

January 12, 2019

## SLCS Superintendent Update

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your child had a great Holiday break and that the return to school went smoothly. There is a lot going on at SLCS and I thought you would appreciate a quick update on things:

- Regents week is coming soon and the end of the second quarter will arrive on January 25<sup>th</sup>. We encourage your child to put in maximum effort as the end of the semester approaches. Parents can monitor their student's grades by going to the powerschool parent portal. If you need help accessing the portal, please contact Mr. Dave Williams at [dwilliams@slcswildcats.org](mailto:dwilliams@slcswildcats.org).
- Recently, we had an anti-vaping presentation at SLCS. Scott Ruch from Reality check, a tobacco free program for students in high school, came from Plattsburgh to speak to our health classes to warn about the dangers of vaping. He explained that the target audience of vaping advertising is our youth. Vaping usage among area teen-agers is on the rise and SLCS is not immune to the problem. We encourage you to learn more about the things your children are being exposed to. <https://www.yalemedicine.org/stories/teen-vaping/>
- If you are looking for some fun family entertainment, please come out for **Trivia Night on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**. The event is open to students, parents, community members and anyone else. Assemble your team of 4 players (students 5<sup>th</sup> grade and under can participate but they don't count as one of the four players). Come out for an evening of cerebral entertainment as you answer simple written questions. Verbal answers and silly time limits are not part of the evening. It is a great opportunity for young and old to enjoy an activity together. The cost is \$25 per team. Contact Student Council president Gabe Gratto if you want more information or if you want to register a team. [ggratto2019@slwildcats.org](mailto:ggratto2019@slwildcats.org)
- The Schroon Lake LEO Club (our community service club) will be running a food collection initiative for the local foodbank called the "Souper Bowl". A display will be set up in the gym lobby at school with spots for community members to donate cans and food items on behalf of their favorite NFL playoff team. Between now and the Super Bowl, all students, staff, and community members are encouraged to bring in food items and place them under the display for the team that they think will go all of the way!
- The LEO club will also be kicking off their "Big Change Round" soon. Students and staff will be encouraged to donate their loose change (and larger bills) at school to benefit the University of Vermont Children's Hospital. Last year the SLCS Big Change Round Up donated over \$600 to the Children's Hospital. This year we hope to do even better. For more info, go to <https://www.uvmhealth.org/medcenter/pages/about-uvm-medical-center/foundation/events/big-change-roundup.aspx>.
- Schroon Lake Central School is recognized by the Office of Homeland Security as a school certified to host tuition paying International Students. In recent years, SLCS has successfully hosted high school students from Spain, Russia, and Vietnam. SLCS is now looking for local host families to welcome International students into the homes for the 2019-2020 school year. Placements can be for half of a year or for a full year. All students speak English, and host

families receive a stipend participating in the program. Please contact Superintendent Stephen Gratto if you are interested in learning more about being a host family.

- A lot of things are happening at SLCS. To view pictures of activities at SLCS and to get information on upcoming events, please check out our school facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/schroonlakeschool>
- Our new videography elective at SLCS is going well. The students have created a nice “This week at SLCS” video feature. Please check out their brief clip at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q734KCJYT3A&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2mf7zcAd86w1YFIUT0odSNomcyM6MfnfFnYoLdtEMZ4khPEdFNRfttZy4>
- The SLCS Adult Continuing Education Program is off to an excellent start. Community members are encouraged to get involved in this (mostly) free series of classes and activities. For information on what the program offers, please check out our website at: [http://www.schroonschool.org/?page\\_id=704](http://www.schroonschool.org/?page_id=704)

I appreciate your continued support of the students, faculty, and staff at Schroon Lake Central School. I hope you and your child continue to experience success here. Please let me know if you have any comments or questions.

Regards,

Stephen Gratto - Superintendent