

inside

STAFF



South COLONIE Fall 2007



South Colonie Central Schools welcomes new district staff

- Peter Allen Veeder Elementary Teacher
- Charles Barber, Sr. Forest Park Custodial Worker
- Bonnie Bellas Lisha Kill MS Teaching Assistant
- Nancy Bernard Sand Creek MS Food Service Helper
- Kara Bliss Forest Park/Roessville Special Education Teacher
- Renee Blot Saddlewood Elementary Teacher
- Marie Bologna Saddlewood Elementary Teaching Assistant
- Robert Bowman CCHS Custodial Worker
- Lori Brooks Roessville Elementary Teaching Assistant
- Tracey Burns Shaker Road Elementary Teacher
- Ron Butler CCHS Custodial Worker
- Judith Carhart Sand Creek MS Food Service Helper
- Tracey Carter Shaker Road Elementary School Monitor
- Matthew Chapkosky CCHS Social Studies Teacher
- Angelique Cioffi Veeder Elementary Speech Teacher
- Patrick Claffey CCHS School Monitor
- Catherine Clayton Veeder Elementary Teacher
- Deborah Cuoccio Veeder Elementary Secretary
- Tanya DeLaMater Special Education Teacher for Hebrew Academy
- Rachel DeTeso-Mathis CCHS English Teacher
- Darcie Donahue Forest Park Teaching Assistant
- Kevin Donovan CCHS Custodial Worker
- Kimberly DonVito Sand Creek MS School Monitor
- Nanette Eddy Sand Creek MS Music Teacher
- A. Scott Egnaczyk District Custodial Mechanic
- Nancy Farley CCHS School Monitor
- Victoria Frank Sand Creek MS English Teacher
- Kim Gabriel CCHS Food Service Helper
- Clarice Gaul School Bus Driver
- Richard Gavigan School Bus Driver
- Aimee Gleason Sand Creek MS Foreign Language Teacher
- Samantha Gonyeau Lisha Kill MS Teacher
- Danielle Gushlaw Lisha Kill MS Teacher
- Charles Haynes School Bus Driver
- Allison Holcombe Forest Park Elementary School Monitor
- John Hynes CCHS Teaching Assistant
- Regina Igle-Brown School Nurse for Hebrew Academy
- Heather Ilardo Forest Park Elementary Food Service Helper

Congratulations to Wayne Dragon, whose hard work and dedication to the children of the South Colonie Central School District, has earned him Bus Driver of the Year honors from the Hudson Valley chapter of AAA. For the story, please turn to page 4 of this newsletter.

The Energy Educator

▶ ANOTHER YEAR UPON US,
ANOTHER CHANCE TO SAVE
BY DISTRICT ENERGY
MANAGER JAMES BROWN

Despite skyrocketing utility costs, an increase in the square footage of our buildings, and a hike in the number of students and staff, South Colonie has increased its utility budget by just 4 percent or \$53,000 since the 2000-2001 school year.

So, people may ask, how is it that we have accrued a "savings" of close to \$2 million over the past six years?

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Congratulations tenured staff

▶ 35 HONORED AT FALL RECEPTION

Thirty-five of the district's finest administrators, teachers and counselors were honored by the South Colonie Board of Education this fall for their recent tenure appointments.

A reception was held at the District Office in September where Board President Tim Ryan joined Superintendent Michael Marcelle and other board members and administrators in presenting the honorees with certificates for this accomplishment. Featured on pages 2-3 are some photographs capturing the night. Congratulations to all!

- Karen Baumeister Lisha Kill Elementary Education
- Jason Blind CCHS Guidance
- Brooke Brady Lisha Kill Foreign Language
- Kathleen Brown Shaker Road Health
- Kelli Budney Forest Park Elementary Education
- Nora Callender Administrator
- Michelle Carras CCHS Special Education
- Audrey Conley CCHS Teaching Assistant
- Jill Durant CCHS Guidance
- Karen Duncan Lisha Kill Teaching Assistant
- Jeremy Eggleston Saddlewood Physical Education
- Andrea Esposito Lisha Kill Math
- Donna Futia CCHS Special Education
- Rosanna Futia Lisha Kill Foreign Language
- Michelle Hallock Forest Park Special Education
- Kevin Jette CCHS Social Studies
- Michael Joyce CCHS Physical Education
- Erin Lasky CCHS Social Studies
- Christopher Leahey CCHS Administrator
- Michael Perrott Veeder Elementary Education
- Dana Probeyahn Lisha Kill Music
- Christina Reeves Veeder Elementary Education
- Keven Ruane CCHS English
- Nicole Ryan Lisha Kill Elementary Education
- Amy Sillings Shaker Road Elementary Education
- Stacey Sausto Sand Creek Health
- Tami Sherry CCHS Teaching Assistant
- Gregory Sherwin Shaker Road Elementary Education
- Nicholas Southworth Lisha Kill Math
- Debra Spawn Veeder Teaching Assistant
- Matthew Stein CCHS Physical Education
- Amy Ogburn Forest Park Elementary Education
- Sara Tribou Sand Creek Music
- Carol VanEtten Sand Creek Elementary Education
- Marina Vitale CCHS Teaching Assistant





NEW STAFF ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- Linda Jarvis CALC Teacher
- Jennifer Keller Lisha Kill MS Teacher
- Katherine Keller CCHS Food Service Helper
- Pamela Kent Lisha Kill MS Food Service Helper
- Amanda Knaggs CCHS Science Teacher
- Cathy Kowalski Saddlewood Elementary Teacher Assistant
- Stella Kwong Lee Shaker Road Elementary School Monitor
- Teresa Leisenfelder CCHS Food Service Helper
- Nicole Leto Shaker Road Elementary School Monitor
- Diane Leva Veeder Elementary School Monitor
- Joan Lipscomb Lisha Kill MS Special Education Teacher
- Elaine Luizzi Forest Park Elementary Librarian
- William Luke Sand Creek MS Teacher
- James McCann School Bus Driver
- Patricia McCarthy CCHS Foreign Language Teacher
- Ronald McLaughlin School Bus Driver
- Keri Martinez Special Education Teacher for CBA
- Christina Mathieu CCHS Art Teacher
- Cindy Meister CCHS Food Service Helper
- Michael Millson Saddlewood Elementary School Monitor
- Donna Murphy Pupil Services Secretary at Forest Park Elementary
- Maureen Musto Lisha Kill MS Special Education Teacher
- Adam Neubart CCHS Math Teacher
- Erin Nichols CCHS Math Teacher
- Jennifer Parsons School Bus Driver
- Steven Rifenburg District Custodial Mechanic
- Harold Rogers CCHS Custodian
- Vickie Rosebeck Saddlewood Elementary School Monitor
- Christine Saxe Shaker Road Elementary Teacher
- John Schepisi Lisha Kill MS Foreign Language Teacher
- Maribeth Shanley Forest Park Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Kim Sholtes Shaker Road Elementary School Monitor
- Laura Slagen Veeder Elementary Teacher
- Theresa Sleasman Shaker Road Elementary School Monitor
- Christine Sonder Roessleville Elementary School Monitor
- Doris Spitzer Veeder Elementary School Monitor
- Krista Stannard Veeder Elementary Special Education Teacher
- Lindsay Steenrod Roessleville Elementary Teacher
- Linda Stevens Sand Creek MS Nurse
- Michael Stott CCHS Social Studies Teacher
- Karen Stufflebeam Lisha Kill MS Food Service Helper
- Gregory Sulz Sand Creek MS Teacher Assistant
- Ronald Surdam Sand Creek MS Custodian
- Ralph Tashjian Lisha Kill MS School Monitor
- Joseph Teal District Maintenance Mechanic
- Mary Tibbitts Shaker Road Elementary Food Service Helper
- Kelly Ulion CALC Science Teacher
- Louis Viger School Bus Driver
- Jessica Vollmer CCHS Math Teacher
- Amber Whalen Forest Park Elementary Teacher
- Kiamesha Wright District Office Account Clerk
- Beth Wyman Veeder Elementary Teacher
- Dawn Yetto Saddlewood Elementary Food Service Helper
- Jessica Zima CCHS Biology Teacher

▶ SOUTH COLONIE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

- William Dollard is the new Principal at Shaker Road Elementary School
- Gregory Bearup is the district's new Supervisor of Math & Science



AAA Bus Driver of the Year honors for South Colonie's Wayne Dragon

Congratulations to Wayne Dragon, whose hard work and dedication to the children of South Colonie, has earned him Bus Driver of the Year honors from the Hudson Valley chapter of AAA.

Dragon was nominated for the award by the South Colonie Transportation Department for his exceptional accident and safety record, attendance and job performance, interaction skills with students and staff, and acts of heroism.

Dragon, who was presented with the award during bus driver orientation this fall, is in his 13th year driving for the district. In that time, he has seen a whole generation of students grow up from kindergarten to graduation.

"I just love the kids and the people I work with," said Dragon, who was "surprised" to receive the award. "The children grow up so fast, right in front of your eyes in this job. It's great to see them mature."

As an EMT for the Fuller Road Fire Department, Dragon helped save a life one day while on the job. While driving his school bus one morning, he witnessed a gentleman on Sand Creek Road go into cardiac arrest. Dragon acted quickly, pulling the bus over and immediately administering CPR.

While there are many drivers he could have nominated for Driver of the Year honors, Wayne is that "special someone who immediately comes to mind," said South Colonie Transportation Director Peter Tunny.

"He's a great ambassador for our department," Tunny said. "He goes above and beyond every day and he's always there to lend a helping hand. He's one in a million."

Other News & Notes

▶ OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE IN NOVEMBER

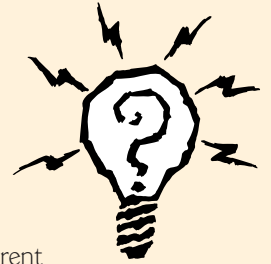
November is Open Enrollment for health insurance. The district offers the following health plans: Capital District Physicians' Health Plan, Blue Shield of Northeastern New York-Traditional Blue 907 and Traditional Blue POS 211. Benefits become effective January 1, 2008. For more information and rates regarding these insurance plans, please contact the Insurance Department at the District Office, 869-3576, ext. 2450.

The Energy Educator

... ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR

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Let me explain. After normalizing for weather, I can calculate on a yearly basis how much less energy we used as compared to the year we began our energy conservation program. Then I calculate how much that energy would have cost us (had we not reduced our consumption) at the given price for the current period. This is known as Cost Avoidance. In essence, it is what we would have spent had we not reduced our energy use district-wide.



To date, our Cost Avoidance is more than \$1.8 million. These numbers are not something only I come up with — EPA has evaluated the performance of our energy program, and has come to the same dollar amount.

The most significant amount of savings has come from what you, the users of our buildings, have been able to do by changing your routines. There are numerous examples where employees are doing their part:

- coaches turning off gymnasium lights when gyms are empty;
- custodians turning hallway lights to 1/2 lighting as soon as possible;
- mechanics turning down the thermostats on nights and weekends;
- drivers turning off lights in the bus garage during the day;
- District Office staff making sure the board room lights are off when not in use.

Any one of these examples might seem "small" to someone. However, when added together, they make an enormous impact in our budget. YOU, more than anyone, know the things that can be done to save energy and dollars where you work. Everyone understands that \$200,000 in energy-cost savings means \$200,000 that doesn't have to be cut elsewhere.

Energy conservation is the sum total of a lot of small things that produce a significant impact. If we all pitch in and do what we can, the result will continue to be significant.

Our energy program is truly an opportunity to cut expenses without affecting services. As we begin a new school year, I encourage everyone to make energy conservation part of our daily routine. We all want to demonstrate to our students and taxpayers that we are good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. I thank you for your cooperation and continuing interest in making South Colonie a leader in energy conservation. Have a great and energy conscious school year!