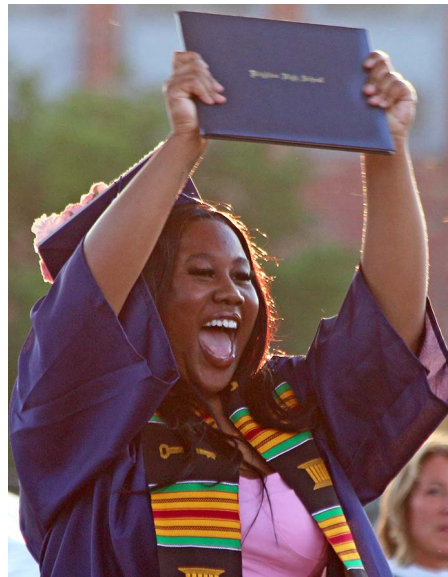


Crismery Ventura

Graduations Photo Gallery



Graduations Photo Gallery



Celebrating 60 Years of Shine

Illuminating Pathways to Brilliance

The Urban-Suburban Program (U-S) is marking 60 years of partnership, progress, and purpose. Since 1965, we've worked alongside families, schools, and communities to create opportunities, open doors, and shape a more connected future for our students.

What began as a bold vision has grown into a program that now supports more than 800 students across 14 school districts. This impact is made possible by committed families, dedicated staff, strong district partners, and a community that believes in the power of education to transform lives.

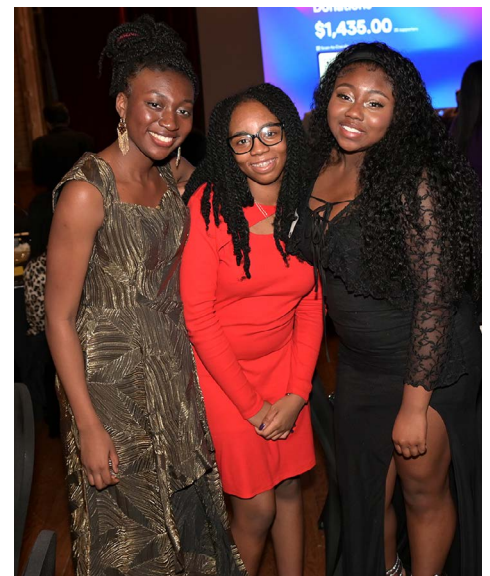
Together, we've reached a new milestone: the largest graduating class in Urban-Suburban history. Our 60th year is not just a celebration of where we've been—it's a reflection of what we've built together and the students who inspire us every day.

This spring, we came together in several meaningful ways. At our anniversary celebration, we reflected on 60 years of impact and the bright future ahead. At Recognition Night, we celebrated the accomplishments of our students and the support systems that help them thrive. The Monroe County Legislature also issued a proclamation recognizing the Program's long-standing contributions in honor of our diamond anniversary.

Thank you for walking alongside us in this journey and helping light the way for future generations.



Gala Photo Gallery



Gala Photo Gallery

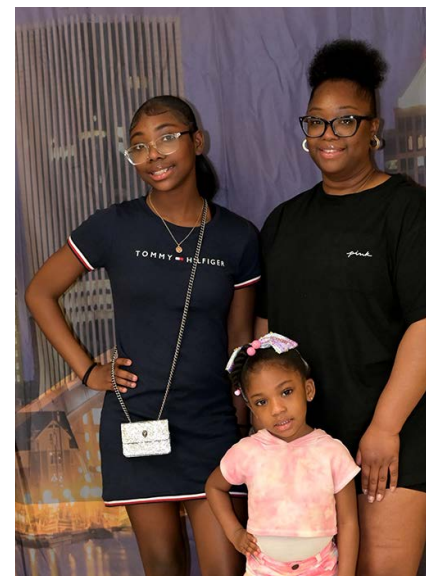


Proclamation Photo Gallery



Urban-Suburban Recognition Night

Congratulations to the 2025 recipients of the Urban-Suburban Academic Excellence, Academic Achievement, and Core 4 Awards! Students in grades 6–12 were recognized during a special ceremony and evening social that celebrated their hard work, growth, and commitment to excellence.



Recognition Photo Gallery



The Slugger Award

The Slugger Award honors individuals who go to bat for the Urban-Suburban Program, our participating districts, and—most importantly—our students. These recipients have shown exceptional dedication and support throughout the year. Congratulations to the following recipients:

- **Nicole Whitehead**, Penfield Central School District
- **Denise Lemcke**, Spencerport Central School District
- **Rebecca Short**, Fairport Central School District
- **Patrick Grow**, Fairport Central School District
- **Elizabeth Ramos**, Transpo Bus Service
- **Joshua Kasperski**, First Student



Congratulations, Scholarship Recipients!

RIT Destler/Johnson

Rochester City Scholars Program

- **Quay Marr Ragsdale-Harvey**, Fairport High School

Monroe One Educational Foundation Scholarship

- **Jewel Tibbs**, Hilton High School
- **Clinton Robinson**, East Rochester MLA/Senior High School

Urban-Suburban Scholarship

- **Zyaire Killings**, Irondequoit High School
- **Jayla Walton**, Pittsford Sutherland High School
- **Myles Wynn**, Irondequoit High School
- **Chandler Bowman**, Penfield High School
- **Kamora Bates-Ryland**, Webster Thomas High School

- **Alisha Irizary**, Brockport High School
- **Alannah Brooks**, Penfield High School
- **Markus McClukin**, East Rochester MLA/Senior High School
- **Georgia Warren**, Irondequoit High School
- **Abigail Bowen**, Irondequoit High School
- **Crismery Ventura**, Spencerport High School
- **Efrain Gonzalez**, Brighton High School
- **Leeyah Williams**, Penfield High School
- **Adriana Rivera**, Pittsford Mendon High School
- **Perris Wilson**, Pittsford Sutherland High School
- **Aijalon Cromartie**, Pittsford Sutherland High School
- **Torrance Burton**, Irondequoit High School

- **Isaiah Maher**, Rush-Henrietta Senior High School
- **Quay-Marr Ragsdale Harvey**, Fairport High School
- **Zamaria Harmon**, Pittsford Sutherland High School
- **Jayden Morale-Cleggett**, Pittsford Sutherland High School
- **D'Aisyah Andrews**, Penfield High School
- **LaShard Lowry**, Fairport High School
- **Kyla Batiste**, Penfield High School
- **Mohammed Ghassat**, Brighton High School
- **Anthony Marshall**, Fairport High School
- **Guiliana Rosario**, Fairport High School
- **Kebron Tadios**, Rush-Henrietta Senior High School
- **Treasure Chambers**, East Rochester MLA/Senior High School

Urban-Suburban Program welcomes new Coordinator of Program Engagement and Education Specialist

The Urban-Suburban Program is excited to welcome two new members to our team: Brya Potter, our new Coordinator of Program Engagement, and LoWan Brown, an Education Specialist who will be the point of contact for Brockport, East Irondequoit, East Rochester, and Wheatland-Chili School Districts and families.



Brya Potter

In her role as Coordinator of Program Engagement, Brya plays an essential part in advancing our mission to bridge educational opportunities and promote equity for all students. She joined the team in April, bringing with her a wealth of experience as a community and district leader, Middle School Assistant Principal, School Counselor, and dedicated advocate for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Her broad background has equipped her with the insights and skills to strengthen connections with students, families, and schools. In just a short time, Brya has been instrumental in the student placement process and celebrating the accomplishments of those already in the program.

LoWan Brown

We are thrilled to have LoWan Brown as the new Education Specialist for the Urban-Suburban Program. She officially started in June, eager to forge meaningful connections to provide the best possible support to students, families, and schools within our program.

She recently retired from the Rochester City School District, and brings 31 years of diverse experience as an Assistant Principal, guiding students from grades K-12. Her journey also includes experience as a School Counselor, and most recently served as a School Programs Coordinator at Foodlink, where she helped schools establish food pantries to support families facing food insecurity.



Please join us in welcoming both Brya and LoWan to the Urban-Suburban Program family!

51 Urban-Suburban graduates honored as 2025 Black Scholars

The Urban League of Rochester has named 51 Urban-Suburban graduates as 2025 Black Scholars, recognizing their commitment to academic success. Each student earned a B average or higher throughout high school.

These students were named during the school year, allowing them to take advantage of the program's college preparation resources, scholarship opportunities, and support services designed to help them transition to life after high school.

Now in its 46th year, the Black Scholars Program honors the academic excellence of Black students across the Greater Rochester area and supports their continued growth as future leaders.

We are proud to congratulate the 2025 Urban-Suburban Black Scholars:

Brighton High School

- Mohammed Ghassat

Brockport High School

- Ikran Abdi
- Dae'Jon Davidson

East Rochester MLA/ Sr. High School

- Amiah Alexander-Glenn
- Treasure Chambers
- Alexander Entz
- Markus McClurkin
- Jordan Nunn
- Clinton Robinson
- Shay Wald

Eastridge High School

- Ashton Brooks
- Egypt Jones
- Phillip Knight
- Jordan McNeil
- Tyshawn Miller
- Kiran Ray
- Jazelle Rodriguez
- Marquis Salters-Rhodes
- Amarion Wiggins

Fairport High School

- Kosisochi Azogi
- Avery Harris
- Lashard Lowry, Jr.
- Anthony Marshall
- Quay-Marr Ragsdale-Harvey
- Rayanya Reed
- Guliana Rosario

Hilton High School

- Jewell Tibbs

Irondequoit High School

- August Anderson
- Jaiana Byrd
- Aa'liyah Roberts
- Georgia Warren

Penfield High School

- Aasera Amiger
- D'Aisyah Andrews
- Kyla Batiste
- De'Ayvah Campbell
- Kevaya Thomas
- Leeyah Williams

Pittsford Mendon High School

- Kamille Burgess
- Amia Murray
- Jalen Williams

Pittsford Sutherland High School

- Aijalon Cromartie
- Dah'Moni Gano
- Zamaria Harmon
- Quintin Lewis, Jr.
- Jayden Morale-Cleggett
- Jayla Walton
- Perris Wilson

Rush-Henrietta High School

- Anatasha Majors
- Kebron Tadios

Webster Schroeder High School

- Brycen Robinson

Webster Thomas High School

- Kamora Bates-Ryland

These graduates were recognized during the Urban League of Rochester's Black Scholars Recognition & Scholarship Presentation Ceremony in June.

Student Spotlights

Urban-Suburban students honored for leadership and service at Monroe County Youth Awards

Congratulations to the six Urban-Suburban students recognized at the 2025 Monroe County Youth Awards, held on April 24. The annual event celebrates young people who exemplify leadership, community service, and a commitment to making a difference.

The following students were nominated by Monroe County Legislators:

- **Quay-Marr Ragsdale Harvey**—Nominated by Legislator Cruz, District 21
- **Kimbrance Allen**—Nominated by Legislator Delvecchio Hoffman, District 25
- **Amia Murray**—Nominated by Legislator Delvecchio Hoffman, District 25
- **Brennen Watson**—Nominated by Legislator Delvecchio Hoffman, District 25
- **Charizma Scott**—Nominated by Legislator Bonnick, District 27
- **Joymira Reed**—Nominated by Legislator Frazier, District 28



A special congratulations to **Charizma Scott**, who was awarded the Young Citizen of the Year for her outstanding public service. Her award inscription reads: "Charizma Scott is a dedicated and compassionate leader who actively serves her school and community. From mentoring new students to co-leading Student Council and supporting mental health initiatives, she exemplifies resilience, kindness, and civic responsibility."

Mariah Campbell

Mastering one instrument is a challenge—but Mariah Campbell plays the viola, flute, marimba, and electric guitar.

This incoming Eastridge High School 9th grader is the definition of involved. Mariah is a member of the National Junior Honor Society and participates in Eastridge's marching band, indoor percussion, jazz band, and select chorus.

Outside of school, she's active in ROCmusic and had the opportunity to perform with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra this spring. Mariah also received a full scholarship to the Eastman Community Music School, where she's honing her skills on the viola, and was recently accepted into the Hochstein Philharmonic Orchestra for the upcoming school year.



Jamyla Lewis

Jamyla Lewis is a standout student entering her senior year at Brighton High School. Her impressive track record includes being named a College Prep Scholar, earning recognition as a NYSSMA Solo Festival performer, and participating in both the Perry Outreach Program and the University of Rochester STEP Program.

These accomplishments reflect Jamyla's commitment to excellence and the wide range of interests she continues to explore.



LaShard Lowry Jr.

Written by Rosie Bates, Urban-Suburban PAC Representative

LaShard Lowry Jr. has been a dedicated member of the Urban-Suburban program since the first grade, excelling both academically and athletically. Maintaining an impressive 3.8 GPA, he has consistently demonstrated the discipline and determination required to succeed in the classroom and beyond.

On the court, LaShard has been a standout player since his sophomore year, serving as the leading scorer for three consecutive seasons on the varsity basketball team. His talent, leadership, and commitment to the game have earned him numerous accolades, including:

- All-Tournament Team—Class AA (2023)
- All-Tournament Team—Class AAA (2024, 2025)
- All-League First Team—Monroe County Division I (2024)
- Division I Player of the Year (2025)
- University of Albany Multicultural Award Recipient
- 4th player in Fairport School history to reach 1,000 career points
- 2nd leading scorer in Section V AAA

Beyond his athletic achievements, LaShard has embodied excellence through his character and work ethic, seamlessly balancing sports, academics, and personal growth. His commitment to success is further reflected in his four-year honor roll distinction, solidifying his reputation as a well-rounded and admirable individual.

Looking ahead, LaShard plans to major in Sports Management, combining his passion for athletics with his drive for leadership and success. His journey is a testament to perseverance, dedication, and the pursuit of excellence both on and off the court.

Congratulations, LaShard, on your outstanding accomplishments!



Kaleb Matthews

Brighton High School graduate Kaleb Matthews is heading to SUNY Cortland this fall—and he's bringing his football talents with him. He was one of 24 student-athletes honored during a special signing event on June 5, where they officially committed to playing college sports.

Kaleb was featured in an Urban-Suburban interview this past fall as part of the program's 60th anniversary celebration. Standing on the football field at the end of his final season, he shared that playing the sport had always been his dream - and that his future plans were about becoming the person his Brighton community and family always believed he could be.

That future is already off to a strong start. Kaleb was recently awarded both the Melissa Klotz and Jason Pollack Scholarship and the Monroe County Executive's Community Award at the Brighton High School 2025 Awards Ceremony in June. He'll take that momentum with him as he suits up for SUNY Cortland in September.

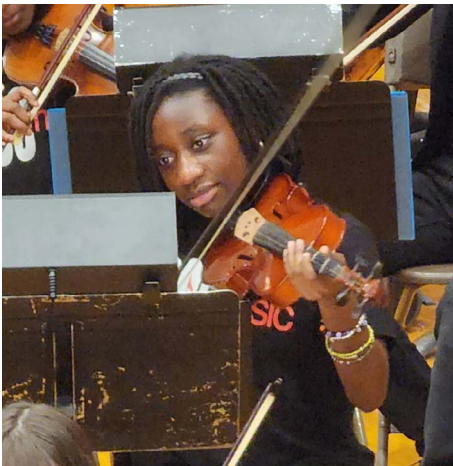


Allycia and Arianna McClendon

Sisters Allycia and Arianna McClendon are making their mark through music and academics.

Allycia, a rising 8th grader at Oliver Middle School in Brockport, plays violin with ROCMusic and recently had the incredible opportunity to perform side-by-side with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. She was also recently inducted into the Excelsior Society for her academic excellence.

Arianna, who just completed 6th grade at Bay Trail Middle School in Penfield, was selected to sing in this spring's All-County chorus program—another big achievement for this talented duo.



James Tolleson

Congratulations to James Tolleson! He's pictured here in the middle, proudly wearing a first-place wrestling medal after a successful season with the JV Wrestling Team.

James is entering his senior year at Spencerport High School. In addition to athletics, he's a talented musician and a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.



Thank you, Urban-Suburban Scholarship Committee!



(Pictured Left to Right: Latasha Pride—U-S Education Specialist, Marthensa Atkinson—HF-L/Spencerport Parent, Nida Tolleson—Spencerport Parent, Julda Cambrone—Brighton Parent, Kristen Rogers—E. Irondequoit Parent, Sydne Hill—Wheatland-Chili Parent, Monique DeVries—U-S Education Specialist, Brya Potter—U-S Coordinator of Program Engagement)

Thank You!

2025 Urban-Suburban Scholarship Committee

- **Julda Cambrone**, *Brighton Parent*
- **Kristen Rogers**, *East Irondequoit Parent*
- **Marthensa Atkinson**, *HF-L/Spencerport Parent*
- **Latoshi Clark**, *Pittsford Parent*
- **Nida Tolleson**, *Spencerport Parent*
- **Sydne Hill**, *Wheatland-Chili Parent*



Members of our Urban-Suburban community volunteer their time to serve on our committee each year. They review all criteria for the scholarship awards and allocate funds raised.

Interested in serving on next year's committee?

Volunteers from each of our school districts are encouraged and welcome to join us. The group meets on the first Saturday in May to choose scholarship recipients. Breakfast and lunch are served. Contact Program Director Felicia Smith if you're interested in participating by emailing Felicia_Smith@boces.monroe.edu.

District News

Brighton

Amanda Masters named TCMS Assistant Principal

Brighton Central School District Superintendent Dr. Kevin McGowan has announced the selection of **Amanda Masters** as the new Twelve Corners Middle School Assistant Principal.

“We’re so very excited to be welcoming Amanda to the team,” Dr. McGowan said. “She comes to Brighton with a wealth of experience and demonstrated excellence as a school leader. She distinguished herself throughout a comprehensive hiring process as an individual who works collaboratively and tirelessly to meet the needs of each child and to work closely with families and staff members to support the school community. Amanda will be a dynamic, thoughtful, and committed leader at TCMS.”



Ms. Masters has been the Middle School Principal at Bloomfield Middle-High School since 2022, where she manages academic, social-emotional, and behavioral supports for students in grades 6-8. Before that, she was an Assistant Principal at Palmyra-Macedon Middle School and an English teacher at Palmyra-Macedon High School.

Ms. Masters earned both a Bachelor of Arts in English and Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Nazareth University and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Administration from the State University of New York at Oswego.

She lives in Penfield and has two sons.

“I am beyond grateful and excited for the opportunity to serve the students, families, staff, and community members of the Brighton Central School District as the new Assistant Principal at Twelve Corners Middle School,” Ms. Masters said. “I am eager to join Brighton’s talented and thoughtful team and contribute to a culture that believes in every child and embraces the unique needs of each individual while striving for the highest level of academic and personal success. As assistant principal, I strive to be a positive role model for students and a partner in support for staff and caregivers, as we navigate together both the excitement and challenges that early adolescence can bring. I look forward to challenging myself in this new role and learning from a dynamic group of educators throughout the district.”

We want to extend our gratitude to TCMS Assistant Principal Chaun Brooks for her dedication and service to the District. Her focus on developing relationships with our students, staff, and families has been invaluable, and we appreciate the impact she has made during her time here. We wish her the very best in her next chapter.

Brighton High School Presents 2025 Awards

Brighton High School held its annual awards assembly on June 11. Congratulations to the Urban-Suburban student award winners!

- BHS Believes Award: **Asmara Gonzalez-Cotto**
- Urban-Suburban Scholarship: **Mohammed Ghassat**
- Urban-Suburban Scholarship: **Efrain Gonzalez**
- Urban-Suburban High School Principal's Award: **Efrain Gonzalez**
- Melissa Klotz and Jason Pollack Scholarship: **Kaleb Matthews**
- Monroe County Executive's Community Award: **Kaleb Matthews**



Students celebrated at Urban-Suburban Family Social

Brighton Central School District held its annual Urban-Suburban Family Social in March at Council Rock Primary School. The District recognized the seniors in the program and presented awards to students. Members of the senior class also shared their experience in the program with families.

Receiving Urban-Suburban Standout awards for demonstrating the Brighton Believes character traits were: **Ma'Kyia Artis, Mhalia Baldwin, Hope Bollar, Na'Laiyah Brockington, Kady Buckner, Anna Chestnut, Jer'Ceir Cotton, Delilah Delgado-Phillips, Natalie Gastel, Jayce Green, Nasir Kinsey, Saphira McCalla, Soyannie Nou, Charlotte Smith, J'acire Townsend, Cece Williams, Isabella Williams, LeRoy Williams, and Terralyn Winbush.**

Receiving the Brighton High School Bruin Award for demonstrating exceptional perseverance throughout their time at Brighton High School was **Tymere Boose**.

The BHS Urban-Suburban Class of 2025 includes: **Tymere Boose, Da'vonna Burroughs, Mohammed Ghassat, Efrain Gonzalez, Aaron Hagos, Aleigha Lenear, Kaleb Matthews, and Carmello Miranda.**

Representatives from the District and Urban-Suburban Program were on hand to connect with families and share in the celebration.



Monroe One BOCES

Dr. Hauber announced as next District Superintendent

The Monroe One Board of Education has selected **Dr. Cathy Hauber** as the next District Superintendent. She started her new role on July 1, 2025, following the retirement of District Superintendent Dan White.

Dr. Hauber has been serving as Monroe One's Deputy District Superintendent. Her proven leadership and deep knowledge of Monroe One make her uniquely suited for this role – qualities that align with the priorities many staff, students, and families shared during our surveys and listening sessions with our search consultant.

"Dr. Hauber's collaborative spirit and deep understanding of the staff, students, and districts we serve stood out throughout this process. The Board is confident in her ability to continue building on Monroe One's strong foundation while leading us into the future," said Board President Kim McCluski said.

Throughout her career, Dr. Hauber has collaborated with regional and statewide partners to develop teacher leadership models, strengthen school cultures, and champion personalized learning and collaborative practices.

The Board extends its gratitude to Kevin MacDonald, Genesee Valley BOCES District Superintendent, for guiding Monroe One through a thoughtful and thorough search process.



East Irondequoit

East Irondequoit welcomes Jerrod Roberts as Director of Secondary Education

The East Irondequoit Central School District is excited to announce the appointment of **Jerrod Roberts** as its new Director of Secondary Education. With over 20 years of experience in education, Mr. Roberts brings a wealth of knowledge, leadership, and a deep commitment to student success.

Mr. Roberts most recently served as the Principal of Oliver Middle School in the Brockport Central School District. His career in education has also included roles as an Assistant Principal, High School Dean of Students, and Secondary Special Education and Spanish Teacher—experiences that have shaped his holistic and student-centered approach to leadership.

His academic background includes a Bachelor of Science in Childhood and Special Education, and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from SUNY Geneseo, a Master of Science in Inclusive Education from Nazareth College of Rochester and a Professional Certification in School Administration from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

Driven by a passion for educational excellence, Mr. Roberts shared, "Over the past 20 years, I have remained focused on prioritizing students and supporting their educational journeys, helping them achieve success and reach their fullest potential. I believe this is best accomplished by educating the whole child and fostering a love of lifelong learning."

He expressed his enthusiasm for joining the East Irondequoit community, stating, "I am excited to join East Irondequoit, a district that prioritizes excellence and aligns with my passion for building strong instructional systems that support teachers and students at every level."

Please join us in welcoming Jerrod Roberts to East Irondequoit!



East Rochester

East Rochester celebrates outstanding seniors

Two East Rochester seniors were honored at the Michael C. O’Laughlin Outstanding Senior Recognition Dinner held on May 7 at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES. Greg Pita received the Monroe One BOCES Outstanding Senior of the Year as a student at Eastern Monroe Career Center. **Treasure Chambers** was recognized as East Rochester’s Outstanding Senior. Both students were selected for this honor based on their outstanding leadership, commitment to service, strong character, and academic excellence. We congratulate Greg and Treasure on this well-deserved recognition and commend them for their hard work and dedication.



East Rochester honors college-bound student-athletes

On Monday, June 2, East Rochester Union Free School District proudly recognized three student-athletes who will continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level. The ceremony, held in the district auditorium, celebrated the dedication, perseverance, and achievements of these exceptional students. Two of the three athletes are Urban-Suburban graduates:

- **Cadearell Sneed Jr.**—
Football, Alfred University
(NCAA Division III)
- **Jordan Nunn**—
Football, Alfred State
(NCAA Division III)

We congratulate these graduates on their commitment to both their academics and their sport. The entire East Rochester community is proud of their accomplishments and excited to see what the future holds.



Penfield

Urban-Suburban student named Penfield's Outstanding Senior

Each year, Monroe County school districts honor one graduating student who exemplifies scholarship, leadership, service, and character with the Outstanding Senior Award. For 2025, Penfield Central School District selected Urban-Suburban student **Serene Brady** for this distinction.

Serene was recognized in May at the 30th Annual Dr. Michael C. O'Laughlin Outstanding Senior Recognition Dinner, hosted by the Monroe County Council of School Superintendents. She was joined at the event by her family and Penfield Superintendent Dr. Tasha Potter.



West Irondequoit

Tim Baker appointed Dake Jr. HS Principal

Mr. Tim Baker was appointed the Principal of Dake Junior High School by the West Irondequoit CSD Board of Education. He began his new role Tuesday, July 1, 2025. Mr. Baker replaces Interim Principal, Mrs. Carol Stehm. He has been an Assistant Principal at Eastridge HS for the past two school years.

"We're proud to welcome Mr. Baker as our newest principal. His dynamic energy, approachable nature, and effortless way of building meaningful connections stood out from the start," said Superintendent, Aaron Johnson. "With his deep experience in education, we're confident Mr. Baker will be a driving force in supporting student and staff success and a vibrant school community."

Mr. Baker has led the 9th Grade Academy at Eastridge since August of 2023, and prior to that was an Assistant Principal at Geneva HS. He spent the majority of his career with Monroe 2 BOCES from 1997-2021, working in a few different roles. That includes Special Education Teacher, focusing on ELA, Social Studies and Social Justice for students with disabilities, and he was a Student Behavioral Assistant. He previously coached basketball, football and wrestling at various levels and has done inspirational speaking since 2012.



Pittsford

Pittsford Schools Superintendent Michael Pero announces retirement

Shana Cutaia named new Superintendent

With over 30 years of service with the Pittsford Central School District (PCSD), **Superintendent Michael Pero** has announced his retirement. His last official day as Superintendent will be December 1, 2025. He has agreed to stay on through January as a Deputy Superintendent to assist with the transition and oversee the Business Office while the Assistant Superintendent of Business is on medical leave.

Pero began his career with PCSD in 1994 as a health educator at Pittsford Middle School. He later became assistant principal, then served as principal of Barker Road Middle School, assistant superintendent for human resources, and was appointed superintendent in 2013.

“Mr. Pero is a compassionate leader who has steadfastly championed our District’s mission, vision, and values throughout his tenure,” said Robin Scott, President of the Pittsford Board of Education. “We thank him for his skilled leadership and unwavering dedication to the students and staff of Pittsford Schools. The entire Board of Education wishes him good health and happiness in his well-deserved retirement.”

The Board of Education has named **Shana Cutaia** as the next Superintendent of PCSD. She will officially assume the role on December 1, 2025, allowing for a brief transition period with Superintendent Pero.

Cutaia began her career with the District in 2003 as a social studies teacher at Barker Road Middle School. She later became assistant principal at Brighton’s Twelve Corners Middle School before returning to Pittsford in 2014 as principal of Barker Road Middle School, a position she held until 2021. Under her leadership, the school was named a National School to Watch and the top middle school in Monroe County by the Rochester Business Journal during that time.

In 2021, Cutaia was appointed Director of Student Services, overseeing areas including health and safety, counseling, nursing services, and social-emotional support programs.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Secondary Education from Nazareth University and a Master’s in Educational Leadership from St. John Fisher University. She also earned certifications in School District Administration from SUNY Brockport and Human Resources Management from Cornell University. Most recently, she participated in the Future Superintendent’s Academy (2023–2024) and Harvard University’s Civic Leadership in the Superintendency program (2024).

Cutaia resides in Pittsford with her husband, Kevin, and their two daughters.

“I wholeheartedly support the Board’s appointment of Ms. Cutaia as Superintendent,” said Michael Pero. “She is a caring and focused leader who will guide PCSD confidently into the future with her institutional knowledge, talent, and expertise. I feel very confident leaving the District in her capable hands.”

“Superintendent Pero’s early retirement notice gave the Board the opportunity to conduct a thorough and deliberate hiring process,” added Robin Scott. “After exploring various options and consulting with search experts last summer and this spring, the Board interviewed and unanimously agreed to hire Ms. Cutaia. It was her exemplary body of work over time within PCSD that led the board to this decision.

“The Board is confident that Ms. Cutaia is someone we know and trust to lead the District, uphold its values, and continue putting students first,” said Scott.

Succession planning and administrative hiring have been central to the strategic vision of PCSD. Over the past 18 months, the District has made significant strides in strengthening its leadership team, appointing new Assistant Superintendents for Instruction and Business, as well as new directors of Finance, Athletics, and Food Services. In addition, four new principals have joined our schools, bringing fresh perspectives and deep commitment to student success.

PCSD takes great pride in its ability to attract exceptional leaders from outside the organization while also fostering internal talent. By promoting capable and dedicated staff from within, the District not only builds leadership capacity but also preserves and leverages valuable institutional knowledge. This balanced approach supports continuity, innovation, and long-term success for our students and school community.



Spencerport

Jordan Addison

The Spencerport Central School District is pleased to welcome **Jordan Addison** as the new principal of Cosgrove Middle School. Addison began his position alongside newly-appointed assistant principal Benjamin Chatley on July 1.

Superintendent Ty Zinkiewich said, “We are thrilled to welcome Jordan to Spencerport. His knowledge, expertise and vision set him apart, and we are confident that his dynamic approach and strong leadership will have a positive impact for students and staff.”

Addison brings a wealth of educational experience to this role, having served as a middle school program director and instructional coach at the University Preparatory Charter School and summer high school principal for Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES. Prior to these positions, Addison taught at the elementary level in the Rochester City School District and Gates Chili School District.

He holds a master’s degree in childhood education from Nazareth University and certificate of advanced study education administration from SUNY Brockport. Addison earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from New Mexico State University, and he has obtained certifications in childhood education and educational leadership (SBL).



Ben Chatley

The district is excited to announce the appointment of **Ben Chatley** as the new assistant principal of Cosgrove Middle School. Chatley stepped into the role previously held by Jamie Hill-Dougherty on July 1.

Chatley comes to us from the York Central School District, where he taught 8th-grade social studies for the last three years. Prior to working in York, he taught 9th-grade social studies in the Newark Central School District.

“We are excited to welcome Ben to the Cosgrove team,” said Superintendent Ty Zinkiewich. “His fresh perspective and enthusiasm for education will undoubtedly be a great addition to Spencerport and we look forward to his leadership and contributions.”

Chatley attended SUNY Fredonia, earning the following degrees: a bachelor’s in adolescence social studies education and a master’s in education. In addition, he has obtained certifications in adolescence education and for students with disabilities. He currently attends the University of Rochester to earn his certificate of advanced study in building and district leadership.



New principal of Spencerport's Munn Elementary School appointed

Spencerport Central School District is pleased to announce the appointment of **Chelsea Kehoe** as the new principal of Munn Elementary School. Kehoe officially started on June 2 to allow for student and staff introductions and to ensure a smooth transition in leadership with former Principal Michael Canny.

"We're excited to welcome Chelsea to Spencerport and believe that she will have a profound impact on the Munn learning community," Superintendent Ty Zinkiewich said. "Her knowledge, experience, and student-centered approach align with Spencerport's mission and moreover, her dedication to creating an inclusive learning environment where every child can thrive aligns with our values."

Kehoe joins us from Monroe One BOCES, where she demonstrated exceptional leadership for the last seven years as an assistant principal at Bird/Morgan School. Her career experience also includes positions at the ROC Achieve Charter School, where in four years she taught fifth grade, coordinated RTI intervention, and served as a dean of students.

Kehoe earned her Bachelor of Science degree in childhood education and master's degree in literacy, both from Roberts Wesleyan College. In addition, she earned a Master of Science in education leadership from St. John Fisher University.



Wheatland-Chili

Dr. Stephen Kenny appointed the next Wheatland-Chili CSD Superintendent

The Wheatland-Chili Board of Education has selected **Dr. Stephen Kenny** as the next superintendent of the Wheatland-Chili Central School District.

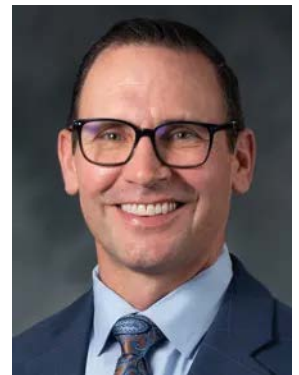
Dr. Kenny was appointed to the position at the Board of Education meeting on Monday, March 10, 2025. He stepped into this role when Lynda Quick, Esq. retired at the end of the 2024-25 school year.

"We were impressed with Dr. Kenny's variety of experience, especially the combination of his years in the classroom and his administrative credentials. We are enthusiastic about what is ahead as we welcome him to Wheatland-Chili," Board President James Musshafen said. "The Wheatland-Chili Board of Education would like to sincerely thank the staff and community for their input during the search process," Musshafen added.

Dr. Kenny was most recently the assistant superintendent for human resources in the Penfield Central School District. Prior to that he served as a building principal in Penfield and Fairport, and as an assistant principal in Pittsford and Gates Chili. Dr. Kenny began his career as a teacher in Brookline, MA followed by teaching positions in Canandaigua and Gates Chili before advancing into administrator roles.

"Wheatland-Chili is well-known for being a welcoming community that shows pride in its students and an exceptional quality of life," Dr. Kenny said. "I look forward to working with the Board of Education, staff and families to provide students with endless opportunities and the support they need to achieve their goals."

The Board would like to thank Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES District Superintendent and Search Consultant Dr. Thomas K. Putnam for his assistance throughout the search process.



Back to School BBQ

Our Parent Advisory Council's Back to School BBQ is right around the corner!

Sunday, August 24

10a.m.-4 p.m.

Dogwood Shelter at
Genesee Valley Park

It's a great opportunity to connect with other families, enjoy good food, and celebrate the start of a new school year.



Please RSVP to USPACTEAM@gmail.com

and let us know if you're able to bring a side dish, drink, dessert, or if you'd like to volunteer!

Join Our Team of Dedicated Parents!

The Urban-Suburban Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is seeking parent representatives from the following Urban-Suburban school districts:

- East Irondequoit
- Fairport
- Hilton
- Honeoye Falls-Lima
- Rush-Henrietta
- Spencerport
- Wheatland-Chili
- West Irondequoit

The PAC includes at least one parent volunteer from each district and plays a key role in supporting the Urban-Suburban Program by advocating for students and families.

Meetings are held virtually the first Wednesday of each month from 6:00–7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted).

Interested in getting involved?

Email USPACteam@gmail.com and Felicia_Smith@boces.monroe.edu to learn more.



Visit the Urban-Suburban Program website at:
www.monroe.edu/US

A program of

