

“Home, School and Community Educating for Life”

Coach Anastasia Inducted into the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame



On November 9th former OHS boys’ basketball coach, Jeff Anastasia, was inducted into the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame. Coach Anastasia led the Olean boys’ basketball team for 32 seasons, making it one of the most successful programs in Western New York.

Pictured from left to right : Steve Anastasia (Olean Athletic Director), Don Scholla (former Olean Athletic Director), Jeff Anastasia, Colleen Taggerty (former Olean Superintendent), and Tim Kolasinski (present Olean boys’ basketball coach).



Support for Sophia

In late June, one of our 7th grade students Sophia LaBorde was diagnosed with Metastatic Hepatocellular Carcinoma, which is a type of Liver Cancer. This cancer is fairly common in adults, but it’s very rare in children her age. Sophia will be having surgery in November in Boston. On October 21st, during our staff development day, OIMS along with our Student Advisory Council held a basket raffle to help the family with some of their expenses. The end result was almost \$6500. Sophia was able to come over and help draw the raffles winners. OIMS wishes to thank everyone in the district for your support. It takes all the Huskies to pull the sled.



JCC Global Day- A celebration of cultures!

Olean’s upper level French students attended a day that was rich with language and culture, as JCC brought back their annual Global Day. When students arrived at the JCC Jamestown campus, our group was split up and spread out amongst the other schools that were participating. This was their first experience at working “outside” of their comfort zone; a skill all world language students must master. For the morning session, students had the opportunity to interact with international students that are currently attending the Jamestown campus. These students shared their perspectives on being an exchange student and what it felt like to have this experience. The message from the panel seemed to be unanimous; being an exchange student is an opportunity of a lifetime. One student even stated that it was an experience that would quickly put you in the category of “being the most interesting person in the room”. After some wonderful discourse, students were invited to try some international food. Some lunch choices were Falafel sandwiches, Gyros, Cuban sandwiches, Lemon egg drop soup and Tres Leche cake. As students moved around the International Fair, they had an additional opportunity to try samples of foods from Nigeria, Myanmar, as well as creating some fun cultural crafts such as learning how to write their names in Russian and Arabic. We finished our day by observing and then learning the moves to a simple Bollywood dance. Students had a wonderful day meeting new people and filling up their passports with stamps from the variety of activities in which they partook.

Dear Olean School District Community and Families,



During the holiday season, I am sending each of you a sincere word of thanks and my warmest wishes for a happy and safe holiday celebration with your loved ones. The holiday season offers a chance to pause and reflect. As we do so, we remind ourselves just how fortunate our school system is to serve a vibrant community that deeply values our children's learning.

On the behalf of our Board of Education and district leaders, I would like to let you know that we appreciate the continued dedication of our school administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and guardians.

As a student-centered school community, I want to encourage all of us, parents, guardians, and educators, to celebrate the students in our lives this holiday season. No matter what your holiday celebrations look like, please acknowledge and encourage the students in your family. Let them know you are proud of their work and rooting for their success. We are thankful for our students who come to school every day ready to learn – they give us all a daily reminder of what is important and why we are here.

We are thankful for the support of the parents in creating an outstanding partnership for our students. We are grateful for the teachers, assistants, aides, bus drivers, secretaries, nurses, lunchroom aides, support staff, therapists, nurses, and administrators who care about student achievement and have the best interests of our students at heart. We are also thankful for our volunteers who enthusiastically contribute so much to our schools.

In summary, I am so thankful for being a part of the Husky Pack, and I look forward to working with you during the next several years. On behalf of the Olean City Schools Board of Education and district leaders, I wish you a great holiday season. I send you best wishes for a time filled with family, friends, love, and laughter!

Sincerely,

Dr. Genelle Morris
Superintendent of Schools

Support Related Professionals' Day

On Tuesday, November 15, 2022, Olean City School District celebrated 'Support Related Professionals' (SRP) Day, a well-deserved honor for the hard-working women and men who help educate, feed, monitor their health, administer school offices, and maintain school facilities – providing a safe and nurturing environment for student-centered learning.

Olean City School District would like to publicly thank all of our Support Related Professionals for their ongoing hard work and dedication to our students. It takes all the huskies to pull the sled.

Pictured from left to right are as follows:

Patricia Fratarcangelo – Food Service
Mark Hayman – Central Receiving
Pam Burrows – Lifeguard
Joan Haynes – Keyboard Specialist
Bob Malone – Building &
Grounds Maintainer
Dr. Genelle Morris - Superintendent
of Schools
Joe Duplechian – Technology
Jodi Mallery – Teacher Aide
Kathleen Neeson – Nurse
Andrew Nasuta – Cleaner
Terry Phearsdorf – Building Maintainer



Fall Staff Development Day

On Friday, October 21st, the Olean City School District held its Fall Staff Development Day for all staff to attend professional learning events on various topics. The main event for all staff was attending a keynote address by Brian Mendler called “That One Kid: Changing Lives One Student at a Time.” During this heartfelt message, Brian Mendler told his story of being a special education student with a severe learning disability and severe ADHD, his recovery from addiction, and his work as a special education teacher of students with severe behavioral needs. His story was told from the perspective of a student who struggled in school and yearned to have a sense of belonging and strong relationships with teachers and classmates. He inspired staff to build strong relationships with all students in order to support their social-emotional learning as well as their academic learning. Brian also hosted a breakout session called “Watch Your Mouth: Non-Negotiables for Success with Your Toughest Kids” and then a question-and-answer session for classroom and special education teachers, teacher assistants, and teacher aides. The breakout session provided strategies for teachers, teacher assistants and teacher aides to use to build relationships with all students.



Another professional learning event offered on the October 21st Staff Development Day was “Engaging Students in Every Classroom” presented by Susan Hentz. This professional learning event was attended by classroom and special education teachers, and teacher assistants in grades 4-7. Susan Hentz led a lively session showing teachers and teacher assistants how to create highly engaged classrooms by utilizing active learning strategies. The active learning strategies presented to teachers were student-centered and connected the learning through reflection, movement, and discussion. The active learning strategies taught to staff are supported by brain research, and help students increase their energy level and assist their brains to store and retrieve information in efficient ways.

Leader in Me is a social-emotional learning framework that provides students with instruction on how to become leaders in their own lives. Pictured above are East View and Washington West Elementary Teachers engaged in designing a leadership school that grows leaders by instructing students in the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, incorporating leadership language into classroom routines and interactions, and providing students a voice in creating a culture of leadership.



THANK YOU, TEACHERS & STAFF!

In October, the Science Club thanked the teachers and staff for making a profound difference in their lives. They wanted the adults around them to know that even if they make a difference for just one then it is a job well done! They delivered sea turtles, starfish and tokens to the doors of the staff before the staff development day to acknowledge the impact they make in so many lives.

The sea turtles were chosen as they represent wisdom and balance. The wisdom of the sea turtle teaches us about endurance, determination and staying strong despite obstacles or distractions. The tokens thanked them for everything they have done along the way to help others out.

The starfish are a symbol from a story about even if you can't save them all, if you can save just one...what a difference you make for that one! Thank you, teachers and staff, for your daily dedication.

News From OHS



Une tartine délicieuse

French Club had their first “rendez-vous” on Sept. 30th and kicked off this year’s menu with French tartines. A tartine is a popular snack in France à 4h (at 4:00) for young kids returning home from school. You will always be able to find a few baguettes in every French home, and students will usually grab a chunk of bread and spread on some Nutella; or break off a hunk of chocolate (a simplified pain au chocolat). We jazzed up our special treat with a side of strawberries. This year’s club will focus on preparing and trying specialties from francophone countries. Next month we will be preparing a variety of fondues to try. Any student is welcome to join our club and participate in a cultural experience. We finished off our meeting with a fun round of French twister. Participants were giving and responding to directions all in the target language.



Homeless Huskies

Olean High School had a very successful Homeless Huskies event on November 10th. With over 150 participants between students and staff, we raised \$10,400. All donations went to benefit local charities such as Olean Food Pantry, Genesis House, and the Good Samaritan Scholarship. This year had the most donations ever. For those who don’t know, Homeless Huskies is an event to raise awareness about Homelessness in Olean. Every year, one night in November, OHS students sleep on the front lawn of the high school in tents and decorated boxes. Students also raise money for local charities. In order to participate students must raise at least \$35. Our top donor, Gabe Milligan, raised over \$1,000. Great job to all the Huskies who participated!



OHS Orchestra Students at Area All-State Festivals!

Congratulations to the following OHS music students, who were selected at the NYSSMA Spring Solo Festival 2022 and performed in Honor Ensembles at Area All-State Festivals.

Junior High Area All-State Festival: November 4-5 in Hornell High School
Lokesh Anumalasetty & Natalie Snyder (Cello)

Senior High Area All-State Festival: November 18-19 in Elmira High School
Riti Anumalasetty & Lily Todd (Violin 1)





OHS Students Compete at Canisius College Conference

In November, 14 students competed as delegates at the 44th Canisius College Model United Nations Conference. Olean High students debated with students from 28 other schools from the Buffalo area. Students who competed were Desiree Muir, Maya Belle, Lilli Khettry, Ruby Chahal, Emma Anastasia, Naomi Hill, and Alex Vogel. Heartly Phipps and Rose Scordo received honorable mention in the Economic and Social Council. Chance Padlo and Dylan DiRosa earned Best Delegate honors in the Security Council while David Ruskowski and Riti Anumalasetty received Best Delegate honors in the Historic Security Council.



Solar System

Mrs. Hendricks 8th grade science classes were able to “show what they know” about the solar system using artistic representations, models, travel brochures or assessments of their own choosing. Great job students!



STUDENT-athlete Influences

On Senior Night, the seniors for the Olean Huskies football team wanted to honor a teacher that has made a positive impact and a difference in their lives. This tradition reinforces the value of the fine teachers that we have here at Olean High and honors the tradition of being a STUDENT-athlete first. Pictured below from L-R are players Aiden Dobson, Thomas Bates, Cade Anastasia, George Schrieber, Lucas Brushingham, Tiernan Powley, Jadon Blazejewski and Chris Bary. Behind the players are teachers, Ryan Nawrot, Sean Finch, Jen Mathieson, Katie Wolfgang, Joelle Perry, Jeanne Frisina, John Eaton and Dan Brown. Thanks again teachers for being positive role models for our student-athletes.

eSports team started at the High School



This fall saw the introduction of our first eSports team at Olean High School.

Powered by PlayVS, the official platform and league for eSports, the 20 Olean students who made up the team were able to compete against other schools throughout New York state in a variety of online video games. Spearheaded by Olean City School District's Director of Technology, Michael Martel and Information Technology Coordinator, Marc Friends, the Olean team, led by Coach/Technology Teacher, Scott Rucinski, was able to compete in a series of online games three times a week. The team utilized the school's new technology gaming room on Tuesdays through Thursdays

after school, participating in an eSports league which consisted of an 8 week-long season. There will be another season in the spring, culminating with PlayVS Cup to close the year. The team used PCs to compete in Rocket League and League of Legends and Nintendo Switch consoles to participate in Super Smash Bros. and Mario Kart. The PlayVS platform controls the scheduling, keeps track of all the stats and even has an online chat feature to keep the teams connected throughout competition. Players compete solo or in a group, as they take on teams from other schools in games ranging from fantasy to sport.

Olean eSports coach said this about the league, "The eSports league helps debunk the widely held perception that gamers are lazy kids who are holed up in the bedrooms all day playing video games and wasting their life away. While the main point behind playing a video game is obviously to have fun, the gaming industry has evolved so much that most of the games nowadays require an immense level of technical skill, concentration, strategy, and critical thinking. All of which can be transferred into today's classroom environment and benefit our student's growth and development."

Students interested in participating in the spring season should see Mr. Rucinski for information.

Environmental Science Class



The co-taught Environmental Science Class learned about the Tragedy of the Commons: where individuals neglect the well-being of society in the pursuit of personal gain. This concept was reinforced using The Lorax movie and illustrated when "The Onceler" chopped down all of the "Truffula" trees in order to benefit himself by making "Thneeds"... "which everyone needs!"

The students brainstormed ideas, created project plans, and then voted as a class on how they wanted to model the concept in groups. The following projects won. #1 - The Edible Lorax: cupcakes that displayed the living,

thriving forest and cupcakes with chopped trees resulting in a declining ecosystem. #2 - The Gallery Walk Lorax: the front gallery modeled a thriving forest with vibrant Truffula trees while the back gallery displayed a tragic scene caused by 'The Onceler' after cutting down all the trees. Great job students!

News From OIMS



River of Rocks

The OIMS Student Activities Council has begun work on a River of Rocks. This is anticipated as a yearlong project that will brighten up the inner courtyard at OIMS and allow each student to create a lasting piece of artwork that will remain long after they have moved up to the high school and beyond.

Work began this summer with co-advisor Char Dwaileebe coordinating the set-up and supplies of the rocks. The OHS football teams (varsity and modified) then helped to move these piles into place into the courtyard.

The OIMS art classes and faculty have now started to add their own personal touches to the river by adding some completed works. The OIMS SAC prepared the river of rocks for winter with a week clean up and added a boarder. The art classes will continue to work on their rocks. The SAC will further beautify this area in the spring. We look forward to a colorful river by the end school year.



Celebrating Students' Achievements

The sixth grade at OIMS celebrated students' achievements with a great awards ceremony. Students earned tickets for displaying good character traits, outstanding grades, good deeds, attendance, and positive behavior. Tickets were drawn and prizes distributed to 5 students. Also, 4 students were honored for demonstrating the character trait of being responsible. Students will participate in this award ceremony each month, honoring new students.

October winners for Responsibility:

Dominic Dicerbo
Imani Gayton
Jack Hirliman
Riley Sudbrook

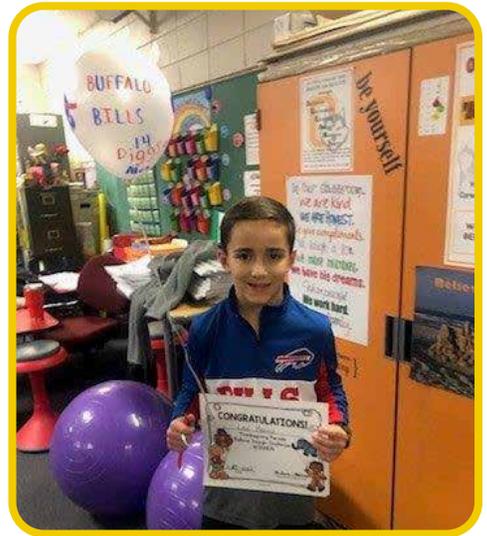
October winners for great rewards tickets:

Corey Bennett
Ryan Morsman
Ellie Brushingham
Jacob Vandenberg
Kayden Finch

OIMS Allies

Students in OIMS Allies helped spread the word about International Day for Tolerance on November 16. The annual event promotes inclusion, tolerance, education, and freedom of expression, all of which closely align with the Allies' purpose of building positivity and community at OIMS.





Balloons Over Broadway

The 4th grade participated in a STEM challenge to create their own balloon puppets for the Macy's Day parade inspired by the book "Balloons over Broadway" by Melissa Sweet about the life of Tony Sarg, the original puppeteer behind the balloon puppets. Once the students finished their creations they went on a parade around the school to share their designs.

7th Grade Social Studies Dwelling Projects



7th Grade Social Studies students have completed their first major project for the year. Students selected a Native American tribe from the United States to research, write a paper, and build a replica dwelling. Many students in Mrs. Coulter's classes were interested in building longhouses, while those in Mrs. Howard's classes built many igloos. Some students also built pueblos, wigwams, teepees, and earth lodges. We had an excellent representation of Native American tribes from across the country.



We also invited the Seneca Nation dance performers to view these assignments after their presentation at the school assembly on November 2nd. They were very impressed by the level of detail students put into their projects. However, they were also disappointed that they did not get to sample some of the edible projects those in Mrs. Howard's classes made. Overall, the 7th grade students are proud of their hard work and effort.



Veterans "Wall of Honor"

The 4th grade at OIMS celebrated Veterans Day by creating a "Wall of Honor" in their hallway. Students interviewed someone who served in the military or wrote a paragraph about the importance of Veteran's Day. All of these were collected and displayed to show their appreciation for all the Veterans who served.



Oh, Là Là!!! Le français, C'est Top!

National French Week was celebrated in the OIMS French class from November 4th through November 10th. 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 five daily theme days: Blue/White/Red Day, Scarf/Beret Day, Très Chic Day, Say "Bonjour" to My Teachers Day and, last but not least, French Teuf (Party) Day! Mrs. Wilton's French class dressed according to the daily theme, practiced their French listening and response skills with TPR (Total Physical Response) in the classroom, listened to the French Marseillaise and, of course, sampled French foods!!

Merci mille fois (many thanks) to all the students who participated and who read on the daily announcements, too...en français!

Library Learning

Throughout the fall, OIMS 4th and 5th grade students have sharpened their organizational skills by learning to navigate the library's digital catalog, the Dewey Decimal System, and our recently genrefied fiction section! Students can find books much more easily thanks to their hard work in library classes and practice with activities like Call Number Cookie Monsters and Shelf Animals.



Cawley Films

Ms. Cawley's 7th grade artists have been working hard to create their Lego stop-motion animation films.



Washington West Elementary School



Our Grateful Husky Pup Hearts

Throughout the month of November, our husky pups have been showing how grateful they are to be a part of our pack. Students and staff have adorned our tree of gratitude with the many reasons they are thankful for our school and our community.



LEADERS of the Pack

Throughout the halls of Washington West, we are always on the lookout for LEADERS - students that show perseverance, effort, and above all else, kindness. Our students work each and every day to fill out their LEADER boards in hopes of earning the coveted award of LEADER of the Pack. Kudos to these husky pups!



Reading Buddies

These kindergarten and second grade pups are making fast friends as they buddy up for lots of fun activities - including reading! This month, they buddied up to make pies, learn about Thanksgiving traditions, and have some old-fashioned FUN!



Powering on with Power Words

These husky pups were working on spelling out their power words in a fun-filled way - with shaving cream!



Goblin' Up a Good Book

Our UPK pups are no stranger to reading! They are goblin' up a good book in advance of our Thanksgiving break and our "goblin' up a good book" Reading Challenge!



Follow your Husky Pups on Twitter @OleanWW



East View Elementary School



Thanksgiving Feast

Mrs. Knight's class invited Mr. Crawford to its Thanksgiving feast! The students learned just how much he likes cranberry sauce and everyone took turns saying what they are thankful for.



Veteran's Day Crafts

Mrs. Ackerman's class learned about Veteran's Day and are showing off some of their creations in the photograph.



Weather Scientists

Mrs. Caya's third grade class is learning about weather! Check out their cool scientist goggles!



Visit from an Author

Hunter is an amazing author and recently stopped by the office to share his newest graphic novel.



Book Fair

East View had a very successful Book Fair!



Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs Visit East View

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs visited East View on Halloween!

Follow our school on twitter @OleanEastView



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 73
Olean, NY 14760

ECRWSS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mary Hirsch-Schena, President
Julio Fuentes, Vice President
Andrew Caya
Daniel Farnham
Lee Filbert
Ira Katzenstein
Kelly Keller
James Padlo
Rychelle Weseman

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Genelle Morris

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Jenny M. Bilotta

Dear Families,
We are thrilled to announce our
1st Annual Overnight Ecology Camp for 5th grade!
Camp Husky will take place
June 13-14 and June 14-15 at Allegany State Park.



**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

Mrs. Martin, Miss Martin, Miss Matejka, Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Hamed will accompany their classes from June 13-14.
Mrs. Everetts, Miss Portlow, Mrs. Gabler and Mrs. Mehmel will accompany their classes June 14-June 15.

Please save these dates (we know sports schedules are very busy in June). More detailed information will be coming soon!

