

# Connect 66

Quarterly Newsletter of Canton Union School District 66

WINTER 2019

Visit us at [www.cantonusd.org](http://www.cantonusd.org)

20 West Walnut St.

Canton, IL

(309)647-9411



## Board of Education

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## Message from the Superintendent

### When to make the call?

When an inclement storm rolls into our community procedures to consider the cancellation of school begin at 4 a.m. of the affected school day or sooner. Ideally, we strive for the procedure to start much sooner – usually the night before. For example, our once a storm is forecast our district is usually in contact with the Fulton County ESDA Director (Emergency Services Disaster Agency) Chris Helle. Chris will usually contact district officials the night before and report an inclement weather forecast and recommendations on potential road conditions. After talking to ESDA, School officials will monitor the weather. When the storm arrives Canton School Officials will contact the City of Canton, local road commissioners, and the county to ascertain road conditions. It is important to maintain a close contact with the aforementioned agencies since they usually dispatch plow drivers immediately after the storm arrives. Most importantly, the drivers are connected via radio. This is helpful since the plow drivers can provide real-time information on road conditions. In addition, the plow drivers are also able to provide recommendations relating to road conditions.

Once a district closure is decided school officials post the closure information on the district Facebook Page, notify staff, and local media outlets. Finally, school officials also execute an all call message through our district notification system. At the end of the day it is important to notify our parents as soon as possible to allow them time to make accommodations for child care for their children.

Closing the district is never a popular or easy decision. More often than not when the district closes it creates a hardship for working families and employees. Rest assured school closures are never taken lightly. The health and well-being of the students is always a priority when making a decision to close school.

Rolf Sivertsen

Superintendent

Canton Union School District #66

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# Jimmy John's Academic Scholar



Jimmy Johns February Scholar of the Month is Bailey Norton. She is the daughter of Samantha and Jason Norton. Bailey is a Junior at Canton High School where she is involved in many activities such as: marching band, student council, and is a Canton Union School District Student Board of Education member. Congratulations Bailey!



# Jimmy John's Athlete of the Month



Jimmy Johns February Co-Athlete of the Month is Dylan Grigsby. He is the son of Misty Shepler. Dylan is a Junior at Canton High School where he participates on the football and wrestling teams. Dylan carries a 36-7 record into the IHSA State Wrestling Championships this weekend. He qualified for the state tournament last weekend, at Geneseo High School, by finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 132lb. weight class. Congratulations and best of luck .

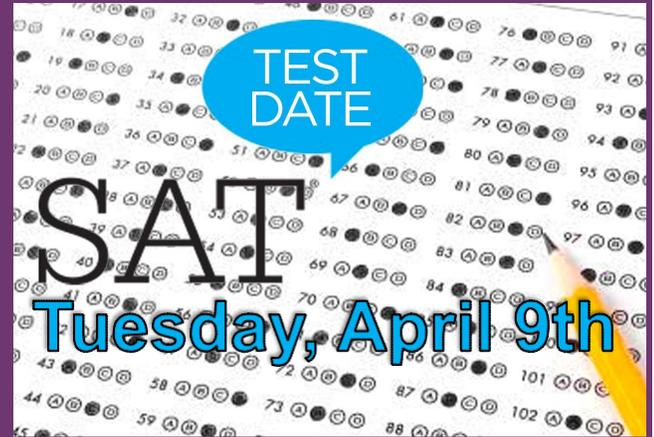


Jimmy Johns February Co-Athlete of the Month is Jacob Waskow. Jacob is the son of Mary Louise and Robert Waskow. Jacob is a Junior at Canton High School where he participates on the football, wrestling, and track and field teams. Jacob carries a 27-11 record into the IHSA State Wrestling Championships this weekend. He qualified for the state tournament last weekend, at Geneseo High School, by finishing 2nd in the 220lb. weight class. Congratulations and best of luck.

achieve  
more

# SAT

Download the SAT app on your mobile device  
and receive a daily practice question



## CHS SAT Challenge

**Who?** Any CHS Teacher/Counselor and Juniors

**What?** Staff Members will become coaches and students will “join” the coach’s team and work on the improvement course set up for them in Khan Academy.

**Why?** Research shows that students with 20 hours of Khan Academy practice improve by an average of 119 points on the SAT.

**What else?** For every hour of practice time students and coaches will receive an entry ticket to a drawing. There will be multiple drawings between January 7<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup>. The entire purpose is to encourage students to participate in SAT improvement activities and build some energy for students regardless of the future aspirations. Improving in math and reading will help students no matter what lies ahead of them.

### SAT Components

- Reading  
65 Minutes  
52 Questions
- Writing & Language  
35 Minutes  
44 Questions
- Math  
80 Minutes  
58 Questions  
Calculator  
No Calculator
- Essay  
50 Minutes

## Spotlight 66

### Director of Student learning Julie Tarvin Receives the YWCA Women of Achievement STEM Award

This morning our own Julie Tarvin was notified by the YWCA Executive Director, Brook Denniston, that she had received the Woman of Achievement STEM Award. The YWCA STEM award is given to women who are breaking barriers in Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math Fields while expanding opportunities and mind-sets for all. For the past two years Julie has worked very hard to assist teachers in their drive to implement a 21st century education curriculum for all students within the Canton School District. She is a true leader in the Four Pillars for Student Success: Innovation, Collaboration, Problem Solving, and Creative Thinking. Most importantly, Julie will be honored on March 7, 2019 at the Venue Banquet hall. Tickets are \$30 for an adult and \$20 per student. Anyone interested in attending the YWCA dinner to honor Julie should contact the YWCA at 647-0441. Congratulations Julie! We are beyond proud of you for receiving your well-



deserved award! Click here to see a video of the award presentation: [VIDEO LINK](#)

### Nicole Caine: Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year

Recently, Lincoln Elementary School Kindergarten teacher Nicole Cain was selected Educator of the Year by the Canton Chamber of Commerce. The award couldn't have gone to a more deserving person. Nearly the entire Lincoln Staff was in attendance at the chamber banquet to watch Nicole receive her award. After the award was presented there wasn't a dry eye in the building.

Congratulations Nicole, we are all very proud of you!





# What is Makerspace?

From We are Teachers

<https://www.weareteachers.com/what-is-a-makerspace/>

When's the last time you made something or took something apart to see how it worked or to turn it into something else? Unless you have a hobby that requires you to be hands on, you probably haven't made anything in a while. For many of us, making something is both a difficult and rewarding process. While the motivation is there, finding the time and place to tinker can be a whole other barrier to entry—unless you have access to a makerspace.

## What is a makerspace?

You might have heard of a makerspace. It's a buzzword that's been floating around for a few years now. But what, exactly, is it? A makerspace is a room that contains tools and components, allowing people to enter with an idea and leave with a complete project. The best part is that makerspaces are communal. The goal is to work together to learn, collaborate, and share. Most importantly, makerspaces allow us to explore, create new things, or improve things that already exist.

Makerspaces are part of what we call the maker movement, which started in the early 2000s. Of course, scrapbooking, tinkering, and other arts and crafts activities have been around for quite some time, but the maker movement emphasized hands-on discovery in a world that had become increasingly automated.

## Is a makerspace something I should look to create for my students?

In a word, absolutely. If makerspaces are ideal for anything it's fostering play and open-ended learning. Kids naturally tinker; they build things and take things apart—especially when they're left unattended! Makerspaces encourage that natural creativity. Your students will also be able to practice critical thinking skills, challenge their imaginations, and come up with solutions to real-world problems. Makerspaces are really helpful for STE(A)M-related activities. For instance, Brooke Brown of Teach Outside the Box Most features STEM bins in her makerspace, giving students hands-on opportunities to practice their STEM skills. More importantly, makerspaces are safe places for students to “fail.” At a time when test scores and getting the right answer often trump the process of learning, makerspaces allow students to learn by



# What is Makerspace?

trial and error, improving with each attempt.

## How do I set up a makerspace for my students?

As the idea of makerspaces caught on, places like universities and local libraries began creating them. Though you might not have the resources of MIT or even your local library, you can definitely create a makerspace. You'll need room for tools, a table(s), and space for students to move around and work together.

Choose a section of your classroom to set up a makerspace or talk with administrators about a room in the school, like an old science lab, that might be available. Space in the library could be ideal. Diana Rendina, librarian at Stewart Middle School in Tampa, Florida, started a makerspace in the school library in 2014. Wherever you put your makerspace, be sure to think about which grade level(s) will be using the space, what topics or learning goals will be addressed, and how often the space will be used.



Eastview students working within the Eastview Library makerspace Lab.



# FRIENDSHIP



## 2018-2019 CUSD 66 School Contacts

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**Principal Ann Grzanich**  
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# PERFORMING ARTS



## Upcoming Events

- 3/1 Early out Day 11:30 a.m.
- 3/4 Ingersoll Spring Book Fair
- 3/7 Westview STEM Night
- 3/12 CHS Blood Drive
- 3/13 Booster Club Meeting 6:30 CHS Cafeteria
- 3/14 Ingersoll Talent Show 7 p.m.
- 3/18 School Board meeting 7 p.m.
- 3/23-3/31 Spring Break

