Basics of budget building - still not easy

By Alice Kendrick, District Superintendent

Our number one goal at Jamesville-DeWitt continues to be a quality education for every student, using our finite resources prudently to ensure a comprehensive program at every level. The process of attaining this goal continues to challenge us as the state places more demands on schools, while limiting resources to meet those demands. Over the last four years, we have reduced non-instructional staff and limited non-instructional spending wherever we could to drive resources into the instructional program. We have made modifications in instructional programs and staffing, reducing the budget in areas that we thought would have the least negative impact. We have done this while overhead costs such as insurance, state retirement costs, costs such as insurance, utilities, and fuel have increased. During this same period, we have actually seen a decrease in state aid for operations. We have gone from $9.7 million in general aid from the state to a projected $8.3 million in general state aid in the governor’s proposed budget for next year. You may have seen the publicity in January concerning the large increases in aid proposed by the governor. The increase in aid over last year is not only lower than publicized, it is less than we received in previous years. This again creates a gap for us to eliminate by either reducing expenses or increasing revenue.

The State could mitigate part of this problem by allocating state aid dollars more equitably across mandates that consume valuable resources. A letter or email to our state legislators from you concerning these matters could really help our students and local taxpayers. Legislator contact information is on the district website at jamesvilledewitt.org.

The district will continue the process of budget development, balancing all of these factors. Your involvement and participation is welcomed and appreciated.

The sun’s set on another Broadway-quality musical by the Jamesville-DeWitt High School Music Department. The classic Fiddler on the Roof was staged Feb. 7, Feb. 9 and, thanks to Mother Nature, Feb. 10. The production featured more than 120 students on stage, behind the scenes, and in the pit orchestra. And the hits just keep on coming: The combined grades 7-12 choruses will present concert versions of selections from Jekyll & Hyde, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. on April 19. Tickets go on sale soon!

Photos by Marlon Levy-Faigen

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The forum is scheduled for February 25, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the high school large group room. We urge you to come to the forum and be a part of the deliberations. Our ability to continue to provide the high-quality education all have grown to expect at Jamesville-DeWitt is dependent upon making the right decisions in a challenging environment. Please be a part of the process.

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2013-14 Budget Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>Public Budget Forum at High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Overview of Budget Process &amp; Challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Board Meeting at Jamesville Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Expense Plan for Instructional Budget (K-12 and Special Ed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Board Meeting at District Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Revenue &amp; Tax Levy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Public Budget Forum at High School Budget Plan Review and Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Board Meeting at Middle School</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Adopt Budget to Present to Voters</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Budget Hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Annual Budget Vote at High School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Please attend:

Budget Forum

When:
7:00 PM
February 25

Where:
High School/Large Group Room

2013-2014 budget development process

Each May the community has an opportunity to vote on the operational budget for the coming school year. The process of developing that budget begins months prior to that and as we review our needs, trends, cost drivers, and sources of revenue. Each step of the process becomes more challenging as these variables change, some fairly dramatically. You will see below the budget calendar for the remainder of the year.

The district will like to engage the community by inviting you to a forum on the budget development process to discuss the specific needs, trends, cost drivers, and revenue sources that are impacting the budget and solicit your thoughts and recommendations. The forum is scheduled for February 25, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the high school large group room. We urge you to come to the forum and be a part of the deliberations. Our ability to continue to provide the high-quality education all have grown to expect at Jamesville-DeWitt is dependent upon making the right decisions in a challenging environment. Please be a part of the process.

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Facilities updates regarding bus garage, capital project and technology infrastructure

On December 12th, we experienced a fire that destroyed a significant portion of the bus garage. Thankfully, no one was hurt. Although we experienced major damage, the building was not a total loss. A large part of the building must be demolished and rebuilt. The demolition will take place in late February, early March. The plans to rebuild must be approved by the State Education Department, so that will, unfortunately, add a delay. We hope the plans will be approved this spring so we can begin the reconstruction. We anticipate the bulk of the work being completed this summer.

In the meantime, the maintenance department, which was completely destroyed, is working out of a temporary storage trailer and bus storage/washing bay. Despite the challenging working conditions, all department functions have been ongoing. Our hard-working and dedicated maintenance staff should be commended for their patience, flexibility, and commitment to get the job done in a compromised environment.

The community has been enjoying the new facility at the high school. The main athletic field has been improved by the new bleachers, press box, concrete and asphalt pavement, and landscaping. This completed the first phase of our capital project, which is now entering its final phase.

Private transportation requests due by April 1
New York State Education Law Section 365(2) requires that a written request be made to a school district when transportation of a student to a non-public, private, or parochial school is required. This written request must be made annually and should be received by the school district no later than April 1st for transportation of a student to a non-public, private, or parochial school is required. This written request must be made annually and should be received by the school district no later than April 1st.

Kindergarten registration, September 2013
Even though we are barely half way through the school year, we have begun the process of planning for next year. An important part of our planning is determining how many kindergarten students we will enroll in each of our elementary schools for September 2013. If you have a child you plan to enroll in kindergarten next year, we request that you register the child now. The registration forms are available on the district website at jamesvilledewitt.org. They should be submitted to the registrar in the district office. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 445-8300.

WHEN THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL

Mmmhh... Is there school today? During the winter months, there is always the possibility that school may be cancelled due to weather conditions. If a decision is made to cancel school, several local radio and television stations will be contacted by school officials. The decision to cancel school or to delay the opening of school will be made by 6:30 a.m. Please tune in to one of these stations for information on school cancellations:

Radio
WNTQ, WAOX, WKRL
WSEN, WFLW, WTLA
WAER, WTKW, WZUN
WSYR, Y94, WNYR

Television
WSTM-Channel 3,
WTVH-Channel 5,
WSYR-Channel 9,
Your News Now-Channel 10

Meetings
The Board of Education meets every first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. during the school year. See the calendars on pages 1 and 7 for details. The Board welcomes your participation and comments throughout the year.

Write the Board
District Office
P.O. Box 606
Edinger Drive
DeWitt, NY 13214
Phone: 445-8304
Fax: 445-8477

Web Site
jamesvilledewitt.org
A sincere hope to maintain quality programs amid ongoing fiscal trials

For second year in a row, grant allows seventh-grade ELA teacher to show relevancy of writing

Seventh-grade English Language Arts students in Mrs. Maggie Nerz Iribarne’s classes had a great time in December executing their first project for the 2012-13 MAC Grant entitled, “Writing for a Reason.” The project is focused on the recognized concept that kids are more motivated to write when they are doing so for some altruistic purpose. With this in mind, Mrs. Iribarne suggested a series of projects where students would write for a number of charitable enterprises, using different media to "publish" their work.

The December project entailed writing creative pieces (poetry as well as short essays and stories, and even, in the case of two talented students, comic strips) and copying them onto posters made bright and beautiful with markers, glitter glue, and poster paint to lift the spirits of the guests at downtown Syracuse’s amazing Samaritan Center. This agency provides a warm meal to anyone who needs it in a welcoming, community-focused setting.

The joy expressed by the employees of the Center was really special, and knowing that students’ writing would bring beauty and meaning to a wide variety of guests eating there during the holiday season was, indeed, the reason for our writing.

Mrs. Iribarne won this Mac grant for the second year in a row. Last year she used the money to help students make books throughout the year. This has enabled her to develop young writers by adding a more concrete sense of purpose to their assignments.

Indeed, Mrs. Iribarne continues to incorporate into lessons creative strategies and seeks outside support to make learning more meaningful for students, despite pressure to narrow curriculum and demands of APPR. "She is not handcuffed by the work coming from the state," writes Middle School Principal Peter Smith, "but continues to keep an eye on teaching and learning for the benefit of her students. We are fortunate to have her."
French, Spanish Honor Societies induct students

Thirty-three Jamesville-DeWitt language students recently stood on stage with a single candle in hand. They lit their candles and said a pledge that initiated them into the National Spanish and French Honor Societies. This beautiful candlelight ceremony culminated the induction of J-DHS Spanish and French students who have achieved high grades in language, have continued the study of the foreign language for four years in the high school, have exhibited a sincere interest and enthusiasm for language, and who have acted as a model to their fellow students.

Principal Paul Gasparini was our keynote speaker for the event. Dr. Kendrick, J-D language teachers, parents and friends were present to celebrate the induction.

In June, members in good standing will receive Honor Cords to wear over their gowns at graduation: red and gold for Spanish, and blue, white and red for French.

At the Middle School

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Students sketch Scholastic Art attack

Results of the 2013 M&T Bank Scholastic Art Exhibition indicate Jamesville-DeWitt High School students received numerous awards in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics and photography.

Students receiving the highest awards, were invited to the show opening and awards ceremony held at the Whitney Applied Technology Center at Onondaga Community College. The show runs through March 1.

Light Work Award/Best Photography Portfolio: Marlon Levy-Faigen (umbrella image, top)

Director’s Award/Best Drawing: Nicole Tanquary (“Portrait of Laura,” top)

Fine Arts Portfolio Gold Key Award: Jacqueline Halpin

Seniors shine in Shakespeare competition

In the recently held first round of the English Speaking Union’s National Shakespeare Competition at Jamesville-DeWitt High School, seniors Alex Leblond and Brittany Fayle took first and second place, respectively. Having edged out 16 other contestants in the event, Leblond will advance to the next round in March to test his stage skills against the winners from other area schools, with Fayle serving as an alternate.

The winner of the next round – where competitors must perform a Shakespearean sonnet in addition to their monologue – travels on an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City to compete in nationals at Lincoln Center, with a chance at the top prize, a trip to England to study acting.

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Jamesville Elementary is off to a great 2013. The PTG Book Fair and our JES food drive were both a huge success. The Book Fair had extra excitement this year for the sock puppet display. Students, staff and parents rocked the annual food drive by rallying to beat last year’s total with approximately 500 food items collected. Events like this are important for our students as they learn to be responsible to the community, to be thankful, and learn about the gift of giving.

JES Bursting Basket event is only a month and a half away, and the students and parents are working hard to put together baskets with interesting and exciting themes. The exciting event on Friday, March 22nd at 6 p.m.

Along with Officer Andrews’ help the kindergarten students were able to find our ever-sneaky Gingerbread Man. First grade took their annual trip to Hospital Land, where they learned a great deal about caring, while fourth grade took a trip to Wegman’s and learned about healthy eating and supply and demand. Second grade is working hard to incorporate their new ipads in their center rotations, along with reading daily using their independent “Daily 5” book bins. The required learning rolls on, as does fun!

Moses Dewitt

Through a journey of discovery, driven by student curiosity, over fifty Moses Dewitt students developed science fair projects for the annual Moses Dewitt Science Fair. Student participants were tasked with proposing a question or hypothesis, performing a procedure to produce data, and then drawing a conclusion regarding the hypothesis based on the data. The Science Fair Reception provided students with the opportunity to share their projects with families and friends. Participation in the science fair strengthens students’ math skills through analyzing and graphing data, develops comprehension skills as background research is completed, and enhances creative problem solving skills throughout the process.

This year’s Science Fair was a huge success!

Common Core drives instruction

Staff and students at Moses Dewitt Elementary have been working incredibly hard filling every minute of the school day with learning activities that support the increased rigor of the Common Core Learning Standards in ELA and Math.

For example, students in Mrs. O’Brien’s kindergarten class, at left, discuss a story. In addition, the use of small-group instruction, as well as various technologies help to support student learning by addressing the different learning styles of each and every child.

To prepare for the annual Science Fair, students participated in a weeklong, school-wide experiment. All K-4 students answered the question, “Will a can of regular soda sink or float and will a can of diet soda sink or float?” Each day, all students engaged in a different stage of the scientific process. An amazing variety of observations came from classes, which carried out the experiment with different degrees of investigation. At the week’s end, third grade used the results (regular soda sinks) to segue into a conversation about sugar and its effect on teeth. This tied us all in to Dental Health Month in February. It was a great example of real-life learning, and it was fun, too!

Students in Mrs. Howes’ fourth-grade class were affected by the incidents in Newtown. To show compassion, they raised over $320 to send to Sandy Hook Schools PTG and wrote cards and letters to families. In turn, they received an email from a Newtown community member who grew up in DeWitt and attended Tecumseh in the 1970s! The class was excited to see that they had made a small difference!

Tecumseh

Brush up on dental health, Newtown compassion
**SPRING VARSITY SPORTS CALENDAR**

**GIRLS’ LACROSSE**
- 3/26 CNS (NL) A 7:00
- 3/28 HOMER H 4:30
- 4/2 CORTLAND A 3:00
- 4/4 NEW HARTFORD H 4:30
- 4/6 ESM H 1:00
- 4/9 MEXICO @ MS A 6:00
- 4/16 CBA H 4:30
- 4/18 FULTON A 7:00
- 4/21 FULTON A 5:00
- 4/23 WHITESBORO H 4:30
- 4/27 FM A 1:00
- 4/30 FULTON (NL) H 4:30
- 5/2 HOMER A 6:00
- 5/7 CORTLAND H 5:00
- 5/10 NEW HARTFORD A 7:00
- 5/14 MEXICO H 4:30

**BASEBALL**
- 3/25 PM - SCRIM H 4:30
- 3/27 FM - SCRIM A 4:30
- 3/30 FM - SCRIM H 11:00
- 4/2 FULTON H 4:30
- 4/4 ONEIDA H 4:30
- 4/4 VVS H 4:30
- 4/15 HOMER H 4:30
- 4/11 B LUDDEN H 4:30
- 4/16 MEXICO H 4:30
- 4/18 CORTLAND H 4:30
- 4/20 ESM H 11:00
- 4/23 CBA H 4:00
- 4/25 FULTON A 4:30
- 4/30 ESM A 4:45
- 5/2 HOMER A 4:30
- 5/4 NEW HARTFORD A 3:00
- 5/7 B LUDDEN A 4:30
- 5/9 MEXICO @ MS A 4:30
- 5/13 CHITTENANGO A 4:30
- 5/14 CORTLAND @ BEAUDRY A 4:30
- 5/16 CBA A 4:30

**BOYS’ LACROSSE**
- 3/23 MARCELLUS - SCRIM A 12:00
- 3/26 WHITESBORO A 4:30
- 3/28 HOMER A 7:00
- 3/30 FM - SCRIM A TBA
- 4/2 ESM H 12:00
- 4/9 NEW HARTFORD A 5:00
- 4/11 FULTON H 6:00
- 4/16 CORTLAND H 6:00
- 4/20 W GENESEE (NL) A 1:00
- 4/23 ESM A 6:30
- 4/25 WHITESBORO H 6:00
- 4/27 FAIRPORT (NL) TBA TBA
- 4/30 HOMER H 6:00
- 5/2 NEW HARTFORD H 6:00
- 5/4 NISKAYUNA T BA TBA
- 5/7 FULTON A 5:00
- 5/9 CORTLAND A 7:00
- 6/13 CORTLAND A 7:00

**SOFTBALL**
- 3/27 ESM H 4:30
- 4/2 FULTON A TBA
- 4/4 FM H 11:00
- 4/6 C SQUARE H 11:00
- 4/9 HOMER H 4:30
- 4/12 FOWLER @ BURNETT PK.A 4:00
- 4/16 MEXICO A 4:30
- 4/18 CORTLAND @ MELDROM A 4:30
- 4/20 SOLVAY TOURN A 11:30
- 4/23 CBA H 4:00
- 4/25 FULTON H 4:30
- 4/27 MERCY A 1:00
- 4/30 ESM A 4:30
- 5/2 HOMER @ JH A 4:30
- 5/4 W GENESEE (NL) A 3:00
- 5/7 SYRACUSE WEST H 4:30
- 5/9 MEXICO H 4:30
- 5/14 CORTLAND H 4:30
- 5/16 CBA A 4:00

**TRACK & FIELD**
- 4/15 CORTLAND H 4:30
- 4/18 HOMER H 4:30
- 4/23 FULTON A 4:30
- 4/25 MEXICO A 4:30
- 4/29 ESM @ PINE GROVE A 4:30
- 5/1 CORTLAND A 4:30
- 5/3 NEW HARTFORD H 4:30
- 5/7 HOMER A 4:30
- 5/9 FULTON H 5:00
- 5/13 MEXICO A 4:30
- 5/15 ESM H 4:30

**BOYS’ TENNIS**
- 4/15 CORTLAND H 4:30
- 4/18 HOMER H 4:30
- 4/23 FULTON A 4:30
- 4/25 MEXICO A 4:30
- 4/29 ESM @ PINE GROVE A 4:30
- 5/1 CORTLAND A 4:30
- 5/3 NEW HARTFORD H 4:30
- 5/7 HOMER A 4:30
- 5/9 FULTON H 5:00
- 5/13 MEXICO A 4:30
- 5/15 ESM H 4:30

**THE SCHEDULE FOR THE GIRLS’ MATCHES WAS NOT SET AT PRESS TIME, BUT TEAM MEMBERS WILL BE COMPETING HARD ALL SPRING LONG!**

**Schedules accurate as of 2/11/13. Events subject to change. For updated schedules, rosters, directions to opponents, and other athletic information, visit: www.jamesvilledewitt.org/athletics.**

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**Be A Groupie**

**Go PTG**

**PTG AND BOOSTER PRESIDENTS INVITE YOUR PARTICIPATION. IF INTERESTED, CALL:**

**JAMESVILLE**
- Noel Norden 7277 Broadfield Road Manlius, NY 13104 682-3220
- Connie McDevitt 6204 Singletree Lane Jamesville, NY 13078 445-9019

**MOSES DEWITT**
- Wargo & Chris Shimos 8867 Claret Circle Fayetteville, NY 13066 251-1040

**TECUIMSEH**
- Traci Bort 6424 Tulipwood Lane Jamesville, NY 13078 449-9533

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**Rams Coaching Staff**

**John Goodson, Athletic Director, 445-8345**

**Varsity Boys’ Lacrosse**
Coach Jamie Archer

**Varsity Girls’ Lacrosse**
Coach Phil Luckette

**Varsity Baseball**
Coach Ryan Dera

**Varsity Softball**
Coach Phil DeAugustine

**Varsity Track & Field**
- Boys’ Coach Bill Leberman
- Girls’ Coach Jim Lawton

**Varsity Boys’ Tennis**
Coach Yong Sul

**Varsity Girls’ Golf**
Coach Joe Tesori

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**SPRING VARSITY SPORTS CALENDAR**

**GIRLS’ GOLF**

**Good luck to all the spring teams!**
### D i s t r i c t C a l e n d a r

**March 2013**

<table>
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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<td>HS/MS – 1st Mid-Marking Period Ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BOE – 7pm @ J-D Elementary</td>
<td>TEC – Musical (gr. 4 – 2 classes) 7pm</td>
<td>HS – Jazz Band / Orchestra Concert 7pm</td>
<td>MD – 4th Grade Musical 7pm</td>
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<td>TEC – Musical (gr. 4 – 2 classes) 7pm</td>
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<td>MS – Kaleidoscope</td>
<td>HS – College Planning Night – Jr. Parents 7pm</td>
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<td>MD – PTG 7pm</td>
<td>JE – 4th Gr. Musical 7pm</td>
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<td>JE – Open House (gr. K-2) 7pm</td>
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<td>HS – 7th grade Musical 7pm</td>
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Fall sports Scholar Athletes named

Congratulations to those fall varsity sports teams that qualified for the New York State Public High School Athletic Association's Scholar Athlete Team Award. To qualify, a team's GPA must be above 90 for a specific number of individuals based on the total roster. The following athletes earned grades that helped qualify their team for this award:


**Boys' Cross Country** – Lucas Granan, Nicholas Harron, William Hohreiter, Thomaslandolno, Nicholas Kolcens, Matthew Murad, Mack Palin, James Pieri, David Potocki, Alexander Rodriguez, Andrew SCIbilia, Nicholas Street, and Isaac Tupper.

**Boys' Golf** – Patrick Cramer, Jeffrey Edwards, Tom Hays, Ben Katsarsky, Christopher Lenish, Avery Reale, Charles Schettic, Joseph Shapiro, and Christopher Wood.

**Boys' Soccer** – Bradley Carr, Samuel Dye, Lucas Johnson, Brian Kelner, Dean Kousmanidis, John Maroneyn, James McBurrney, Michael Mulvihill, Adam Resetarits, Morgan Sawyer, Peter Sitz, and Nathan Sturgeon.

**Boys' Volleyball** – Kevin Akins, Adam Doss, Joshua Jaffe, Matthew Kanfer, Ryan Mulvihill, James Usher, Jonathan Williams, and Owen Williams.

**Football** – Peter Crossett, Zachary Hatem, Robert Murphy, Redion Petrela, Ryan Pike, Lyndisansky, Brian Roth, Zachary Shapiro, Matthew Thompson, John Werbowsky, Benjamin Wipper and Ryan Wright.

**Girls' Swimming & Diving** – Taylor Cook, Samantha Coombs, Julia Fairbanks, Sophia Farachine, Emily Fitzgerald, Hannah Gibson, Morgan Gunther, Hannah Gunther, Kaylee Horn, Katherine Hughes, Emily Johnston, Molly Lenehan, Bess Murad, Erin Noble, Margaret Parker, Marissa Potamianos, Amanda Prucha, Erin Reeves, Jessica Rieger, Sydney Schutzlay, Hayley Schultz, Anna Skandalis, Cortney Vaughn, Meredith Wagner, and Shelby Woyciesjes.

**Girls' Cross Country** – Joelle Beaulieu, Dori Bergman, Emilie Carpen ter, Holly Deng, Rachel Fairbanks, Allison Hohreiter, Samantha Jaffe, McKenzie Kallquist, Caitlyn Lawless, Ashley Lawless, Katherine Pinkes, Anna Pluff, Emily Shapiro, Rebecca Shen, Kimberly Walsh, Laura Wengert, Christina White, Abbey Fonta and Tessa Yu.

**Girls' Soccer** – Margaret Austin, Allie Bat lovin, Allison Butler, Madeline Devereaux, Ella DiGiovanni, Alexandra Fontana, Madeline Frank, Chloe Hayward, Jessica Holmes, Caroline Kopp, Sarah Marron, Paige Shering, and Julia Stitz.


**Girls' Volleyball** – Madeline Alfieris, Meghan Byrnes, Kristina Gitz en, Jacqueline Halpin, Jenna Hayward, Olivia Jansinski, Arielle Nagar, Julia Norton, and Laura Wildridge.

**BRIEFS**

The J-DHS Athletic Department will send Taylor Riley (11th grade) and Payton Riley (7th grade) to the New York State Public High School Athletic Association State Championship gymnastics meet March 1-2nd at Smithtown East High School in Section 11. The girls will depart Feb. 28th.

Since mid November, the Athletic Department has hosted press conferences in the Athletic Hall of Fame to announce the national letter of intent signings of student athletes. On Nov. 19, Taylor Fallon signed with St. Bonaventure University to play lacrosse; Jordan Evans signed with Syracuse University to play lacrosse; Jeff Edwards signed with Canisius to play lacrosse; Scott Friedman signed with Syracuse University to play lacrosse; and Mike Perkins signed with Loyola University to play lacrosse. Justin Diamond will attend Boston University to play lacrosse...

On Feb. 6, Cydney Goodrum signed with Roberts Wesleyan College to play basketball, and Jessica Holmes signed with Boston College to play soccer.