

CAROLINE

CONNECTION



Greetings Caroline Families,

Happy Spring!!! Thank you Punxsutawney Phil:) Our learning community is a buzz with learning in the same way nature is beginning to awaken. It is delightful to see students engaged and coming alive with new information, critical thinking, and problem solving.

A special thanks to our 4th and 5th grade students, Dorothy Preston and Marsha Acerra for the Vocal Concert and Art Show this week. We had a full house in our audience!

Our first graders just finished their science unit on Sound and Light. Students were engaged with inquiry-based activities to explore both sound waves and how light travels.



Our Kindergartners are beginning the Animals and their Habitats Case Study and working with Ms. Reichlin to create animals sculptures.

Next week, our Pre-K classes will be hosting their Annual Art Show on Wednesday, March 27th at 6:00 PM. The kids are working hard to finish their creations.

On **April 2 and 3**, grades three through five will be taking the New York State Assessment in ELA. The math assessment will be on **April 30 and May 1**. I have included information in this packet to provide more specific information to parents.

Thank you all for being an integral part of our community. Thank you for sharing your children with us!!

Most sincerely,
Karen Rachetta

March 21, 2019

VOLUME: 21

CALENDAR

March

**3/25-PTA Meeting-
ICSD Capital Project
Discussion**

**3/28-Pre-K Art Show
5:30pm**

April

**2+3- 3-5 ELA
Assessments**

**5- PTA Teacher
Appreciation Breakfast**

**15-19 Spring Break- No
School**

Doug's Fish Fry Fundraiser

To benefit the Caroline Elementary School PTA Programs

Friday, April 5, 2019 11 am to 6 pm

LOCATION: Parking lot of CFCU Community Credit Union East Hill branch, 1022 Ellis Hollow Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 @ East Hill Plaza

PRE-ORDER: Complete form below and return by 4/1/19 to the PTA box at school or Doug's Fish Fry c/o Caroline Elementary School, Caroline PTA, 2439 Slaterville Road, Slaterville Springs, NY 14881 with cash or credit card (no checks). **Pre-order pick up from 11-4pm only.**

DAY of EVENT: Orders can be called in from 11am to 4pm (pick up from call in order until 6pm) at 607-423-5996 or you can order when you arrive. All Major Credit Cards accepted and Cash.

Caroline Elementary School will host a bake & beverage sale to accompany the Doug's orders - cash only

For more information, please contact Sara Barker at info@carolinepta.org, http://www.dougsfishfry.com/dff_togo/



Fish Sandwich.....	\$8.00	X	_____	=	_____
Fish Dinner.....	\$13.25	X	_____	=	_____
Shrimp Only.....	\$10.50	X	_____	=	_____
Shrimp Dinner.....	\$15.75	X	_____	=	_____
Scallops Only.....	\$13.50	X	_____	=	_____
Scallops Dinner.....	\$18.75	X	_____	=	_____
Fresh Fries.....	\$3.00	X	_____	=	_____
Cole Slaw.....	\$2.25	X	_____	=	_____

Name: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Total Cash: \$ _____ Enclosed
 or pay by credit card (**no checks**)
 CC# _____ Ex Date: _____ CVV# _____
 Pickup @ Doug's Food Truck
 Time: _____ (**pre-orders 11-4pm only**)

ITEMS ARE FRIED IN 100% PEANUT OIL

Prices Include Tax

DAY of EVENT: 4/5/19 , 11-6pm, CFCU Community Credit Union, 1022 Ellis Hollow Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850. Orders can be called in from 11am to 4pm at 607-423-5996 or you can order when you arrive. All Major Credit Cards accepted and Cash.

These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Board of Education of the Ithaca City School District, the superintendent, or this school.



Caroline Elementary PTA Invites you to our upcoming meetings:

Meetings are held in the music room.
Childcare is provided in the cafeteria.

Meetings are open to the entire school community – parents, teachers and staff. You do not need to be a PTA member to attend.

We hope to see you there! Questions? Email us! president@carolinepta.org

March 25, 2019 5:45pm-6:45pm

Principal Karen Rachetta will discuss the ICSD Capital Project, and what improvements we can look forward to at Caroline. We will also hear committee reports and discuss the PTA's annual budget for next school year.

April 29, 2019 5:45pm-6:45pm

School Librarian Milly Stephenson will briefly share a few of the library resources that may be helpful for families at home, including library databases and Sora, an ebook and audiobook platform with many titles to borrow. We will complete the budget discussion and propose the slate of officers for the PTA board for next school year.

May 20, 2019 5:30pm-6:45pm

Note earlier start time

Dewitt Middle School counselors Eric Jackson and Leann Young will be with us to discuss the ins and outs of middle school. They will share about the details, schedules, expectations, and also have time for Q&A. Parents of 4th and 5th graders are encouraged to attend. We will also finalize the plans for summer and fall events, and vote on the 2019-2020 budget and officers.

Are you considering getting more involved next school year?

These positions are available:

Treasurer & Co-President
Farm to Table Market Committee
Doug's Fish Fry Fundraiser Chair
Silent Auction Coordinator
New Student Welcome Committee
Yearbook Club

Contact any board member for more information about these opportunities, or come to a meeting and chat with us about your ideas. We'd love to hear from you!



The 2019 Grades 3-8 New York State Assessments: What Parents Need to Know

Every spring, the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests are administered to students across New York State. These annual ELA and math tests for students in grades 3-8 are required by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015. The tests are designed to measure how well students are mastering the learning standards that guide classroom instruction and help to ensure that students are on track to graduate from high school with the critical thinking, problem solving, and reasoning skills needed for success in college and the modern workplace. The tests also show how schools and districts are progressing with the learning standards and can support professional development for teachers. Below you will find information about the 2019 tests.

Fewer Test Sessions

- Like the 2018 tests, the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests are two sessions each.
- With fewer test sessions, each test will have substantially fewer questions than in recent years, lessening test fatigue for students and better enabling them to demonstrate what they know and are able to do.

Untimed Tests

- Like the 2016 – 2018 tests, the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests will be untimed.
- In general, this means that as long as students are working productively, they will have as much time as they need to complete each test session, within the confines of the regular school day.
- Schools and districts have discretion to allow students to read silently or quietly exit the room when they have completed their test while others continue to work.

Test Questions Reviewed and Written by New York State Teachers

- Teachers from across the State serve on committees to write, evaluate and select questions for the tests.
- Hundreds of New York State educators were involved in creating and reviewing questions for 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests and selecting the questions for the test forms.
- This year, most of the test questions were written by New York State teachers specifically for the annual New York State tests.

Providing Results for Teachers and Improved Resources for Parents

- Like the previous three years, the New York State Education Department plans to have instructional reports returned to teachers by the end of the school year and to release at least 75% of the test questions again.
- The 2019 Score Reports for parents will feature more information about what students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

Computer-Based Testing

- Some schools chose to administer the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests on computers rather than by paper and pencil. The computer-based tests (CBT) will have the same questions as the paper versions. Students in those schools utilizing the CBT option have access to CBT practice tests and most have had prior experience participating in other computer-based tests in ELA and Math.
- The long-term plan is for all schools to use CBT for annual State tests. CBT has the potential to further reduce the need for stand-alone field tests and make assessments better instructional tools for students with disabilities.

PARENTS' FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT NEW YORK STATE'S ANNUAL GRADES 3-8 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & MATHEMATICS TESTS

Every spring, the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests are administered to students across New York State. These annual ELA and math tests for students in grades 3-8 are required by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015. The tests are designed to measure how well students are mastering the learning standards that guide classroom instruction and help to ensure that students are on track to graduate from high school with the critical thinking, problem solving, and reasoning skills needed for success in college and the workplace. The tests also show how schools and districts are progressing with the learning standards and can be used to support professional development for teachers.

1. Are the 2019 tests the same as the 2018 tests?

- Yes, like the 2018 tests, the 2019 Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests are two sessions each. This means that students will take each subject test over only two testing days instead of three as in past years.

2. Why did the Board of Regents reduce the number of test sessions?

- Fewer questions will lessen testing fatigue for students and better enable them to demonstrate what they know and are able to do.
- The decision to reduce the number of test sessions is also in line with recommendations from Governor Cuomo's Common Core Task Force Final Report.

3. When will the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests be administered?

- The ELA Tests administered by paper and pencil will be given on two consecutive school days of the school's choosing between April 2 – April 4. The Math Tests administered by paper and pencil will be given on two consecutive school days of the school's choosing between May 1 – May 3.
- The ELA tests administered on computer will be given on two consecutive school days of the school's choosing between April 1 – April 8. The Math Tests administered on computer will be given on two consecutive school days of the school's choosing between April 30 – May 7.
- There are make-up test dates for students absent on test days.

4. What are computer-based tests?

- For the third year in a row, some districts/schools have chosen to administer the 2019 ELA and Math Tests on the computer. This is called computer-based testing (CBT).
- Students in those schools utilizing the CBT option have access to CBT practice tests and most have had prior experience participating in other computer-based tests in ELA and Math.
- The computer-based tests will have the same questions as the paper versions. However, students testing on computer will select their answers for multiple-choice questions on the computer and type their responses to open-ended questions rather than handwriting their responses to these questions in the paper test booklet.

5. Will the test continue to be untimed?

- Like the 2016 - 2018 tests, the 2019 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests will be untimed. Schools and districts have the discretion to create their own approaches to ensure that all students who are productively working are given the time they need within the confines of the regular school day to take the tests.
- If the test is given in a large-group setting, administrators may permit students who finish to hand in their test materials (or submit the test if testing on computer) and leave the room. If so, students should exit quietly so they do not disturb any students still working.
- While exact testing times will vary by student, estimated testing times can be found in the [2019 Educator Guides](https://www.engageny.org/resource/test-guides-english-language-arts-and-mathematics). (<https://www.engageny.org/resource/test-guides-english-language-arts-and-mathematics>)

6. What types of questions are asked on the tests?

- The ELA and Math Tests include multiple choice and open-ended questions, which assess grade level learning standards.
- The questions require students to apply their knowledge and, in open-ended responses, explain their reasoning. Students will read texts, write responses, and solve real-world word problems, all of which are foundational skills necessary for success in their next grade.
- The Department will continue to release 75% of test questions. You can view the [2018 released questions](https://www.engageny.org/3-8) at EngageNY. (<https://www.engageny.org/3-8>)

7. How are New York State teachers involved in the test development process?



SPRING SESSION 2019

April 5 – June 7, 2019

Registration deadline March 29, 2019

See Other Page for Application

This programming is offered by the Caroline Parent Teacher Association. Enrichment classes are open to all students. This is not a fundraiser. A fee is charged to cover the cost of programming. If you have questions or feedback regarding Enrichment, please contact the Enrichment team at ces.enrichment@gmail.com.

Financial Assistance is available. Please contact the office (607) 539-7155 for an application form, which must be turned in within 3 school days of registering.

THERE IS NO BUSSING FOR ENRICHMENT but rides home can be arranged - please contact Kathy Duell kduell@icsd.k12.ny.us or call the office.

This enrichment application is for Primitive Pursuits only, as it is starting April 5.
Regular spring enrichment starts April 22, 2019. Additional enrichment offerings will be published shortly.

SPRING 2019 CLASSES

FRIDAYS

Primitive Pursuits

\$240 for 8 week program

Grades: 1-5 (will be broken into two age groups)

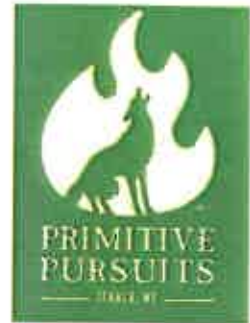
TIME: 2:00-5:00PM

April 5, 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 31, June 7

No program April 19 due to school holiday

Join your friends at Primitive Pursuits as we explore the wilds and step off the beaten path! Together we'll work on making fires (without matches!). Build rain-proof shelters and find wild sources of food. Each week will be a new adventure full of challenges & games to push your skills to the limit.

Please note: You must also complete and submit with registration the two release forms attached. Registration is not complete until these are received.



Grades 1-5

Application on following page.



Primitive Pursuits – Waivers

Waiver 1 - Fire

A very important part of the Primitive Pursuits program includes fire-making skills. For safety reasons, students WILL not be lighting or feeding any fires themselves. The children will also maintain a safe distance from the fire. Signing this indicates that you have read, understand, and give permission for your child to participate / observe:

Child's Name

Parent Signature Date

Waiver 2 – Photography

By signing below I understand that Primitive Pursuits, a program of Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, may use my child's photograph (without their name) in print and online media for the purpose of sharing stories of kids' time in nature with other Primitive Pursuits families.

Child's Name

Parent Signature Date



2 Ways to Register!

Fill out this form AND BOTH waivers and return to school with payment or

Register Online at <https://tinyurl.com/CESPP2019>

If possible, please register online as it reduces paperwork processing for our volunteer coordinators.

Child's Last Name: _____

Child's First Name: _____

Grade: _____ **Teacher:** _____ **Email:** _____

Please note, most enrichment communication is done by email. If you do not have access to email or prefer phone, please circle your phone number below.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone 1(preferred): _____ **Phone 2:** _____

Emergency Contact Name and Phone: _____

Emergency Contact Name and Phone: _____

Serious Allergies: _____

_____ **My child will go to CASP after enrichment**

_____ **My child will be picked up at the end of each class by** _____
(Name & phone)

Other people who may pickup this student: _____

If you have any concerns about an unauthorized person picking your child-up from enrichment please send a message to the Enrichment Team (Amy Hastings and Sue Mann) at ces.enrichment@gmail.com Or contact principal Karen Rachetta at karen.rachetta@icsd.k12.ny.us or 539-7155.

Application continues on other side



After-School Enrichment Permission and Agreement

(initial) I understand my student is expected to participate and comply with the behavioral guidelines in the Caroline student handbook. I will be notified of major issues. (If your child has unique social, emotional or behavioral needs you feel the teacher should be familiar with, contact Janelle: janelleam@gmail.com).

(initial) I understand that if misbehavior continues, my student may be dropped from the program with no refund.

(initial) I understand that if my student drops out of the program after it starts, there will be no refund of my fee.

(initial) I understand my student must be picked up promptly at the end of enrichment (3pm unless otherwise specified). Repeated tardiness may result in my child being dropped from the program.

(initial) I agree to notify the school and/or the instructor if my student will not attend their enrichment class on any given day.

(initial) I understand I MUST contact the school and/or notify the instructor if my child has a different pick-up arrangement. My child WILL NOT BE RELEASED without my expressed consent.

(initial) I acknowledge that my child's participation in an After-School Enrichment class involves a reasonable amount of risk and that accidental injury may occur. As a condition of Student's participation in this program, I hereby agree to indemnify, hold harmless, and waive all claims or suits for damages or injury arising from the Student participating in the Program and liability against the District, elementary school, employees, and volunteers, for injury or accident occurring during this program.

SIGNATURE _____ Date: _____

Please note what time your child's class ends and arrive 5 minutes early to ensure smooth pickup.

Child's Name: _____ Date: _____

Classes are filled on a first come, first serve basis, with exceptions sometimes made. If registering for more than one class, please put classes in order of preference.

CLASS 1 _____

CLASS 2 _____

CLASS 3 _____

PROGRAM/S COST: _____

DONATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND? _____

SCHOLARSHIP APPLIED IN? _____

TOTAL PAID: _____

Check Number(s): _____

Checks are to be made payable to CAROLINE PTA and submitted at the time of application. Please write a separate check for each class. No refunds will be made once the class has begun.

Financial assistance is available. Please talk to Tracey in the main office or visit the PTA website for an application for scholarship. Scholarship applications must be submitted within 3 days of this form.

THERE IS NO BUSSING FOR ENRICHMENT but Rides home can be arranged - please contact Kathy Duell kduell@icsd.k12.ny.us or call the office.

Application continues on other side