

# RIDER REPORT

APRIL 2022

## Superintendent's Corner

It's Spring! As the weather turns warmer and we head into April, we are feeling renewed energy and excitement about our programs and student achievement all while taking more steps towards a long-awaited return to normalcy. In March, Ichabod students made great accomplishments in academics, in the arts, and in athletics. I am excited to share some of them with you in this month's Rider Report.



First, congratulations to all of our winter athletes. The outstanding season of so many of our athletes and teams was capped off with a State Championship by our Varsity boys basketball team for the first time in ICC history! We also saw an impressive return of the annual Crane Acting Troupe production. From the set design to the costumes and performances by the cast, it was outstanding from start to finish.

Our artists of all ages were also recognized for their talent this month. Two of our high school students, Darren Moon and Grace Pizza, were selected to participate in the 2022 High School Regional at Albany Center Gallery. In addition, fifty-four of our K-4 students had their artwork on display at the 13th Annual Student Art Exhibit at the Empire State Plaza. This transition from pandemic planning to a reinvigorated focus on the various talents and accomplishments of all of our students is a long-awaited and welcomed one!

I am happy to share good news on the health and safety front as well. As our local metrics around the pandemic remain favorable and our cases very low, this month the Health and Safety Committee reconvened to update our 21-22 Fall Operating Plan. Changes to the plan include the approved resumption of locker use, as well as kids being able to have recess all together again! Additional updates will be shared directly with parents from building administrators in the coming days.

Please be sure to check your child's backpack on April 4th, as we will be sending home an additional COVID at-home test kit with all K-12 students. We again encourage you to

test before students return from Spring Break in an effort to mitigate any spread within our school.

Finally, as we emerge from the challenges of the last two years stronger than ever, thank you again for your support and ongoing partnership. Working together we create an enriching, healthy, safe, and engaging learning environment for every child.

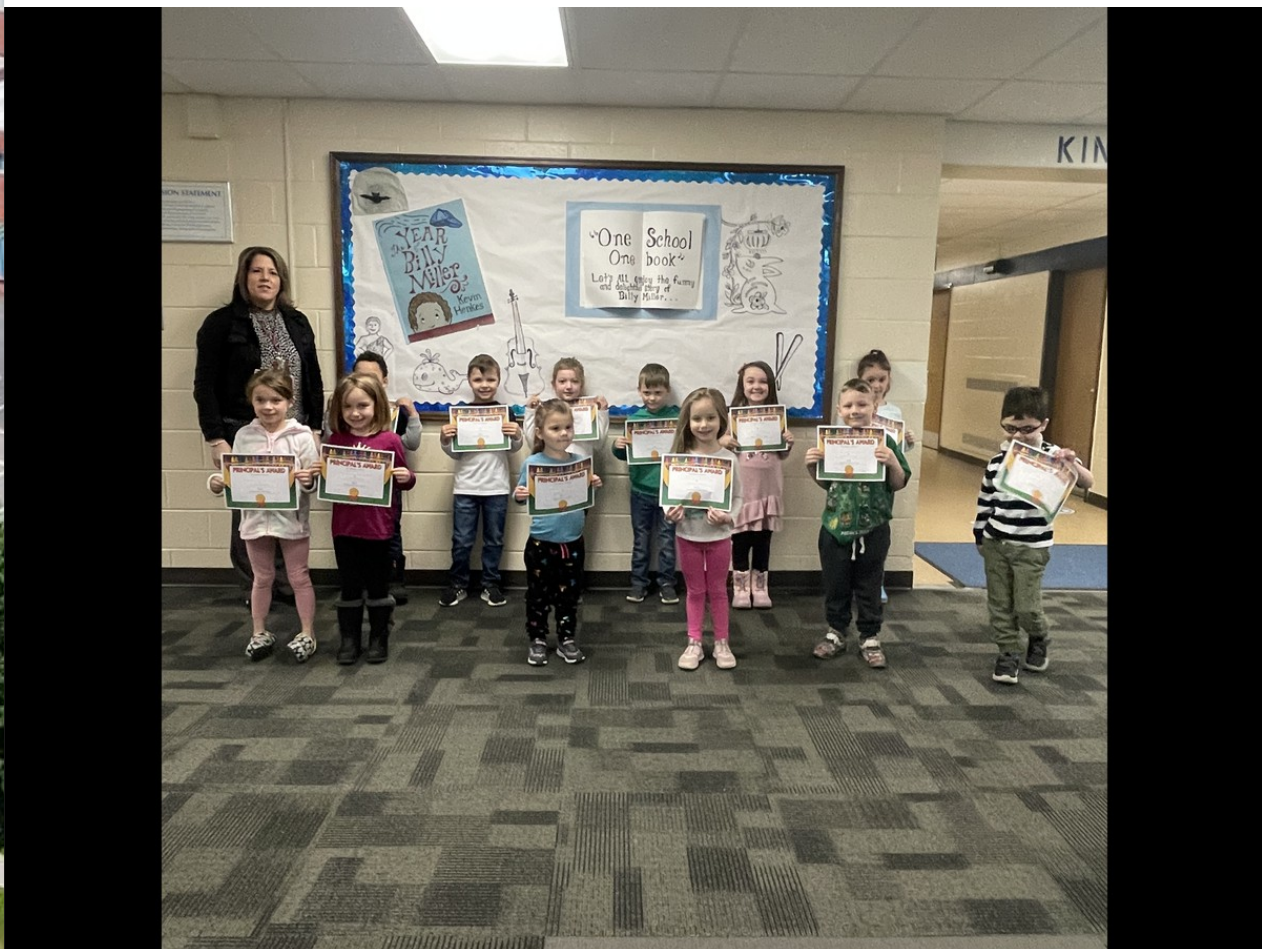
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- Character Trait of the Month: Helpfulness
- Congratulations to Ichabod Crane's Odyssey of the Mind Teams!
- And more!

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## Character Trait of the Month: Helpfulness

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## Our Year of Unity: March Focus on Helpfulness

Our K-12 Rider Unity theme is going strong in all three of our schools!

Throughout the school year, each month we're focusing on one specific character trait. In March, the trait of the month was Helpfulness.

Staff led students to focus on what it means to be helpful, having discussions and class activities centered around the trait. Students encouraged each other and challenged themselves to be helpful, and took the time to notice and acknowledge helpfulness being shown by others!

Students in the Primary, Middle, and High Schools all participated in Helpfulness Bingo and individuals and classes who met the goal of filling in a line, diagonal, or whole card were awarded prizes such as Stewart's ice cream coupons and pizza parties for the entire class.

The High School took the theme of helpfulness a step further with a focus on #That'sNotFunny, aimed at building trust and raising awareness and sensitivity to the experiences of others in our school family. Students and staff read personal messages to the entire building during morning announcements, sharing personal stories about a time they witnessed or experienced hurtful behavior. These activities aim to change mindsets and language to help ensure the school is a warm, welcoming experience for all. For example, one student shared, "I don't like it when people make fun of my learning abilities." #that'snotfunny"

We look forward to the activities planned for April, as we focus on Perseverance as our next character trait.

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## High School Spanish Classes Visited by Author and Professor Jen Degenhardt



### Spanish II Classes Meet Virtually with Author Jennifer Degenhardt

Ms. Lorraine Warner's Spanish II classes are using La Mochila by Jennifer Degenhardt as a primer, and this



month they had the opportunity to have a live visit—via Zoom—with the author herself. When asked about the experience, Ms. Warner shared, “Jen had a great visit with all of the Spanish II students on the 18th and 21st of March - she spoke in slow, comprehensible Spanish, engaged the students in questions and answers about themselves and the book, and shared some personal stories about herself. The 45

minutes flew by!”

Ms. Degenhardt is a very experienced teacher who taught high school for over 20 years, eventually leading her to write stories in Spanish that would help her students to acquire language skills in a fun and engaging way. She enjoys working with young people and helping to facilitate both language learning and thoughtful discussion of issues in their lives through her stories.

All of Ms. Degenhardt’s book covers have been designed by student artists, many of whom have gone on to illustrate for other authors. At the end of her visits with classes here at Ichabod Crane, she made a special offer to the Spanish II students to provide them an opportunity to illustrate each chapter of their textbook, *La Mochila*. If selected, students will have their artwork published in a reprint of the book.

Ms. Warner added, “All of the students enjoyed the author visit with Jen, and we are incredibly grateful to the district for the chance to have her share her stories with us. We look forward to bringing Jen back to Ichabod very soon.”

The District is excited to support learning opportunities like this author visit. These real-world opportunities bring engagement and excitement to the classroom.

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## Odyssey of the Mind: ICC Teams Win Regionals & Compete in NYS Finals



### Our First Grade Team

(L-R) William Phillips, Madeline Welcome, Julia Darman, Ethan Berlin, Max Heron, Elsie McCarthy and Claire Nicholson, coached by Elizabeth Phillips, Marirose McCarthy and Elaine Berlin solved the noncompetitive unscored Primary Problem



### Winners of the Division 1 Classics Problem

Third graders (L-R) Dylan Lockmer, Vivianna Heron, Eleanor Nicholson, Quinn McCarthy, Olivia Phillips, Ella Berlin and (center) Celia Casey, coached by



### Winners of the Division 1 Vehicle Problem

(L-R,) fourth graders Owen Dwyer and Ashton Dewey, third grader Everette Sadowski, and fifth graders Xavier Sadowski and Evan Holliday, coached by Christi and Brian Sadowski and Mary Holliday



Alexander Nicholson and  
Stephen Phillips

In early March, three Ichabod Crane teams competed in the Region 4 Tournament of Odyssey of the Mind, a creative problem-solving competition. Each team presented their creative problem solution either by video or in-person performance.

Both teams entered in competitive contests won First Place, advancing to the New York State Odyssey of the Mind State Finals in Syracuse on March 26th. The Primary School team won 6th Place in Division 1 in the Classics Problem, competing with 13 other teams from around the state. Team members Eleanor Nicholson, Olivia Phillips, Ella Berlin, Quinn McCarthy, Viviana Heron, Celia Casey, and Dylan Lockmer were coached by Alexander Nicholson and Steven Phillips.



The Elementary School team won 10th place in Division 1 in the Vehicle Problem, with 17 teams competing. Team members Everett Sadowski, Owen Dwyer, Ashton Dewey, Xavier Sadowski, and Evan Holliday were coached by Christy and Brian Sadowski and Mary Holliday.

Congratulations to all of the children for doing such a great job

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## Crane Acting Troupe Returns to the Stage with Lion King Jr.

Congratulations to the Crane Acting Troupe for a great production of The Lion King Jr! The eagerly-anticipated show marked the end of a hiatus that began in 2019, and the anticipation was tremendous!

The troupe put on a thrilling show, truly entertaining the audiences with spectacular costumes, sets, and performances. The show ran from March 24-26, and was absolutely enjoyed by all. Check out more pictures from Lion King Jr here: [Ichabod Crane Central School District - Posts](#).| [Facebook](#)

A huge thank you to TEMPO and to our incredible community for supporting our students and this wonderful production. We can't wait to see what they'll do next!







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## Ichabod Crane Athletics: A Winning Winter Into Spring

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**ICHABOD CRANE**

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**VERSUS**

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As extracurricular activities—including sports—resumed, our Boys Basketball team gave us an amazing opportunity to unite and cheer as a school community as they kept winning, winning, and winning—all the way to the New York State Boys Class B Basketball Championship! Making history as they secured the title, the team invigorated the district as we enjoyed cheering them on and welcoming home our champions.(could link reception video here)

The community support has been notable, as has been the dedication, hard work, and perseverance of the athletes and coaches across sports, leading to a remarkable and memorable season. Thinking over the Winter Sports season this year, Athletic Director Tim Stewart reflects:

"The 2021-2022 Winter Sports Season was a season to remember for many reasons. The Boys Basketball team went on a magical postseason run and won the 1st ever basketball State Title in the History of Ichabod Crane. Girls Basketball had one of their most successful seasons in their history as well, advancing to the Section 2 semi-final round before losing to eventual state champion Schalmont. In Indoor Track, Baden Seabury continued to re-write the ICC record books, placing 6th in the 55m and 5th in the 300m NYSPHSAA Championship Races. He set new school records in both events. Congratulations to Baden on wrapping up his high school indoor track career with an amazing day! And Lastly, Boys Volleyball defeated Catskill to win the Section 2 Championship."

In addition to these athletic achievements, 6 of our teams and 38 of our individual athletes were awarded with the designation of New York State Public High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athletes! Teams and students must have an average of 90 or above to qualify.

We are so proud of our student athletes. Congratulations!

The full list of Scholar-Athlete teams for the winter 2022 season can be found here:

[https://nysphsaa.org/.../Winter\\_2022\\_Scholar\\_Athlete...](https://nysphsaa.org/.../Winter_2022_Scholar_Athlete...)



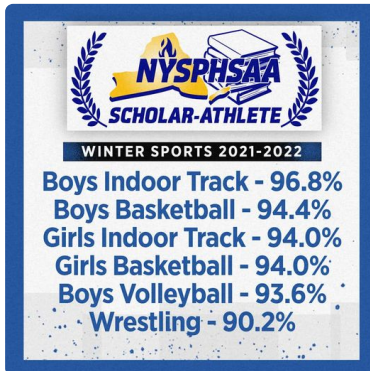
**Girls Basketball**



**Boys Volleyball**



**Baden Seabury**



**Boys Basketball**

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## One Book One School

The Primary School took part in an exciting reading adventure together during the month of March! Students and staff alike all read the same book, *The Year of Billy Miller* by Kevin Henkes. Building on our Unity Theme, everyone who works with and supports our students at the Primary School participated - students, teachers, custodians, cafeteria staff and secretaries!

Kicking off the community reading event, staff members read their favorite poems at student assemblies. With spirits high, it was the perfect introduction to this shared reading experience.

Each day in March, teachers read the same portion of the book to their classes and students engaged in conversations about the book in classrooms, in hallways, at special classes, during lunch and even at recess. A trivia question was also asked during the daily morning announcements. Students had an opportunity to answer the question and place their responses in a decorated box located in the lobby where there was an interactive bulletin board framed around *The Year of Billy Miller*. Lots of activities also took place based on events in the story. For one of the month's focused activities, students try using chopsticks—just like the ones in Billy Miller's teacher's hair.

To close out the program, the whole school read the last few pages together at an assembly. The unifying theme of this experience was a highlight of the program. Andrea Williams, Principal at the Primary School, was impressed by the impact. "This program



has done so many great things for our school, including fostering a positive school community, broadening students' thinking about books and literature, building better readers and encouraging participation from everyone in the Primary School."

Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring this great project!



## Help everyone show their **RIDER PRIDE!**

We are collecting gently used ICC clothing items to share with students who may not have or be able to purchase their own.

Students in all three buildings can drop off their items to the main office.

We want everyone to have plenty of ICC Blue and White to show our Rider's Pride!

## Donate your gently used RIDER GEAR!

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### COVID-19 RESOURCES

Our **2021-2022 COVID Resources Page** is updated regularly throughout the year as needed with new information, guidance, protocols and resources. Please visit this page to see the latest as we continue to monitor and work to prevent the spread of COVID in our schools. <https://www.ichabodcrane.org/2021-2022-covid-resources/>

### Weekly COVID Tracker

[Click here to access our Weekly COVID Tracker.](#) On this page, you will find weekly totals of confirmed COVID positives within the district, listed by building. For daily updates, please visit the [NYS School COVID Report Card here.](#)

### WHO DO I CONTACT FOR...

We have created a document to help you find the correct person to contact for a variety of concerns that may come up throughout the year, as well as a directory of district



staff. [You can find this contact guide on our website.](#)



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