



SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEF

Dr. Genelle Morris

VOLUME 1 | ISSUE 7 | APRIL 28, 2023

A Message from Dr. Morris:

As we move to the month of May, I want to begin by thanking the Olean City Schools Board of Education and our dedicated school community for the honor of serving as the Olean City School District's Superintendent of Schools this year. Joining me are a dedicated team of administrators, teachers, and staff working together to make our district a student-centered community of excellence in which all members are challenged to learn, achieve, contribute, and innovate.

Thank you for all you do to support our district, including supporting the \$5.5 million turf field project with your vote on March 14. We also have a live camera of the work on the OIMS turf field. If you'd like to see, please go to <https://www.oleanschools.org/construction>.

Speaking of construction, we are looking forward to hosting our graduation in our impressively renovated OHS auditorium this year! I'm happy to share that the work is scheduled to be completed by June 1, and we will have an amazing space to celebrate our graduates this year! I know our first graduation held in our renovated space will be a great way to cap off this amazing year and for our families and community to celebrate our outstanding students!

The Olean City School District is proud to present the proposed budget for the 2023-2024 school year to our community. Planning and preparing this budget involved all of us, for several months, prioritizing what we needed to have in place to ensure we meet our goal of having a student-centered community. The budget that the Olean City Board of Education adopted for your consideration on April 18 totals \$51,501,933. The proposed budget reflects a 0% increase in the tax levy, which falls below the 2.72% calculated tax cap and well below the current rate of inflation. The Board of Education and I would like to thank Jenny Bilotta, Business Administrator, for her expertise in crafting a budget that is fiscally responsible as well as responsive to the needs of our district.

Leading up to our annual district vote on May 16, we invite all school community members to our annual budget hearing to discuss the proposed budget on May 2 at the OIMS LGI room at 6pm. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns before the meeting or the vote, please do not hesitate to contact us at the District Office.

Our main goal is to provide a student-centered community of excellence where all members are challenged to learn, achieve, contribute, and innovate. Our students, and the great people who serve our students, are fortunate to have an incredibly supportive community that loves our schools. This support motivates us to continue to prioritize effective planning and management of district administration, finances, operations, and personnel to ensure that our students receive the highest quality education possible. This community is what makes this possible. Thank you, and please remember to vote on May 16!

Sincerely,

Dr. Genelle Morris

Superintendent of Schools



www.oleanschools.org



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Olean High School Auditorium Update:

Work continues on the Olean High School Auditorium. Millwork on the front of stage has been installed and the first coat of stain has been applied. The new sound booth is 90% complete as the raised panels were installed on Friday, April 21st. Auditorium chairs were delivered on Monday, April 24th and will take approximately one week to install. The aisle lighting will go in after the chairs are installed, then the rest of the carpeting will be installed. June 1st is the scheduled final walk through to develop a punch list of anything that needs to be finished, if it's not already done.





Science Classes Visit Allegany State Park:

Some of our Olean High School science classes recently visited Allegany State Park for a field trip. Students learned about ecosystems, food webs, food chains, possible jobs at the state parks and they did some exploring! Thank you to CABOCES for making this possible!



Capital Improvement Project Vote Passed:

On Tuesday, March 14, 2023, Olean City School District voters passed the Modification of Capital Improvement Project with a vote of 335 yes, 167 no. I would like to thank everyone who came out to vote!

YES VOTES
335

NO VOTES
167



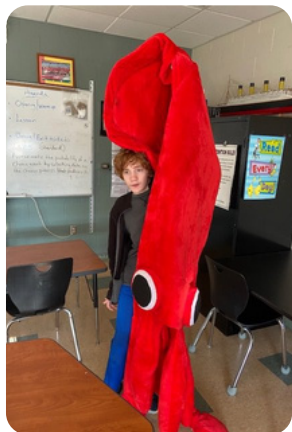
Students Recognized for Art Work:

On April 11, 2023, three Olean High School students were recognized for their artwork on display at St. Bonaventure University's Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts as part of its annual High School Juried Art Exhibition. Selected through an extensive jurying process, the works are being exhibited in the Quick Center's mezzanine level through May 21, 2023.



OIMS Spirit Week:

Anything but a Backpack Day





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Senior Spotlights:

Every issue of my Superintendent's Briefs will introduce and celebrate all of our hard-working Senior scholars in their last year before they prepare to move on to college or careers at the end of the year. We are certainly husky proud of them all! All Seniors will be featured so continue to check back for more highlights!



Name: Maddox Guay

Highlight of HS career: Meeting my friends and discovering my passion for welding

Plans after HS: Local 22, welding apprenticeship

Advice to underclassmen: Go to BOCES and find out what you love to do

Senior Shout Out: Landon Tilly for always having my back and staying by my side through everything.



Name: Gavin Weseman

Highlight of HS career: Being on the varsity swimming and tennis team since 8th grade, playing bass in orchestra and participating in class government and being in SAC.

Plans after HS: Hopefully attending SUNY Cortland or Oneonta for adolescence education in earth science

Advice to underclassmen: If you have a question, ask it. Someone might have the same question and teachers will answer it. It isn't embarrassing.

Utilize your study halls and free time to get your work done and DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!

Senior Shout Out: I would like to thank my family, Mom, Dad, and Ryan for being by my side through it all. My coaches, Coach Brown, Coach Wright, and Coach Jen for pushing me beyond the limits I thought I could to shape me into the person I am today. And my friends, for having my back when needed, supporting me with everything I do and being there when I need them the most.



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Senior Spotlights:



Name: Jacob Wilkins

Highlight of HS career: Chorus

Plans after HS: College, main-country singer backups, sports, police, regular jobs, all in that order.

Advice to underclassmen: Participate in school sports, clubs, and/or field trips, if you see somebody getting bullied, help them!

Senior Shout Out: All of my teachers, my friends and my mom



Name: Chance Padlo

Highlight of HS career: It is a tie between two moments that were personally monumental for me. The first one was being elected as a state officer for New York DECA in March of my Junior year. I am currently the VP of Finance and Communications, an office which I continue to commit a lot of my time to this year, and I hope to run for a national office position later this year. The other highlight was being accepted into the University of Pennsylvania because it represented the culmination of all my hard work throughout high school.

Plans after HS: To get a beneficial education and hopefully pursue entrepreneurship. I have a broad landscape of interests, but I hope to include business in whatever path I choose to set down.

Advice to underclassmen: Go out of your comfort zone! I personally believe you grow and develop most when you do things out of your comfort zone. Do what you are afraid of doing and prove your own self-doubts wrong.

Senior Shout Out: I would like to thank both Mrs. Ventura and Mr. Ventura for being dedicated and passionate teachers. They have a lot to offer their students with their expertise and knowledgeable perspectives. Having a conversation with them is always beneficial and enjoyable.



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Senior Spotlights:



Name: Kayden Matthews

Highlight of HS career: Growing into a better person throughout the years.

Plans after HS: College and living my best life

Advice to underclassmen: Put your mental health first

Senior Shout Out: I would like to thank Mrs. Moore for always being there to talk to and for being so supportive.



Name: Connor Valenti

Highlight of HS career: Being able to create the friendships that I have

Plans after HS: To attend college where I would like to build a career in the near future

Advice to underclassmen: To never wish your time away, it will fly faster than you think.

Senior Shout Out: Mr. Perry - he has been the best teacher I have ever had

Stay in Touch:

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