

*Administrators say too many students are scoring below the standard in levels 1 and 2...*

## Scores on grades 4 and 8 ELA are steady

**S**cotia-Glenville students in grades 4 and 8 continue to perform well on state standardized tests.

The state Education Department in July released results from the grades 4 and 8 English Language Arts exams given in February and March, respectively. They were taken by 253 grade 4 students and 251 grade 8 students at S-G.

The tests showed that 78.1% of grade 4 students and 47.8% of grade 8 students scored in levels 3 or 4. That means that they meet the state's learning standards.

However, 18.9% of students in grade 4 and 49% of students in grade 8 scored in level 2 and are in need of extra help because they have only a partial understanding of the material. Another 3.2% in both grades - which translates to eight students in each grade - have a minimal understanding of the material.

### Levels 1 and 2 too high

"The numbers in levels 1 and 2 are just too high," said Joe Ann Hinrichs, director of curriculum and instruction.

SEE "STATE RELEASES GRADES 4 AND 8 TEST DATA," PAGE 2

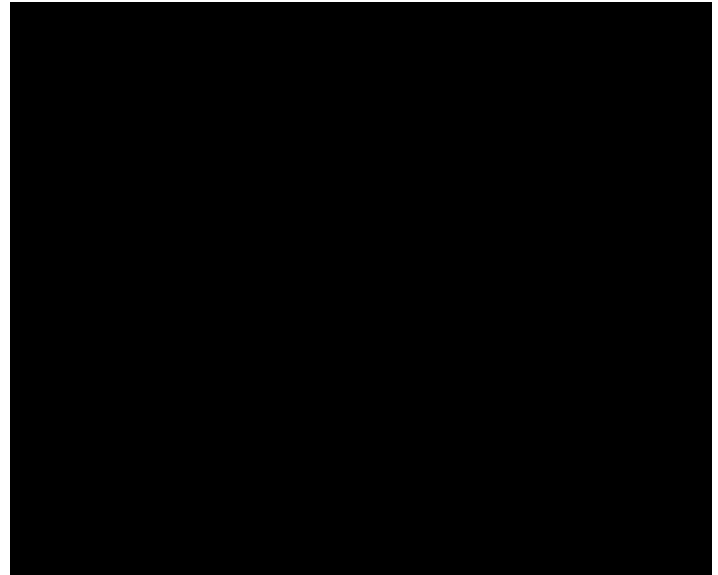
## These stores are inside...

PAGE 3 ▶ 2002 graduation

PAGE 5 ▶ Kindergartners post internet recipes

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Glenville Patrolman **Mike Schermerhorn**, who is also a DARE officer at S-G, stops students as they leave the high school to check for seat belt use. It was part of the countywide "We are Together: Buckle Up!" campaign to encourage students to wear seatbelts. Every one of the more than 50 student motorists that he stopped that day was buckled.

## S-G students reach out to help others in the community

### Two students wrote about their proposals in General Electric student essay contest

**F**or Sarah Kohout and Annie Marsh, it was an easy optional assignment in Marianne Burke's grade 7 English class.

They were to write about how they would improve their communities on a budget of \$500.

Annie wrote about helping food pantries get more contributions to help feed the hungry. Sarah wrote about how junior high school students could

See pages 4 and 5 for the text of both essays.

S-G STUDENTS REACH OUT TO THE COMMUNITY, PAGE 4

## State releases grades 4 and 8 test data, from page 1

“The goal is always to have those students in levels 3 and 4 and that remains our goal.”

She said remedial plans are in place for students who did not meet the standards.

The results, on a student-by-student basis, did not come as a surprise, she said. Most of the students who scored poorly are already receiving remedial help with their studies and that will continue.

Statewide, 38.5% of grade 4 students scored in levels 1 and 2, compared with 22.1% at Scotia-Glenville. In grade 8, 55.7% of students statewide had scores in levels 1 and 2, compared with 52.2% at S-G.

The percentage of students in level 1 in both grades at S-G declined from last year but increased in level 2 (see chart).

All students who score in level 1 and many in level 2 receive academic intervention services (AIS). That means they will get extra help, remedial work through labs or one-on-one with a teacher.

## How well do Scotia-Glenville students read, write and listen?

Based on results of state English Language Arts exam, 2002; 2001 percentage in parenthesis.

Grade 4 students	Statewide	State criteria	Grade 8 students	Statewide
27.7% (31%) (70 students)	20.6%	<u>Level 4</u> Exceeds the state's standards	9.2% (12%) (23 students)	10.2%
50.2% (49%) (127 students)	40.9%	<u>Level 3</u> Meets the state's standards	38.6% (43%) (97 students)	34.1%
18.9% (17%) (48 students)	30.4%	<u>Level 2</u> Needs extra help	49.0% (38%) (123 students)	48.5%
3.2% (4%) (8 students)	8.1%	<u>Level 1</u> Needs academic intervention	3.2% (6%) (8 students)	7.2%

Grade 4 mean score of 672 out of 800 (2001 mean score in gr. 4: 673)  
Grade 8 mean score of 701 out of 830 (2001 mean score in gr. 8: 704)

### Mean scores consistent

Mean scores - the point at which half of the students scored higher and half scored lower - stayed about the same as last year.

Among all grade 4 students at S-G, the mean score was 672 out of a possible 800, compared with last year's 673. Among grade 8 students, the mean score was 701 out of 830, as compared with 704 last year.

Among the four S-G elementary schools, the ELA mean scores were within 10 points of each other (see chart at right).

“The overall mean scores are steady, and that is good,” said Hinrichs. “But

we are more concerned about the number of students, especially in grade 8, who are falling below level 3.”

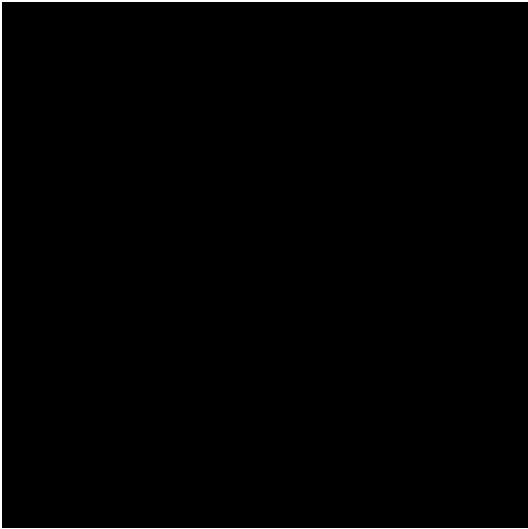
Team teaching, additional professional development and curriculum reviews will also take place next year. “We want to be proactive; these tests help us to sharpen what and how we are teaching,” she added. ✪

### Mean scores on the gr. 4 and 8 ELA

The exams are scored in two areas: English language arts skills and reading. Here are S-G's mean scores in those categories. Mean scores signify that point at which half of the students scored higher and half scored lower.

School	English Language Arts mean score	Reading mean score
Glendaal . . . . .	666.3 . . . . .	660.2
Glen-Worden . . . . .	676.7 . . . . .	669.4
Lincoln . . . . .	674.5 . . . . .	673.3
Sacandaga . . . . .	676.0 . . . . .	663.0
The elementary scores are out of a maximum of 800; the grade 8 scores are out of a maximum of 830.		
Grade 8 . . . . .	672.1 . . . . .	664.9

# The 2002 commencement at Proctor's Theatre, June 27, 2002



Upper left, **Laura Brunez** and **Andrew Smith** talked about the good times. Both are planning to attend SUNY Cortland this fall.

Above, **Christi-Kim Ippoliti** gets a few last minute hugs from her parents, **Beverly** and **Dennis**.

S-G graduated 221 students this year, the largest class since 1988 (232 grads).

## Scotia-Glenville's class of 2002

- Total number of graduates:** . . . . 221 students
- Total attending college:** . . . . . 86.4% (191 students)
  - Four-year colleges: . . . . . 128 students or 57.9%
  - Two-year colleges: . . . . . 63 students or 28.5%
- Getting a job immediately:** . . . . 20 students or 9%
- Entering the armed services:** . . . 2 students or 0.9%
- Undecided:** . . . . . 8 students or 3.6%

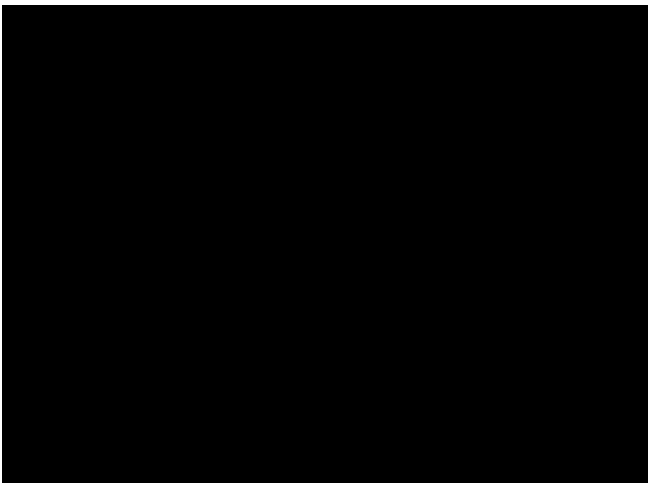
### National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test:

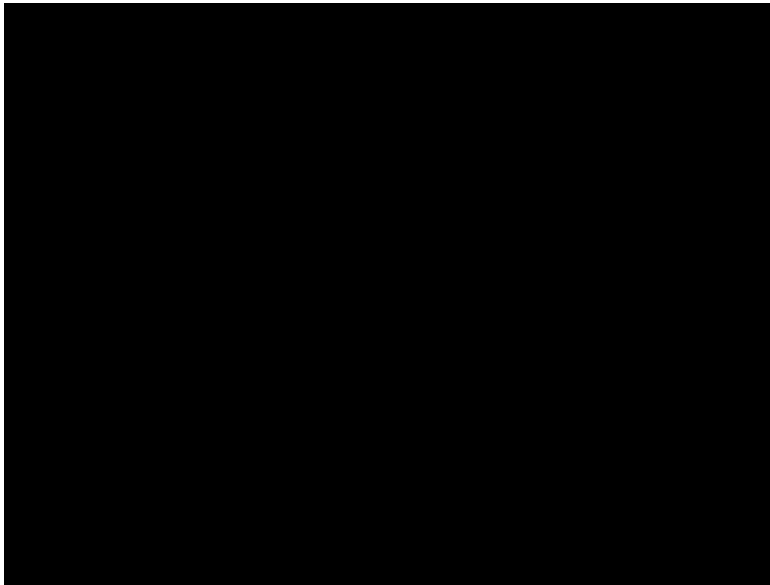
*Commended students:* **Christopher Andersen, Amanda Comi, Stephen Esker, Benjamin Mancuso, Ryan Menzer and Alexandra Virtanen**  
*Semi-finalist:* **Thomas Guzewich**

**Highest averages (received Scholastic Honor Award):**  
**Abbie Archibald, Daniel Byron, Colleen Coburn, Stacey Coburn, Amanda Comi, Stephen Esker, Thomas Guzewich, Adam Lawrence, Benjamin Mancuso, Kaitlin McGann, Ryan Menzer and Carrie Zarnoch**

Above, **April Burns**, left, and **Rina Zukoski** shared a moment before entering Proctor's Theatre for graduation. April plans to attend FMCC and Rina is headed to SCCC.

Below, graduates **Matt Koral**, left, and **Nate Smith** talk about their future as roommates at SUNY Morrisville College.





*Sarah Kohout, left, and Annie Marsh wrote winning essays in General Electric's "Bringing Good Things to the Life of Our Community" contest. Sarah wrote about setting up a literacy program between middle school and elementary students; Annie wrote about helping food pantries get enough food to feed the hungry. GE is providing \$500 to pursue Annie's proposal.*

## S-G students reach out to the community, from page 1

help elementary students improve their reading.

Both ideas were finalists in the General Electric "Bringing Good Things to the Life of My Community" essay contest. One of them, Annie Marsh's idea, will also be funded for \$500.

"I think it is very important for students to learn to read," said Sarah, who enters grade 8 in September. "If you understand reading, you can do anything."

That passion could also be found in Annie Marsh. "A lot of people don't have any food or enough food," said Annie, who is also entering grade 8. "Maybe they are elderly or their jobs don't pay very well. The food pantries can help if they get enough food."

Both students were honored at a banquet in April. ♡

## S-G, nurses ratify three-year contract

The Board of Education on June 10 ratified a three-year agreement with the seven-member Scotia-Glenville Professional Registered Nurses' Association (SGPRNA).

The contract provides raises of 4%, 4% and 3.6% in each of the next three years. The pact expires on June 30, 2005. ♡

Scotia-Glenville: A 50-year Tradition of Excellence

## "Making a Difference: Feeding the Hungry in Scotia" By Annie Marsh

*It has always been very important for us to contribute to our community. It is more important to us now than ever because of the events of September 11. We have seen a great evil, and now we want to bring good to the world to overcome that evil. The easiest place to start is in our own communities. We can do small things that make a great deal of difference.*

*There are people who need help in providing food for themselves. The elderly, single mothers, and people who are out of work find it difficult to make ends meet. Food pantries are set up to help these people get the food they need. However, the food pantries do not always have enough food to supply to those in need. This problem could be solved by asking local restaurants and companies who deal with food to donate non-perishable foods that will soon be outdated. To do this, a flyer or letter could be mailed to thirty-three companies asking them to make such a donation. Each company that responded would receive a sign to display in their front window, stating that they supported the local food pantry. This would advertise the food pantry's need of food as well as casting the companies in a kind light.*

*Every three months, an advertisement costing fifty dollars could be placed in the local newspaper commending the efforts of the companies involved in supporting the food pantry. This, also, would give those companies respect and a good reputation (and advertising!). At the same time, others might be encouraged to do the same.*

*In a budget of five hundred dollars, about two dollars would be spent on copying the letter, fourteen dollars would be spent on mailing (postage and envelopes), ten dollars would be spent on each window sign (probably about two hundred fifty dollars), and the remaining money would be used for the advertisements (about fifty-eight dollars each). The total is four hundred ninety-eight dollars, just under the budget.*

*I hope that this project could be continued. After one year, the companies participating would not need the encouragement of newspaper advertisements to continue donating to the food pantry. They would become so used to doing it, that it would eventually become a habit (and hopefully not a chore!). The project would benefit the people who are in need of food to survive. This project would be easy to start and maintain, and so many people in the community of Scotia would be well served. ♡*

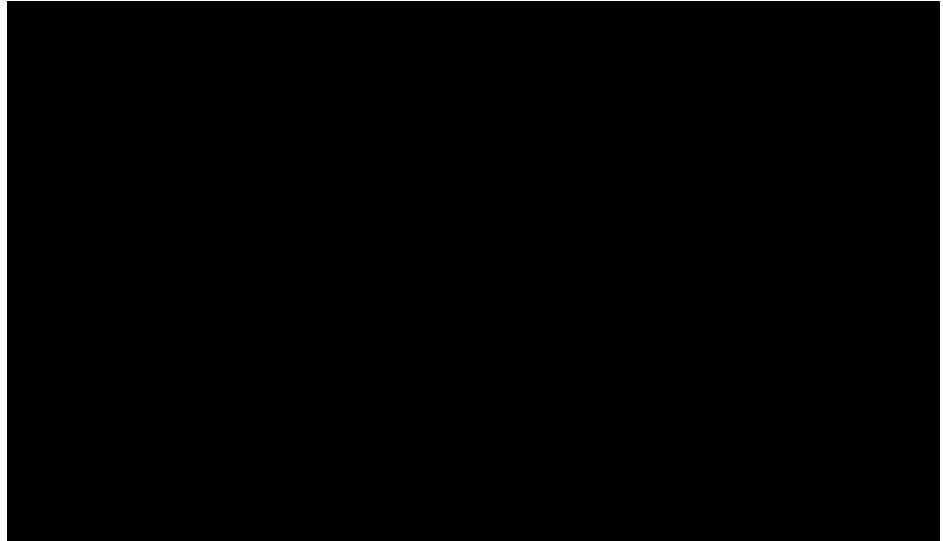
**"Book Buddies" By Sarah Kohout**

*Reading is such an important element in the starts of schools all over. This is a big problem for kids who can't read well. Reading can be fun and interesting, but for kids who have trouble reading, it is frustrating and boring. If students could reform their reading skills they would do much better on tests and they would feel better about themselves. Children having trouble reading is a problem in our schools and something should definitely be done about it.*

*My idea to improve kids' reading skills is to donate books to the after-school YMCA programs at schools. This would give kids a chance to read interesting books if they couldn't afford them at home. Junior high school students could volunteer to come after school and read with the elementary students. If thirty kids volunteered and two students went each day, the volunteers would only have to go once or twice a month. It would be a great learning experience for both ages.*

*This program would benefit students in grades one through three. It would also benefit Junior High kids who were looking for community service hours. It would be nice for the YMCA workers to get a short break and concentrate on other age groups. It would be really fun for the elementary kids and the older kids who have a busy schedule because they wouldn't have to worry about being available every day. This program would be a great chance for elementary students to get to know some junior high kids and vice versa.*

*Another good thing about this program would be that it would have a lasting impact on the community. Once the books would be purchased, there is no money involved. This program could keep going for a very long time. ♡*



*Julie Romeo, left, listens as parent Linda Naumowicz reads about Latin root words during the Harry Potter Day at Glen-Worden. Students in Christine DeCarlo's and Marcia Smith's grade 4 classes dressed the parts as they learned about potions, spells, mythical beasts, played quidditch and studied other aspects of the popular fantasy fiction by J.K. Rowling. The exercises were designed to strengthen English language arts, science, physical education and other skills.*

**Kindergarten students post recipes on the internet**

**K**indergarten students in Claire McDermott's class at Glen-Worden and Melissa Peterson's class at Sacandaga shared their recipes with the world through an internet project called Kindergarten Potluck.

Each recipe, from two dozen schools around the world, was categorized under a letter of the alphabet. The website address, which is case sensitive, is: <http://home.earthlink.net/~gbnewman/Potluck.html>

McDermott's class was "W." They submitted a recipe called "Wintry Blizzards," which is from the *Ben and Jerry's Homemade Ice Cream and Dessert Book*. The concoction includes whipped cream, eggs, sugar, milk, peppermint sticks or crushed M&M candies. They are mixed together and frozen.

They studied temperatures and change of seasons to strengthen their science and math skills, said McDermott. Students read thermometers and made predictions about temperatures.

They also read plays and books through Library Media Specialist Jan Tunison about winter and temperatures.

Peterson's class was "Y" and created "Yoko's Yellow Yogurt Smoothie," a recipe that include bananas, pears, pineapples and yogurt. The mixture is continuously squashed and then poured into cups.

The literature connection was *Yoko*, by Rosemary Wells. The book teaches about ethnic choices and the lesson of respecting others' differences.

Peterson said she uses another book, *Little Blue and Little Yellow* by Leon Lionni to teach about color mixing and do a wide range of painting and blending activities. ♡

**Scotia-Glenville: A 50-year Tradition of Excellence**

# Community backs budget by 400 vote margin

## Ahnert, Carbone and Conlon elected

Community voters supported the school budget by a 56% to 44% margin in the fifth highest voter turnout since 1973.

“We are grateful to our community for supporting the budget this year,” said Superintendent Michael J. Marcelle. “It is a package that will strengthen our program and provide the best we can offer for our children and grandchildren.”

The vote for the \$33.598 million budget was 1,806 (56% in favor) to 1,405 (44% against). A total of 3,211 voters cast ballots, 27% of the roughly 11,900 eligible voters in the district.

The 2002-03 tax rate, estimated at a 3.48% increase at the May 21 vote, will be set by the Board of Education in August.

Kurt Ahnert (*who was also elected board president in July by his fellow board members*) was re-elected to a third term with 2,326 votes; Pamela Carbone was re-elected to a third term with 2,325 votes; and Bolt Road resident and Glendaal parent Ben Conlon was elected to his first term with 2,149 votes.

The candidates were unopposed for election to the three-year terms.

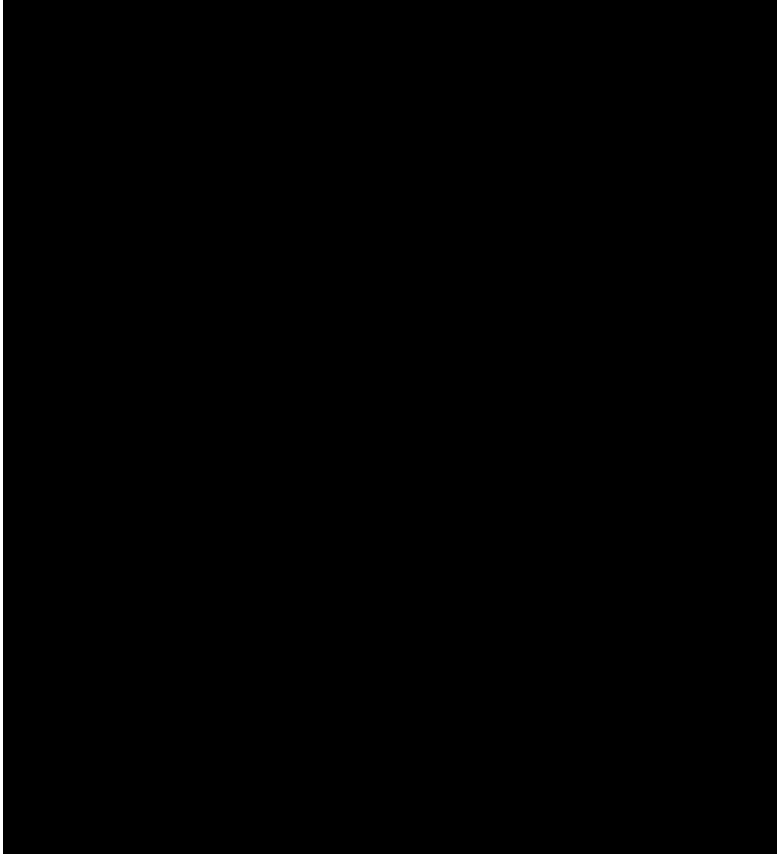
### Exit surveys give overview of community

The district conducted an exit survey during the budget vote to gauge community feelings.

The exit surveys were distributed by students in Rick DeCarlo’s *Participation in Government* class. They were tabulated by sophomores Nicolette Law, John Purcell, Mike Rausch, Kate Kukan, Megan Purtell, Maggie Smith and Sarah O’Donnell.

Academic Head for Social Studies Peter Sheridan arranged for the tabulation.

- 21.8% of those who voted filled out surveys.



Former Junior High Principal **Anne Sterman** tosses soil on a tree planted in her honor in front of the new Scotia-Glenville Middle School. This fall, the district’s roughly 250 grade 6 students will move to the renovated school. That will make it a grades 6-8 building and formally kick off middle school education with team teaching, collaborative education and a host of other benefits. Sterman spearheaded the move to a middle school during her long career.

- 43.4% of “yes” voters had “school age” children; 52.6% of “no” voters had “school age” children.
- 9.6% of voters had “pre-school” children.
- The largest voting block (*more than one-third of “yes” and “no” voters*) was in the 30-44 age group followed by the 45-60 age group in both the “yes” and “no” categories.
- 16.6% of “yes” voters were over age 61; 21.8% of the “no” voters were in that age group.
- “WHY did you vote as you did...”:**
  - 80% said they voted “yes” because “I believe in supporting the schools” and 78.8% voted “yes” because “the quality of S-G schools are worth the cost.”
  - 66.1% cited an “unreasonably high” property tax increase as a reason for voting against the budget. ♣

# S-G Recognitions

*A small sampling of the many wonderful things happening among the students and staff in your school district.*



**Several Scotia-Glenville students were recognized in the annual Student Gazette, published by the Daily Gazette.**

They were:

- *In the comics category, gr. 3-6:* first place, **Chris Barner**, gr. 6, Sacandaga; second place, **Weston Shapiro**, gr. 6, Sacandaga; third place, **Elizabeth Quandt**, gr. 6, Sacandaga. Honorable mentions: **Andrew Peterson**, gr. 5, Sacandaga; **Kayla Addington**, gr. 6, Glen-Worden; and **Laura Osselmann**, gr. 6, Glen-Worden.

Among gr. 7-9, **Tom Walsh**, gr. 7, won honorable mention.

- *In the photography category, gr. 3-6:* first place, **Jessica Hohenstein**, gr. 4, Glendaal; third place, **Emily Lilac**, gr. 4, Sacandaga; and honorable mention, **Ashlyn Nicole Salamone**, gr. 6, Glendaal. ✨

**Several S-G students were winners this spring in the Adirondack PTA District of the National PTA Reflections Program.** Students created and submitted their work in six categories: literature, musical compositions, photography, digital photography and visual arts.

The submissions responded to the national theme of "I Hold in My Hands."

- **Daniel Smith**, a grade 6 student at Glen-Worden, was one of five Adirondack winners in the musical composition category.

- **Ashley DeVoe**, a grade 11 student, was one of eight Adirondack winners in the photography category.

- **Matt Koral**, a grade 12 student, was one of eight Adirondack winners in the visual arts category.

- **Jenny Keane** and **Melanie Shank**, both grade 6 students at Glen-Worden, were among the 17 honorable mention winners in the literature category. ✨

**Kathy Lake, a Scotia-Glenville teacher for 30 years, was named Walmart's local Teacher of the Year.** She was awarded a \$500 check for her school, an honorary Wal-Mart greeter's vest and competed in the state contest.

The program recognizes teachers who have gone above and beyond the normal expectations. Last year, more than 3,000 schools received grants totaling \$1.7 million. ✨

**Six Scotia-Glenville students participated in the statewide Invention Convention in Rochester in June.** They were: **Michelle Fraser**, grade 5; **Michael Guzzo**, grade 5;

and **Morgan Chamberlin**, grade 6, all from Glendaal.

**Nick Garvey**, grade 6; **Erin Connelly**, grade 4; and **Rachel Smith**, grade 6, all from Sacandaga.

A total of 18 S-G students were among the 100 semifinalists whose original inventions were displayed at the Schenectady Museum.

Invention Convention is sponsored locally by GE Global Research Center, GE Elfun Society, Heslin Rothenberg Farley and Pesiti, PC; Schmeiser, Olsen & Watts, PC; the Eastern NY Intellectual Property Law Association and the Schenectady Museum. ✨

**Felipe Cruz, who graduated in June, was named the Scotia Rotary Student of the Year.**

He planned to attend SUNY at Cobleskill this fall. ✨

**Sarah Bentley, who graduated in June, was nominated for the Schenectady County Human Rights Commission Human Rights Award.** She was a four-year member of the GIVE service learning program and a facilitator for the Schenectady County Embraces Diversity program. She planned to attend Syracuse University this fall. ✨

## S-G School Calendar, 2002-03

Tues.-Wed. Sept. 3-4: Superintendent's Conference Day

Thursday, Sept. 5: **First Day of School**

Mon., Oct. 14: **Columbus Day**

Mon., Nov. 11: **Veterans' Day**

Wed., Nov. 27 to Fri., Nov. 29: **Thanksgiving recess**

Mon., Dec. 23 to Wed., Jan. 1: **Christmas/New Years' holiday**

Thurs., Jan. 2: **Classes resume**

Mon., Jan. 20: **Martin Luther King Day**

Mon., Feb. 17 to Fri., Feb. 21: **President's Day/winter recess**

Fri., March 21: **Superintendent's Conference Day**

Fri., April 18: **Good Friday**

Mon., April 21 to Fri., April 25: **Spring recess**

Mon., May 26: **Memorial Day**

Tues., June 24: **Last day of school for students**

Sat., June 28: **Graduation, Proctor's Theatre**

*District calendars are scheduled to be mailed during the last week of August. Please call 386-4343 if you do not receive one. ☺*

### Attention HS parents

Homeroom at the senior high school will begin seven minutes earlier – at 7:38 a.m. – beginning this September.

The change in starting time and lunch periods was made to allow for an additional classroom period. There will now be nine 41-minute periods instead of eight. Dismissal will remain at 2:29 p.m. ☺

## Scotia-Glenville's calendar

### of Events

- ▶ **Mon., Sept. 2**  
Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
- ▶ **Tues., Sept. 3 and Wed., Sept. 4** Superintendent's Conference Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- ▶ **Thursday, Sept. 5**  
First Day of School - K-12
- ▶ **Mon., September 9**  
Board of Ed. meeting, 7 p.m.
- ▶ **Mon., Sept. 23**  
Board of Ed. meeting, 7 p.m., High School
- ▶ **Mon., Oct. 7**  
Board of Ed. meeting, 7 p.m.
- ▶ **Mon., Oct. 14**  
Columbus Day - NO SCHOOL
- ▶ **Mon., Oct. 21**  
Board of Ed. meeting, 7 p.m., Middle School

*All Board of Education meetings begin at 7 p.m. and are held at the District Office unless otherwise noted. The District Office is located at the end of Lark Street in the village of Scotia. Please call 382-1215 if you have any questions about time or locations.*

### Meet the Teacher Nights have been scheduled:

Glendaal: 7 p.m., Sept. 12, grades K-5

Glen-Worden: Sept. 12, gr. K-2; Sept. 19, gr. 3-5

Lincoln: 6:30 p.m., Sept. 19, gr. K-5

Sacandaga: 6:30 p.m., Sept. 18, gr. K-2;  
6:30 p.m. Sept. 24, gr. 3-5

Middle School: 7 p.m., Oct. 3, gr. 6-8

High School: 6:40 p.m., Sept. 26, gr. 9-12

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## Scotia-Glenville

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