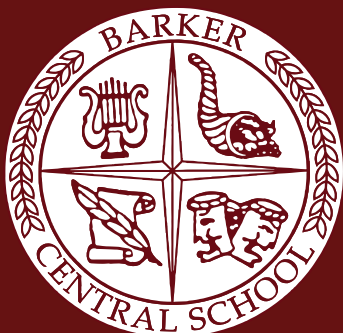


# The Banner



## Annual Budget Vote & Board Member Election

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
 Herbert F. Ludwig Fine Arts Hall

To view all budget information please turn to pages 6-10 of this issue or visit [www.barkercsd.net/business](http://www.barkercsd.net/business)

## School Musicals Entertain All Ages



(L-R): Elizabeth Hopkins (Sophie) & Samantha Howes (Donna) perform a scene from *Mamma Mia!* The Barker Musical Theater production, which took place March 15-17, 2019 was one of the first area high school performances of the successful Broadway hit. Turn to page 12 to read about the Pratt Elementary School musical - *The Jungle Book Kids*. To view more pictures from both musicals please visit the [District Photo Galleries](#) section under the Our District channel on the Barker website.



The official website and source for Barker Central School District news and information:  
[www.barkercsd.net](http://www.barkercsd.net)

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## Updates from the Board of Education

Dear BCS District Residents:

Your Board of Education has had a very busy and exciting year so far. I would like to give you an overview of several matters of interest as we make adjustments to better prepare for the future.

An important part of our school budget revenue has been the payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) on the power plant. You are likely well aware that our revenue from the PILOT on the power plant has decreased precipitously over the past few years. When the PILOT was first implemented in the 2007-2008 school year, the District share was \$9.7 million. For the current school year and the 2019-2020 school year, the PILOT amount is about \$1.8 million. While our state aid has been increasing slightly from year to year, we have needed to tap reserves every year since 2013-2014 to balance our budget. This is not sustainable for the long term. Our administration has developed a detailed five year forecast model of our school budget, including the use of reserves to balance the budget while maintaining our programs. You may recall that our budgets have been reduced each year for the past five years. We anticipated another reduction this year, but there is a major unavoidable increase in our transportation budget for next year that has resulted in a one percent net increase in the school budget we have adopted.

Your Board of Education is keenly concerned about the long term financial health of the District and we have charged our Superintendent, Mr. Reimer, with finding ways to reduce costs and also to identify long term strategies for our financial future that will ensure the viability of our District to remain independent. We have learned that our state aid is not at the level of comparable districts, due primarily to the history of the power plant valuation. When the power plant was running hard years ago, it had much higher value than it does today. The state aid we get today is based in large part on the higher value of the power plant from the 2006-2007 school year. In other words, the Barker District looks wealthier to NYS than it really is today, so we get less state aid than we should each year. Our most important long term strategy is to bring this shortfall to the attention of the state and to argue for equitable funding of our District.

In the meantime, we have looked at our school operations for ways to operate more efficiently. To this end, there will be some operational and management changes for the next school year. The entire K-12 schedule will be aligned to the same start time and bell schedule. The exact start time has not been established, but we anticipate it will be within a few minutes of 8:00 AM. There will still be an activity period at the end of the day with two bus runs to take our students home. This will give us more flexibility to share staff between the buildings if and when needed.

John Hoar, our elementary school principal, is retiring at the end of the current school year. We thank him for his years of service. For the new school year, we are going to have one principal for the entire campus and Michael Carter, our current high school principal, will fill that role. To support this new configuration, we will have one teacher from the elementary school and one from the high school to serve as educational leaders. With the retirement of Mr. Hoar and Mrs. Amy Dewart (math teacher), our overall staffing level for teachers and administration will be reduced.

It is no secret that our student population has decreased in recent years. For decades, the Barker School District had 1,100 to 1,200 students. We are currently at 741 students. For years, we have been reducing staff and expenses whenever possible to adjust to the declining enrollment. The rate of enrollment decrease



seems to be slowing, but we do have many spaces in the District that are under-utilized. Our administration is working with our architects to consider ways to configure and utilize our buildings to deliver services more cost effectively and to free up space for other purposes. This effort is ongoing, but we anticipate developing a plan in the coming months that will be presented to the community prior to a project vote in the fall of this year. The cost of any significant changes will be funded by our capital project reserves and state aid. No tax increase would be required to fund such a project.

Another potential project of note is the utilization of some of our District land for a solar energy project to defray the cost of electricity for our buildings. Depending on the final scale of the project, any surplus energy could be sold and the resulting revenue would further help offset expenses. The intent is to have a solar project be part of the capital project up for vote in the fall.

Earlier in the current school year, the school board, administration, teachers, students and community members were given the opportunity to participate in a values survey. The intent was to capture the values that our greater school community find to be most important. These values then helped to shape a review of our mission and vision statements. You will soon hear the results of this exercise. This is all part of a new strategic plan that will shape our focus for the coming years. We have already adopted the new mission/vision/values statement and several high-level multi-year goals that will have a strong positive impact on our district and community.

Your school board and administration understand and appreciate the critical role the school plays in our community. We appreciate the strong support of the community and we will strive to build upon our past success for an even brighter future.

Sincerely,

Mr. Randall B. Atwater  
Board of Education President

## Teacher Achievement for Miss Wing

Congratulations to Miss Michelle Wing on approval of tenure by the Board of Education.



(L-R): Michelle Wing with Administration and Board of Education - Michael Carter, Candice Gancasz, Randall Atwater, Michelle Wing, Heather Ecker, Mary Jo Clemens-Harris, Virginia Voss, John Sweeney, Jacob Reimer, Louis Mead.





### From the Desk of Mr. Carter

Hello Barker Families!

Barker Jr./Sr. High School is working hard in preparation for the end of the school year. While year-end festivities and celebrations are on all of our minds (especially graduation!), we are also spending a significant amount time and effort planning for next school year.

As noted in the introduction letter by Mr. Atwater, our Board of Education President, I am honored to become the Pre-K - 12 Principal. Mrs. Thibault and Mrs. Bundrock will join me as Instructional Support Specialists at the elementary and high school level, respectively. They will lend support to teachers and students when it comes to instruction, student management and life concerns, parental involvement, special events and overall support of the buildings. Teacher leadership like this will be integral to our success as we build a professional development program and work toward our instructional goals. We are honored by being asked to take on this role. I know that this new structure will provide our staff and students with more support and opportunities as we move forward as a Pre-K - 12 program.



Another district-wide change for next school year is the alignment of our bell schedule for Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. All Pre-K - 12 students will begin and end school at the same time. This will allow for more efficient and effective scheduling of faculty and programs. This will especially be beneficial to our elementary students; there will now be a 10<sup>th</sup> period built into the day, similar to what is currently occurring in grades 7-12. This will give teachers and students extra time for help, extra-curriculars, and other enrichment. 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students will also have a change in their lunch: lunch servings will be altered to 20 minutes. This will provide students with a 20 minute advisement period opposite their lunch to complete work, follow-up with teachers, and allow faculty to gather groups of students for specific purposes. A finalized schedule will be sent home near the end of the school year so parents can plan in preparation for September.

Barker Jr./Sr. High School had many academic accomplishments over the course of the past year. Our 2018 graduation rate was recognized by Business First as one of the highest in Western New York. For the first time in several years we administered the English Regents Exam in January 2019. We achieved a high mastery rate of 44% and a pass rate of 92%. Also, Earth Science saw a 91% mastery rate; Algebra 1 earned a 99% pass rate and Geometry a 100% pass rate. Students earned a 93% pass rate on the Global Regents, and we are currently preparing students for the New Framework Exams and curriculum. We continue to set the bar high with all of our students. So far eight of our sports teams have been recognized as Scholar-Athlete teams. For next school year, we will also be instituting a "High Honor Roll" for those students who maintain an average of 95% or above. We are also one of the few schools in the state approved to award the Seal of Biliteracy from our Spanish Department. Last year, ten graduating seniors earned this seal, with several more currently enrolled in college courses working toward this distinction. I thank all of our departments and teachers, assistants and aides for their incredible effort.

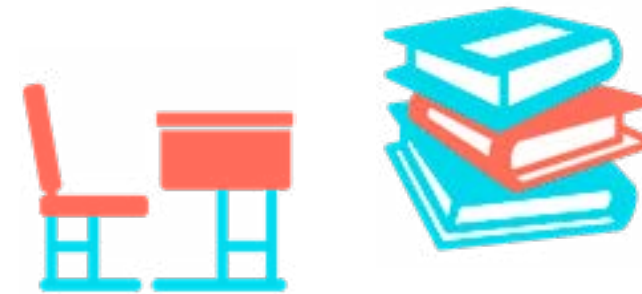
For the 2019-2020 school year, we will begin recognizing student achievement through the implementation of incentive programs. Students in grades 7 and 8 will be involved in the Spark Incentive Program, similar to what they previously experienced in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who are meeting specific requirements will have access to a student incentive lounge during certain parts of the day. We want to make sure that our students who make the school a great place are recognized.

Barker CSD also expects to continue the School Resource Officer program in cooperation with the Town of Somerset Police Department. We are very lucky to be able to continue to provide a high level of safety and security for our students and faculty. The SRO has been an integral safety component, and also an excellent resource for many students and families facing various life difficulties.

Barker CSD will see many positive and constructive changes next school year. I thank you in advance for your help and support as we build off a great foundation and prepare for the District's future.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Carter  
Barker Jr./Sr. High School Principal



#### SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM Grades 7-12

- July 9<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>**
  - Orlean/Niagara BOCES, in Medina
  - Class meeting times are 8:00 am - 9:50 am and 9:55 am - 11:45 am.
  - Registration Fee is \$10.00 per course (includes Regents if applicable) or \$5.00 for Regents exam only.
  - Students must provide their own transportation.**
- CLASS REGISTRATION**
  - THE LATEST BEING Friday, JUNE 28<sup>th</sup> by noon**, in the Barker Guidance Office.
  - Student and parent signature are required.
  - Bring emergency medical information
  - Payment made out to Barker Central School**
  - (716) 795-9260 for questions/information.
- August 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Regents Exams**
  - Orleans/Niagara BOCES in Medina
  - 8:30 am & 12:30 pm.
  - Registration Fee is \$5 (exam only).
  - Students must provide their own transportation.
  - Photo ID is required for admittance to the exam.
  - Registration deadline for Regents exams only is Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon.**

### Important Reminders from the Health Office

Health examinations (physicals) are required in grades: Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The exams are required to be on the new New York State Approved Form only.

If not on file, vision and hearing screening is provided by the school nurse for new students and students in grades: Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

If not on file, scoliosis screening is provided by the school nurse for students in grades: 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> for girls, and 9<sup>th</sup> for boys.

If you have documentation for any of these required examinations or screenings please provide the information to the BCS Health Office to avoid duplicate screening.







## Annual Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 21, 2019  
12:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Herbert F. Ludwig Fine Arts Hall

District residents will vote "yes" or "no" for the following propositions:

### Proposition #1: BUDGET

Shall the Barker Central School District Board of Education, Niagara County, New York be authorized to spend the sum of \$17,272,346 in the total amount set forth in the proposed Budget during the 2019-2020 school year and to levy the necessary tax.

### Proposition #2: LIBRARY

Shall the funding for the Barker Public Library, which is raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable real property within the Barker Central School District be increased from \$75,000.00 to \$76,500.00.

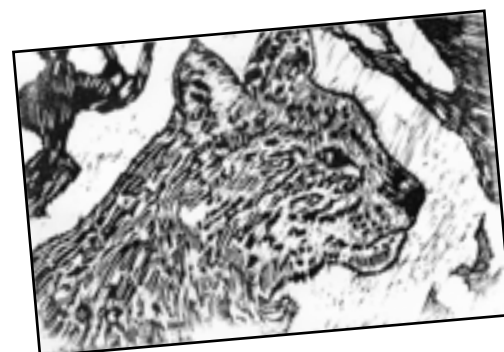
### Propositions #3: BOARD MEMBERS - VOTE FOR TWO

You may vote for up to two (2) candidates. There are two (2) seats to be filled on the Board of Education for three-year terms beginning on July 1, 2019 and expiring on June 30, 2022.

To vote for the listed candidate, fill in the circle completely in either the "YES" or "NO" next to the listed candidate's name. To vote for a write-in candidate(s) you must write the full name(s) of the write-in candidate(s) on the blank line(s) and fill in the appropriate circle completely.

## Qualifications of a Voter

You qualify as a voter if: you are a citizen of the United States; you have been a resident of the Barker Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the school budget vote and election held on May 21, 2019; you are at least eighteen (18) years of age; you are qualified to register for an election in accordance with Section 5-106 of the Election Law. In addition, you do not need to be a property owner to be eligible to vote.



## Candidates for Board of Education

The Barker Board of Education has two vacant seats for the 2019-2020 school board election. Each seat carries a three-year term. The candidates that returned petitions are listed here in the order they will appear on the ballot:



### Mary Jo Clemens-Harris

I am seeking my third term on the board and believe this is a very exciting time for our district. Administrative changes within the school are moving us in new directions with the intent to improve both our financial and long term prosperity. I look forward to playing a role in the process.

I am a 1986 graduate of BCS and work as a licensed optician. My husband George is a supervisor with a local pharmaceutical company and our son Wes is finishing his junior year and looking intently at colleges. He recently received his Eagle Scout rank and is planning on studying pharmaceutical science at a New York School.

I have enjoyed my time on the board and love being a part of this wonderful district. While our situation is challenging, I believe we are in a position to bring even better opportunities to both our students and community.

### Heather Ecker

My name is Heather Ecker. I have lived in Barker for 22 years. I married my husband Scott, who is a lifelong resident and graduate of Barker. I received my undergraduate degree in government from St. Lawrence University and my masters from Canisius College. Since 1996, I have been a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at Orleans Niagara BOCES working with children in grades K-12. Two of our children currently attend the Barker School District: Cole is in 10th grade and Lily is in 1st grade. Our oldest son Evan graduated from Barker High School in 2018 and is currently attending Wells College. I enjoy reading, painting, photography and vacationing with my family. My children are involved in sports and the music department at school. I love cheering them on while watching them do the activities they enjoy. As a parent and resident of Barker, I feel it is important to be involved in the education of our children. School Districts across the state have been faced with economic challenges, while ensuring our children receive the best possible education in order to prepare them for their future endeavors. I want to have a direct impact on their education while serving and supporting you and our children.





## Detailed Explanation of Expenditure Categories

General Support consists of:

- Board of Education, Central Administration, Finance, Staff, and Special Items. This also includes Maintenance and Operation of Plant, (including all maintenance and grounds salaries, supplies & materials, and utilities) and Central Printing/Mailing and Central Data Processing.

Instruction consists of:

- Instructional Administration and Improvement (principal's salary and supply codes, curriculum development, research and planning, and professional development for all professional staff), Teaching Regular School (all regular school teaching salaries, supplies & materials, equipment, textbooks and BOCES services for regular students, including Occupational Education), School Library and Audiovisual, and Computer-Assisted Instruction (Technology), Attendance, Guidance, Health Services, Psychological Services, Extra-classroom Activities, Athletics and Special Education (teacher salaries, supplies & materials, textbooks, CSE and CPSE Committee expenses, contractual costs, private schools tuition, and BOCES special education costs).

Pupil Transportation consists of:

- All bussing and fuel.

Community Service consists of:

- Summer school and the summer recreation program.

Undistributed consists of:

- Employer contributions to the employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system, social security, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, health insurance and terminal leave payments. It also includes payments of principal and interest on school bond payments.



## BARKER BUDGET PROPOSAL 2019-20

| REVENUES              | 2019-20           | 2018-19           | \$ CHANGE      | % CHANGE     |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| STATE AID             | 8,117,619         | 7,898,163         | 219,456        | 2.78%        |
| TAX LEVY              | 4,494,687         | 4,321,814         | 172,873        | 4.00%        |
| PILOT                 | 1,809,999         | 1,807,559         | 2,440          | 0.13%        |
| OTHER                 | 383,060           | 516,046           | -132,986       | -25.77%      |
| FUND BALANCE          | 2,466,981         | 2,513,957         | -46,976        | -1.87%       |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b> | <b>17,272,346</b> | <b>17,057,539</b> | <b>214,807</b> | <b>1.26%</b> |

The increase in State Aid is primarily due to an increase in Foundation Aid.

The Calculated Tax Levy Limit was 4.9% for 2019-20.

| EXPENDITURES              | 2019-20           | 2018-19           | \$ CHANGE      | % CHANGE     |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| GENERAL SUPPORT           | 2,043,123         | 2,132,671         | -89,548        | -4.20%       |
| INSTRUCTION               | 9,688,677         | 9,654,162         | 34,515         | 0.36%        |
| PUPIL TRANSPORTATION*     | 1,382,840         | 1,000,349         | 382,491        | 38.24%       |
| COMMUNITY SERVICE         | 33,600            | 29,600            | 4,000          | 13.51%       |
| INTERFUND TRANSFERS       | 125,000           | 125,000           | 0              | 0.00%        |
| UNDISTRIBUTED             | 3,999,106         | 4,115,757         | -116,651       | -2.83%       |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>17,272,346</b> | <b>17,057,539</b> | <b>214,807</b> | <b>1.26%</b> |

The Interfund Transfers represent a Capital Outlay Project of \$100,000. The District intends to upgrade hardware and electronic devices to increase the safety and security of the Central Building.

In addition, mechanical components will be updated and several windows will be replaced.

\* Pupil Transportation includes a five year contract that starts on July 1, 2019 and goes through June 30, 2024. The approximate total cost of the contract for the five years is \$6,659,997.





School District Budget Notice

| Overall Budget Proposal   | Budget Adopted for the 2018-19 School Year | Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year | Contingency Budget for the 2019-20 School Year * |
|---|--|---|--|
| Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions  | \$ 17,057,539                              | \$17,272,346                                | \$17,051,541                                     |
| Increase/Decrease for the 2019-20 School Year   |  | \$214,807                                   | -\$5,998   |
| Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget   |  | 1.26 %                                      | -.04%  |
| Change in the Consumer Price Index  |  | 2.44%                                       |  |
| A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount   | 4,321,814                                  | 4,494,687                                   |  |
| B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable  | 75,000                                     | 76,500                                      |  |
| C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **   | 0  | 0   |  |
| D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy  | 0  | 0   |  |
| E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)  | 4,396,814                                  | 4,571,187                                   | 4,396,814  |
| F. Total Permissible Exclusions   | \$3,548                                    | \$3,548                                     |  |
| G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions  | \$6,881,427                                | \$4,534,739                                 |  |
| H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D) | \$4,318,266                                | \$4,491,139                                 |  |
| I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **             | \$2,563,161                                | \$43,600                                    |  |
| Administrative Component  | \$1,794,385                                | \$1,538,957                                 | \$1,531,407                                      |
| Program Component   | \$13,359,831                               | \$13,902,264                                | \$13,859,009                                     |
| Capital Component   | \$1,903,323                                | \$1,831,125                                 | \$1,661,125                                      |

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2019-20 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Elimination of the Capital Outlay project as well as any purchase of equipment in the 2019-20 school year.

\*\* List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

| Description | Amount |
|-------------|--------|
|             |        |
|             |        |
|             |        |
|             |        |

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: [emscmgts@nysed.gov](mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov)

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2019-20 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings<sup>1</sup>

\$457.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2019-20 by the qualified voters of the Barker School District, Niagara County, New York, will be held in the Herbert F. Ludwig Fine Arts Hall in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 between the hours of 12:00pm and 8:00pm, prevailing time in the Barker Jr/Sr High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

## Two Time League Wrestling Champion Highlights Winter Sports Season



The winter sports season brought scholar-athlete recognition to three teams while one athlete received a significant award for her work in the classroom. Two basketball players were selected as senior all stars and one wrestler won his second Niagara-Orleans League Championship.



(Clockwise from Upper Left): **Andrew Schafer**, Wrestling: 1<sup>st</sup> Place Niagara-Orleans League Championship (145 lbs.), 100<sup>th</sup> Career Varsity Win. **Nickolas Brandt** and **Gabrielle Baker**, Basketball: Niagara-Orleans League Exceptional Senior All-Star Team. **Jessica Haseley**, Swimming: All-Western New York Scholar-Athlete.

### NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Team Distinction:

Three winter sports teams received an award for academic achievement as they had at least a 90.00 average by 75% of the roster to earn New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) recognition:

- Girls Basketball
- Boys Swimming
- Girls Swimming





## Jungle Book Kids Hits Stage

73 students from Pratt Elementary joined together with Mrs. Nobles, Miss Hinton, Mrs. Donovan and Mrs. Goodlander to rehearse for two shows of Disney's The Jungle Book Kids. Rehearsals included over 100 hours of preparation for the April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> shows. Over 950 tickets were sold for the performances. Staff helped make the set design and a handful of Jr./Sr. High School students helped with lighting and make up.

Mrs. Nobles, show director, commented that, "We wanted to give our students a place to shine, something new, a place they can feel successful, see them in a different light, let them have the opportunity to hear someone clap for them. To see how proud the students are after they see what they can do makes it worth everything. A huge thank you to the staff that supported us through our adventure into the jungle from set design to ticket sales, hair and make-up, and just helping us with the kids on and off stage. Our hats go off to you! Thank you to Mr. Bill Bodine (sound), Mr. James Luckman (lighting and technology), and Mr. Jeff Costello (photography). Thank you to the families who got their kids up early, picked up their children after school and no doubt endured hours of hearing the songs, lines, and seeing the choreography. We couldn't do it without your support. We can't wait for next year!"

4<sup>th</sup> grade student, Chloe Duchow (Shere Khan), said, "My favorite scene was the chase scene because I liked to run on stage and it was fun to be spun around." 6<sup>th</sup> grader Jesse Wayner (King Louie), explained that, "My favorite part for my character was jumping on the trampolines with Baloo. Chloe Duchow's Shere Khan line of 'spirit for one so small' was a happy moment of the show for me. It always made me smile. I plan on attending a summer camp for acting because I like it so much." 5<sup>th</sup> grader Julia Kalynycz (Shanti) stated, "I was the narrator and was able to tell the story of the show and had singing parts. I liked all parts of the show."

(Top-Bottom and L-R): Ean Wagner (Baloo), Brooke Dunkelberger (Mowgli), Peyton Bradley (Bagheera) take a bow at the end of a performance. Several cast members perform a song and dance routine. Some of the monkeys dancing. There was a surprise ending as cannons fired out streamers and confetti.



## "Raider Report" Makes Online Broadcast Debut

Prior to winter recess, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students began recording in the video studio for a new online show titled "The Raider Report." The weekly broadcast, which was first posted to the Barker website on January 7<sup>th</sup>, varies in length from week-to-week depending on the content to be included, but averages three to four minutes. Some of the segments included in the show are: birthdays, character word of the week, spirit day reminders, what's happening this week in Pratt, last week in Pratt, fun facts, and joke of the week. The idea was suggested by 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers Mr. Adam Norris, Mrs. Leann Briggs, and Mrs. Lori Costello and is intended for the students to have fun while working on reading and public speaking. The students, with the help of Mr. Jeff Costello recording and editing, have personalized their own intro videos. So far there has even been a behind the scenes video which is a bloopers reel of sorts that spans the first two months of show recordings.

Ean Wagner stated, "Using the green screen is fun and the intros let us be creative. It's not just a straight report, it's a cool background that we see when we watch the video. My mom even enjoyed watching the bloopers video." Tristen Garcia said, "We don't have to worry about making a mistake when we are recording in the studio because it can be edited. I like the joke each week."

Videos are normally posted by Tuesday afternoon each week. If you are interested in viewing past and upcoming shows, please visit [www.barkerpsd.net/raiderreport](http://www.barkerpsd.net/raiderreport).

(Top-Bottom and L-R): Connor Pabon hams it up for his intro video. Shelby Dauphinee & Allen Donner prepare for their recording. Nathan Popovich & Trever Mielowski were caught off guard to start. Aleena Parfinski, Hunter Witkop, David Westcott & Brenton Burzynski have a great time on set. Kayleigh Thompson & Kayla Mages think about their show opener.





## Pratt Elementary Student Council Elects Officers & Plans for Clean Up Project

The Elementary Student Council elected their officers earlier this school year. Only council members from grades 5 and 6 were eligible to run for office. Election results were:

- President: Mikala Woock
- Vice President: Nicholas Heidemann
- Secretary: Jackson Prynn
- Treasurer: Ryan Fisk

Co-advisors Mrs. Goodlander and Miss Tabone are now working hard with the students to organize and implement a spring clean up project which will take place later this school year.



(L-R): Mrs. Goodlander, Nick Heidemann, Jackson Prynn, Carson Schwab, Julia Kalyncyz, Rachel Stevens, Mikala Woock, Miss Tabone.

## Students Study Japanese & Greek Culture

3<sup>rd</sup> graders enjoyed a Japanese Culture Day as a culmination of their Japan unit. The students tried actual sushi and then had an opportunity to make their own dessert sushi using Rice Krispie Treats. Several activities were available for the students to rotate through different classrooms: Japanese Bingo, making Zen Gardens, taste testing Japanese cuisine, girls day doll festival and tea party, and boys day Sumo Wrestling.



6<sup>th</sup> grade students studied Greece and had the choice of what type of project they created. Samples of some projects that students worked on were Greek gods/goddesses, different structures - like the Parthenon, and the Olympics. All students presented their projects to their classmates.



(Clockwise from Upper Left): **Mirabelle Strong** displays Rice Krispie dessert sushi. **Salvador Brinson** works on building a Zen garden. **Ethan Lee & Noah Sandolfini** are ready for combat with their Greek shields.

## Reading and Kindness Celebrated During March

The month of March was filled with many acts of kindness and hours of reading by the students at Pratt Elementary School. Mrs. Gallagher organized a fun-filled month which commenced with visits for all grade levels by Chet Fery, The Breadman. The Breadman's goal for our staff and students was to create a school of kindness. His message was to, "change the world one loaf of bread at a time. One act of kindness at a time." He shared his bread and bread time stories about being kind and treating others well. In addition to his stories and presentation he included the "Kindness is a Muscle" video. The students were able to sing and dance to the music.

By reading every evening the students ensured that two things took place: The PTO donated baby chicks to needy families in the developing world, and selection of a BCS employee to wear a feathered kindness coat and kindly kiss a chicken. Volunteers to perform the task were: Mr. Rogers, Ms. McKee, Mr. Reimer and Mrs. Gallagher. Mr. Reimer was selected at the kindness celebration on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> in the cafetorium, but all four volunteers agreed to kiss the chicken. A student from each classroom shared his/her act of kindness with everyone in attendance at the celebration.



(Top-Bottom and L-R): **Olivia Sepanski** reads her kindness message at the Kindness Celebration Assembly. **Mrs. Gallagher** presents the chicken to **Mr. Reimer** for a kindness kiss. **The Breadman** talks kindness with Pre-K students. **Pre-K students** share bread made by **The Breadman**.



## Auto Show Poster Contest Winners

Congratulations to 5<sup>th</sup> grader Rebecca Thering and 6<sup>th</sup> grade student Samantha Simmeth who were selected as winners in the Niagara Frontier Automobile Dealers Association's 2019 Buffalo Auto Show Poster Contest. Pratt Elementary art teacher, Mrs. Melissa Phillips, assigned the poster contest to her students as an art class assignment. The girls were invited to a press conference in Buffalo to celebrate and receive their prize. Thering placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the middle school division while Simmeth was 3<sup>rd</sup>.

(L-R): **Rebecca Thering & Samantha Simmeth** share their poster contest winning artwork displayed with the ribbons they received.



## Acts of Kindness Throughout Pratt

Team 5/6's monthly bonding activity for February was to promote "Kindness is Cool!" There were daily acts of kindness that the teachers encouraged elementary students to demonstrate. These acts were reinforced on the morning announcements and on the weekly "Raider Report." Also, each morning 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students were located at each entryway to greet the elementary students and remind them of the daily act of kindness. There were "caught being kind" hearts where teachers could write the names of students being kind.

As a culminating activity, each homeroom was given a quilt square that they decorated, however they wanted. The pieces were assembled to create the kindness quilt that was presented at the Kindness Celebration assembly.

(Top-Bottom and L-R): **Jackson Hauser, Sam Liuzzi, Adler Detschner, Ethan Lee, Alexander Ark, Addison Jones, Madelina Pavlock, Hannah Mages** pose (on Camouflage Spirit Day) with kindness signs that were used by greeters at the Pratt entrances to remind students of ways to be kind to each other. **James Giarla & Piper Brinson** display the Kindness Quilt.



## Drake & Goodlander Win Art Awards

The following are upcoming dates for shows featuring Barker High School student artwork. All are cordially invited to attend the shows and show their support for our student artists:

- Villa Maria College 25<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Juried Photography Exhibition Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Opening reception Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 PM at Villa Maria College.
- Barker High School Student Art Show has a new location this year. Artwork will be on display Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Herbert F. Ludwig Fine Arts Auditorium at 7:00 PM, the evening of the High School Band & Chorus Spring Concert. Artwork will be located at both the Aud front foyer and side entrance. The High School Art Show will also be on display in the Auditorium Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:00-9:00 PM with a cookie and punch reception from 6:00-8:00 PM.
- Western New York Federation of Women's Club 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Helen P. Kelley Memorial Art Show on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> in Holland, New York.
- Niagara Police Athletic League Art, Music and Theater Art Gala Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM at the Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University.
- Barker High School Portfolio Class Art Show Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Auditorium Foyer at the High School Honors and Awards Night.

Congratulations to Sarina Drake on her poem, "The Wolf," winning 1<sup>st</sup> place for Poetry in the Greater Western District Creative Writing Contest. Drake wrote her poem and created an illustration to go with her writing in Studio Art class. Drake said, "I love wolves. Wolves are very smart, beautiful and they are my favorite animal to draw. I could picture everything as I was writing my poem."

10 Sr. High School art students had their photography on exhibit at the Kenan Center Gallery in Lockport for the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Storrs All High Photo Show. At the opening reception Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> Chloe Goodlander received the merit award for her photographic work "City Night".



"Game Shoes" by **Serena Harris**



"Naptime" by **Bailey Sutch**



"Leo" by **Virginia Alexander**



"The Wolf" by **Sarina Drake**



"Waterfall" by **Ciara Gregoire**



"City Night" by **Chloe Goodlander**



## Farm to School Grant Received

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Niagara County received a second round of grant funding for the Niagara County Farm to School Project. \$92,479 was awarded from New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to Niagara County Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE). Funding will help expand on a successful Farm to School program through marketing, staff training and by increasing coordination between farmers, distributors and school administrators. Niagara County Farm to School Coordinator, Stacey Johnston, will continue to work with Barker, and seven other school districts. New York State farmers and schools are working together with their local distributors to bring fresh produce and other NYS products into the school lunchrooms, which continues to strengthen local agriculture, improve student health, and promote regional food system awareness.

During the first round of Farm to School in Niagara County, which wrapped up in 2018, Barker received \$3,428 in kitchen equipment and supplies, thanks to the grant funding. The kitchen equipment is used to help better prepare and serve fresh local foods, and to encourage more scratch cooking, as part of the Farm to School movement. Some of the equipment awarded to Barker Schools included knife sets, aprons, food chillers, a warming merchandising unit, infrared thermometers, fruit slicers and sectionizers, food processors, and stainless steel cooling plates.

Barker, and other Niagara County schools, received Niagara County "Harvest of the Month" posters to hang and display in school cafeterias to highlight different locally grown food every month, along with Farm to School lesson plans created by Niagara County CCE.

For more information about this story and the Farm to School program please visit the [Headlines & Features](#) section of the Barker website.

(Top-Bottom and L-R): **Stacey Johnston, Julie Fuerch, Amanda Henning (Agriculture & Food Systems Educator)** were instrumental in securing a Farm to School Grant for Barker Central School. **Stacey Johnston, Lori Buffington, Sandra Podeszek, Kathy Rogers, Gwen Hangartner, Jane Hill, Julie Fuerch** are pictured with new kitchen equipment and supplies provided from the Farm to School Grant. **Gwen Hangartner** demonstrates slicing with new knives from the Farm to School Grant. **Layla Williams** holds apple slices from the new slicer in the elementary. **Zoe Rodriguez** slices an apple in the Pratt Cafetorium.



## Jr./Sr. High School Students of the Month



(Clockwise from Upper Left): *Jr./Sr. High School Students of the Month - March 2019: The character trait for March 2019 was perseverance. (L-R): Dasha Crenshaw, Corey Sanchez, William Goodlander, Joshuwa Weakland, Jacob Ewald, Mr. Carter, Josue Arias Perez, Matthew Ryan, David Merlin.*

*Jr. High School Student of the Month - January/February 2019: Andrew Hillman.*

*Jr. High School Students of the Month - January/February 2019 (L-R): Lilly Monthony, Mr. Carter, Cole Carnes, Alexander Detschner.*

*Sr. High School Students of the Month - January/February 2019 Front (L-R): Wesley Harris, Andrew Hill. Back (L-R): Chloe Goodlander, Ella Gooding, Ariana Peace, Jaret Black, Sergio Bautista-Lopez, Jakob Talbot.*





### Pratt Elementary Students of the Month



(Top-Bottom from Upper Left): *Pratt Elementary School Students of the Month - February 2019: Mr. Hoar, Gavin Swierszcz, Jillian Maines, Carter DerSarkissian, Jackson Pryn, Caleb Alexander.*

*Pratt Elementary Students of the Month - March 2019: Mr. Hoar, Joey Sanders, Jack Schwab, Kayleigh Wery, Joseph Cirillo, Shelby Dauphinee.*

*Pratt Elementary School Students of the Month - April 2019 (L-R): Mia Klopfer, Jackson Jordan, Morgan Wagner, Bryan Parris, Elizabeth Samson, Mr. Hoar.*



*Pratt Elementary School Bucket Filler of the Month - January 2019 (L-R): Amelia Linkowski, Mr. Hoar, Tierza Rose.*

### Pratt Elementary Bucket Fillers of the Month



(Clockwise from Upper Left): *Pratt Elementary School Bucket Fillers of the Month - January 2019 (L-R): Daniel Aguilera, Mr. Hoar, Shaylynn Upton, Brae DiLorenzo, Makenzie Hill, Bryce Hirschman, Carson Costello.*

*Pratt Elementary School Bucket Filler of the Month - March 2019 (L-R): Edward Roessler, Mr. Hoar.*

*Pratt Elementary School Bucket Fillers of the Month - March 2019 (L-R): Michael Caleb, Lydia Atwater, Lily Ecker, Erinn Lanighan, Isabella Marvin, Mr. Hoar.*

*Pratt Elementary School Bucket Filler of the Month - March 2019 (L-R): Jacob Linkowski, Mr. Hoar.*

*Pratt Elementary School Bucket Filler of the Month - March 2019 (L-R): Mr. Hoar, Gracelynn Bachman.*



### Student Life



(Top-Bottom and L-R): Mrs. Luckman's Thing 1 & Thing 2 students, Jr. High School Student Council sponsored an Easter egg hunt for kindergarten and Pre-K classes, Bridges were constructed for Tech Wars competition, International Club students and parents attended a Buffalo Sabres game with Italian students who visited our area.



## Barker Central School District School Calendar 2019 - 2020

| JULY 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S         | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|           | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7         | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14        | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21        | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28        | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

| AUGUST 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S           | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|             |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4           | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11          | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18          | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25          | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| SEPTEMBER 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S              | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 1              | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8              | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15             | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22             | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29             | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

| OCTOBER 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|              |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6            | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13           | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20           | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27           | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

| NOVEMBER 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|               |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3             | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17            | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24            | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| DECEMBER 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29            | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

**August**  
30 Labor Day Observance

**September**  
2 Labor Day Observance  
3 Sup't Conference Day

**October**  
4 Sup't Conference Day  
14 Columbus Day

**November**  
11 Veterans Day  
27-29 Thanksgiving Recess

**December**  
23-31 Winter Recess

**January**  
1-3 Winter Recess  
20 M. L. King Jr. Day

**February**  
17-21 Mid-Winter Recess

**March**  
20 Sup't Conference Day

**April**  
10-17 Spring Recess

**May**  
25 Memorial Day

**June**  
26 Rating/Closing Day

| CALENDAR DAYS |    |    |       |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|-------|----|----|
|               | T  | S  |       | T  | S  |
| July          | 0  | 0  | Jan   | 19 | 19 |
| Aug           | 0  | 0  | Feb   | 15 | 15 |
| Sept          | 20 | 19 | March | 22 | 21 |
| Oct           | 22 | 22 | April | 16 | 16 |
| Nov           | 18 | 17 | May   | 20 | 20 |
| Dec           | 15 | 15 | June  | 20 | 19 |

**TOTAL TEACHER DAYS = 187**  
**TOTAL STUDENT DAYS = 183**

| JANUARY 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|              |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    |
| 5            | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12           | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19           | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26           | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| FEBRUARY 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|               |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2             | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16            | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23            | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| MARCH 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S          | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 1          | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8          | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15         | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22         | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29         | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

| APRIL 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S          | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|            |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5          | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12         | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19         | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26         | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |

| MAY 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S        | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|          |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3        | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10       | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24       | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31       |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| JUNE 2020 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S         | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|           | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7         | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14        | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21        | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28        | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

No School   
Sup't. Conf. Day   
First & Last Class Day for Students

Approved by the Board of Education on: March 11, 2019



Barker Central School District  
1628 Quaker Road  
Barker, NY 14012

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 3  
MIDDLEPORT NY

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
BARKER, NY 14012



**Barker Central School District**  
1628 Quaker Road  
Barker, NY 14012



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Jacob L. Reimer

**District Clerk**

Mary Eadie

**Jr./Sr. Prom**  
**Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:00 - 9:30 PM**  
**White Birch Golf Course**

**“Surfs Up”  
Senior  
Citizen  
Breakfast  
Sponsored by  
National Honor  
Society**

**Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Doors open  
@ 7:45 AM**

**Barker Jr./Sr. High  
School Cafeteria**

*The Banner is a Barker Central School District publication printed three times each year. Please direct any questions or comments to Jeffrey Costello, Banner Editor:*

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