



SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEF

Dr. Genelle Morris

Volume 3 Issue #1 | February 2025

A Message from Dr. Morris:

Dear Husky Community,

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the second half of the school year. The dedication of our students, staff, and families continues to inspire me, and I am grateful to be part of such a dynamic and supportive school community.

This year, we have made great strides in enhancing student learning, expanding support services, and strengthening our partnerships with families and the broader Olean community. Our students continue to shine in countless ways, from academic achievements to athletic and artistic excellence. I want to sincerely thank our educators and staff who work tirelessly to create an engaging, inclusive, and nurturing environment for all students.

Looking ahead, our district remains committed to ensuring that every student has access to high-quality educational opportunities that prepare them for success beyond the classroom. Our district is actively engaged in curriculum enhancements, staff professional development, and initiatives focused on student well-being. We also continue to advocate for the resources necessary to support our schools and maintain the programs that make Olean a place of excellence.

I encourage families to stay involved by attending school events, engaging in discussions about district initiatives, and providing feedback that helps shape the future of our schools. Your partnership is invaluable, and we will continue to provide the best possible educational experience for all students.

-Dr. Genelle Morris





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A Message from Dr. Morris about OCSD Future Forum:

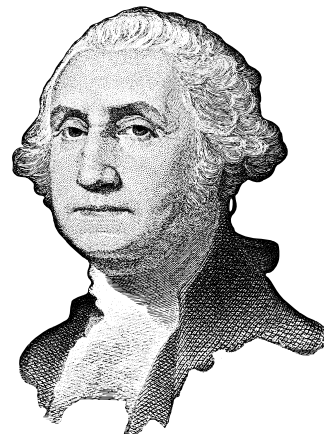
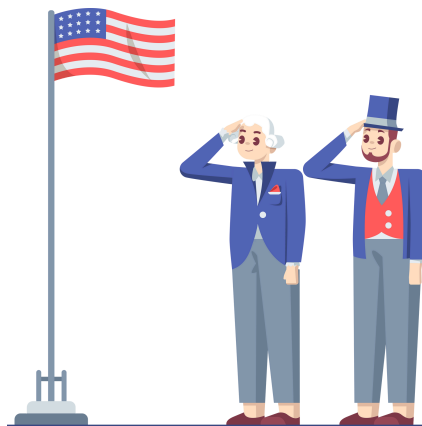
I would like to ask you to Save The Date for the “Olean CSD’s Future Forum – Preparing the Next Generation for the Workplace and the World”. This community conversation will be held from 5:00 – 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2025. Who is invited? Anyone who may be affected by our students' success: students, parents/guardians, business leaders, school employees, political representatives, and community members. A light dinner will be available during this event. Space is limited and RSVPs will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. We will share more information about this important opportunity in the upcoming weeks.

RSVP by noon on Wednesday, March 12th, at

<https://forms.gle/Xfw4qrBA1KqKpKuQ6> or by calling (716) 375-8018; leave your name, phone number, and email address. All interested parties will receive an email confirmation no later than Friday, March 14.

February Break Reminder:

There is no school Monday, February 17th - Friday, February 21st.





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National Honor Society Induction Ceremony:

On Friday, January 10th, OCSD celebrated a momentous occasion at the Pulaski Club in Olean. We proudly inducted 43 new members into the National Honor Society (NHS), with 42 members present. Our senior NHS members, who were inducted last year, conducted the event. The induction ceremony, attended by faculty, parents, and fellow students, highlighted the accomplishments and virtues of each inductee. The National Honor Society is a prestigious organization that recognizes high school students for their outstanding scholarship, service, leadership, and character achievements, which every new member shows without question.





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OIMS Quarterly Assembly:

Exciting times at Olean Intermediate Middle School! On Tuesday January 28th, the school had its quarterly assembly where students learned about the Student Activities Council for when they got to high school and met Murphy, the school's new service dog! The school also celebrated multiple students and staff's successes and achievements with special prizes. Additionally, some students with perfect attendance so far this school year got movie passes donated by AMC Theatres.





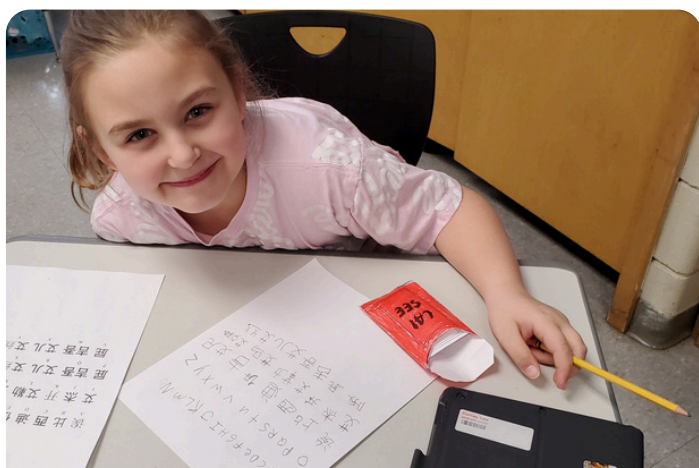
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Learning about the Chinese lunar new year:

These husky pups spent an afternoon immersed in a learning experience connected to the Asian Lunar New Year. They practiced with chopsticks, learned their names in Chinese, and enjoyed some cultural foods—all so they could enjoy the year of the snake!





Announcement Regarding OCSD Phone Systems

Our phone systems will no longer accept incoming calls from numbers that show up as "unknown" or "blocked." This measure will help enhance the security and efficiency of our communication system. If you need to reach out to us, please make sure your caller ID is visible and not set to "unknown" or "blocked." You may also communicate with us through ParentSquare and email. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.





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"Knot" Your Average Holiday Project:

In December, Fifth graders in Ms. Douthit's class at OIMS started a project called Fleece Navidad. Students chose partners, patterns, and designated workspaces. Using measuring tapes, they measured their blankets for length and width. They then converted these lengths and widths into inches to demonstrate their understanding of measurement conversions. They measured and cut their blankets, and then they could start tying them.

The students then walked to the Olean General Hospital and donated the blankets they made to the patients there. They reflected on their experience and were grateful to be a part of something bigger than their school. The project was made possible thanks to the support of the Olean Schools Foundation.





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Huskies can Ski!

Students Had a blast ice skating for January's High School Adventure Activity! 16 students took advantage of this free opportunity provided by the District.





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Learning the tools of the trades:

Some Huskies went on a Field Trip to Scull Manufacturing in January!

In their shop, Mrs. Graves and Mrs. Niece's class learned everything they could create using CNC machines, 3D printers, and manual machines. Thank you, Scull Manufacturing and Dan and Andy Scull, for showing us what you do and giving us such a great tour!



Groundhog Day 2025:

Punxsutawney Phil has given his yearly prediction: 6 more weeks of winter!





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Winter Sports:





Secretarial Award of Excellence:

Congratulations to Julie Scull, Athletic Department Secretary, on winning the Judith A. Martens Secretarial Award of Excellence! The award is given to a secretary of an athletic administrator who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to athletics at the local level for a minimum of five years. Julie will be honored at the Section VI Athletic Council Meeting and luncheon on May 14th. Congrats Julie!



Meet Murphy the therapy dog:

Feb. 3rd-7th is National School Counseling Week. So, as a way to honor the fact that we recognize multiple counselors within our district, One of the “counselors” we honored is Murphy, the therapy dog! Murphy has recently started getting acclimated at OIMS. Therapy dogs have succeeded in various settings, such as hospitals, schools, and nursing homes. They can help with emotional regulation, socialization, stress management, and anxiety relief, calm fears, develop connections, and teach students responsibility, compassion, and respect. We are excited to have Murphy at OIMS for our students!





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Coffee with the superintendent:

You are invited to the next Coffee with the Superintendent

- Tuesday, February 25th, 2025, from 7:30 am to 8:30, Washington West Library.

Future Coffee Dates:

- Tuesday, March 11th, 2025, from 7:30 am to 8:30, OIMS, LGI
- Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025, from 7:30 am to 8:30, OHS, Board Room

If you're interested in attending,

please pre-register by emailing O'Brien Dailey,

OCSD Media, Brand & Communication Specialist:

odailey@oleanschools.org

JOIN US FOR

COFFEE WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT



Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our district. Let's keep moving forward together with Husky pride, purpose, and perseverance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Genelle Morris

Superintendent Olean City
School District

