



ATTICA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATE

SUMMER 2025

COURTWRIGHT, NIXON TOP CLASS OF 2025

KEIRA COURTWRIGHT

Valedictorian



Parents' Names:

Matthew Courtwright and Erin Harder.

Future Plans: Attend Empire State College for a bachelor's in psychology and math, then the University at Buffalo for law.

Activities & Sports: Mock Trial and Science Club.

What will you miss most about school: I'll miss my friends the most after I get out of school.

What's the most important lesson you learned in high school: I learned that even though it is good to make those around you happy, you deserve to be happy, too.

What do you hope your life looks like in 10 years: I hope that in 10 years, I will be a lawyer and maybe even practicing at my own firm.

Who inspires you to do your best: My Aunt Kathy inspires me to do my best. She is the smartest person I know and I have always wanted to be like her.

What's your favorite place in Attica: My favorite place in Attica is the rodeo grounds. I spent a lot of time there as a little kid and I have a lot of good memories with my friends and family.

What's your go-to Yummies order: My go-to Yummies order is cookies and cream.

If you could tell your eighth grade self one thing, what would it be: I would tell my eighth grade self to invest more time in herself rather than worrying so much about other people.

What's your most-listened to song: Right now, my most listened to song on Spotify is "Bad Luck," by Zach Top. I really like the way the song flows and it reminds me a lot of the older country songs I love so much.

If you had to cook a meal to impress someone, what would you make: If I had to impress someone with a meal, I would cook an Italian chicken bake with mashed potatoes, garlic brussel sprouts and eclair cake for dessert.

BAILEY NIXON

Salutatorian



Parents' Names: Eric and Lisa Nixon.

Future Plans: St. John Fisher University to study pharmacy and run cross country and track.

Honors & Awards: Attica Student of the Month (December 2024), BOCES Health Academy Student of the Month (January 2025), Section V Class C Sportsmanship Award (2023).

Activities & Sports: Cross country, indoor track, outdoor track, National Honor Society, student government (secretary), Yearbook Club, We Care Club.

What will you miss most about school: Spending time with and making memories with my childhood friends.

What do you hope your life looks like in 10 years: I hope to have a nice job as a pharmacist, finish building my home and live with my husband and children.

Who inspires you to do your best: My dad. He has such a strong work ethic and drive to get things done. He is always motivating me to do my best and reminding me to be grateful for what I have.

What's your favorite place in Attica: My house because it has everything I'd ever need or want.

What's your go-to Yummies order: Chocolate peanut butter milkshake.

If you could tell your eighth grade self one thing, what would it be: You don't have to be perfect. As long as you are trying your best, that's all that counts.

If you had to cook a meal to impress someone, what would you make: Steak, mashed potatoes and broccoli.

What superpower would you pick: Telekinesis so I could move things without getting up.

Imagine it's 2047 and you have teenage kids of your own. What advice would you give your 40(ish)-year-old self about being a good parent: Let them make mistakes. It is one of the quickest ways someone can learn and adapt.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK



With the 2024-25 school year now firmly in the rearview mirror, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we've accomplished together. It's been a year full of growth, perseverance and pride — and I could not be more grateful for the incredible students, staff, families and community members who make Attica Central Schools such a special place.

Over the past ten months, our classrooms, hallways, stages and athletic fields have been filled with examples of excellence too numerous to count. From academic achievements and artistic expression to athletic success and acts of kindness, our students have risen to every challenge with determination and heart. They've shown us what's possible when young minds are nurtured, supported and inspired.

Behind those student successes are dedicated educators and staff members who pour their energy and passion into creating meaningful learning experiences. Their efforts remind us of the transformative power of education - not just in shaping knowledge, but in building character, confidence and community.

Education is more than a series of lessons and tests. It's a foundation for future success, a spark for innovation and a path to a brighter future. Here at Attica Central Schools, we remain deeply committed to providing every student with the tools they need to grow into thoughtful, capable and compassionate individuals.

As our recent graduates leave the halls of Attica High School behind and take their first steps into the world beyond, they do so with our full confidence in the strength of the education they've received and the incredible things that await them.

Whether they're heading to college, entering the workforce, joining the military or exploring new paths, we know they're well-prepared to meet challenges, seize opportunities and make a positive impact on the world.

We wish each member of the Class of 2025 the very best as they embark on this exciting new chapter - may it be filled with purpose, growth and fulfillment.

And to our families - as we head into summer, I encourage you all to take time to relax, recharge and enjoy the moments that matter most. Whether it's a backyard barbecue, a trip to the lake or a quiet evening reading together, these are the memories that last a lifetime.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

We'll see you in September, Blue Devils!

Sincerely,

Dr. Kiel Illg

Superintendent of Schools



ATTICA CLASS OF 2025 TOP 10



KARA HASSENFRTZ

Parents' Names: Jackie and Kevin Hassenfratz.

Future Plans: I plan on attending University at Buffalo for biology and music performance.

Honors & Awards: New York State Attorney General's Triple C Award, National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award, scholar athlete and honor roll.

Activities & Sports: Swim team, tennis team, band, chorus, mock trial, student government, National Honor Society and science club.

What is your proudest achievement: My proudest achievement is being selected to participate in the 2024 NYSSMA All-State Treble Choir out of thousands of high schoolers across the state based on a solo performance.

What's the most important lesson you learned in high school: Everything is worth doing - even if it's hard, feels silly, or seems pointless.

Who inspires you to do your best: My mom inspires me to do my best. No matter what she has to get done, how she's feeling, or what she's going through, she's always shown up and encouraged me to be the best person I can be. I don't know where I would be today without her belief in me.

What's your most-listened to song: My most listened to song is "Everyone Adores You (at least I do)," by Matt Maltese. I never intended for it to be my most listened to song, but I like how it sounds and the lyrics are reassuring in a way. It's comforting.

What superpower would you pick: I would probably choose to be able to teleport because I'm always late.

Imagine it's 2047 and you have teenage kids of your own. What advice would you give your 40(ish)-year-old self about being a good parent: Encourage your children. Encourage them

to be themselves, to do what they're passionate about, to try hard, and to do good. Make sure that they truly know they have people in their corner always ready to support them.

MORGAN JACKSON

Parents' Names: Scott and Sarah Jackson.

Future Plans: GCC for nursing in hopes of becoming a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) in the future.

Honors & Awards: Honor roll.

Activities & Sports: Volleyball, softball, competitive dance, book club.

What will you miss most about school: I will miss seeing my best friends every day.

What's the most important lesson you learned in high school: It's OK to not have a direct path to where you want to be.

What do you hope your life looks like in 10 years: I hope to have a stable job and financial situation, be married and have a family.

Who inspires you to do your best: My parents inspire me to do my best because they have always held high expectations of me and kept me accountable while also supporting me every step of the way.

What's your go-to Yummies order: My go to Yummies order is either Muddy Frog or Wake Up Warsaw in a waffle cone.

If you could tell your eighth grade self one thing, what would it be: You won't be perfect at everything you do and that's OK, you just need to try your best.



What do you want people to know about what it's like to be you, to be your age, at this moment in time: Don't wish this time of

your life away. It is a period where you hold little responsibility and are able to spend time with your

friends and family. Don't take it for granted.

What would the title of your autobiography be: "Morgan Knows"

What's your most-listened to song: I don't have a most-listened to song but I enjoy Fleetwood Mac's music.

What scares you about the future: The thing that scares me most is the unpredictability of the future and how it is always subject to change.

CATHARINE STRUZIK



Parents' Names: Matthew and Melissa Struzik.

Future Plans: In the fall, I'll be attending St. John Fisher University to study psychology. My goal is to become a school psychologist.

Honors & Awards: This fall, I was honored to be named the High School Student of the Month for the senior class.

Activities & Sports: Throughout high school, I participated in soccer, golf, indoor track and outdoor track. I was a member of student government, serving as the Class of 2025 president for all four years of high school. In addition, I was a member of Yearbook Club, We Care Club, Connect Life Club, National Honor Society, band and chorus.

If you could tell your eighth grade self one thing, what would it be: I would tell my eighth-grade self not to act a certain way just to fit in. The friends who love you the most and want to spend time with you because you're uniquely yourself will stick right by your side through everything!

Tell me about a time when you were stronger than you thought you could be: Some may think this is silly, but my senior year, this year, required a lot of internal strength. There were moments when I was on an emotional high: Everything was going as planned, I was having fun at senior activities, or I

ATTICA CLASS OF 2025 TOP 10

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was getting into college. Then, on other days, waves of sadness would wash over me - like during the Halloween parade at the elementary school, when I would think back to when I was a little kid watching and saying how old they looked. Writing in our yearbooks for the very last time was another strange feeling because we used to write, "Have a great summer! See you next year!" but this year it's "Good luck in the future! I'll miss you!" I have big dreams and want to conquer the future, but first, I need to proceed

JULIA WISE

Parents' Names: Shawn and Kristy Wise.

Future Plans: Attend Arizona State University to study microbiology and chemistry at the honors college.

Honors & Awards: I received the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award last year. I have been a New York State scholar athlete, Genesee Region Athletic Association scholar athlete, student of the month, and Genesee Region all star for the recent winter cheer season.

Activities & Sports: I play varsity soccer, winter cheerleading and track. I also play for a travel soccer team all year round. I have been the class vice president for the past four years. I'm a member of National Honor Society for the past two years, serving as the vice president this year. I am a member of scholastic bowl and Connect Life Club as well.

What is your proudest achievement: Being named a GRAA All-Star in swimming.

What will you miss most about school: I will miss seeing my friends everyday and the random conversations we have during class.

What's the most important lesson you learned in high school: Don't be afraid of what others think of you, just be yourself.

What do you hope your life looks like in 10 years: I hope to have my doctorate in virology and



hopefully a research job in that field.

Who inspires you to do your best: My mom inspires me every day. She always tries her best, no matter what and she handles her challenges with grace. She juggles many different responsibilities extremely well and that inspires me to be just like her.

What's your favorite place in Attica: My favorite place in Attica is the park. I have so many good memories there and I love being outside.

What trend or fad did you participate in that you will definitely regret in the future (or actively regret right now): In middle school when I wore Nike sweatpants and soccer sweatshirts every day.

What's your most-listened to song: My top songs are "Dreams," by The Cranberries and "Getaway Car," by Taylor Swift. I love the overall messages they send and they're both perfect for singing in the car.

MORGAN TOLAND

Parents' Names: Melanie and Robert Toland.

Future Plans: Chapman University for business and entrepreneurship.

Honors & Awards: Honor roll.

Activities & Sports: Cross country, track, Yearbook Club, We Care Club, student government.

What is your proudest achievement: I am most proud of myself for making the decision to move far away from home and start a life of my own.

What's the most important lesson you learned in high school: In high school I have learned that you still have time to establish yourself as the person you want to be.

What do you hope your life looks like in 10 years: I hope to be married and have a successful career, as well as children on the way. I also hope to have some traveling under my belt.

Who inspires you to do your best: My older sisters inspire me to do my best as they've given me examples of going out of your comfort zones. They've also helped me to feel confident in my performance within my education and where it's taking me.

If you could tell your eighth grade self one thing, what would it be: I would tell my 8th grade self that it is a good thing I take school so seriously. Without the discipline I had at such a young age I wouldn't be in the position to make any of these statements today.

What do you want people to know about what it's like to be you, to be your age, at this moment in time: I would like people to know that at this point in time, I am welcoming so much change into my life.



What would the title of your autobiography be: "Morgan Never Knows"

What scares you about the future: Something that scares me about the future is that it is undecided. Every choice being made leads to a future event somehow and in some way.

MADELYN KING

Parents' Names: Christopher and Colleen King.

Future Plans: I am planning to go to Kansas State University for agriculture business.

Honors & Awards: I've been student of the month multiple times, I have won a leadership award and a community service award.

Activities & Sports: FFA, National Honor Society, 4-H, New York Beef Producers.

What is your proudest achievement: My proudest achievement is earning the Empire Degree for FFA at the New York State FFA Convention.

What's the most important lesson you learned in high school: The most important lesson I have learned in high school is never give up on your dream and always follow your passion to reach your highest potential.

What do you hope your life looks like in 10 years: I hope to be married with a family and have a good job



working in the agriculture industry.

Who inspires you to do your best: My father inspires me to do my best because he is a really hard worker and has always pushed me to do my best.

What's your most-listened to song: My most listened song is "America's Sweetheart," by Elle King because it makes me so happy and always puts me in a good mood.

What scares you about the future: I'm scared of the uncertainty of the future.

What gives you hope about the future: I have hope for the future because I can do what I want to form my own future.

If you had to cook a meal to impress someone,

what would you make: I would make a nice steak dinner with homemade french fries and sweet corn.

What superpower would you pick: If I could choose any superpower in the world it would be teleportation. That way when I'm at college or far away from home for any reason I can return whenever I want.

MITCHELL SPINK

Parents' Names: Michael and Michelle Spink.

Future Plans: Mathematics major at University at Buffalo. I hope to become an actuary after I graduate college.

Honors & Awards: AP Scholar Award, Math Team states qualifier.

Activities & Sports: Math Team, Science Club, Fretboard Society, Best Buddies, Chess Club.

What is your proudest achievement: My proudest achievement is top 10 in school ranking.

What will you miss most about school: The thing I will miss most about school is my friends.

What's the most important lesson you learned in high school: A lesson I learned was to talk to more people.

What do you hope your life looks like in 10 years: In 10 years I hope to have a successful career.

Who inspires you to do your best: My older brothers inspire me to do my best. They are both very successful and I want to follow in their footsteps.

What's your favorite place in Attica: My favorite place in Attica is The Prospector. Every so often my grandmother, grandfather, and I would go eat there. My family doesn't go out to eat very often, so that meant a lot to me.

If you could tell your eighth grade self one thing, what would it be: To make more memories.

What would the title of your autobiography be:



"My Success Block by Block"

Who would play you in a movie about your life: Samuel L. Jackson.

What's your most-listened to song: "Amish Paradise," by "Weird" Al Yankovic. During Middle School my father became very obsessed with the Amish people and their lifestyle. My friends used to joke that I was going to become Amish. The song reminds me of my time in middle school and my friends.

What scares you about the future: I'm scared about staying connected to my friends. I have their contact information, but we won't see each other nearly as often as we used to.

JASLYNNE WATTS

Parents' Names: Zach Watts, Deena Beitz and Jim Beitz.

Future Plans: I'm attending Northeast College of Health Sciences to major in diagnostic medical sonography.

Honors & Awards: I've gotten awards for student of the month, track and field sectionals and Genesee Region Athletic Association championship trophies and blocks. I've also been on the honor roll every year since middle school.

Activities & Sports: Track and field (indoor and outdoor), I've taken dance classes since I was 4 and I'm a part of Revival Club, Yearbook Club and ConnectLife Club.

What's your most-listened to song: My most listened to song right now is "Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield. I recently rediscovered this song from a movie I watched and now it's been on repeat in my car. I like the beat and how up-beat and catchy it is.

What scares you about the future: What scares me the most about the future is not knowing exactly

where my life is going to lead me. There are so many different paths that I could be taken on and it scares me to feel out of control.

What gives you hope about the future: What gives me hope about the future is that my family will always be there to pick me up when I fall and help me in any way that they can. I know that when problems arise later in life, they will always be there to count on.

Tell me about a time when you took a risk and it paid off: I took a risk to join track and field even though I joined two years after everyone else I knew did and it paid off because of how many memories and friendships I've made while doing the sport that I love.

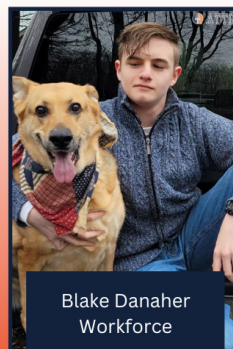
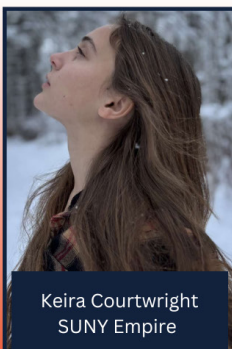
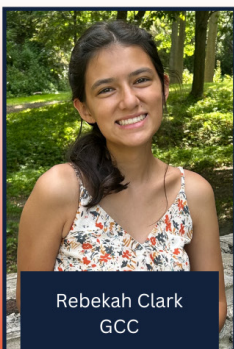
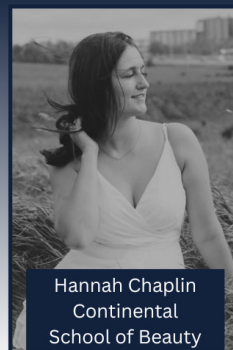
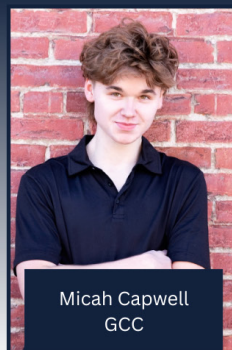
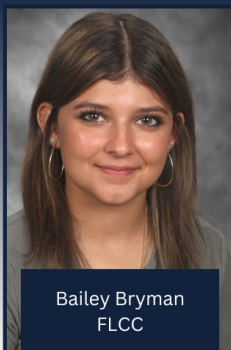
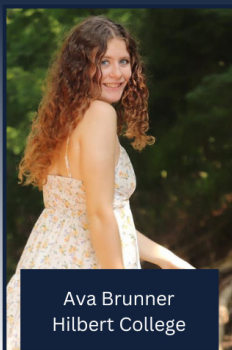
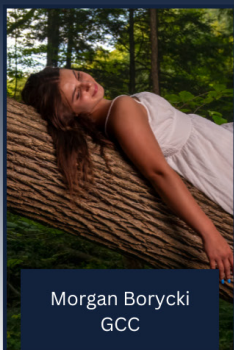
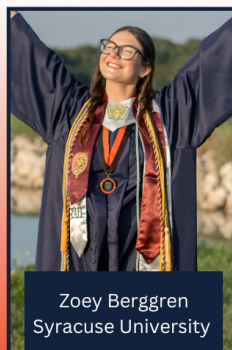
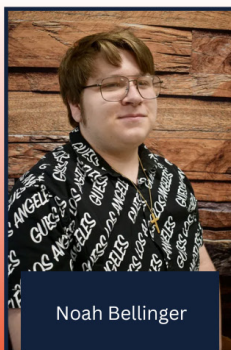
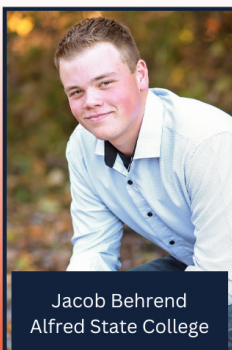
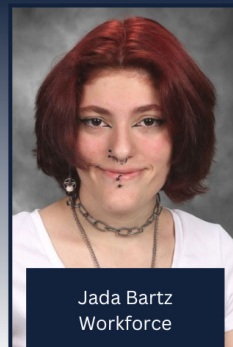
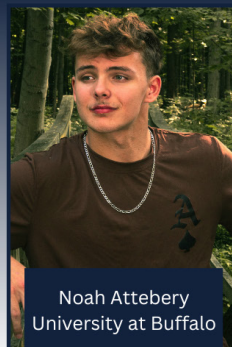
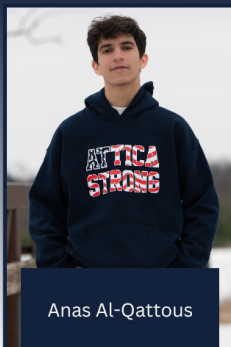
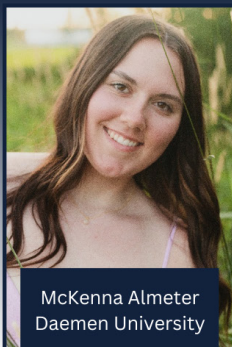
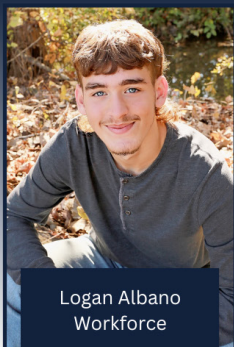
Imagine it's 2047 and you have teenage kids of your own. What advice would you give your 40(ish)-year-old self about being a good parent: I would tell my 40 year old self to go easy on my kids because it's their first time living and they aren't going to get everything right the first try. Let them go out and experience because the more you hold them back, the more they will end up wanting to rebel.

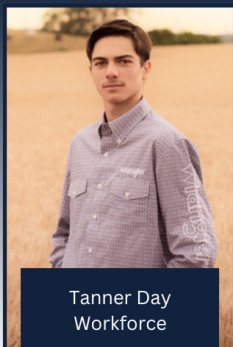


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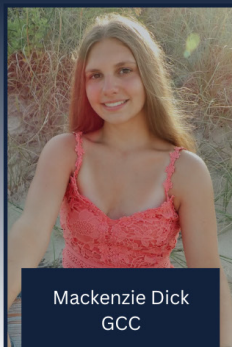
SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Some of our recent graduates are heading off to college, others are joining the U.S. Armed Forces, and some are beginning careers in the workforce. No matter the path they've chosen, we're incredibly proud of all they've accomplished during their time at Attica Central Schools. Join us in celebrating the Class of 2025!

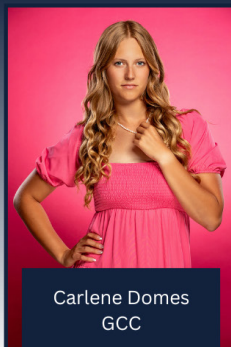




Tanner Day
Workforce



Mackenzie Dick
GCC



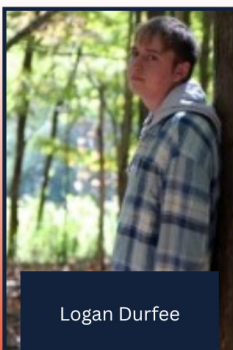
Carlene Domes
GCC



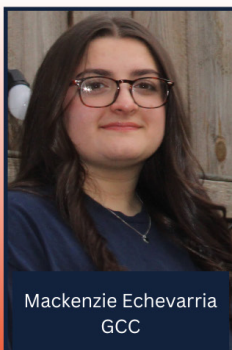
Patrick Donohue



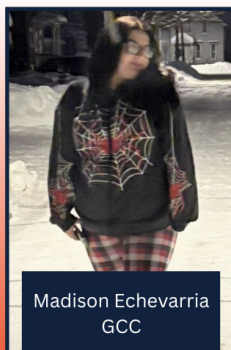
Alan Driesel
Tennessee Colleges
of Applied Sciences



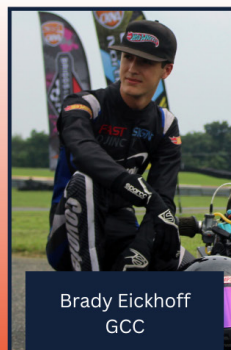
Logan Durfee



Mackenzie Echevarria
GCC



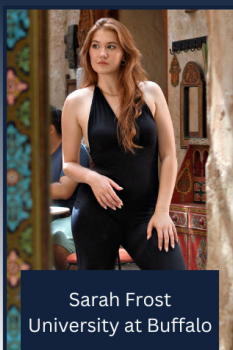
Madison Echevarria
GCC



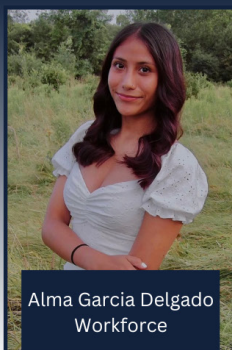
Brady Eickhoff
GCC



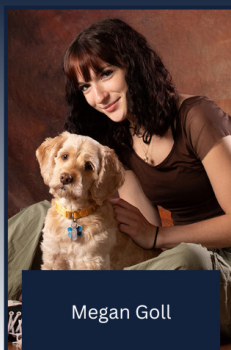
Jacob Foster
Workforce



Sarah Frost
University at Buffalo



Alma Garcia Delgado
Workforce



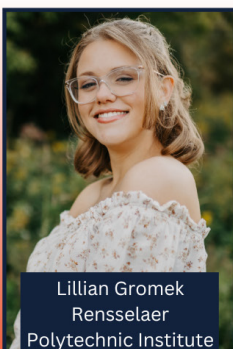
Megan Goll



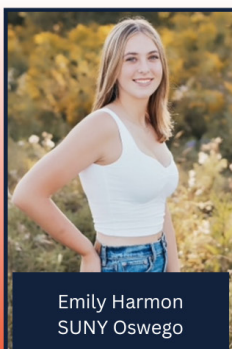
Carter Gorski
SUNY Brockport



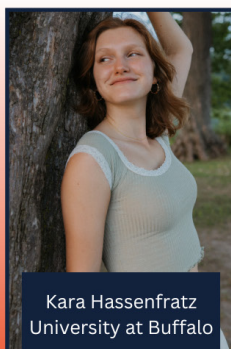
Alexis Grgurich
U.S. Air Force



Lillian Gromek
Rensselaer
Polytechnic Institute



Emily Harmon
SUNY Oswego



Kara Hassenfratz
University at Buffalo

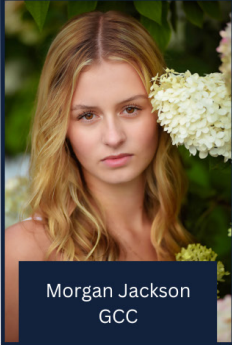


James Helmicki
Workforce



Taryne Herrmann

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



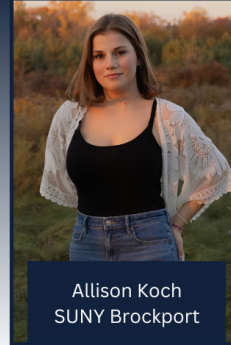
Morgan Jackson
GCC



Nathaniel Kilian
GCC



Madelyn King
Kansas State
University



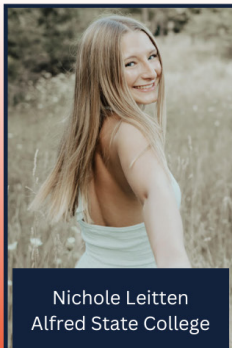
Allison Koch
SUNY Brockport



Joshua Kubik
SUNY Canton



Lily Lackie
Esthetician School



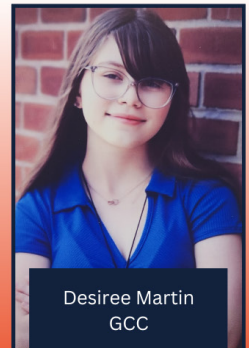
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Alfred State College



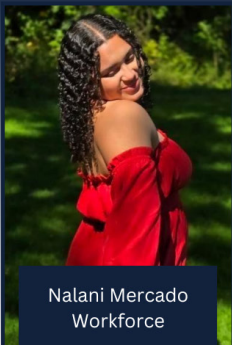
Mateo Lopez
Workforce



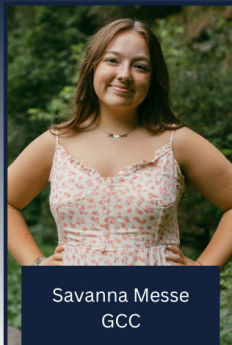
Savannah Marcklinger
GCC



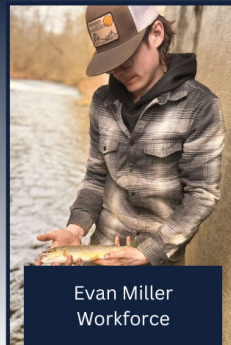
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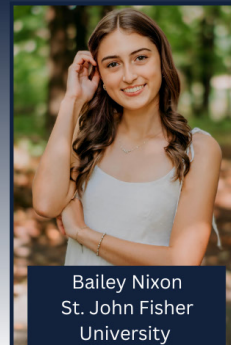
Nalani Mercado
Workforce



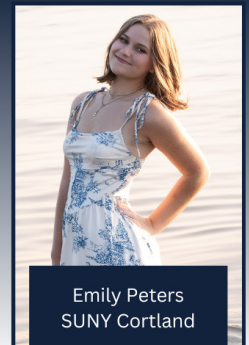
Savanna Messe
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Evan Miller
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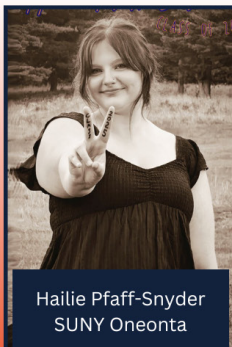
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St. John Fisher
University



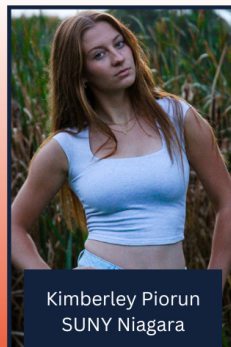
Emily Peters
SUNY Cortland



Noah Peterson
Workforce



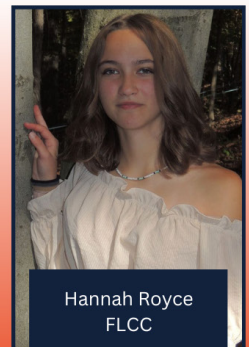
Hallie Pfaff-Snyder
SUNY Oneonta



Kimberley Piorun
SUNY Niagara



Zachary Richardson
SUNY Brockport



Hannah Royce
FLCC



Cameron Ryan
Workforce



Nolan Rzepka
Alfred State College



Victor Santos-Rios
RIT



Munir Sayad
University at Buffalo



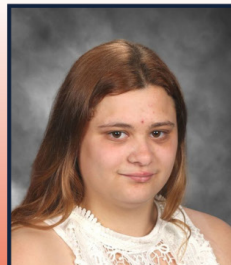
Tucker Schwab
Workforce



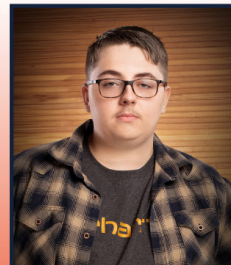
Stephanie Silvernail
SUNY Corning



Elizabeth Skoczylas
Workforce



Samantha Rose Smith
Workforce



Aaron Snyder
Alfred State College



Alyssa Snyder
Esthetician School



Emma Spink
Workforce



Mitchell Spink
University at Buffalo



Griffin Steves
GCC



Chloe Stewart
GCC



Layla Stiles
Workforce



Catharine Struzik
St. John Fisher
University



Robyn Szuniewicz
University at Buffalo



Morgan Toland
Chapman University



Michael Travis
Workforce



Nicholas Tuttle

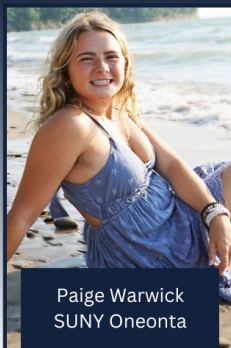
SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Brien Tyoe II
Workforce



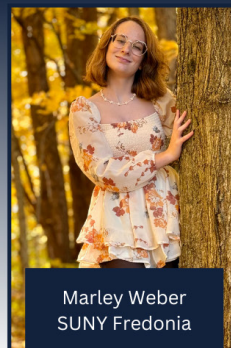
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Alfred State College



Paige Warwick
SUNY Oneonta



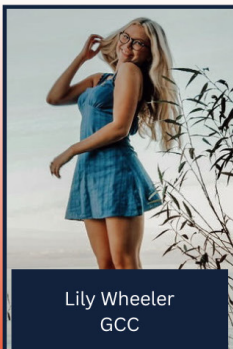
Jaslynn Watts
Northeast College of
Health Sciences



Marley Weber
SUNY Fredonia



Evan Welker
Alfred State College



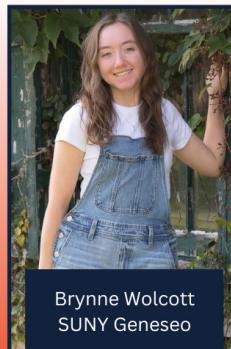
Lily Wheeler
GCC



Willis Easton IV
Workforce



Julia Wise
Arizona State
University



Brynne Wolcott
SUNY Geneseo



Taylor Zimmerman
Commonwealth
University - Mansfield



Lillian Zoeller
Workforce



CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2025!



SPRING SPORTS

TENNIS

Members of this year's variety tennis squad exemplified the term "student athlete," said Head Coach Troy Colton, as the team averaged a GPA of 95%.

"The starting line up included Jace Anetrini, Julie Pawlak, Colton Spink, Bynne Wolcott, Lauryn Wescott, Makayla Kurtowicz and Ava Farney," said Colton. "Julie Pawlak led the team with 7 wins at the second singles position. The team kept their competitive edge in the Genesee Region, beating Holley twice and losing nail-biters to Bryon-Bergen, Pembroke and Alexander. Julie Pawlak was the only starting senior, so the team will be coming back in full force next year."

The Blue Devils were the #13 seed in the Section V Class B2 Tournament and fell to #4 seed Avoca/Prattsburgh/Hammondsport in the pre-quarterfinal round to finish the season 2-13.



Photo courtesy of Troy Colton

GOLF

Our varsity golfers finished with a 7-5 record on the year, but failed to qualify for the postseason.

"The Genesee Region League is one of the premier small school leagues in Section V, so we need to be almost perfect during the year to qualify for sectionals, which we intend on doing next year," said Head Coach Lance Bannister. "The core of our starting lineup was freshmen, so the next few years should be exciting."

Highlights from the season included beating Genesee Region Division I champions and sectional finalists Byron-Bergen and Division 2 champions Alexander - each by one stroke.

"Luke Behrend was the winner of the individual sectional qualifier at Stafford this year and was named a Genesee Region All-Star," said Bannister. "Ryan Baker, another freshman, was our most improved on the year and is on the cusp for consideration for 'All-Star' status."

Our varsity squad had four different team medalists this past season: Luke Behrend, Ryan Baker, Mason Moroz and Dean Wescott, all freshmen.

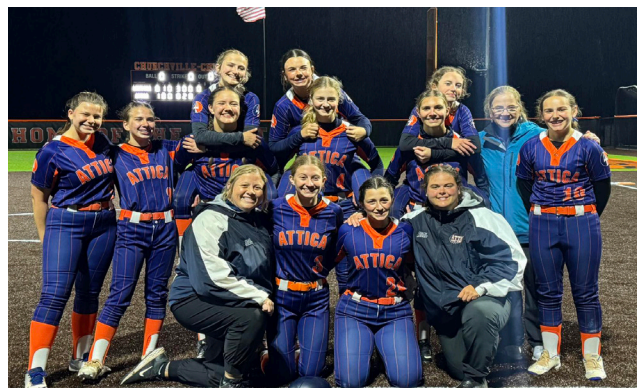
"This obviously bodes well for the future," Bannister said.



SOFTBALL

Our varsity softball team put together an 7-11 regular season record en route to the #8 seed in the Section V Class B2 tournament.

In the pre-quarterfinals, the Blue Devils topped #9 seed Marcus Whitman for its first sectional win in "many, many years," said Head Coach Lauren Kocher.



Our varsity squad fell to #1 seed and eventual sectional champion Wellsville to finish their season 8-12.

Leading the way on the mound this season was sophomore Hailey Mills, who amassed 161 strikeouts in just 122 innings pitched. She also contributed offensively, hitting .431 with 20 RBIs and 14 runs scored on the season.

Other key contributors were senior Morgan Jackson (.429 BA, 18 RBIs, 22 runs scored) and junior Rachel Rickettson (.385 BA, 7 RBIs, 18 runs scored).

Hailey Mills and Morgan Jackson were named Genesee Region All-Stars while Laurel Cius and Rachel Rickettson received All-Star Honorable Mention recognitions.

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Our varsity boys put together a 4-5 regular season record, placed 3rd at the Genesee Region Championships in Holley and took 4th in the Section V Class C2 Championships in Sodus.

Preston Bannister and Eli Crandall both earned sectional patches in Sodus - Preston in pole vault (13 feet) and Eli in the pentathlon (2,669 points).

Two team members - Preston Bannister in pole vault and Tim Lamparelli in shot put and discus - also qualified for the New York State Track & Field Championships at Middletown High School.

Tim came away from states as a two-time medal winner, placing 4th in shot put in Class C with a throw of 48 feet, 10 inches and 3rd in discus, likewise in Class C, with a throw of 145 feet, 1 inch.

Other highlights from this season include Preston Bannister and John Alfiero setting new school records - Preston in the pole vault with a height of 13 feet, 3 inches and John in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 4:41.

Preston Bannister, Tim Lamparelli, Taylor Zimmerman, Carter Gorski and Eli Crandall were named Genesee Region All-Stars.



Photos courtesy of Robert Beck

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Our varsity girls track and field team went 9-0 through the regular season and captured the Genesee Region Championships for the 5th straight year.

At the Section V Class C2 Championships, the Blue Devils took 5th overall. Top finishers for Attica were Aleah Brauen, who took 3th in the 400-meter dash (1:02.05), Nichole Leitten, who took 3rd in the 400-meter hurdles (1:11.10), Bailey Nixon, who took 3rd in the 2,000-meter steeplechase (8:08.65), and Lauren Nelson, who took 3rd in pole vault (9 feet, 6 inches).

At State Qualifiers, the team of Jaslyne Watts, Amy Ennis, Blakely Pratt and Nichole Leitten set a new school record of 51.66 in the 4x100-meter relay.

Lauren's 9 foot, 6 inch vault at sectionals tied a school record as did Mariah Gorski's 105 foot, 4 inch throw in discus.

Bailey Nixon, Nichole Leitten, Amy Ennis, Aleah Brauen, Blakely Pratt, Anna Martino, Addyson Zawilski and Mariah Gorski were named Genesee Region All-Stars while Adam Landphair was named Coach of the Year.



Photos courtesy of Robert Beck

BASEBALL

Our varsity baseball squad went 2-6 through the regular season.

The #15 seed in the Section V Class B tournament, the Blue Devils fell to #2 seed Le Roy, 19-3, to finish the season 2-7.

"We thank our seniors Jacob Berhend, Mike Travis, Logan Albano, and Nate Kilian for their dedication throughout their years in the baseball program," said Head Coach Chad Winkelman. "I'm proud of the young men they've become on and off the baseball field."



UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN: RECOGNIZING OUR RETIREES

To those employees leaving us this school year, we extend a heart-felt thanks for your years of dedication to our district and students and wish you well in whatever new adventures retirement has in store!



CARIN KRAWCZYK
ELEMENTARY BUILDING
SECRETARY

When were you first hired: April 21, 1991.

Why did you decide to take the job: Thelma Wood was my inspiration. I had helped out in the main office during my high school years and knew that was the career path I wanted.

How did your role change over the years: I started out in the high school guidance office and was there for nine years. An opening came about in the elementary school in 2000 so I made the lateral move to the elementary.

What's changed during your time here: Security. It's a different world now with locked doors, screenings and lock down drills.

What's stayed the same: The family style camaraderie in the buildings. We are there for each other especially during difficult times.

What are your chief accomplishments: Pushing for safety in all areas of our school building. Creating a welcoming and helpful front office and being a reliable and dependable first face of the school. Supporting our new principal and being able to be a cohesive team.

What will you take away from your time at Attica Central Schools: I leave with numerous friends and even more fun memories. Oh, the things elementary students say. I've learned to be quite the multi tasker!

What advice would you give to a new Attica hire: I would say that the work will be there tomorrow. No matter how well you plan your work day, something else will pop up that needs attention and foils those plans.

What advice do you have for our recent graduates: Sometimes what you think you really want and don't get is better. I really wanted to be the high school secretary, but that wasn't meant to be. I was hired for the guidance office instead. I then realized that I don't gel well with high schoolers. I transferred to the elementary where it's been 'hugs and cupcakes.' A much better fit for me.

Do you have a message to your colleagues who are NOT retiring: Save as many sick days as possible. You never know when you might need them.



SUE LANDIN
2ND GRADE
TEACHER

When were you first hired: 2003 as a substitute, 2007 as a 3rd grade teacher.

Why did you decide to take the job: I have always lived in Attica. I worked as a substitute teacher in Attica Middle School while I was getting my master's degree. I like the small town community.

How did your role change over the years: I was a long-term sub for both ELA and Spanish in the middle school. I also was a substitute teacher for a couple years in a variety of classrooms, mostly in the middle school while I got my master's. I taught 3rd grade, kindergarten and 2nd grade. I also taught virtually for a year, which was a difficult adjustment at that time during COVID.

What's changed during your time here: Staffing, a lot more technology, and curriculum shifts.

What's stayed the same: Not a lot.

What are your chief accomplishments: I hope that I have made a difference in people's lives, particularly the kids throughout the years. I have developed friendships among staff.

What will you take away from your time at Attica Central Schools: I will cherish my time at Attica Central Schools. I had a great career. The friendships that I made along the way will always hold place in my heart. Many students have made a huge difference in my life, too. I will always cherish them. I have learned that we never stop learning and growing as people regardless of age. I have also learned that people are brought up in significantly different surroundings. We should never assume or judge. Knowing that there is no one fit for everyone is key.

What advice would you give to a new Attica hire: Just open your heart and try your best. Don't try to reinvent the wheel. Borrow ideas, ask for help, and take the time to care for your own personal needs.

What advice do you have for our recent graduates: Choose a career that will provide happiness and fulfillment. It will make a huge difference in your life to look forward to going to work each day.

Do you have a message to your colleagues who are NOT retiring: I wish you all the best in life both personally, and in your years left at school. Some of you know how special you are to me, and I appreciate all you have done and continue to do.



MARY HOERNER
HIGH SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER

When were you first hired: July of 2001.

Why did you decide to take the job: I had a couple of other offers but I heard Attica was a good district to work for so that sealed the deal.

How did your role change over the years: I started out in the middle school and then moved up to the high school two years later.

What's changed during your time here: There have been many changes during my tenure. We had many different principals, each with their own unique style of leadership.

What's stayed the same: The most consistent factor over the years was the love and care for the students.

What are your chief accomplishments: My chief accomplishments over my time was creating relationships with my students. Something else I am proud of is Cafe Friday. I started it many years ago to encourage community service and to give my students something to look forward to every other week. I brought in cocoa and cookies and they made a small donation. The money collected was then donated to families in need in the district. We helped out many families over the years.

Do you have any regrets: The one regret I have is that I never coached track. It was something I had always hoped to do but I had many obligations after school such as caring for my parents, and after they passed away, my husband and I cared for my brother, leaving little time for coaching.

What will you take away from your time at Attica Central Schools: Students always come first. As a teacher I realized that my class, while important, wasn't the only class they had. Many of my students were juggling heavy academic workloads and I realized that allowing some flexibility in my due dates helped to lessen their stress.

What advice would you give to a new Attica hire: Be patient with your students. They have so much going on in their lives that we often aren't aware of. They need a safe space where they can learn and grow.

What advice do you have for our recent graduates: Seize the day. Life is a great adventure that is ahead of them. Work hard to make your dreams a reality.

Do you have a message to your colleagues who are NOT retiring: Give yourself a little grace. Remember what a difference a day can make, and have some fun with your students while you're teaching them.



DAVE BARBER
DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

When were you first hired: May 8, 2000.

Why did you decide to take the job: I was working at Letchworth Central Schools as a building maintenance mechanic for nine years and Attica's job posting for a superintendent of buildings and grounds fit my career path perfectly.

How did your role change over the years: Not only in title, from superintendent of buildings and grounds to director of facilities, but in responsibility as well. It has evolved from being in charge of maintenance to more of an administrative role.

What's changed during your time here: Obviously I started pre-September 11th, so the world has changed during my time here. School safety has become a critical component of caring for school facilities.

What's stayed the same: The mission - to provide a safe, healthy environment to give our students the best chance at the best outcomes.

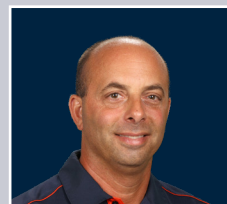
What are your chief accomplishments: When I began, the facilities at Attica were in rough shape. The board of education at the time committed to giving me the resources necessary to turn things around with the facilities and charged me to make that happen. Since then, I have had the support required to take the district from one of the worst to one of the best districts in the region relative to the facilities that house our children. Another chief accomplishment is in the hiring that I've done over the years to put the very best people in position to carry out the responsibilities of caring for Attica's facilities.

What will you take away from your time at Attica Central Schools: I am leaving with an abundance of awesome relationships that I was blessed to have with so many people in this district. What I learned is that it's not the work that's most important - it's the people. Not just the students, but the community.

What advice would you give to a new Attica hire: In the words of a previous superintendent "Don't do anything!" Take time to learn and let things come to you.

What advice do you have for our recent graduates: Probably nobody graduates from high school and says to themselves "I want to be a director of facilities when I grow up," but it is a super gratifying career that has far-reaching rewards. I recommend it.

Do you have a message to your colleagues who are NOT retiring: Take care of yourselves and take care of each other. Some days all you have are your colleagues.



JEFF CUSMANO
HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL
EDUCATION TEACHER

When were you first hired: January 1993.

Why did you decide to take the job: I'm an Attica graduate and wanted to give back to the community.

How did your role change over the years: I was first hired to teach 7th grade health. I did that for 10 years then transitioned over to high school physical education.

What's changed during your time here: Class sizes.

What's stayed the same: The community pride within the school.

What are your chief accomplishments: Being a part of the committee to fund sports in the early 2000s due to budget constraints. Helping win the first sectional football championship in school history.

What will you take away from your time at Attica Central Schools: If everyone is on the same page and bands together, great things can be accomplished

What advice would you give to a new Attica hire: Soak in your surroundings, enjoy each day and be open to change.

What advice do you have for our recent graduates: Chase your dreams, don't be afraid to fail and make the most of your opportunities.

Do you have a message to your colleagues who are NOT retiring: Keep working hard and the light at the end of the tunnel gets bright very quickly.

6TH GRADERS WIN 'DIGIES' AWARDS

Tatyana Ennis and Claira Devel, sixth graders at Attica Middle School, were among the winners at the 19th annual Digital Media Festival at Strong National Museum of Play in May.

Susan Cusmano, a business and technology teacher in our middle school, submitted a handful of projects her 6th grade computer students worked on throughout the school year and Tatyana's and Claira's were both recognized with awards!

In the grades 4-6 video category, Tatyana took 1st place for her short film, "Let's Build a Snowman," while Claira took 3rd for her piece, "Magical Snowy Forest."



Scan Me

Scan the QR code above using the camera app on your smartphone to watch Claira Devel's short film, "Magical Snowy Forest."



Scan Me

Scan the QR code above using the camera app on your smartphone to watch Tatyana Ennis's short film, "Let's Build a Snowman."

"I'm so proud of Tatyana and Claira for their incredible achievements at The Digies. The festival draws submissions from across the region and state so to be recognized is really a huge accomplishment," said Cusmano. "Their creativity and dedication really came through in their submission and it's so exciting to see their hard work recognized on such a big stage. They displayed a level of skill and professionalism well beyond their years - this is just the beginning for them!"



OLD GLORY FLIES HIGH AT FLAG DAY CELEBRATION

Members of our community came out to cheer on our elementary school students and staff during their annual Flag Day celebration last month!

Our kiddos were decked out in their best red, white and blue and, what with all the flag waving and patriotic song singing, earned their fair share of honks from passing cars!

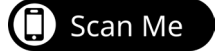
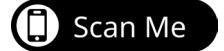
After circling the block, our elementary school students assembled on the front lawn for our Flag Day ceremony.

After brief remarks by Principal Sherry Bennett, members of the Harder-O'Donnell American Legion Post 734 raised the flag.

Then, a handful of students shared what the flag means to them before veterans and active duty members of the armed forces in attendance were recognized.

To wrap up, Mrs. Jill Farrell led students in a couple of patriotic songs to finish things on a festive note.

Definitely one of our favorite events of the school year - and an important one that helps remind students of the ideals our flag represents and what it takes to defend them.



Scan the QR codes above using the camera app on your smartphone for highlights from our elementary school's annual Flag Day parade and ceremony June 13.



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