

Canastota Center for Innovative Learning

LEADERSHIP
INNOVATION
VISIONARY LEARNING
ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Spring
2024-2025

Driver Awareness with Officer Mike!

Our juniors had the chance to sit in on an eye-opening and engaging presentation by Officer Mike all about driver awareness and staying safe on the road!

He covered:

What to expect during a traffic stop

Do's and don't do for drivers

Responsibilities of both the driver and the officer

The session gave students a clearer understanding of real-world driving situations and what being a responsible young driver means.



Christine Parker Presents to Junior Class

On April 9, our junior class welcomed Christine Parker, a proud Canastota graduate who has gone on to become a global leader in tech, finance, and AI innovation. With over 20 years of experience launching startups, leading major corporations, and mentoring youth in STEM, Christine shared powerful insights about leadership, resilience, and chasing your dreams. We're honored to have her return to inspire our students right where her own journey began!

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

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Canastota Junior Chamber of Commerce Attend Jim Caldwell Bench Dedication

On what would have been his 82nd birthday, a bench was dedicated to the late Jim Caldwell — a proud Canastota graduate, longtime president of the Greater Canastota Chamber of Commerce, and a passionate advocate for education and our village.

The new bench, located in front of the Canastota Post Office, stands as a tribute to Jim's unwavering commitment to the community he loved so deeply.

This year, the Canastota Central School District and the Greater Canastota Chamber of Commerce formed a partnership for our students. High School students in the district have the opportunity to be a part of the Canastota Chamber of Commerce.

High school members participate in school and community activities and attend the Greater Canastota Chamber of Commerce Meetings. They learn first-hand the value of community service and service learning. This year the Junior Chamber was active in several activities including volunteering their time at community events, sponsoring a Community Cupboard food drive, and playing an integral role in the Business Expo and Alumni Day at Canastota High School. Thirteen members of the Canastota Junior Chamber of Commerce attended the dedication ceremony and honored Jim's legacy. Following the event, students had the opportunity to tour the Canastota Fire Station as well as the Village and Town Offices — a full day of civic pride and learning.



Rosamond Gifford Zoo Crew

The Canastota High School Center for Innovative Learning's partnership with the Rosamond Gifford Zoo ended the school year with their culminating project. Eight high school students successfully completed the program requirements.

The student "Zoo Crew" participated in a final project that included reading books to our elementary students. Mrs. Mary Lavery, co-advisor of the group created videos of the book readings that were shared with the second-grade teachers at PSES. The high school members selected various animals at the zoo and prepared displays for the second graders who were visiting the zoo. The displays included facts about their animals along with animal pictures and artifacts. On June 5, the second-grade students visited the zoo. The high school members of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo partnership presented their facts to the second graders prior to the tours. At the end of the tour, the second-graders were able to attend a live demonstration with one of the zoo's hawks that was coordinated by the partnership. The second-graders received a micro-credential badge (button) for their attendance. The badge was created by high school member, Abby Maiura.

The high school students created a project plan and set goals prior to completing the project. They worked diligently on their displays in team settings. High school students will receive the Project Planning Badge for the work they did on this project.

This was the district's first year with this partnership and we look forward to continuing this leadership program next school year. The micro-credential program included a series of lessons on Conservation in Action, Professional Image, Careers, Zoo Research, Event Planning, and a Culminating Zoo Project. Abby Maiura, a first year-member, said this about the program: "I truly loved this program! Thank you so much for giving us all the opportunity to interact with the Zoo members in such a special way like this. I am very excited to attend this program next year."



Student Ambassadors Represent CHS during the International Boxing Hall of Fame Weekend

Over thirty CHS students who participated in the International Boxing Hall of Fame Student Ambassador Program served as volunteers during this year's International Boxing Hall of Fame Weekend. Event Ambassadors assisted the adult volunteers throughout the weekend. They acted as hosts, public announcers, assisted inductees and distinguished guests, and provided services where needed.

Prior to the weekend, the Student Ambassadors participated in weekly leadership lessons that included topics such as public speaking and communication, hospitality, professional image, sports management, and learned about the operation and management of the Boxing Hall of Fame. The students studied the bios of the inductees throughout the year. Students earned micro-credentials for each area of study completed.

On Friday, June 6, the ambassadors were invited to attend the luncheon welcoming the boxers, celebrities, and inductees to Canastota. Students were able to meet and talk to the guests in attendance. On Saturday, the students attended the Banquet of Champions and helped as greeters and assisted during the raffle and public auctions. Manny Pacquiao (Pac-Man) of the Philippines, was one of the boxers inducted into the Class of 2025. He is a professional boxer, media celebrity, and politician who became world-famous for winning boxing titles in more weight classes than any other boxer in history. Manny talked to the students and gave them advice about their futures.

This marks the fourth year of this leadership partnership between the Canastota Central School District and the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

