2.......................................................... Calendar
3.......................................................... Goodbye, Jessica!
4.......................................................... Fun at A.J. SCHMITT
5.......................................................... Close Up DC Trip
6.......................................................... High School Fun Night
7.......................................................... Great Things at Lake Shore
8.......................................................... SCHS Students Ask for Change
9.......................................................... 13th Annual Boat Float
10......................................................... SCMS 2nd Quarter REACH
11.......................................................... NEWS from GMS
12.......................................................... Silver Creek Students on a Roll
13.......................................................... Will’s Report
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<thead>
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**White - All Schools**

**Red - Seneca Education Department**

**Green Lake Shore**

**Blue - Gowanda Central School**

**Gold - Silver Creek Central**
Goodbye Jessica

I just to take a minute to thank all of the students and parents at Silver Creek Elementary School for allowing me the privilege of working with them for the last 2 years. The amazing relationships I have made with students and their parents will be missed, but not forgotten. I will truly miss working with them everyday and will stay in touch! Thank you again!

Jessica Johnson
JOM / AASP Silver Creek Elementary School
FUN AT A.J. SCHMIDT!

On February 8th the Buffalo Bandits LAX visited the students at A.J. Schmidt. The players put on an interactive lacrosse demonstration and we had fun contests. The students and teacher had a great time! They even gave each student and teacher a FREE ticket to a LAX home game. We’re also starting our Success in Middle School program for fifth grade students when we return from break. The SIMS Program, which was developed by Title VII Coordinator, Nancy Klemens, started at JT Waugh before being implemented at AJ Schmidt this year. Fifth graders will practice opening lockers, have their questions answered about middle school and do fun activities. We’re so excited to get our fifth graders at A.J. Schmidt ready for middle school!

Amanda Sobczyk
The Close-Up Conference in Washington, D.C. inspires and empowers young people to exercise their rights and accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy. Combined with the United South Eastern Tribes (USET), this conference provides a unique opportunity for students to explore their tribal governments in conjunction with the federal government. The Seneca Nation has participated in this event for several years, and in February, sent three students (from Gowanda, Lake Shore, and Silver Creek school districts) to the conference. Kaelyn Miller (Gowanda), Maya Thompson (Lake Shore), and Mariam Akhdar (Silver Creek) were selected as representatives based on their positive attitudes, academic standing, and attendance at school. The students learned how government functions and the different ways that they can get involved to make a difference in their local communities.

These two programs work together to organize a Close Up trip for students of USET. This unique program is not an average Close Up trip because it is geared towards tribal governments and their relationship/interactions with the federal government. The students participated in several workshops, completing activities including educating other tribes on the Seneca Nation and writing a Tribal Initiative regarding community issues to be considered by the Close Up staff. The students also participated in a Council Simulation, where they experienced voting on certain initiatives as Tribal Leaders in government would. Along with these workshops, students also heard from many other speakers regarding Indigenous affairs within government. They spent a day on Capitol Hill, attended seminars, and visited the multiple museums and monuments that D.C. has to offer.

Overall, the week spent in Washington D.C. was one of education, experience, friendship, and fun. The students attended a play at the John F. Kennedy Center of Performing Arts, had a free day to spend with their chaperone(s), and even had a blast at the farewell banquet and dance held for all students and chaperones. Native American students from across the country attended this trip and the students from the Seneca Nation formed life-long friendships with these other students in such a short amount of time. This conference will always be an unforgettable experience for these girls, and witnessing the motivation to make a difference that they required during the trip will be unforgettable for me.
The Education Department hosted a High School Fun Night at the CCC on February 15. Students enjoyed pizza and wings and then were able to play Bubble Soccer in the arena! The night was a success and all that attended had a great time! Tate Curry was the winner of the door prize, two movie tickets! Thanks to the CCC staff for all their help and to all the students who attended!

*Jillian Schmitt*
Here at Lake Shore Middle School, great things are happening. Students are working on various different topics in their classes. Sixth graders are starting to read Bud, Not Buddy, learn about Ancient Greece and the body systems. Seventh grade is finishing up learning about the Revolutionary War. Eighth grade is finishing learning about World War I. Eighth grade is also getting ready for their trip to Washington DC in March. Seventh grade will be attending the Shriners Circus in March also. The Middle School Musical will be the first weekend in March. They are performing “The Little Mermaid.” We also held the Middle School REACH party. Thirty Five of our students were eligible to attend. We had pizza and had extra gym time afterschool where we played sharks and minnows.

Elizabeth Best-Laurie
SCHS Students ask to change ‘Columbus Day’ to ‘Indigenous Peoples Day’

Aimee Sleeth

Silver Creek Students Mariam Akhdar, Taylor Steeprock and Phatima Akhdar recently presented a proposal to the Silver Creek Board of Education concerning changing the Columbus Day Holiday in October to Indigenous Peoples Day. The students prepared a PowerPoint presentation and spoke about the reasons for the proposal. The students emphasized that “the goal of establishing the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day is not to erase the past, but to start a meaningful dialogue concerning the impact of colonization on present day indigenous peoples.” Superintendent Todd Crandall told them school officials would definitely have conversations on the topic and announce their decision at a later date.
Gowanda Elementary School held its 13th annual Third Grade Boat Float on Thursday March 2nd. This Science project was part of the buoyancy unit. First the boat had to float, it also had to carry cargo and have a life saving device. Students also had to write a paragraph explaining the name of their boat, their cargo, how they built it, and who helped them. Students and teachers voted for their favorite boat from the other classrooms. Finalists were chosen from each class to orally present their boat to the entire third grade and invited parents. Each boat was placed in a tank of water to prove that it floated while the owner read their paragraph to the audience. Congratulations to the finalists pictured below, Emma Golden, Kiona Isaac, Corrina John, and Hodoweo:je’ Wisniewski.
Silver Creek Middle School
2nd Quarter REACH Qualifiers
(Responsibility, Excellence, Achievement, Community, Honor)

Jamie Wallschlaeger

JOM at Silver Creek Middle School had a good number of REACH qualifiers at the end of the 2nd quarter. I had 13 students make the incentive list. These students had outstanding attendance and grades during the 2nd quarter. We had a pizza party on 2/16 to celebrate these students’ achievements. I hope to have more students qualify for next quarter’s incentive. There were a lot of students who were really close to making it this past quarter but a few tardies in the attendance book made them not qualify. This next quarter is a fresh start for everyone and it is looking great for a lot of them so far! Keep up the good work and attendance!

The 2nd quarter REACH qualifiers are listed by grade level below:

6th Graders
Tory Cook
Lila Farrell
Maryah Jamison
Kayla Johns
Maya Monroy
Jackson Williams
Jakeb Millar
Dwayne Keith White

7th Graders
Roger Williams
Jayce Balestrieri
Briana Kenjockey

8th Graders
Stevie Cook
Keith Seneca
We are full swing into the 3rd quarter. On February 9th, we had our quarterly R.E.A.C.H. incentive pizza party to celebrate 2nd quarter achievements. We ate pizza and then watched the movie 'Home'. We are hopeful that we will have an even bigger turn out for the 3rd quarter. Students are eligible for R.E.A.C.H. based on grades and attendance. Our R.E.A.C.H incentive has these requirements listed below: (Responsibility, Excellence, Achievement, Community, and Honor).

*A student qualifies for REACH if he or she has 3 or less absences in a quarter.
*A student must not be failing 2 or more classes.
*A student must have a 70 or above average for the quarter.
*A student must not have been in ISS or OSS during the quarter.

Students are always encouraged to seek extra help when necessary. We stay after school Monday-Thursday and the learning center in the middle school library is always open after school as well. There is always a middle school math teacher in the learning center for help.

Upcoming events:
• March 16- Half day attendance for students
• March 17- Superintendent's day
• March 30- Middle school family math night

We are looking forward to warmer weather and a great quarter!!

Tristin and Anne
Silver Creek Elementary School has been recognizing students who have been coming into school in a good mindset. These students are coming in with their homework done, with good attitudes and are working hard throughout their whole school day. This is such a great honor to get this award and the students should be VERY proud of themselves! Keep up the FANATSTIC WORK!!!
This month has been a wild one! It was by far one of our shorter months, however, we were able to make great strides in and out of the classroom.

We have been creating several poems, as we have dove into the world of poetry. Our students created their haikus and made wonderful Valentine's Day poems. They have also done a unit on couplet poems, which have allowed the students to channel their inner rhyming skills. We have just started to dive into the world of Shel Silverstein and his quirky and zany writing style, which they thoroughly enjoy.

Another fascinating project we have been working on is frogs from around the world. The students have been engrossed, both literally and figuratively, with the many varieties of frogs around the globe and how each one is unique. As they learn about these frogs, they are becoming better researchers and will eventually write their own piece on one of the many frogs they are learning about.

On a cultural note, many of our Seneca students attended the mid-winter longhouse. Many non-native students are thrilled to learn about this event and the meaning behind it. It is wonderful to see our students excitement, but it is equally exciting to listen to them explain their culture to both students and teachers alike!

We had our second REACH party and it was a smashing success! Everyone worked so hard to be able to attend and they were so grateful. It is so nice to see that their hard work paid off and that they truly deserved it. We had a great turnout this time!

We also were able to announce our student of the quarter for the second quarter. A big congratulations to the following students for receiving this honor: Jace Jimerson, Emmitt Francis, Aubrey Leroy, Elizabeth John, Cora Tallchief, and Wayne Farner. Way to go! We also celebrated our 100th day of school! So we here at Waugh are extremely busy and the year is flying by!! We are looking forward to another month of rewarding challenges and fun learning.
Nya: Wëh for Reading

Lake Shore Central Schools
Home of the Eagles

Seneca Nation
Department of Education