



# LEAN

## CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"*

December 2017-January 2018

Volume 14, Issue 3

## THANKFUL for a Giving Community

Thank you so much to all of the bakers, decorators, servers, and donors who helped at this year's Community Thanksgiving Dinner! Students, families, OCSD staff, JCC staff, and community members all contributed to this special day. We are grateful for our community and enjoy the time spent together.







*From the Superintendent*

# Future Limitless for OHS Class of 2018

**By Rick T. Moore, Superintendent**

Wow! After four months on the job, my first impression is that we have fantastic students attending the Olean City School District. Moreover, their future is limitless. All we need to do is raise expectations, and that is what we did on Friday, December 8, along with the help of the entire JCC Cattaraugus Campus community.

Can a great school make a great community? Can a great community create a great school? Last year our graduates went on to higher education institutions such as the United States Naval Academy, Princeton University and Virginia Tech to name a few. So you bet we can, but not without everyone being involved.

We invited all seniors in the class of 2018 to join us in a day dedicated to these Husky Seniors' futures. With the help of Cutco Corporation, Jamestown Community College Cattaraugus Campus, St. Bonaventure University, Olean City School District, and numerous other contributors, we held the first annual Leadership Day. Our goal: To help every OHS senior develop and finalize a plan for life after graduation. JCC and St. Bonaventure helped every student apply, at no cost, to their respective schools. Local industry recruited students for local jobs, and the military enlisted those that selected the noble path to serve our country.

Workshops were held in various areas of concern to a 2018 graduate: JCC stepping stone to a great and debt free future; St. Bonaventure local excellence within reach; resume building; career opportunities; leadership skills/soft skills; your future and the military (ROTC and active recruitment); residence life; diversity training; transitioning after high school; and most important, living within your means.

After a wonderful working lunch, supplied by JCC, our seniors were then allowed to select from the following to round out the afternoon: Complete a JCC application; complete a St. Bonaventure University application; work on FAFSA and scholarship applications; discuss career opportunities with local manufacturers, criminal justice opportunities, entrepreneurship, and health occupations.



Leadership Day 2018 was inspirational work by many local individuals who possess the same common goal to see every 2018 Husky graduate to have a "Limitless Future" and encourage our own students that, although we support their need to broaden their horizons, they should seriously consider as Dorothy did in the Wizard of Oz, "There is no place like home." All of our 2018 graduates not only took advantage of numerous opportunities, they had a day bonding with our local citizens that have made Olean a great place to live and raise a family.

Due to the fact this was our inaugural year, we did get off to a bit of a late start. Next year it is our goal to hold Leadership Day at the end of September. This will give students and parents a head start and shrink the learning curve.

Every senior came away from Leadership Day with numerous opportunities to take advantage of following their high school graduation. Like the Marines, the Huskies of Olean will leave no senior behind. One of our catch phrases this year is HOWL or Helping Others While Learning. This is a great group of seniors, and we have pledged to make sure we all work together to provide every graduate of 2018 a Limitless Future.

Get Involved!





Chosen to attend the Junior High Area All-State Festival were: (front, l-r) Ruth Scordo, Grace Ventura, Tanvi Patro, Jaimee Chastain, Jayde Smith, Paige Smith and (back, l-r) Andrew Sherburne, Sarah Liu, Yuki Wada, Savannah Coker and Jazzlyn Knapp.

## Students Excel in Area All-State Music Honors Ensembles

Our Olean Musicians once again rocked the Area All-State Music Festivals! These students qualified by earning extremely high scores at the state solo festival last June and were accepted into honors ensembles which performed in November. They were led by distinguished conductors and performed at a superior level of excellence. The Junior High Festival was held at Akron CSD, and the Senior High Festival was held at SUNY Fredonia. We are very proud of our Olean Musicians!



Selected for the Senior High Area All-State Festival were: (l-r) Gabriel Williams, Tenaya Ramadhan, Austin Ring, Jessica Chastain and Karino Wada.



Linda Puller



James Knight

## Two Employees Welcomed to School District

**Linda Puller** was hired as a full-time Special Education teacher effective October 16, 2017. In 1989, she received her Bachelor of Science in Education from the State University of New York at Geneseo College of Arts and Sciences, and her Master of Science in Education from Alfred University in 1992. Ms. Puller has been a substitute teacher for the district as well as Cuba-Rushford Central School, Portville Central School and Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES. She also taught in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

**Other new employees joining the district include:**

**James Knight** – Teacher Aide





## LOTE Students Attend International Day at JCC

Upper level French and Spanish students from the high school were invited to attend this year's International Day at JCC. The day was filled with many great student-centered activities: An introductory presentation on the importance of travel and understanding cultures; JCC international student panel open for questions; and a visit to the Weeks Gallery to view the "Made in China" exhibit (which showed our intimate relationship with China and the goods that they supply to us).

Students also feasted on an amazing international lunch with choices such as: Swedish Meatballs, Cuban Sandwich, Thai

Chicken and Rice Soup, Chinese Egg Rolls, Pakistani Chana Masala, German Potato Salad and French Ratatouille.

Some students are pictured above "drumming" and creating beautiful sounds and music through their own creativity.

A JCC student from Tunisia shared with us that her experience traveling and being an international student helped her to become the person that she wanted to be. When students travel, they are required to depend on their own personal resources, less the distractions of familiar things. This journey is a wonderful thing and certainly forever life-changing



## Creative Crêpes for National French Week - Délicieux!



If you have never tasted a crêpe, you don't know what you are missing!

During National French Week, students in Mrs. Napoleon's French classes had the opportunity to create, make and eat a freshly made crêpe, filled with their choice of Nutella, strawberry jam, cinnamon/brown sugar and whipped cream.

Students also shared the wealth and delivered crêpes to staff members who wished to participate in this gastronomic experience.

**YUMMY!**





## Teachers Present at National Convention; Mr. Ventura Honored

High School English teachers Sally Ventura, Stephen Sorensen and Lou Ventura traveled to St. Louis, MO, along with Dr. David Bruce from the University at Buffalo and Dr. Sunshine Sullivan from Houghton College, to present a workshop “Writing with Video: Collaboration, Professional Development, and Classroom Integration” at the National Council of Teachers of English Convention.

Mr. Ventura was honored at the conference as one of 15 teachers from across the country to receive a Teacher of Excellence Award.



## OHS Athletes to Play at Next Level

Alyssa Ramarge and Dylan Vincent have already decided where they are going to continue their academic and athletic careers. Alyssa will be attending St. Bonaventure University in the fall as part of the SBU Softball team. Pictured in upper left photo are: (front, l-r) mother Kim Ramarge, Alyssa, (back, l-r) father Mike Ramarge and Varsity Softball Coach Dan Brooks.

Dylan will be attending Canisius College in the fall as part of the Griffins Baseball Team. Pictured in upper right photo are: (front, l-r) mother Tara Vincent, Dylan, father Troy Vincent, and (back, l-r) Varsity Baseball Coach John Zambanini and Athletic Director Steve Anastasia.





## LEARNING ABOUT POPPIES & VETERANS

In honor of Veterans Day, the sixth grade students at OIMS learned about the significance of the poppy flower as a symbol of sacrifice. Students made paper poppies and attached special notes for local veterans. The flowers were delivered, along with candy, to several places in the community and presented to any veterans visiting the OIMS main office on November 9th. Pictured in inset photo is Mrs. Cortez, a 5th grade teacher and Air Force veteran, receiving a poppy in honor of her service.



## LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS MILITARY SERVICE

Maxim Windus, Brooke Palumbo, Mia Rivera and Cavan Boutillette show off some of the many books available in the OIMS Library pertaining to military service. Mrs. Miller, Library Aide, created the display to encourage students to learn more about the sacrifices made by those who have served in our nation's military.



## OH, LÀ LÀ!!!

National French Week was celebrated in the OIMS main office on November 9th. This is a week sponsored by the AATF (American American Teachers of French) to celebrate French and to celebrate the fun experience of learning French.

This year's celebration at OIMS entailed fun activities for all. Students in Mrs. Cortez's French classes dressed according to the theme of the day. Students in Mrs. Miller's French classes participated in the TPR (Total Physical Response) in the classroom. Students also showed their ID cards, and, of course, sampled French food.

Merci mille fois (many thanks) to all the students who participated in the celebration. We read on the daily announcements...en français!

## WILD WEST

Visitors to the OIMS Library during the week of November 27th were transported back to the Wild West as Mr. Meyers and Mrs. Miller hosted a Wild-West-themed Scholastic Book Fair. Students enjoyed having their picture taken in the "Wild West for Reading" photo booth, playing ring toss with cactus, and shopping for a good book to take home. On Thursday, November 30th, families were invited to join Mrs. Matejka's 5th grade students for a short talk on the book *Wonder* after school. All of the sales from the book fair will go to the OIMS Student Activities Council to help fund student projects and activities. Thanks, Mr. Meyers and Mrs. Miller, for "rounding up" a good time for all the cowboys and cowgirls!





## LE FRANÇAIS, C'EST TOP!

Each OIMS French class from November 3rd through November 18th (American Association of Teachers of French) to commemorate all the successes in learning the language.

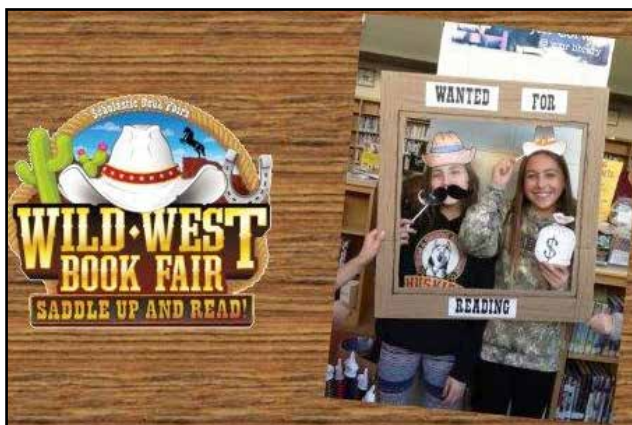
Five daily theme days: Blue/White/Red Day, Scarf/Beret Day, Très Chic Day, and, last but not least, French t-shirt/Party Day! All of Mrs. Wilcox's French classes practiced their French listening and response skills in the classroom, created their own replicas of French cartes d'identités (ID cards)!!

Students who participated and helped decorate our corridors and classrooms!!

## BOOK FAIR A BIG HIT

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## STUDENT BAKERS AT WORK

Aubrey Purdy and Keegan Evans were among the students in Mrs. Dudley's Family and Consumer Science Classes who baked 150 loaves of Pumpkin Bread for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Olean High School on November 18th. Sixth Grade students worked in small groups to make 5 loaves each. That's 65 total students in the kitchen throughout a period of 5 days to complete the project. It was a great hands-on learning experience, and the students did a fantastic job! Whew! Mission accomplished!

## ATTENDANCE PRIZES AWARDED

Mr. Trietley congratulates two young ladies on their stellar attendance record in the first marking period. Each quarter, all OIMS students with perfect and distinguished attendance are entered into a drawing for prizes. As this marking period's lucky winners, 7th grader Brooke Baker received a \$25 gift certificate for distinguished attendance, and 5th grader Emma Edwards received a \$50 gift certificate for perfect attendance. Kudos to these girls for recognizing the importance of being in school, on time, every day – one of the most influential factors in a successful education!





## Expression Abounds Through Poetry Out Loud Competition

This year's Poetry Out Loud contest was held Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, in the high school auditorium at 3:15 p.m. As an added delight, the event showcased poetry videos.

Olean High has had lots of Poetry Out Loud success in the past. One of our famous Huskies, Natalie Sova, has competed in Poetry Out Loud for the past three years and qualified for regionals twice. Additionally, Zayba Chauhdry has competed for two years and qualified for regionals both years; she made it to the State championships last year. Both girls hoped to do exceedingly well in the competition this year. Thank you for showing support by watching the competition and the videos!

"Poetry Out loud has been such a wonderful experience for me. I have gained a lot of confidence through recitation. Poetry Out Loud has become a huge part of what defines me as a person," said Zayba.

"Making it to the State championship was beyond my wildest dreams and was truly a blessing. I am eager for this year's school competition and I hope to accomplish everything and more!" she added.



**OHS students Zayba Chauhdry and Natalie Sova.**



## Homeless Huskies Event Marks 25 Years of Giving

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Homeless Huskies event was extremely successful. After a quarter century, Olean High School students are still actively participating to build awareness for the homeless and get a taste of what it is like to live on the streets without the certainty of warmth, food, shelter, and basic human needs.

More than 100 students from grades 8 through 12 took part and built colorful and creative boxes to camp in for the night. On the long, cold night, students socialized and played games with friends by the fire.

However, to earn that privilege, together they raised approximately \$6,500. The money will be donated to local charities. Thank you Huskies for helping our community for the past 25 years!!





# Physical Adventures Keep Kids Active



In October, one of the physical education activities was the high ropes course at Portville Central School. Participants also went on a hike at the Pfeiffer Nature Center (see photos).

November's activity was the indoor ropes course at Portville, and in December the activity was Sky Zone in Buffalo.



## Author & Lyricist Visits Washington West Elementary

Washington West is honored to have had author and lyricist, Ms. Norma Gentner, visit all students in grades PK-3 to share her non-fiction texts. Oh did you know, did you know, did you know that Ms. Gentner writes all of her books to music? The catchy beat and the words come to life and teach students about topics such as animals, gravity, and dinosaurs, too. Students learned about the writing process and even got the opportunity to start working on a book of their own. Our thanks to the Washington West PTO for this experience.





**Showing Veterans Our Thanks:** We had many Veteran's Day lessons and assemblies at East View. Our second and third graders participated in an assembly that taught them about our monthly character education trait of Thankfulness and also showed them several ways they could thank a Veteran. We are grateful to our Veterans for being a part of our assembly.



**Halloween Fun:** Check out these officers that were dressed up for Halloween.

# East View Elementary School



**Sharing A Meal:** Mrs. Ackerman and Mrs. Obenrader's Pre K classes celebrated Thanksgiving together.

**Ring In Good News:** We now have a "Good News Bell" hanging in our office. We love visits from our students to share their good news with us. In this picture (*right*), two of our students have just reached a higher reading level!



**Making Reading Cozy:** Flashlight reading is one way we make reading fun at East View.





**Reading Pirate Party:** Arghh Matey! Since the start of the school year, students have been reading every day – both in school and at home – collecting steps for IRLA. To honor those students that met the 100-step mark, Mrs. Ketchner and Mrs. Adams put on a “pirate party” for all of our 100-step readers (*see photos above and below*). Students were given a map, leading them to treasures. After completing several activities, they reached the golden treasure chest, where they were awarded their 100-step brag tag. Keep reading, boys and girls, as we are approaching the 200-step milestone!



**Young Artists Recognized:** Congratulations to those Washington West students who were recently honored by St. Bonaventure University and the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts. Student artwork was displayed in the gallery for all to see. Those that were honored include Charisma Peters (K), Gavin Woodring (K), Athena DiBenedetto (1), Amelia Jones (1), Tiffany Chen (1), Joshua Bowen (1), Maliyah Bryant (2), Sydney Stitt (2), Ariana Finch (2), Brooklyn Torres (2), and Alaina Hirliman (3).

# Washington West Elementary School





## **OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

410 W. Sullivan St.  
Olean, NY 14760  
[www.oleanschools.org](http://www.oleanschools.org)

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Rick Moore, Superintendent of Schools  
Kathleen Elser, Business Administrator  
Jeffrey Andreano, High School Principal  
Mike Martel, Assistant High School Principal  
Gerald Trietley, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 6-7) Middle School Principal  
Joel Witcher, Olean Intermediate (Gr. 4-5) School Principal  
Brian Crawford, East View Elementary Principal  
Lauren Stuff, Washington West Elementary Principal  
Aaron Wolfe, Director of Human Resources  
Marcella Richmond, Director of Special Education  
Csobanka Woodworth, Technology Administrator  
Jen Mahar, District Coordinator of State & Federal Aid Programs  
Jen Kless, Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Ira Katzenstein, President  
John Bartimole, Vice President  
Janine Fodor  
Paul Hessney  
Mary Hirsch-Schena  
Michael Martello  
Michiko McElfresh  
James Padlo  
Frank Steffen, Jr.

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ECRWSS

**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

**POSTAL PATRON LOCAL**



## ***If It's Fall, It Must Be Pumpkinville!***

The Kindergarten students from East View Elementary School were all smiles during a visit this fall to Pumpkinville in Great Valley.

## **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

Embracing diversity

Continuous improvement

Academic excellence and lifelong learning

Honesty, integrity, responsibility, and accountability

Student potential and achievement