



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

PULASKI ACADEMY & CENTRAL SCHOOL



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# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



**Tom Jennings**  
Superintendent  
315.298.5188

Each spring, I accompany our marching band to their parades as a volunteer. I pull the water wagon behind the band as it performs, fill water bottles, pack and unpack the equipment trailer, and find elusive drumsticks. It's a blast. I get to see the end-result of hours of practice in performances that wow every person fortunate enough to hear them.

I am inspired by each student's level of commitment to the band and by their dedication to one another. However, none of it is a surprise. As I look around, I see a staff and supporting cast of parents that are equally dedicated.

I witness first-hand that kind of dedication and commitment, from staff and students, in and out of classrooms and offices throughout the district every day. It is what makes PACS special, and I hope you take as much pride in that as I do.

This Annual Report highlights where we are as a district and some of the work we will be doing in 2022-23. You will find the same themes across all our departments: long-range planning, improving service and communication, capitalizing on efficiencies, and increasing opportunity for students.

We all share responsibility in educating our children; if you have any questions as you read through this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
**Tom Jennings**  
Superintendent

Join Superintendent Jennings to chat about all things PACS!

WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

OCT 1	NOV 5	DEC 3	JAN 7
FEB 4	MAR 11	APR 15	MAY 6

9:00 a.m. @ District Office  
To Attend Virtually: [tjennings@pulaskicsd.org](mailto:tjennings@pulaskicsd.org)

## STUDENT HEALTH

We pride ourselves on collaborating with students, teachers and parents to provide a healthy learning environment. Our goal is to continue to protect and promote student health so students can be successful in school. During the past couple of years, students have missed school due to the pandemic. This year, we are working with our families and students to improve student attendance rates while keeping our school population healthy.

To aid us in that mission, we remind everyone to

throw used tissues in the trash and wash hands frequently to stop the spread of germs. With an early flu season this year that is expected to be worse than recent years, we also encourage everyone to get a flu shot. It is available in our School-Based Health Clinics, our local pharmacies, and the Oswego County Health Department.

COVID-19 is still circulating but is less of a threat than the past couple of years. Most people have some level of immunity, whether through vaccination or past infection. However, we

do still aim to reduce the spread because it is very contagious and could be serious for some members of our population. We still ask that parents keep their children home if they're sick and utilize testing for COVID-19. We encourage parents to contact your child's school nurse if you have any questions about current guidelines.

**Sue Clark**, Elementary School Nurse  
**Alyson Tighe**, Middle-High School Nurse

## PACS LOOKS TOWARD THE FUTURE WITH ITS LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Here at PACS, we continue to place tremendous value and focus on long-range planning. Several departments have already developed a long-range planning tool and will utilize it to maximize efficiency in the years to come.

Every department has identified accomplishments from previous years, as well as needs and goals for the upcoming year. Offering the best possible student experience continues to be a driving force for the staff here at PACS.

We believe that increasing the utilization of long-range planning will help to improve those experiences and help our students achieve success in all endeavors.



# FACILITIES DEPARTMENT PROUD TO WELCOME NEW FACES



**Jim Gilman**

*Director of Facilities*  
315.298.5188 x 5013

With several new faces on the team, the Pulaski Academy and Central School District Facilities Department is fully staffed and equipped to handle all the custodial and maintenance needs across the district.

According to Jim Gilman, the new Director of Facilities, the initial focus for the department is to ensure everyone has the proper training to safely and effectively do their jobs.

“With the majority of staff being brand new to the district, we want to get everyone up to speed,” Gilman said. “Staff have already completed some equipment training with Hillyard. Throughout the school year, we will be

conducting Q-Ware training to get the new staff more comfortable with the work order system.”

While Gilman is thrilled to have a fully staffed department, he also took the time to acknowledge the contributions of the veteran staff members. He noted that the entire team stepped up to the challenge last year, and expressed his gratitude for their dedication.

“When the PACS team was down six custodial workers this past winter, we all came together and got the job done,” he said. “Our grounds and maintenance crews came together and took on an additional cleaning area. Not one person complained about the extra workload. The resilience that this team showed in the face of adversity was nothing short of amazing. I am so glad to have each and every one of them on my team.”

## COMMUNICATION AT PACS

Our goal at PACS is to establish clear, effective lines of communication between the District and our community. We work hard to: be the first and best source of information about our school and education; encourage dialogue that is informative, factual, thoughtful, and civil; and promote excitement about education, scholarship, and our school.

Our Board of Education meetings provide an opportunity for the public to provide comments during a designated public comment period. Additionally, the superintendent hosts periodic coffee and conversation events, where community members are encouraged to attend and address any District-related questions in a casual environment. All members of our administrative team are also available by phone and email to discuss concerns and answer questions.

### Notifications & Reminders

We use a robust notification system to alert parents via phone, text and email in the event of an emergency school closing, upcoming events or other issues that concern you and

your child. Please contact your child’s school to update your contact information or with any questions about the alert system. Important notices will also be found on the homepage of the website. You may also register for notifications of specific events on the District’s calendar page.

### Returning Phone Calls & Emails

District faculty and staff are expected to return non-emergency phone calls and emails within two school days of receiving a message. Emergency phone calls are returned immediately.

### Who to Contact

Frequently, parents and other community members request help in knowing the best way to communicate with the school. Please see the Staff Directory, [pulaskicsd.org/directory](http://pulaskicsd.org/directory), and Who To Contact chart on our website, [pulaskicsd.org/contact](http://pulaskicsd.org/contact)

## NEWS & EVENTS



### School Calendar:

[pulaskicsd.org/calendar](http://pulaskicsd.org/calendar)



**Facebook:** [pacsacademy](https://www.facebook.com/pacsacademy)



**Instagram:** [pacsacademy\\_official](https://www.instagram.com/pacsacademy_official)



**Twitter:** [PACS\\_Academy](https://twitter.com/PACS_Academy)



**YouTube:** [PACS\\_Academy](https://www.youtube.com/PACS_Academy)



### News:

Past and current school news stories on the homepage of the website



### Newsletters:

District publications including the graduate newsletter, programming guide, annual report, calendar, and budget newsletter:  
[pulaski.org/newsletters](http://pulaski.org/newsletters)



## FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT - STOVER LOOKS FORWARD TO FIRST FULL YEAR AT THE HELM

Jaime Stover, a PACS alum and lifetime culinary arts professional, has embarked on her first full year as the director of the Food Service Department at Pulaski.

"I am really looking forward to elevating our cafeteria food by making everything the absolute best that it can be," said Stover, who was hired in February 2022. "I have been in the culinary industry for close to 25 years, working almost exclusively with upscale casual and fine dining establishments. It is my goal to work closely with the wonderful staff at PACS to apply as many of those principles and skills that I have learned along the way, and make the food look great and taste even better."

Stover has high hopes for the food service program at Pulaski and aims to provide the highest quality meals possible for her students.

"The biggest thing that I would like to accomplish during my first full year as Food Service director is to increase participation in both the breakfast and lunch programs," Stover said. "We saw a large increase in participation last year, and we want to continue to grow that. It's a wonderful feeling to know that students trust and look forward to the food we make."

The Food Service Department also launched an in-house summer feeding program this year for the first time.

"We made all of our own food, instead of ordering it like in years past," said Stover. "It was a huge success at the elementary school, among both staff and students. Following that success, we want to run more student surveys this year and continue to push ourselves and offer new options for the students to enjoy."

Serving the district that she grew up in is personal for Stover. "It's pretty cool to be able to provide a service to my hometown," she said. "My child also attends Pulaski, as do many children of the people of whom I went to school with. I am taking — and will continue to take — that responsibility to Pulaski's students very seriously!"



## PACS TO GROW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The scholarship program at Pulaski Academy and Central School District continues to grow, with more than six figures in donations distributed to seniors last year alone.

"Thanks to generous donors and our community partners, the district was able to award \$150,060 in scholarships at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year," said District Principal Mike Bateson. "This was an increase of \$16,125 from the previous year."



*Jack Jennings and Misericordia President Dr. Daniel J. Myers*

The district has longstanding partnerships with local organizations and donors who have sponsored various annual scholarships, with new awards being added

frequently. Last year, the following scholarships were offered for the first time: The Constellation-Fitzpatrick Scholarships, Jessica Moebis Memorial Scholarship, Finnerty Award for Excellence in Business, and the Michelle D. Salisbury Memorial Scholarship.

In June 2023, additional scholarships will be awarded to deserving seniors, with the Warren Lieb Memorial Scholarship and the Misericordia University Jack Jennings Pulaski High School Scholarship set for distribution.

The Misericordia University Jack Jennings Pulaski High School Scholarship is dedicated to Jack Jennings and his legacy at Pulaski Academy and Central School, and carries a total value of \$80,000 over four years.

Jennings, who retired at the end of 2021-2022 school year, dedicated 33 years of his life to teaching, with the majority of those years spent teaching students at PACS.

If you are interested in donating to, or starting a scholarship, please contact Pam McCrobie, at the Pulaski District Office, at 315-298-5188, to get more information.

## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT ROLLS AHEAD WITH TECH UPGRADE TO STREAMLINE ROUTES



**John Lewis**  
Director of  
Transportation  
315.298.7378

Providing the safest possible transportation for our students continues to be the driving force at the Transportation Department.

“We are always focused on getting our students to their destination safely,” said Director of Transportation John Lewis. “Everyone here at the Transportation Department is here for the same reason, and that’s to get these students to and from school in a safe and efficient manner.”

Lewis also said that the department plans to integrate a new route system into the buses that will make it easier for substitute drivers to learn the routes.

“We’re looking into a new routing system that will put tablets into the buses,” he said. “This will make it easier for substitute drivers to know where to stop and will result in easier, more efficient routes.”

Staffing is also up compared to last year.

“Last year we had a bit of a staffing shortage, but we’ve made several new hires, and we’re in a good place at the moment regarding our drivers and substitute drivers,” Lewis added.

## NEW INFRASTRUCTURE, EQUIPMENT POWERS TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION



**Mike Davis**  
Technology Director  
315.298.5103

As technology continues to evolve, PACS educators are integrating the latest equipment and infrastructure to continue propelling the district forward. During the summer, the Technology Department launched a new fleet of computers in each classroom. The new equipment is part of a long-range plan to phase out aging technology every four to five years.

In addition to new classroom computers and the purchase of 200 Chromebooks, the district also overhauled its wireless infrastructure. Those improvements included upgrades to the network closets, creating better wireless connectivity for users.

“This year’s focus is on infrastructure,” said PACS Technology Director Mike Davis. “As far as hardware, we’re looking pretty good in that aspect. The plan is to replace all our network switches and upgrade them to help lay the foundation to improve the network as a whole and offer better connectivity to the entire district.”

According to Davis, the district also purchased and implemented an interactive screen for the elementary gymnasium.

“This is a big and exciting project for us,” said Davis. “This display goes right into the gym and gets integrated into the students’ activities. Kids can play dodgeball with it; they can hit it with their hands. It’s just a giant display, roughly 10 feet by 23 feet. Multiple students can play on it at a time.”

Davis noted that the department will continue to explore innovative technology and implement new equipment in an ever-evolving education landscape.

## SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM PLANNING THE FOCUS FOR BUSINESS OFFICE



**Sarah Starbird**  
Business Manager  
315.298.5188

Sound fiscal planning is at the core of our beliefs as the district maintains its focus on student programs while, at the same time, remaining financially responsible to the greater Pulaski Academy and Central School District community.

Developing a spending plan and anticipating future needs helps ensure our success and financial stability as a district. As part of that planning process, we created a Capital Outlay project, which consists of several smaller \$100,000 endeavors. Our goal is to implement this plan to help perpetually maintain facilities in small steps, rather than larger, more expensive projects. In that same vein, we are currently developing a five-year capital plan as well.

After a very successful year in 2021-22, we are looking to grow our summer enrichment and summer school programs, which were made possible last year by extra New York State aid. We were able to provide students with consistent and fun learning opportunities over the summer with programs such as Learn to Swim, STEAM Building, and Art & Literacy.

As required each year, the district is undergoing its annual audit. Auditors examine various parts of our spending plan, any reserves and any other revenues/expenses to ensure we are operating with transparency and in a fiscally responsible manner.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS



**Vanessa Phillips**  
Director of  
Special Programs  
315.298.5188

The Special Education Department continuously explores new tools, techniques and resources to benefit our student population. In addition to four new special education teachers on staff this year, we are also utilizing our response to intervention approach at the elementary level to offer extra support to students who may need it.

“I am very happy with how our staff goes above and beyond to meet the needs of our students with disabilities,” said Vanessa Phillips, Director of Special Programs. “It takes a very caring person with a big heart, and I’m proud of the

group we have here.”

The department is very focused on providing individualized learning and has made it a primary goal for this school year.

“We’re building our team capacity,” said Phillips. “We are meeting as a team each month to review student data, so we may then offer further support that is tailored to each individual student’s needs. We want to make sure that every student is getting their individual needs met.”

At the high school level, the Make Sense Shop is also offering more opportunities for students than ever before.

“I am excited to share that this year we are able to offer more internship opportunities at the Make Sense Shop,” Phillips said. “We’ve partnered with local businesses to offer work study programs to our students in places such as Ace Hardware and Tops grocery stores. We also look forward to expanding our Practical Adult Learning class at the Academic Center. This is the second year we’ve offered this course, and it teaches students valuable skills such as balancing a checkbook, doing their taxes, and how to purchase a vehicle.”

## SAFETY A PRIORITY AT PACS

With student safety at the forefront of everything we do, we are constantly training and evaluating our various safety mechanisms, from infrastructure to personnel. Our school resource officers play a crucial role in maintaining safe learning environments while also building relationships within our school community.

Regan Roach, in charge of security for Lura Sharp Elementary, helps keep the building safe and connects with students along with his certified therapy dog, River.

“River comes in on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and interacts with the students at Lura Sharp Elementary,” Officer Roach said. “She has also started coming in for events such as birthday parties and celebrations. The students really enjoy having her there, and I’m happy that she’s able to be there as well.”

While River provides a sense of comfort to students, upgrades to the security

infrastructure this year have provided an extra layer of assurance to everyone in the building. Improvements include new security cameras throughout the district and new fencing around the perimeter of buildings.

“Maintaining the safety of the students requires everyone to work together,” Roach said. “I’m constantly thankful for the support of the sheriff’s office, the principals, and Superintendent Tom Jennings. We are a very tight-knit team, and we always have the safety of our students at the forefront of everything we do. I’m incredibly proud that the parents of this community have placed their trust in me to ensure the safety of their children.”





# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES



**Joelle Hendry**  
Principal  
315.298.2412



**Mike Bateson**  
District Principal  
315.298.5188



Here at Lura Sharp Elementary, our commitment to our students is at the forefront of everything we do. We look at all our students as individuals, and we purposefully consider their needs while delivering high-quality educational programming. We pride ourselves on our small, tightly knit community and how hard we work to ensure our students' social, emotional and academic needs are met.

Our teachers are highly qualified to deliver rigorous academic instruction, and they continually engage in curricular review to ensure they are providing students with a

well-rounded education. Each year, we review our local assessment data and NYSED testing results to identify our students' strengths, as well as areas where we can grow as a learning community. This school year, we are especially focused on reading skills and the foundation of reading. We are also placing a strong emphasis on growing other foundational skills to ensure our students are equipped with the tools they need to succeed beyond the classroom. Our aim is to grow and challenge these skills each day and continue to nurture our students.

## CURRICULUM

Core Knowledge Reading Program Pre-K-5

Eureka Math Program

MOBY MAX

Second Step Social

Emotional Learning Program

Morning Program

Acadience ELA

Acadience Math

UPK Half-Day Programs

Mystery Science

Music Grades Pre-K-5

Band Grade 5

Chorus Grades 4 & 5

Art Grades Pre-K-5

Library Grades Pre-K-5

Physical Education Grades Pre-K-5

Media Classes Grades Pre-K-5

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Response to Intervention K-5

Speech and Language

Improvement

Banana Splits

Special Education Services and Programming

Summer Academic Program

Academic Intervention Services

## COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Backpack Food Program

School-Based Health Center

Stuff-A-Bus

Oswego County Literacy

Initiative (OCLI)

Parent Teacher Group (PTG)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Halloween Parade

Veterans Day

Family Fun Night

Scholastic Book Fairs

Kids Night Out

Flag Day

Scoville Olympics

Academic Field Trips

Imagination Library

## CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Odyssey of the Mind

PARP (Pick a Reading Partner)

Battle of the Books

Elementary Musical

Yoga/Mindfulness Club

Running Club

Art Club

Lego Club

Stay Sharp Reading Program

Summer Enrichment Program

One School, One Book

Safety Patrol



# MIDDLE SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES



**Jordan Fahnestock**  
Principal  
315.298.5103



**Steve Komanecky**  
Assistant Principal/  
Athletic Director  
315.298.5103

At Pulaski Middle-High School, our focus is student-centered. Our highly qualified teachers work to foster growth in academics, character and social-emotional development. Students are provided opportunities to pursue their own interests in academics and extracurricular activities, and to begin to develop their sense of self. Assessments are closely aligned to NYS Learning Standards with teachers reviewing NYS testing and local assessment data to identify students' strengths and areas of targeted growth. Decision-making is a shared process involving



administration, staff, parents and our student government in the desire to give all stakeholders a voice and to strengthen communication throughout our learning community. The skills developed in our school programs lay the foundation for our students' future success as thoughtful and productive citizens.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

English Grades 6, 7, & 8

Math Grades 6, 7, & 8

with Advanced Option

Social Studies Grades 6, 7, & 8

Science Grades 6, 7, & 8

with Advanced Option

Science Fair Grades 6, 7, & 8

Spanish I Grade 8

Chorus Grades 6, 7, & 8

with Group Lessons

Band Grades 6, 7, & 8

with Group Lessons

Marching Band Grades 7 & 8

Introduction to Piano Grades 7 & 8

Art Grades 6, 7, & 8

Family and

Consumer Science Grade 7

Health Grade 7

Physical Education Grades 6, 7, & 8

Computer Applications

Grades 6 & 7

Technology Grades 7 & 8

Library Grade 7

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Special Education

## Services & Programming

Academic Field Trips

Advisement Period

Character Education

Counseling

School-Based Health Center

After-School Tutoring

Academic Intervention Services

Summer Intervention

## ATHLETICS (GRADES 7 & 8)

Cross Country

Soccer

Football

Swimming

Basketball

Volleyball

Wrestling

Indoor Track

Baseball

Softball

Track & Field

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CLUBS

Drama Club

Student Council

Art Club

## Book Club

Science Club

Battle of the Books

Seeds of Success

All County Band & Chorus

STEM Club

Trivia Club





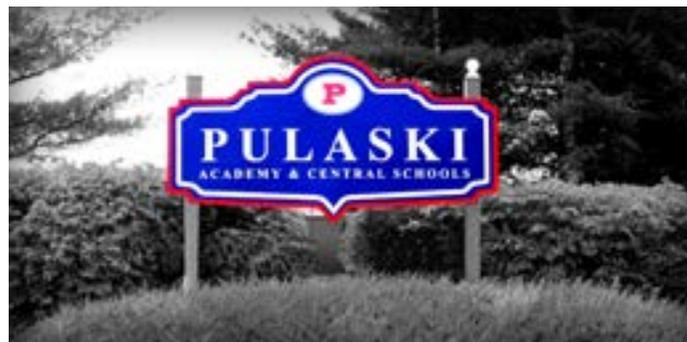
# HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES



**Jordan Fahnestock**  
Principal  
315.298.5103



**Steve Komanecky**  
Assistant Principal/  
Athletic Director  
315.298.5103



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- AP Literature & Composition/ College English 11
- English 12
- AP Language & Composition/ College English 12

## MATH

- Algebra 1
- Intermediate Algebra
- Geometry
- Algebra 2
- Consumer Math
- College Precalculus
- AP/College Calculus

## SCIENCE

- Living Environment with lab
- Earth Science with lab
- Chemistry with lab
- Physics with lab
- AP Environmental Science
- Anatomy & Physiology

## SOCIAL STUDIES

- Global History 9
- AP World History 9
- Global History 10
- AP World History 10
- US History 11
- AP US History 11
- Participation in Government 12
- College Government 12
- Economics

- AP Macroeconomics

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- Spanish 2
- Spanish 3
- AP/College Spanish 4
- AP/College Spanish 5

## HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Health
- Food & Nutrition
- Physical Education Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12

## ART

- Studio Art
- Painting & Drawing
- Ceramics
- Digital Photography
- AP 2D Art & Design
- AP Art History
- Media Art 1&2, 3D Art
- Advanced Art

## MUSIC

- Chorus with Group Lessons
- Piano
- Band with Group Lessons
- Marching Band
- Drumline
- Jazz Band
- Music Theory
- All County
- NYSSMA

## TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS

- Personal Professional Planning
- Exploring Business
- CAD/Advanced CAD

- Drawing & Design for Production
- Trades 1 & 2

## CITI PROGRAMS

- Advanced Metal Manufacturing
- Agricultural Studies
- Auto Body Repair
- Auto Technology
- Computer Coding
- Construction Technology
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Dental Assisting
- Digital Media Technology
- Early Childhood Education
- Heavy Equipment Repair & Operation
- Industrial Electrical Technologies
- Nursing Assistant
- Outdoor Power
- Equipment Technology
- Public Safety & Justice
- Welding Technology
- New Vision Allied Health
- New Vision Law & Government
- New Vision Specialized Careers
- P-TECH
- Welding Technology

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

- Special Education Services & Programming
- Make Sense Shop
- Work-Based Learning Program
- College and Career Advising
- Counseling
- Academic Center
- Alternative Education Program
- Distance Learning

- Online Courses
- Advisement Period
- Tutoring Program
- Academic Field Trips
- School-Based Health Center
- After-School Tutoring
- Academic Intervention Services
- Summer Intervention

## HIGH SCHOOL CLUBS

- Peer Leaders
- National Honor Society
- Student Council
- Art Club
- Varsity Club
- Envirothon
- OCAY League
- Mock Trial
- Yearbook
- Trivia Club
- Drama Club
- Game Club

## HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

- Cross Country
- Soccer
- Football
- Swimming
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Indoor Track
- Hockey
- Baseball
- Softball
- Track & Field
- Tennis
- Golf

## NEW OPPORTUNITIES CREATE EXCITEMENT IN THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

With the retirement of longtime Fine Arts Chair Jack Jennings, an iconic and storied chapter in the history of the Pulaski Arts Department has drawn to a close. However, the curtain has opened with a standout cast of Bill Whaley, Aimee Mumford and Liam Hines continuing the show.

“It feels like a changing of the guard, like it’s a different era now,” said Whaley. “Jack and I have been here forever.”

Whaley will be the new high school band director going forward, as well as leading sixth-grade band. Hines will take over seventh- and eighth-grade band, teach a music theory class, and work with fifth-grade beginner band students at the elementary school. Mumford will continue leading the student vocalists as the choral director.

The shift in personnel isn’t the only new thing

happening this year. A new grand piano will add some flair to upcoming performances.

“To have a new piano is great,” Mumford said. “This was a major purchase that will last us a long time. We will also be offering piano recitals now, twice a year, so we’re very excited for those and we hope the community is as well.”

The department is also excited to return to a sense of normalcy after the unpredictability and unconventional performances during the height of the pandemic.

“We’ve certainly started the process of climbing out of the COVID hole, but we’re not quite back to where we were pre-COVID,” said Whaley. “We’re excited to have Liam join us, and we know he has a lot to offer to the program.”

Whaley said he hopes the journey to normalcy will include a packed auditorium for concerts

and drama club productions, along with the marching band’s annual trip to the nation’s capital in the spring. Mumford echoed those sentiments and noted the drama club is exploring the possibility of resuming its yearly New York City trip. The trip has historically included a visit to the MET, watching a musical, and participating in master classes.

“Getting kids involved in things again is our biggest goal,” Mumford said. “During COVID, so many music departments completely shut down. We were very fortunate to have still been able to put on concerts and productions during that hard time. One of our biggest goals was to just keep students involved, as best we could. We wanted to welcome and accommodate every student, regardless of their skill level or experience in the arts.”

## REV THEATER PERFORMANCE



# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POISED FOR GROWTH UNDER NEW LEADERSHIP

With the appointment of new Athletic Director Steve Komanecky, the Blue Devil Athletic Department is looking to grow and build on past successes.

“Everyone has been very welcoming and wonderful to me,” Komanecky said. “As far as Class C goes, there’s going to be ups and downs, of course, but we have a lot of quality athletes here and we are looking forward to competing at high levels.

In his first year, Komanecky aims to maintain the fluidity of the department. He wants to continue the district’s athletic success and grow each program to be as competitive as possible. He also said he would like to explore the possibility of involving students in broadcasting for the teams, to add an entire new dimension to the program.

“I want every student here to feel like there’s a place in the Athletics Department for them,” Komanecky said. “We might have students who don’t want to compete but still want to be around a team atmosphere. That’s where the idea for student broadcasting came from, and it’s an idea I’d like to explore.”

Komanecky is also thrilled to just be a part of the school community, in general.

“The sense of community here really excites me, and I love the feeling of knowing everyone. The community and staff have been very welcoming to me and that’s very special. Even in my short time here, I already recognize that our staff and coaches genuinely want what’s best for these students. The sky is truly the limit with our athletic programs.”



**HIGH SCHOOL  
ATHLETIC OFFERINGS**

Cross Country

Soccer

Football

Swimming

Basketball

Volleyball

Wrestling

Indoor Track

Hockey

Baseball

Softball

Track & Field

Tennis

Golf



**Tom Jennings**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Education**

Joel Southwell, *President*  
Bill Wood, *Vice President*  
Jan Hefti  
Darcy McCarty  
Joe McGrath  
Todd Masuicca  
Travis Rice

Pulaski Academy & Central School  
2 Hinman Rd.  
Pulaski, NY 13142  
(315)298-5188  
[www.pulaskicsd.org](http://www.pulaskicsd.org)

Non-Profit Org.  
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Pulaski, N.Y.  
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## Postal Customer

### FAHNESTOCK HONORED TO LEAD ALMA MATER

Upon returning to the halls of Pulaski Middle-High School in the fall, Blue Devil alum Jordan Fahnestock took on a new role as the school's principal.

"I am really excited to continue the work that we have been doing for the last several years," Fahnestock said. "I think Pulaski is a school district that led from the front throughout COVID. We truly put students and their needs first throughout the pandemic. I love the prospect of being able to continue to build upon that and offer as much as we can for our students to help them become successful."

Fahnestock has a great amount of pride in being able to serve the community in which he grew up.

"Being an employee here means everything to me," he said. "It is where I grew up and where I've called home my entire life. I had some great experiences growing up because of the educators I had that went above and beyond for us. It really has been a driving force throughout my entire career and will remain that way. I want the students today to have those same types of experiences that I had."

When asked what his favorite thing about working at PACS is, Fahnestock cited the dedication that the staff has to the students.

"We value our students and always put them first," he said, proudly. "We ensure our staff are available whenever they may be needed, and we always try to meet students' needs with care and consideration."

There is a lot to be excited about this year. Fahnestock said there will be a renewed focus on developing AP programming. He also wants to open the floor to staff and students to pitch ideas for learning and club opportunities.

"Our big goal is to do justice by our AP programs and finally be able to fully focus on the AP programming we've established and get it back to pre-COVID levels," he said. "We're also going to give our new staff the freedom to pose ideas and offer their input on new opportunities for students. On that same note, we want to start new student clubs this year, especially ones that students are interested in and give our staff the freedom to explore enrichment ideas."

### THE MAKE SENSE SHOP



Pulaski's Make Sense Shop is open for business, providing a variety of goods and services for customers while also offering unique learning experiences for its student workers.

The Make Sense Shop provides students with valuable job experience, internships and life skills. Students — with guidance from staff if needed — facilitate all aspects within the shop, which sells crafts and gifts alongside its food offerings prepared in the fully operational commercial kitchen.

"The students run the registers, they handle all the maintenance, they do it all," said Miranda Cerone, a special education teacher at Pulaski High School. "They also produce about 10 percent of the gifts here in the store."

***HOURS OF OPERATION ARE:***

**Gift Shop:** 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., Monday - Friday

**Cafe'/Kitchen:** 10 a.m. -1:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

**Both are closed from 10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

