

Ritchie Secures \$50,000 for Upgrades at Hermon-DeKalb Central School District

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State Senator Patty Ritchie is announcing she has secured \$50,000 in special funding to make important health, safety and energy efficiency upgrades in the Hermon-DeKalb Central School District.

Funding secured by Senator Ritchie will allow the Hermon-DeKalb Central School District to install new LED lighting in its gymnasium. The new lighting will not only increase safety for

students, staff and guests using and visiting the gym, it uses only 1/24<sup>th</sup> of the energy the old metal halide lights use.

In addition, the district was also able to create a new walking/running path that loops around the school's property. The trail will be open to students, staff and members of the community.

"When we make improvements to our schools, they benefit not only students, but the community as a whole," said Senator Ritchie. "I am pleased to have secured these funds, which will improve safety, reduce energy use and help more people to get outdoors and active."

"On behalf of the entire Hermon-DeKalb School Community, I would like to sincerely thank Senator Ritchie and her staff for their continued support and sponsorship of this grant," said Mark White, Superintendent of the Herman-DeKalb Central School District. "The funding of these improvements could not happen without her interest and unwavering support of education in our local school communities. She always keeps the best interest of rural schools like ours in mind as she works to support the North Country as a whole."

Release of state funds is subject to approval.