



LEAN

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"

December 2014 - January 2015

Volume 11, Issue 3



Congratulations New NHS Members!

OHS inducted 36 members to the National Honor Society during a luncheon at the Old Library Restaurant. Students were chosen based on excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character and were honored at Pictured (front, l-r) Courtney Martin, Yuvraj Singh, Mallory Bliss, Kylea Andreano, Jacob Cavana, Lyndsey Churakos, Brinee Torrey, Gabrielle Huff, Ashley Gengo, Madison Forrest, Nathan Durham, Collin Charles; (middle, l-r) Bilawal Rafi-iqbal, Logan O'Connell, Nicholas Sanders, Jacob Weber, Ryan McClelland, Taryne Tracey, Olivia Mucke, Phoenix Reisner, Michaela McCall, Bridget Havens, Miranda Sakala, Christina Nuzzo; (back, l-r) Noah Carlson, Nicholas Jodush, Zachary Ryan, Evan Threehouse, Luke Earl, Olivia MacWilliams, Brigid Taylor, Derek Schmidt, Lucas Mehmel, Andre Balthazard, Jacob Volz, Noah Patrick.



Homeless Huskies Raises \$9,000

The OHS Student Activities Council (SAC) would like to congratulate the 171 students who helped raise over \$9,000 in our 22nd annual Homeless Huskies event October 24th. The money raised will be divided between the Genesis House and the Warming House. This event would not be possible without the support from our caring staff and community.

Parent Portal Messages Coming Soon to eSchool

Beginning in January 2015, Olean City School District will open an additional feature in eSchool Data called **Messages**. The Messages feature is another way teachers and parents/guardians can be engaged with each other about a student.

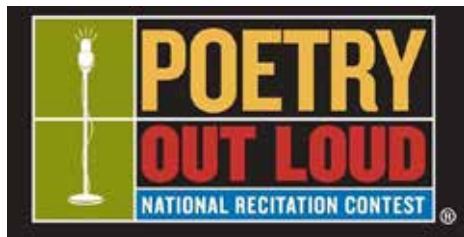
As teachers post assignments, grades and attendance they will be able to quickly jot a note to the family of a student directly from eSchool. The same holds true for families as they are checking for assignments, attendance and grades of their student(s). They can communicate with a teacher or a group of teachers about their student directly from the Parent Portal.

Those using Parent Portal will be able to access the Messages inbox from their **"My Students"** list on the Portal homepage or from the icon toolbar when viewing their student's information.

A downloadable tutorial will be posted to the PARENT Portal page on the district website. A hands-on session also will be offered at the Feb. 25th Family and Community Engagement series.

Torrey Joins OHS

SueAnn Torrey joins the District as a LOTE teacher assigned to Olean High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts from St. John Fisher College in May 1993 and Master of Science in Education from Nazareth College in 1998. Ms. Torrey taught at Salamanca City School District from November 2013 until her appointment with the District in November 2014.



Students to Take Part in Poetry Out Loud Contest

OHS announces a school contest for Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest. The competition, presented in partnership with Teachers & Writers Collaborative, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Poetry Foundation, is part of a national program that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition.

On December 18, 2014, more than 20 students from Olean High School will participate in the Poetry Out Loud school contest in the Olean High School auditorium. The winner of this competition will advance to the regional Poetry Out Loud contest. The New York state champion will advance to the Poetry Out Loud National Finals on April 29-30, 2014 in Washington, DC, where \$50,000 in awards and school stipends will be distributed.

This event is free and open to the public. For further information, contact sventura@olean.wnryic.org.

From the Superintendent

District Seeking Your Input for Smart Schools Investment Plan

In November, New York State residents passed the Smart Schools Bond Act, which authorizes allocations to be distributed to school districts to:

1. Acquire learning technology equipment or facilities including, but not limited to,
 - a. Interactive whiteboards,
 - b. Computer servers, and
 - c. Desktop, laptop, and tablet computers;
2. Install high-speed broadband or wireless internet connectivity for schools and communities;
3. Construct, enhance, and modernize educational facilities to accommodate pre-kindergarten programs and provide instructional space to replace transportable classroom units; and
4. Install high-tech security features in school buildings and on school campuses (taken from the Smart School Bond Act 2014).

The allocation portion for the Olean City School District is approximately \$2,040,786. The allocation has been predetermined, but how to best utilize the funds remains up to the District. Each district is required to submit a Smart School Investment Plan to the Smart School Plan Review Board. The plan is then reviewed and approved by the State Education Department. Once the plan is approved, the District may then begin implementation. The dispersal process of the funding has yet to be determined.

The plan development is critical to the success of the process. To ensure our success, the Olean City School District is asking for interested parents, students, staff and community members to join us as we construct our Smart School Investment Plan. We await more direction from the NYS Department of Education and the Governor's Office. Once the specifics of what must be included in the plan and the timeline for submission have been received, a committee will be formed.

The purpose of the committee will be to provide input and insight into the development of the plan. Cso Woodworth, Director of Technology, will facilitate the process. If you are interested in becoming a co-author to the plan, please contact me at (716) 375-8018 or ctaggerty@olean.wnryic.org. We welcome you to participate via email, on our Facebook page, at meetings or phone conversation.

As 2014 closes out, may the joy of the holiday excitement remain with you and yours throughout 2015 and may we look to one another for the guidance needed to ensure the success of each student within the Olean City School District.

Happy Retirement Mrs. Melaro!

Deb Melaro, LOTE Teacher at Olean High School, is presented a retirement plaque from Board President, John Bartimole.





Plaque Memorializes Gordon Cross

Members of the Cross family attended the unveiling of the memorial plaque in honor of deceased Board of Education member, Gordon Cross.

OverDrive Brings Virtual Library to Student Laptops

Last month students in grades 9 and 11 were given instruction in the library on the use of the new eBook program--OverDrive.

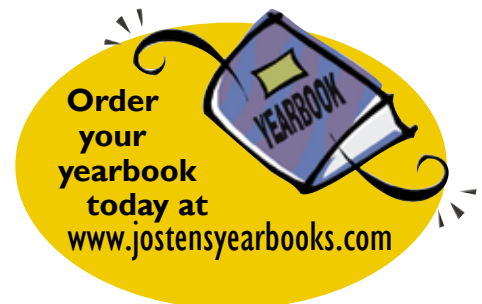
OverDrive was purchased in conjunction with area BOCES libraries. This program provides students and staff eBooks and Audio Books that can be read or listened to on an electronic device.

Students in Grades 9 and 11 have received student laptops for school work. They were shown how to access OverDrive through the Olean High School Web Page. OverDrive titles are also available in the Olean Public Library and New York Public Library. eBooks are free to patrons.

After one month of operation, a total of 405 eBooks and audio books had been checked out in OverDrive.

This Virtual Library is always open-24/7. There is no need to go anywhere to check out a book—except on the couch at home.

Further information is available. Contact Cindy Kurjakovic at 375-8003.



Class Participates in Lean Manufacturing Simulation Project

Students in Ms. Higgins resource classes recently participated in a manufacturing simulation. They constructed LEGO towers using the assembly line process. Each student was assigned a job typical of a job site. The process took 16 minutes to complete. Students then completed the same project utilizing the Lean Manufacturing process. This process eliminates the assembly line and conserves resources. The Lean Manufacturing simulation took five minutes to complete. Mrs. Sabina, from Dream It Do It, facilitated the project.

Handel's Messiah Concert Like a Musical Marathon for Students

Olean violin students, Nicholas Martel (senior), Karino Wada (freshman), and Yuki Wada (6th grade) participated the 3rd annual community Handel's Messiah concert on Sunday, November 23rd.

It is like a musical marathon! 34 out of 53 pieces of music, including the famous "Hallelujah Chorus" were performed from this oratorio (large musical composition that includes an orchestra, chorus, and solo

singers). It takes two hours to perform through the music. These students attended the weekly rehearsals from September to prepare for this performance.

Handel composed this oratorio about 270 years ago, and performed it for first time in Dublin in 1742. The amazing fact is that he only spent 21 days to complete this one of the best-known and most frequently performed oratorio!



Math Team Captures First Place

Olean High students placed first in the Pitt-Bradford/JCC Math Competition held on November 18, 2014. Our team members were: Clare Sorokes, Ally Rakus, Monica Moses, Katie Skudlarek, Julie Mulryan, Adam Moses, Geoffrey Broadbent, Nick Martel and Saad Mirza. Monica Moses also received a trophy for the highest score among all the competitors. Congratulations Olean "Mathletes!"



FIFTH GRADE EXPLORERS

Mr. Talbot's fifth grade class recently completed a project on famous explorers. Students had to prepare speeches on an explorer's accomplishments and discuss their various travels using maps. Students were also encouraged to dress up as the explorers (*pictured above and below*).



OH LÀ, LÀ!!!! LE FRANÇAIS,

National French Week was celebrated in each OIMS French class from November 7th through November 12th. This is a week sponsored by the AATF (American Association of Teachers of French) to commemorate all things French and to celebrate the fun experiences in learning the language.

This year's celebration at OIMS entailed four daily theme days: Très Chic Day, Scarf/Beret Day, Blue, White and Red Day, and last but not least, Sa French classes dressed according to the daily theme, practiced their French (listened, read, and responded in Physical Response) in the classroom, created their own replicas of French cartes, and sampled French foods!!

Merci mille fois (Many thanks) to all the students who participated and helped. Pictured above for Très Chic Day (l-r): Sophie Sova, Eleanor Orcutt, Samara Kirkwood, Raymond Lin, Davon Hughes, Quinton Jordan and Timothy Jedroski.



T-SHIRTS CELEBRATE DÍA DE LOS

In celebration of Día de los Muertos 2014, many of Mrs. Wilton's and Ms. Y... chased las camisetas- T-shirts - on which unique Spanish sayings were written! Some of the students with their shirts. Sayings included "Cool story, bro", "Best friend", "Love", "Speak Spanish!", and "Got a problem?!"

C'EST SUPER!



y “Bonjour” to your Teachers Day. All
ening and response skills with TPR (Total
es d’identités (ID cards), and of course
ed decorate our corridors!
antha Gibbons, Isabella Tejera, Matthew
ko.



MUERTOS

Yaffe’s students pur-
Pictured are just some
nds”, “Piñata Revenge”,



UNIFIED BASKETBALL

The OIMS Unified Special Olympic Basketball Team helped the SBU Women’s Basketball Team kick off their home season on November 14th. The team played an exhibition game at halftime vs. Allegany/Limestone Unified Special Olympic Team. Unified Sports pair athletes with and without disabilities on the same team encouraging the motto “Play Unified, Live Unified”. The highlight of the night was when Special Olympian Megan Pockalny fulfilled her dream of singing the National Anthem prior to the game.

STUDENTS HELPING KEEP OUR CITY CLEAN

For the second October in a row, seventh graders from the Olean Intermediate Middle School volunteered to participate in the City of Olean Litter Control Program. They were assigned to pick up litter on the streets surrounding the high school and down 4th Street to West State Street. They had some extra time to walk through Oak Hill Park and clean the park up as well. The students were enthusiastic about their assignment and did a great job! Next year, we hope to increase our assigned pick-up area and involve more students.





MORNING ZUMBA: East View students have been participating in morning Zumba dance sessions. It's a great way to exercise, have fun and get our bodies ready to learn for the day.



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: For more pictures, news and updates please follow our school on Twitter. We are @OleanEastView



READING FEAST: East View Second and Third graders had a different kind of feast for Thanksgiving. The students are having a "reading feast" and spent some time enjoying some of their favorite literature with their friends.



THANKSGIVING: Mrs. Stephan's Kindergarten celebrated Thanksgiving with a classroom feast.

LIGHTING THE WAY: At our December Character Education Assembly the first grade students presented to the school about Kindness and Generosity. Featured in their presentation were Genesis House Luminaries. The first graders are also organizing a school wide food drive for local food pantries



East View Elementary School



“FROZEN” CHARACTER ASSEMBLY: On Nov. 17, the Washington West PTO sponsored a “FROZEN” character assembly. Anna, Elsa, Olaf, and Kristoff shared messages from the movie “Frozen” about family, being yourself, sharing your feelings, helping others, following your dreams, and love. The messages were tied into the November character trait of gratitude. After hearing the messages the student body “Let it Go” as they engaged in a sing-a-long to the most loved songs from the movie.



HEY ELEPHANT, WHERE ARE YOU? Author, Mary Kay Worth visited Mrs. Faulkner’s Third Grade to read, “Hey Elephant Where Are You?” The book was inspired by her recent visit to Africa. Students were delighted to hear about her adventures in Swaziland and South Africa. Ms. Worth also works in our SBU Field Block I classes held here at Washington West.

IN THE GROOVE:

Physical Education Students have been working on circle and line dances such as Chicken Dance, Hokey Pokey, Macarena, Gator, Cha-Cha Slide, Cupid Shuffle, Cotton Eyed Joe, and the Electric Slide.

We will finish up dancing with a day of “Just Dance” on the big-screen projector. Mr. Anastasia, Student teacher, Mr. Shoen, and Ms. Morey and their students are Hokey Pokey pros!



YOU’VE BEEN SPOTTED: Thanks to our Washington West speech teachers (Mrs. Stephan, Mrs. Finch, and Mrs. Hoffman) for the ways in which they support our students’ needs. If you’d like more information about our speech program, please contact us at 375-8968 for assistance.

Washington West Elementary School

THANKFUL FOR TECHNOLOGY:

All the students and staff send out a Hugh THANK YOU to the Olean Board of Education, and the Technology Department for our computer lab, laptops, ipad, elmos, smartboards, and new cameras! Our lab will be the site for our upcoming afterschool computer coding class, taught by OHS teacher Mr. Lasky on Wednesday, December 10th.



VETERANS’ DAY READERS:

In honor of Veteran’s Day, first graders created a Memorial Wall using names of family and loved ones who served our country. Several local veterans



also read to students during their library period. SFC (Ret.) Eric Odom honored students when he presented them with flags from the uniform he once wore. Thank you to SFC Odom, Emil Ash, Kristin Maiolo, and Bob Martin for their service to our country and for sharing stories with our students. A reception was enjoyed by all. Mrs. Faulkner’s Third Grade made poppies to honor Mr. Bob Martin a guest speaker and reader.



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

410 W. Sullivan St.
Olean, NY 14760
www.oleanschools.org

ADMINISTRATION

Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools
Kathleen Elser, Business Administrator
Barbara Lias, High School Principal
Jeffrey Andreano, Assistant High School Principal
Gerald Trietley, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 6-7) Middle School Principal
Joel Whitcher, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 4-5) School Principal
Linda Nottingham, Washington West Elementary Principal
Brian Crawford, East View Elementary Principal
Mia O'Brien, Director of Human Resources
Marcella Richmond, Director of Special Education
Csobanka Woodworth, Technology Administrator
Jen Mahar, District Coordinator of State & Federal Aid Programs

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ECRWSS

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL



Olean City School District Mission/Vision

The Olean City School District is a student-centered community of excellence in which all members are challenged to learn, achieve, contribute, and innovate.

Guiding Principles

A commitment to fostering:

A respectful, safe, and welcoming environment

An acceptance of diversity

Continuous improvement

Academic excellence and lifelong learning

Honesty, integrity, responsibility, and accountability

Student potential and achievement

DECA Holds Spaghetti Dinner

Olean High School's DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) sponsored their first spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Tuesday, December 2nd @ the Pulaski Club. DECA is a business-marketing student organization. DECA is raising money for competitions, field trips, and other expenses incurred during the school year. DECA would like to thank the administration, fellow teachers, Board members, and the community for supporting this year's DECA organization. Also, we must not forget to thank the Pulaski Club for their hospitality and generosity in using their facility.

This dinner was a success—not only for raising money but for the wonderful students that worked and brought their families in to support this event. Thank you to all.