



LEAN

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"

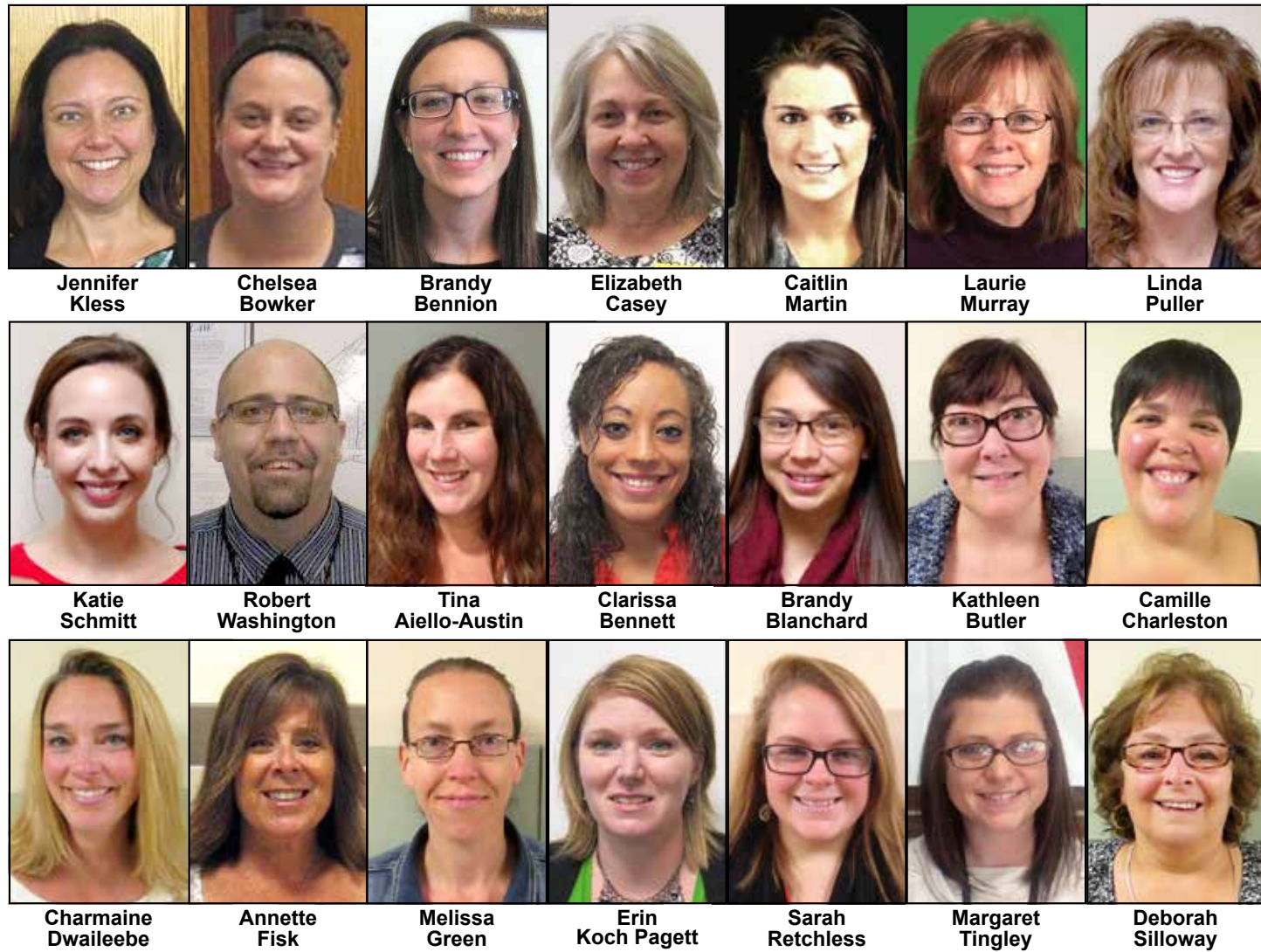
October-November 2015

Volume 12, Issue 2

Homecoming Spirit Shines

Students and staff at OHS certainly enjoyed showing their Husky pride during theme days for Homecoming Spirit Week!





District Welcomes New Staff to the Husky Team

Administration:

Jennifer Kless was appointed Coordinator for Curriculum and Instruction in October 2015. Mrs. Kless began her teaching career with the District in September 1993 as an Elementary Teacher. Throughout her tenure, Jen has been appointed to Reading Coach, Math Coach, as well as Literacy Coach. Since August 2013, Mrs. Kless has been a Teacher on Special Assignment aligning curriculum maps to the NYS Common Core Standards, developing and implementing standards-based report cards for Title 1 Reading Program, coordinating STAR benchmark testing, and so much more.

Teachers:

Chelsea Bowker joins the District as a Special Education Teacher at Olean High School. Ms. Bowker received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education: Dual Certification with Special Education and received a MSED in Differentiated In-

struction; Gifted and Students with Disabilities from St. Bonaventure University in December 2014. Prior to her appointment with the District, Chelsea was a Classroom Teacher for C-A BOCES.

Brandy Bennion joins the District as a Special Education Teacher at Olean High School. Mrs. Bennion received a dual Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood and Special Education from LeMoyne College in May of 2011 and a MSED in Special Education from Buffalo State College in August 2013. Prior to joining the District, Brandy worked at St. Bonaventure University as the Operations Manager.

Elizabeth Casey is the new .5 FTE Reading Teacher assigned to the Southern Tier Catholic Schools. Mrs. Casey received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from St. Bonaventure University in 1985 and Masters of Science in Reading from SUNY Oswego in 1992. From 2000-2003, she worked for the Dis-

trict as a Remedial Reading Teacher at East View Elementary.

Caitlin Martin was recently appointed as a long-term Special Education Teacher for the 2015-2016 school year. Caitlin received a Bachelor of Science from SUNY Brockport in May 2014. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Martin was a substitute teacher for Allegany-Limestone.

Laurie Murray rejoins the District as a long-term substitute Elementary Teacher at Washington West. In August of 2006, she was appointed to the position of Elementary Teacher and resigned in August 2010 to relocate to Bath, NY with her husband. Laurie received a Bachelor of Science in Education from SUNY Fredonia and a Master of Science in Childhood Education from SUNY Albany in December of 2009.

Linda Puller was recently appointed as a long-term Special Education Teacher at the Olean Intermediate Middle School for

(continued on page 2)

From the Superintendent



Olean School District staff members show their spirit during opening day festivities as they gathered for this aerial photo. With elevated goals and expectations, 2015-2016 is going to be an EPIC school year.

Have Ideas on Improving Student Achievement? Share Them!

By Dr. Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent

At the heart of the Comprehensive District Educational Planning/Shared Decision Making Committee is the focus on improving student achievement. The committee meets on a regular basis to investigate and determine how to best impact student achievement. The objectives of our first meeting for the 2015-16 school year were to identify current practices in and around the District that serve as evidence of achievement of our vision/mission and guiding principles; and to identify practices that can be built upon or implemented to advance momentum toward our vision/mission statement and guiding principles.

Throughout the discussion, it became evident that the District's focus on being EPIC (exceptional, personalized, innovative and creative) aligned perfectly with the mission/vision statement and our guiding principles. Other major initiatives such as moving to a balanced literacy curriculum that aligns with the Common Core Standards; implementation of the Common Core math modules; the 1:1 initiative with the distribution of computers; professional development with a focus on understanding poverty and diversity; and the creation of a student initiated club that will focus on community service both locally and internationally were all evidence of how the District is fulfilling its vision/mission.

Additional areas that the committee will focus on this year will be course offerings; the impact of the change of start times; defining what it means to be college and career ready at Olean; which current practices the committee can utilize as a catalyst for continued momentum and what the next steps going forward will be.

The committee would like to hear from you. What do you believe the Olean City School District is doing well that promotes high expectations for all learners and, in what areas do we have gaps? Continuous improvement must be more than a state of mind. As stated by Mortimer Adler, "The purpose of learning is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as long as we live." Therefore, continuous improvement must be actively pursued. Please share your thoughts and ideas with us. My email is: ctaggerty@olean.wnyric.org

Welcome, continued from pg. 2

the period of September 2015 through January 2016. Ms. Puller received a Bachelor of Science in Education; Psychology/Sociology concentration from SUNY at Geneseo in 1989 and a Master of Science in Reading from Alfred University in 1991. Ms. Puller has taught at various schools located in MD, NY, and PA.

Katie Schmitt joins the Olean Intermediate Middle School as a Special Education Teacher. Mrs. Schmitt received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education and Special Education from St. Bonaventure and a Master of Science in Educational Psychology in May 2015 from Kaplan University. Katie was a long-term Special Education Teacher for the Olean City School District for the 2014-2015 school year.

Robert Washington joins the District as a High School Special Education Teacher. Mr. Washington received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in Secondary Education from St. Bonaventure University in 2001; a Master of Science in Adult Education from Buffalo State College in 2004; and a Master of Science in Special Education from St. Joseph's University in 2011. He was a teacher at the Children's Center for Treatment and Education in Bradford, PA and also taught in the Harrisburg, Erie, and Pittsburgh, PA areas.

Support Staff:

Tina Aiello-Austin – teacher aide - Olean Intermediate Middle School

Clarissa Bennett – teacher aide – Olean Intermediate Middle School

Brandy Blanchard – teacher aide - Olean Intermediate Middle School

Kathleen Butler – teacher aide - Washington West Elementary School

Camille Charleston – teacher aide - Washington West Elementary School

Charmaine Dwaileebe – teacher aide - Washington West Elementary School

Annette Fisk – Keyboard Specialist - Olean High School

Melissa Green – teacher aide - Washington West Elementary School

Erin Koch Pagett – Account Clerk Typist – Pupil Services

Sarah Retchless - teacher aide - Washington West Elementary School

Margaret Tingley – teacher aide – East View Elementary School

Deborah Silloway – teacher aide - Washington West Elementary School



Anastasia Selected for NYS Basketball Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Jeff Anastasia, Olean HS Boys Basketball Coach, Section 6, on his recent New York State Basketball Home of Fame Class of 2016 Induction. Jeff has been coaching for 28 years, has 508 wins with an 80% winning percentage, five trips to Glens Falls, as well as one State championship.

Sports Boosters Recruiting Volunteers

The OHS Sports Boosters support our student athletes by financially providing the following: banquets \$21,000; scholarships \$2,000; coaches clinics \$2,000; equipment \$7,000; summer leagues \$700; coaches' requests \$2,000; athlete travel \$500; and Wall of Fame \$2,700.

The Sports Boosters are always recruiting volunteers for concession stand, athletic events and fundraising opportunities. Meetings are held monthly at the Olean High School.

Currently, the Sports Boosters are holding a kayak raffle to benefit student athletes. The kayak was donated by White-tail Country and will be raffled during a December basketball game. See a Sports Boosters' member for tickets: \$5 dollars for one ticket, \$20 dollars for five tickets.

The fall sports banquets will be held Tuesday, November 17, and Thursday, November 19, at the OHS cafeteria.



Groups Sponsor Emergency Preparedness Program at OHS

The Citizen Preparedness Corps and the Olean Rotary Interact Club organized a Citizen Preparedness Program for all High School staff and students as part of Governor Cuomo's Prepare NY initiative. Each family received an emergency backpack filled with emergency supplies in the event of a disaster or community emergency.

Sergeant Jason Hammond provided a presentation on the importance of development an emergency plan, not just at school, but at home as well. He also provided an overview of the types of disasters and emergencies to prepare for, and how to build an emergency kit that would allow each individual to be prepared for at least 7 – 10 days or longer. Lastly, Sergeant Hammond shared information on the prepare.ny.gov website where all citizens in New York State can gather more information about how to be prepared in an emergency, how to get involved to help neighbors and the community as a whole.

If any community members are interested in learning more, go to prepare.ny.gov and you can also sign up for NY-ALERT at nyalert.gov to receive emergency notifications.



OHS and SBU Students Learning Together

Friendship and new experiences can be a very powerful way for people of all abilities to learn. Students from Olean High School and St. Bonaventure University have been working together each week so students from both schools can learn from each other.

On most Fridays, high school students in Mrs. Scordo's class ride the Olean City bus from downtown Olean to nearby St. Bonaventure University. Once they arrive on campus, the high school students are met by eager college students who have created individualized activities where the college campus is the classroom.

One group of OHS and Bona students have created a small business, selling cookies and other treats to students and faculty members on campus. Their proceeds are being donated to the SPCA.

A pair of students is working at the Quick Arts Center, under the direction of Evelyn Penman, to make Christmas tree ornaments for the center's Christmas tree. This experience has grown from the college and high school students' shared interest in the arts.

Another pairing of a college and high students is working at the university mail room to sort mail at the United States Postal Office with the help of James Peace.

A student who is interested in working with young children is creating a mini-lesson where she will read a Dr. Seuss book to preschool children.



On a recent Friday, several students were treated to meet with Bonaventure basketball player, Marcus Posley. Mr. Posley told students a little about the amount of practice that it takes to be a Bona player. Then he took time to shake each high school student's hand, sign a couple of autographs, and pose for a picture. The students will be writing Mr. Posley to thank him for his time.

The SBU students are completing internship hours for coursework under the direction of Dr. Anne-Claire Fisher, assistant professor of differentiated instruction in the School of Education. Dr. Fisher approached Olean special educators about creating a collaborative program. She believes very strongly that high school and college students can learn together.

Speech and Language teacher, Jacki Gi-aradini, also loves working with students on the college campus. She notes that the campus is a different place where students can practice the skills they learn in high school. Ms Giaradini has also been able to give some guidance to the college students as they learn about teaching a variety of students.

At the end of each day at the university, OHS students ride the city bus back to Olean. The learning has not ended though because they are practicing safe and courteous ways to ride a bus, following a bus schedule, and safely walking back to the high school campus.

Every student who participates reports that the trips to St. Bonaventure are fun and a good learning experience.



Lowe Awarded Tenure

Ashton Lowe, English teacher, was presented a tenure certificate by Paul Knieser, President of the Board of Education.

Collaborative Curriculum Using Laptops in Full Swing

Distribution of over 800 laptops occurred throughout the month of September. Teachers and students now collaborate as we integrate technology across our curriculum.

Students are becoming fluent using PowerPoint presentations, Microsoft Word, e-textbooks, on-line note taking to minimizing paper use, Student portal, Castle Learning, and internet access at home and school, to name a few.

Multiple types of technology are being incorporated. Student are able to create classroom projects on their laptops, save them to a thumb drive, the desktop of their computer, or their personal drive on the laptop. Printing can be done electronically from anywhere in the building to library printers which are dedicated for their use.

The promotion of technology as an alternative to traditional learning methods is necessary for our students as they enter our ever changing digital world. Students are delighted with the convenience of having their own laptop, Kudos to our technology staff for their work on this project!



LEARNING TO PLAY GUITAR

Mrs. Eustis has been teaching all the 7th grade students how to play guitar. Students are fully engaged and working diligently. Could we have a future rock star in our midst?

WHAT IS READING LEVELING?

Students at the Olean Intermediate Middle School are learning all sorts of information about their reading skills through a new program called "IRLA." Classroom teachers and reading specialists have been busy leveling students. In order to determine where a student will read and be challenged, a process called leveling is used.



A.J. Addotti takes advantage of some time to do a little reading.

Teachers meet one-on-one with students, go over basic word lists and vocabulary lists, which includes asking students to define words or provide synonyms, and a cold read. The cold read requires students to select a passage and read part of it out loud and some of it silently. Upon completion, the teacher asks the student various comprehension questions, vocabulary questions, and inference questions.

Once the student has completed leveling with the teacher, s/he is shown books and informational texts which will provide him/her with rigor at a level which the student should find compatible with his/her strengths. Students are expected to complete the books within a week. Studies prove that students who read at least forty minutes per day should see an increase of up to two years' growth in their reading abilities. The IRLA program is a step in the right direction for OIMS students and improving their reading abilities.

STUDENTS STANDING TALL IN 7TH GRADE



Isabella Martinelli, Clare Meyers and Molli Pettit stand tall in 7th grade!

Why would students stand for a class period? Perhaps to help them think better on their feet? To allow blood to flow throughout their bodies? Maybe it's an opportunity to try something different?

The answers to those questions is a resounding, "YES!" Blue Team and Yellow Team students in Mrs. Skrobacz's English classes are standing tall behind their desks. It isn't a difficult or costly idea. Twenty-five sets of bed risers were purchased during the summer for the English 7 classroom. Initially, students were a bit surprised when they entered the classroom on the third floor at OIMS. Once they started to stand for their English class, it became the norm for them.

"It's good because when Mrs. Skrobacz goes to the back of the classroom to show us something, we move easily," said 7th grader Christian Myers.

Haleigh Federowicz, another seventh grader stated, "I think it's easier to pay attention when I stand. When I sit, I could slouch and not pay as close attention in class. I like it!"

"I feel like it helps me stay awake. When I sit down, I can sit in a certain position where I can start to feel tired. I like standing a lot," said Kyle Pockalny.

Caroline DeRose stated, "You can move more, not just sit in one place all period. When Mrs. Skrobacz moves around the classroom, we can move easily to see her."

"It helps me focus more," according to Kellen Baker. "Instead of sitting down, I can move around a bit," he added.

LAPTOPS FOR 6TH GRADE CLASSES

For the first time in the history of the Olean City School District, OIMS sixth graders have been given their own laptops. In accordance with the 1:1 Technology Initiative, laptops were provided to all of the OIMS sixth graders. Students also received padded carrying cases for their laptops. It is a hefty responsibility for students to maintain their laptops. They were instructed about the regulations for maintaining their laptops, charging them at home each night, and allowing updates to occur. Parents also received information about the laptops' care and the accountability factor required for students to maintain their laptops.

The sixth graders enjoy their laptops and take the responsibility of having them very seriously. Another plus, each student was afforded the opportunity to download five "Office 365" accounts for their families' use. Office 365 contains Word, Publisher, Power Point, OneNote and more. The families are able to download the program to their iPhones, droids, personal computers, and iPads so students can have access to some awesome materials.



Kyle Pockalny, Christian Myers and Noah Paterniti work diligently on their new equipment.

LET'S TALK MONEY ON NOV. 3 & 17

Financial literacy is an important life skill for our students to learn. Wider Opportunities for Greater Olean, Inc. (WOGO) has received a grant from Five Star Bank to offer our students in grades 4-7 a unique opportunity to attend a two-hour workshop on financial literacy. Students will learn what money is, income sources, annual budget, savings, and needs vs. wants. A workshop for students (at least one parent must also attend) in grades 6 and 7 will be offered on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, 5:45-7:45 p.m., in the OIMS LGI Room. A workshop for students (at least one parent/guardian must also attend) in grades 4 and 5 will be offered on Tuesday, November 17, 2015, 5:45-7:45 p.m., in the OIMS LGI Room. A pizza dinner will be provided at each workshop.

Space in the workshops is limited! Please call the Guidance Office at 375-8064 for registration information.

GETTING A TASTE OF THE ARCTIC

Students and staff of OCSD received a taste of the Arctic on Friday, September 29th, with the Polar Spray, an event designed to raise money and awareness for Special Olympics New York. Students from OIMS have been involved with Special Olympics Unified sports since 2013, and the partnership continues to grow bigger and stronger. The Polar Spray is a pre-view to the Polar Plunge in Buffalo on December 5th, where once again OCSD will be Freezin' For a Reason. For more information on the Polar Plunge visit polarplungeny.org and search Olean Huskies Unified.



COLLABORATION IS KEY IN ART

Mrs. Nickel's 4th Grade Art classes have been working on an interdisciplinary unit combining their artistic prowess with lessons learned in Social Studies and ELA classes. Mrs. Nickel is helping her students create Wampum belts to go along with their unit on Native Americans. Here, students are working on the design process before they complete the actual Wampum belts. In planning her lessons based on what students are already working on in their other classes, Mrs. Nickel can reinforce student understanding of the curriculum and enhance the learning experience for all involved. Plus, they produce some really amazing art for the rest of us to admire!

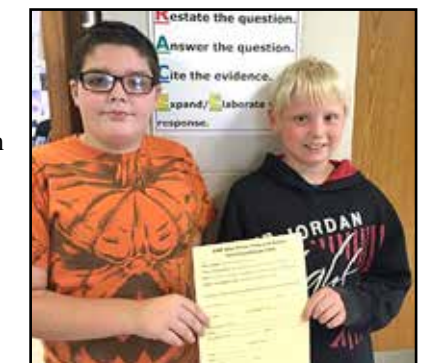


OIMS HOMEWORK HELPERS

Is your student finding homework overwhelming? There is help! Mrs. Maureen Ullman, Homework Helpers' coordinator, along with OIMS teachers Mrs. Lacey Hill and Mrs. Patti Metler, work Monday through Thursday from 3:15 – 4 p.m. in the OIMS Library with students who need homework help or a quiet place to study.

Teachers guide the students throughout the 45-minute period. Parents need to sign up students and can require that they attend daily or allow them the option of attending on a day-to-day basis.

Call Mrs. Ullman at 375-8060, ext. 4305 to request a permission form.



Hudson Dibble and Tyler Letcher display a Homework Helpers permission form.

TAKE NOTE



Super Bowl of Caring

The holidays will be here before we know it, and we will be gathering with friends and family to celebrate. As you do your holiday shopping, consider buying extra items to set aside for the Olean Food Pantry. Students will be collecting nonperishable food items for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring food drive. The event will occur during the week preceding the NFL Super Bowl, which will be played on February 7. Food will be collected at all local schools and local businesses. Contact Marie Rakus at mrakus@olean.wnyric.org for more information or to donate.

Husky Announcements

OHS morning announcements are now available on our webpage. Simply click the link at the OHS homepage to find out the latest & greatest in Husky territory.

H.S. Equivalency Classes

Need your high school diploma to get that job or promotion? Olean City School District offers FREE high school equivalency classes. For more information, contact Linda Edstrom, Adult Education Coordinator, 716-375-8033, or ledstrom@olean.wnyric.org

Parent Portal Access

Did you know you can access your students grades on-line? **Parent Portal** is an on-line site that has been designed to improve communication between home and school. It enables **parents** to take a more informed view of their children's progress at school by providing access to grades, schedules and report cards instantly. To sign up, please call 375-8010 to obtain a password for your student's information.



PEP Grant In Action

Washington West will be receiving a new Traverse Wall in their gym as a result of the PEP grant. Students in physical education classes will enjoy the challenge of climbing across the wall.

Washington West and East View are offering morning activities for students to get them moving before the school day.

The high school weight room renovation project is almost complete! Over the summer a wall was torn down to increase the size of the existing space, new flooring was installed, and the room was freshly painted. New strength equipment will be arriving later in October. The weight room is open for student use before and after school every day. The turnout has been amazing.

Cooking classes are coming to OIMS and OHS. Part of the grant requirements are to educate our students on proper nutrition and what better way to do so than offer cooking classes. Ms. Whiteman is starting her cooking class at OIMS this month, and Mrs. Napoleon is doing the same at the high school. Each month there will be a different theme. October's theme: Breakfast Foods to Get You Going. Sign up today!!

Adventure Activities are being offered monthly to students at OHS. October's activity was kayaking, thanks to our partnership with Portville School District for allowing us to use their equipment. Students kayaked down the Allegheny River from Steam Valley boat launch to Olean. It was a gorgeous day. November's activity is the Low Ropes Course at Portville School. Sign up with Ms. Davenport or Mrs. Brooks.

Candy Work, the nutritionist hired through the PEP grant, has been teaching monthly lessons to our students. She goes into physical education classes each month to educate the students on proper nutrition. What a valuable resource for our district.



JUNIOR CLASS 2015-16 CHECKLIST

- ✓ Continue working hard in school to maintain the highest grades possible in a rigorous academic schedule. Colleges want to accept the highly motivated students! College admissions decisions are based mainly on the strength of your high school transcript.
- ✓ Maintain good attendance at school. Stay involved in school activities, athletics or clubs offered at school.
- ✓ Visit Mr. Threehouse's web page where you will find information pertaining to career planning, NCAA Clearinghouse, SAT/ACT, graduation requirements, etc.
- ✓ Four-year college bound students should be taking the PSAT/NMSQT on October 14, 2015. The cost is \$15.00. Sign up in the guidance office.
- ✓ Students interested in entering the military after high school should make contact with a recruiter this school year. These students should also take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) on December 2, 2015 at Olean High School. Sign up in the guidance office.
- ✓ The PSAT/NMSQT results will be returned in late November or early December. Take time to review your test results and follow the recommendations on the PSAT score report to improve your scores on the SAT. Four-year college bound juniors should register to take the SAT's and ACT's in March-June 2016. Visit www.sat.org/register and www.actstudent.org to register for these important tests.
- ✓ Students and their parents will be invited to attend our annual Financial Aid Information Night held in the Olean High School cafeteria in early January 2016.
- ✓ Juniors should begin to visit colleges in the spring semester of the school year and throughout the summer. The ultimate goal is to be ready to apply to college(s) by December 1, 2016. This will ensure that you meet the deadlines in a timely manner and will also make the process less stressful on you.
- ✓ Meet with Mr. Threehouse to prepare your senior year schedule in January-March 2016. At this time you will also complete a graduation audit to make sure all graduation requirements have been met or scheduled for your senior year.
- ✓ Continue to listen to the morning and afternoon announcements as pertinent scholarship information pertaining to juniors and seniors are announced on a regular basis.
- ✓ Visit Mr. Threehouse to ask questions as they arise.



OHS Vocalists Achieve State Level Honors

Congratulations to Hannah Stayer and Maegan Windus, who received the high honor of being accepted as members of this year's NYSSMA All-State Choirs. Hannah will be performing with the All-State Woman's Choir, and Maegan will be performing with the All-State Mixed Choir. Much hard work and competition went into achieving this honor. They both earned a perfect score on grade six solos at the NYSSMA Solo Festival last spring, which helped to qualify them for these distinguished choirs who will perform at Eastman Theater in Rochester during the NYSSMA Winter Conference on December 6th and 7th. Hannah and Maegan are members of OHS Select Choir and Bel Canto Choir. Hannah studies with Nancy Hefti as well. Bravo, super singers!

Music Boosters Need Your Help

The Olean High School Music Boosters want you to get involved and help support the excellent music programs our school offers students. Music Boosters are proud that Olean students are able to participate in chorus, band, and orchestra. If you are a parent of an OHS singer or musician, please consider attending a meeting to see how you can help. The meetings only last one hour and are held the first Monday of each month at 7 pm in the OHS second floor conference room. Music students will be selling beautiful wreaths and poinsettias in the coming weeks to help fund events and purchase items for the music department. If you have any questions, please contact Marie Rakus at mrakus@olean.wnyric.org.



Summer Graduate Congratulated

Summer graduate Presttyn Jordan was honored by Olean High School officials during a ceremony to mark the completion of his required course of study. From left are former High School Principal Barbara Lias, who retired at the end of the last school year; Presttyn's father, Emmet Jordan; Presttyn; Paul Knieser, Olean School Board President; and Jeffrey Andreano former Assistant Principal who is now the Principal.



Kick It Math Facts - Our third graders are Kickin' It to learn their math facts this year. Third graders at East View earn necklaces as they master various math facts throughout the year with a program that works like a karate belt system.

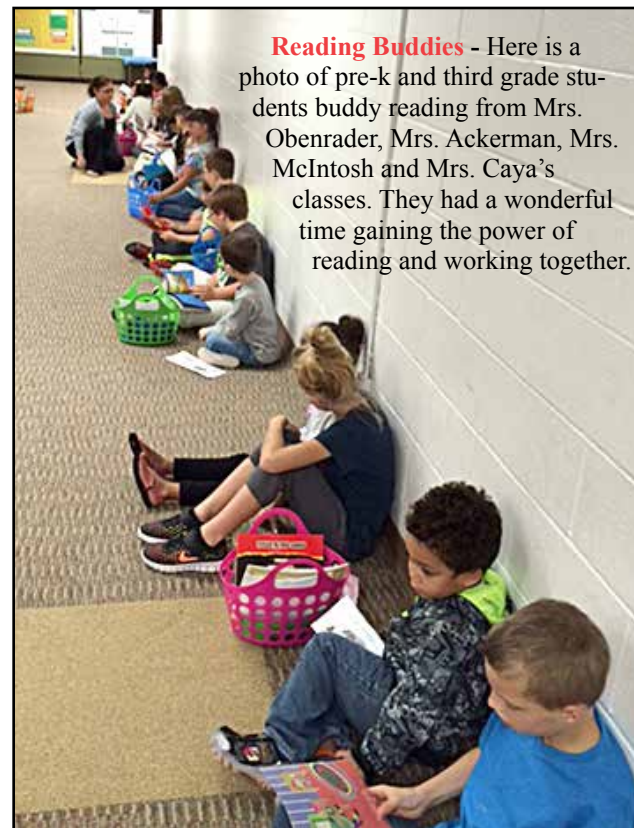


Super Bee Super Heroes - A special thank you to Mrs. Grandusky, a friend to East View, for sewing capes on to our Friday Super Bee shirts (left). We recognize students in each class for following the school rules of being safe, responsible and respectful.

East View Elementary School



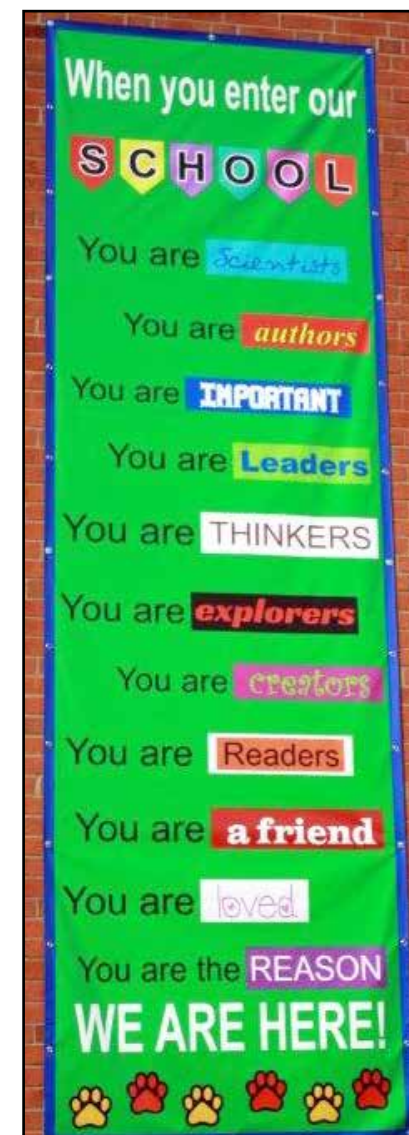
Buffalo Philharmonic - All of our students attended a Buffalo Philharmonic Concert last month and were wowed by the experience.



Reading Buddies - Here is a photo of pre-k and third grade students buddy reading from Mrs. Obenrader, Mrs. Ackerman, Mrs. McIntosh and Mrs. Caya's classes. They had a wonderful time gaining the power of reading and working together.



Independent Reading - At East View, our core belief is, "Reading gives you power, the more you read the better you get and the smarter you become." Our school is transforming its culture of reading to include renewed emphasis on independent reading with our students. Not only will our students be reading text and getting instruction at the grade level they are enrolled in, but they will also be reading books of their own choosing and getting instruction at their own unique reading level. Not only does the element of choice motivate our students, it also makes reading fast, fun and easy which will connect them to reading that will hopefully make them life long readers.



Parking Problem Resolved - Arrival at Washington West is safer and more efficient with our newly designated parking spaces. The available spaces along our sidewalk allow parents to park and walk their children safely to our entrance. These spaces also give parents more time to tend to their children's needs. When used properly, these spaces allow for our 'drop and go' lane to move freely; reducing the congestion in our lot and along Washington Street. Many thanks to our arrival families who work together to keep everyone safe and on time for school! Go team WW!



You Are the Reason We Are Here - Washington West's opening theme for the 2015-2016 school year focused on empowering our students! Our banner reminds us not only of the value of each child, but of the potential in each and every one who attends our school. We at Washington West are proud of what we do each day to support our students! If you are interested in participating in our programming, please contact our office (375-8968) or access the district website (oleanschools.org) for a volunteer form. We welcome you to join us!



Welcome Back, ART! - WW families enjoyed the "Make Your Mark" display during open house as presented by our new art teacher, Stacie Bowen. For two quarters, Ms. Bowen offers our students two art classes per week. The students have truly enjoyed expressing themselves through their projects. Thank you for restoring our art program!

Washington West Elementary School

S.W.A.G. - In September's opening day meetings, our Olean and BOCES staff members were challenged to find the 'one word' that would motivate them to be their best. Based on the motivational work of Jon Gordon, teachers chose a word that would reflect their intentions and goals for the new school year.

Our First Grade Team decided to start their school year with **S.W.A.G.** - Success, Willpower, Attitude, and Goals as their focus. Teachers want their students to know that they are capable of anything as long as they have **SWAG**.

The teachers have been incorporating **S.W.A.G.** into first grade writing lessons. After reading *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin, students were taught that the acronym can be used to remind writers to Start sentences with a capital letter, to Write neatly, that A space is needed between each written word, and to Give proper punctuation at the end of each sentence.



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

ADMINISTRATION

Colleen Taggerty, 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 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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Michiko McElfresh, Vice President
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Laurie Branch
Paul Hessney
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Olean, NY 14760

ECRWSS

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL



2015 OHS Homecoming Royalty

On a Friday, Oct. 2nd, at an Olean High School football game, the 2015 Homecoming Court was announced. Pictured (l-r) are freshmen attendants Katie Patrone and Nick Crandall; sophomore attendants Mia Rogers and Nick Karl-Lebrenz; Second Senior Attendants Mallory Bliss and Luke Earl; Homecoming Queen Miranda Sakala and Homecoming King Jake Volz; First Senior Attendants Halle Farwell and Terrance Farwell; and junior attendants Noelle Anzivine and TJ Magro.

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