

North Tonawanda City Schools



2017 Top Ten

Valedictorian

Kaylee Omahen

College Plans: Indiana University at Bloomington

Major: Education / Psychology



Favorite High School Subjects: My favorite subjects in high school are French, Chorus and Global History. In Global History, I enjoyed learning the history behind different cultures especially ancient ones. With Chorus and French, I created friendships that I will remember forever and for that, these courses will always hold a special place in my heart.

Proudest Accomplishments:

My proudest accomplishment academically was becoming the Class of 2017 Valedictorian. It had been something I strived for since elementary school and to finally achieve that is the most amazing feeling.

My proudest personal accomplishment was playing minor roles in the annual musical the past three years. Being on stage really helped me get out of my comfort zone and gave me confidence I didn't know I had.

Extracurricular Activities: Drama Club, Animal Club, Jazz Band, Bella Voce, Outdoor Awareness, Wind Symphony.

Volunteer Experiences: I often participated in the many community service events offered through Honor Society such as different charity walks and helping out at the food pantry. I believe community service is very important as it is important

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Message from Superintendent



As we reach the end of the 2017 school year it is important to recognize the hard work of the students and staff for making 2017 a truly successful year. The students and staff at Meadow Elementary had to endure the start of construction, involving many extra moves and packing of classrooms by staff. Fieldwork also started at the high school and middle school which meant the distraction of trucks and bulldozers. The way staff, students, and parents adapted to this distraction was truly amazing and deserves a special thank you from the board and myself.

We had a wonderful graduation at Artpark on June 25th that was the celebration of personal and academic growth of the Class of 2017. That could not have been achieved by our students without the dedication and hard work by our staff and support of their parents. We look forward to a bright future in North Tonawanda with this most recent graduating class. We wish them success in all their future work.



As we speed into the 2017-2018 year we are working on building programs that will help us prepare and develop caring, understanding, and well-educated students of the future. The district is developing programs that will enhance the acceptance of diversity with a consistent approach to early intervention. Staff continue to be trained in the RULER program and We R 3 C. Next year, high school students will have the opportunity to select the new Academy of Health Sciences. The academy will allow them to explore employment fields in the health and science industry. Over 50 elementary staff members will be working this summer to receive training on the reading and writing workshop model. This will be the start of an in-house training program that will allow all staff an opportunity to model and support best practices in reading and writing. Plans for the new K-3 and 4-6 buildings will be finalized throughout the 2017-18 school year to get us ready for this new configuration in September 2018.

Enjoy your summer and thank you again for making a difference in the children and community that we serve.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Woytila
Superintendent of North Tonawanda City Schools

Mission Statement

To provide an excellent education to all that encompasses developing confident, creative, competitive and caring students.

2017 Top Ten

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to give back to your community and help out your neighbors so that we are able to grow as a community.

Favorite High School Memory: My favorite memory of high school was the senior prom. It was the most amazing night of my life and I got to share it with the most amazing friends I could ever ask for. It was definitely a night I will always remember.

Salutatorian

Michael Orlowski

College Plans: University at Buffalo

Major: Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering - dual major.

Favorite High School Subjects: My favorite high school subjects are AP Physics, AP Calculus, and CAD. These were the classes that were most interesting to me and the ones that allowed me to have the most fun. I will always remember the fun labs in Physics, the freedom to design and create with computers and 3D printers in CAD and the awesome teachers in those classes that made learning in their classrooms fun.

Proudest Accomplishments: My proudest accomplishment academically was becoming the Salutatorian and being directly accepted into SUNY at Buffalo's Engineering program as well as its honors college.

My proudest personal accomplishments are teaching myself to play the alto saxophone and being able to perform solos at the jazz concerts.

Extracurricular Activities: Varsity Swimming, Varsity Track, Jazz Ensemble, National Honor Society, Tri-M Honor Society, Technology Club, Academy of Engineering and Architecture.

Volunteer Experiences: Throughout high school, I have volunteered in the community in several ways including participating in musical events, walking for breast cancer awareness, walking for the Kids Escaping Drugs cause, participating as a leader in my church's vacation bible school in the summer and volunteering to usher during church services. All of these opportunities allow me to use my talents (including musically) to give back to my community and inspire others.



Favorite High School Memory:

My favorite memory is being able to travel to places such as Quebec City, Washington DC, and Chicago for amazing trips. These experiences have created many lasting memories.

3. Nicholas Kagelmacher

College Plans: SUNY University at Buffalo

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Favorite High School Subjects: My favorite subjects in high school were Math and Science. I have a very analytical mind, so I love the formulaic nature of Math and Science. I also had so many amazing teachers that allowed me to be engaged in these subjects.

Proudest Accomplishments: One of my proudest academic achievements was being ranked number one in my AP Calculus class. I was also extremely humbled when I was recognized as an outstanding student by the Social Studies, Foreign Language, Music and English Departments at NTHS.

Obtaining my second degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do is one of my proudest personal achievements.

Extracurricular Activities: JV Swimming, Captain of Scholastic Bowl, Freshman representative, Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer and President of Chorus Club, Sergeant at Arms and Vice President of Drama Club, Secretary of Orchestra, President of Tri-M Music Honor Society, Vice President of Senior Class, public relations for National Honor Society, Hot Dog Committee, various musicals and plays at NTHS and Mount St. Mary's Academy.

Volunteer Experiences: I did many volunteer experiences with the National Honor Society. My favorite was organizing an event at the Community Missions in Niagara Falls. Being able to prepare and serve food to the less fortunate truly put a smile on my face.

Favorite High School Memory: My favorite high school memory is when I took my senior bow as Shrek after the last performance of NTHS's production of "Shrek the Musical". The feeling of taking my final bow on the stage that I had spent so much time on throughout high school was truly indescribable.

4. Abigail Giambra

College Plans: Binghamton University

Major: Business Administration

Favorite High School Subjects: My favorite subjects in high school were Math, Social



Studies and Music. Social Studies and Math were the subjects that interested me and Music allowed me to express myself.

Proudest Accomplishments: My proudest academic accomplishments were being 4th in my class after starting as 7th in my class and getting a 5 on the AP US History exam.

My proudest personal accomplishments were making the Jacks and Jills and All-County Choruses my senior year.

Extracurricular Activities: I have been involved with Student Council, Donate Life, Drama Club, Scholastic Bowl, National Honor Society, Tri-M Honor Society, Chorus, Orchestra and Junior Class. I also participated in LYNC (Leadership Youth of Niagara Communities).

Volunteer Experiences: I volunteered and participated in events at the North Tonawanda Public Library every summer for six years in a row and volunteered at OLC church for several years. The library was meaningful to me because it was a place I had always visited as a child. OLC was meaningful because I could give back to my church.

Favorite High School Memory: My favorite high school memory was participating in the annual hoedown in 10th, 11th and 12th grade. It was a nice way to end school before our winter break and I enjoyed gathering my friends to dance and think of a theme.

5. Joseph Dotterweich Jr.

College Plans: St. John Fisher College

Major: Accounting and playing football

Favorite High School Subjects: My favorite subjects in high school are Math and Business because I enjoy them and they are fun. Also They are my two best subjects.

Proudest Accomplishments: Ranking 5th in my class, being part of the NYS Champion Scholar Athlete Team for football, winning Youth of the Month for the Exchange Club of the Tonawandas.

Being named 2nd Team All New York State for football.

Extracurricular Activities: Honor Society, Varsity football and baseball, Academy of Business and Finance, Senior Class officer and Hot Dog Committee

Volunteer Experiences: Camp Good Days and Special Times and Meadow Elementary School. They were special because I got to help out the community and make peoples' days better.



Favorite High School Memory: Winning the TNT football game my senior year and having one of the best games of my career.

6. Caitlin Messana

Caitlin humbly declined to share her successes.

7. Amanda Holler

College Plans: SUNY Oneonta

Major: Fashion Merchandising



Favorite High School Subjects:

My favorite subject is Math because it has always come easily to me. Being that every question has an exact answer, there is no room for various interpretations. I also have had the pleasure of having some of my favorite teachers through the Math Department.

Proudest Accomplishments: My proudest accomplishment academically was being honored by the Math Department for my achievements in my Math courses.

My proudest accomplishment personally was winning best dressed as that had been my goal since freshman year.

Extracurricular Activities: JV and Varsity Cheer, JV Track, Chorus (as an officer), National Honor Society, Tri-M Honor Society, Drama Club (crew member), Junior Class Vice President.

Volunteer Experiences: I volunteer with multiple groups, but mainly I volunteer with the Jim Harszlak Foundation. It's meaningful to me because the foundation was founded in honor of my uncle who passed away of cancer in 2012.

Favorite High School Memory: My favorite high school memory was getting 3rd place and our season's highest score at Sectionals for cheer during my junior year. This is my favorite memory because just the week before, we had lost five girls and had to completely re-work our routine.

8. Alexander Scalzo

College Plans: Niagara University

Major: Pre-Law, Political Science or History



Favorite High School Subjects: My favorite subject is History because I enjoy learning about how people lived in the past and I like analyzing how and why different events happened.

Proudest Accomplishments: I am proud of

working hard and achieving the rank of number 8 in my class.

My proudest personal accomplishment from high school is participating in Student Government Day and serving as Common Council President.

Extracurricular Activities: I am a member of Student Council in which I currently serve as Secretary. I also play cello in the school orchestra and am a member of the National Honor Society.

Volunteer Experiences: My favorite volunteer experience has been working with the Niagara County Youth Court as it has taught me about law and introduced me to a prospective career field.

Favorite High School Memory: My favorite high school memory is a tie between prom and the hoedowns. I enjoyed them because everyone is together and there is a lot of energy and excitement.

9. Colin Hebeler

College Plans: University at Buffalo

Major: Computer Engineering



Favorite High School Subjects: Math and Science are my favorite subjects because they come naturally to me and I enjoy learning new things in those classes. Ever since I was little, I knew that my career had to involve either math, science or both because of the vast interest I had in them.

Proudest Accomplishments: Becoming a member of the Top Ten of my class, maintaining a high GPA, taking multiple AP classes (filling my schedule with them and being able to handle the workload), coming in 2nd at the ABATE Bridge Competition.

Hitting a game-winning grand slam to take my travel team into the State championship, always maintain a positive attitude no matter the amount of stress or situation, keeping my hard work and work ethic at a steady pace that worked well.

Extracurricular Activities: JV and Varsity Baseball, Technology Club, Science Olympiad, travel and house baseball, ABATE Bridge Competition, Academy of Engineering and Architecture

Volunteer Experiences: Helping out at the NTNLL Baseball Complex was the most meaningful out of all my volunteer experience since it gave me the opportunity to give back to somewhere that I've spent such a great deal of my childhood at. It felt good to do something that would allow children to play the sport they

enjoy - baseball - safely and with as much fun as possible much like I did.

Favorite High School Memory: My favorite high school memory would have to be going to Chicago with the Academy of Engineering and Architecture. It was a fantastic experience and an even greater time spent with an amazing group of people. I had gotten to see such a beautiful city, architecturally speaking, with my best friends and it was overall a very fun trip.

10. Ryan Lamanna

College Plans: University at Buffalo

Major: Mechanical Engineering



Favorite High School Subjects: My favorite subjects in high school were always Math and the sciences. I enjoyed these subjects because they mostly revolved around numbers and throughout my life, I have been good at dealing with numbers.

Proudest Accomplishments: Academically I would say that my greatest accomplishment was graduating from the Gifted Math Program. Through this program, I was able to take the majority of the math classes I will need in college.

Personally my greatest accomplishment would have to be playing at the first chair in the Wind Symphony. Being able to play the more difficult pieces under all that pressure is something I am proud of.

Extracurricular Activities: I have been involved with Science Olympiad, Technology Club and Chess Club. I am first board of the Chess Club, have placed with a project in Tech Club and have medaled in an event in Science Olympiad.

Volunteer Experiences: Most of my volunteer experience has come through volunteering at the concession stand at the North Tonawanda National Little League. This work was meaningful to me as it let me feel as though I was giving back to the organization I had been a part of for years.

Favorite High School Memory: My favorite high school memory would have to be of the times in Wind Symphony with my friends.

Storyteller Spins Tales for Drake Elementary Students

Storyteller, educator and author Karima Amin was the guest at the Drake Elementary Reading Assembly recently. She shared stories and fables with the students that promoted literacy and engaged the students with songs and tales. She told the students, "I am so happy to be here. I was a teacher for 25 years and I love to read and I love it when children like to read. I don't know what would happen to us if we didn't love books."

She told the students the story of Thomas Mead who never learned to read and what happened to him because of that refusal to learn. She also shared the fable of the Tortoise and the Hare. "I like stories that have an important message."

Karima is a co-founder of "Spin-A-Story of WNY" and "Tradition Keepers: Black Storytellers of WNY".



2017 Scholarship Recipients

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Scholarship</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jordan DiVirgilio	Academy of Engineering & Architecture Scholarship	\$250
Colin Hebeler	Academy of Engineering & Architecture Scholarship	\$250
Benjamin Kolbe	Academy of Engineering & Architecture Scholarship	\$250
Michael Orlowski	Academy of Engineering & Architecture Scholarship	\$250
Oliver Pace	Academy of Engineering & Architecture Scholarship	\$250
Destiny Steele	Academy of Engineering & Architecture Scholarship	\$250
Olivia Keller	Allison Marie Clark Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Lauren Riley	Arlene A. Wallak Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Olivia Keller	Claudia Price Bunny Memorial Scholarship	\$300
Brianna Summers	DeGraff Critical Care Nursing Scholarship	\$1,000
Olivia Keller	Delta Kappa Gamma Society Intl. Gamma Delta Chptr Fin. Grant	\$500
Olivia Keller	Dennis J. Wiess Memorial Scholarship	\$200
Michael Orlowski	Elliott Golach Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000
Meghan Fisher	Friends of Drake School Scholarship	\$250
Emily Forkey	Friends of Drake School Scholarship	\$250
Sarah Heverin	Friends of Drake School Scholarship	\$250
Christopher Labonte	Friends of Drake School Scholarship	\$250
Lauren Riley	Friends of Drake School Scholarship	\$250
Olivia Keller	George J. Woloszyn Jr. Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Lauren Riley	George J. Woloszyn Jr. Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Abigail Giambra	James A. Schucca Memorial Scholarship	\$2,500/4 yrs
Melissa DiVirgilio	James W. Rizzo Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Jonathan Torres	James W. Rizzo Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Brianna Summers	Jim Chiarello Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Taylor Grosskopf	Jim Harszlak Foundation Scholarship	\$500
Amanda Holler	Jim Harszlak Foundation Scholarship	\$500
Autumn Steele	Jim Harszlak Foundation Scholarship	\$500
Jordan DiVirgilio	John N. Carnduff Athletic Scholarship	\$500
Jenna Krull	John R. Baronich Sr., "Coach B" Memorial Scholarship	\$250
Michael Orlowski	John R. Baronich Sr., "Coach B" Memorial Scholarship	\$250
Daniel Piazza	John R. Baronich Sr., "Coach B" Memorial Scholarship	\$250
Madeline West	John R. Baronich Sr., "Coach B" Memorial Scholarship	\$250
Olivia Keller	John R. Baronich Sr. Scholarship spon. by Stephen Sikora Post #1322	\$500
Michael Orlowski	John R. Baronich Sr. Scholarship spon. by Stephen Sikora Post #1322	\$500
Nicole Wilkinson	Jordan Benedyczak Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Jenna Willard	Jordan Benedyczak Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Christopher Cook	Jordan Benedyczak Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Jacob Riley	Jordan Benedyczak Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Daniel Hooley	Jordan D. Bunker Athletic Scholarship	\$500
Ashley Lorich	Leocadia (Lee) M. Ozimek Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Elizabeth Croop	Lt. Keith A. Maitland Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000
Nicholas Kagelmacher	Meadow Alumni Scholarship	\$300
Ashley Wesolowski	Meadow Alumni Scholarship	\$300
Christopher Cook	Michael Schmidt, Class of 1961 Leadership Memorial Scholarship	\$350
Olivia Keller	Michael Schmidt, Class of 1961 Leadership Memorial Scholarship	\$350
Brittany Hoover	Niagara County Sheriff's Dept. D.A.R.E. Scholarship	\$350
Ashlea Senft	North Tonawanda Catholic Club, Inc. and Knights of Columbus Scholarship	\$1,000
Jenna Krull	North Tonawanda Lady Jacks Swimming/Diving Scholarship	\$250
Madeline West	North Tonawanda Lady Jacks Swimming/Diving Scholarship	\$250
Benjamin Kolbe	North Tonawanda Police Benevolent Association Scholarship	\$500
Lauren Riley	North Tonawanda Police Benevolent Association Scholarship	\$500
Daniel Weglarski	North Tonawanda School Administrators' Scholarship	\$350

2017 Scholarship Recipients



<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Scholarship</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Christopher Cook	North Tonawanda United Teachers Scholarship	\$400
Melissa DiVirgilio	North Tonawanda United Teachers Scholarship	\$400
Michael Orlowski	North Tonawanda United Teachers Scholarship	\$400
Jenna Willard	North Tonawanda United Teachers Scholarship	\$400
Zachary Archibald	North Tonawanda Youth Board Scholarship	\$1,000
Melissa DiVirgilio	North Tonawanda Youth Board Scholarship	\$500
Bryce Schmigel	NT Football Hall of Fame - George J. Vetter Scholarship	\$1,000
Robert Rozicki	NT Football Hall of Fame - Louis Anastasi Scholarship	\$1,000
Zachary Archibald	NTHS Boys Varsity Soccer: Laurie Mourgas & Jerry Sullivan Scholarship	\$500
Sean McManus	NTHS Boys Varsity Soccer: Laurie Mourgas & Jerry Sullivan Scholarship	\$500
Olivia Hecei	NTHS Girls Varsity Soccer Scholarship	\$500
Jordan DiVirgilio	NTHS Multi Class Reunion Scholarship in Memory of Gene Donner	\$1,000
Michael Orlowski	Ohio Home Interest Organization Scholarship	\$300
Ashlea Senft	Ohio Home Interest Organization Scholarship	\$300
Georgia Kijowski	Robert Meyer II Christian Youth Award	\$500
Austin Hinze	Rotary Club of Niagara County Central Scholarship	\$500
Kaylee Omahen	Ruth H. Collard Memorial Scholarship	\$200
Taylor Grosskopf	Ruth M. Rasey Simpson Memorial Scholarship	\$100
Emily O'Bryan	Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York	\$100
Nicholas Przybylski	Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York	\$100
Olivia Keller	Spruce Home and School Organization Scholarship	\$300
Autumn Steele	Spruce Home and School Organization Scholarship	\$300
Benjamin Kolbe	Stephen Holesko Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Nicholas Kagelmacher	Superintendents Scholarship	\$500
Colin Croop	Sutherland Lodge #826 Free & Accepted Masons Scholarship	\$500
Elizabeth Croop	Sutherland Lodge #826 Free & Accepted Masons Scholarship	\$500
Grace Croop	Sutherland Lodge #826 Free & Accepted Masons Scholarship	\$500
Oliver Pace	Sutherland Lodge #826 Free & Accepted Masons Scholarship	\$500
Michael Orlowski	Sweeney Hose – Robert & Laura Kinzley Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Olivia Keller	Sweeney Hose – Timothy J. Frank Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Elizabeth Croop	Sweeney Hose – Robert J. Frank Meritorious Service Scholarship	\$500
Colin Croop	Sweeney Hose - Robert Semple Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Kaila Veach	Sweeney Hose – Gregory Frank Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Kaylee Omahen	The State Ed. Dept. Scholarship of Academic Excellence	\$1,500
Michael Orlowski	The State Ed. Dept. Scholarship of Academic Excellence	\$500
Nicholas Kagelmacher	The State Ed. Dept. Scholarship of Academic Excellence	\$500
Joseph Dotterweich Jr	The State Ed. Dept. Scholarship of Academic Excellence	\$500
Caitlin Messana	The State Ed. Dept. Scholarship of Academic Excellence	\$500
Abigail Giambra	The State Ed. Dept. Scholarship of Academic Excellence	\$500
Alexander Scalzo	The State Ed. Dept. Scholarship of Academic Excellence	\$500
Michael Orlowski	Third Warder's Glen Gray Scholarship and Athletic Honor of Excellence	\$500
Sean McManus	Third Warder's Social Club - John R. Baronich, Sr. Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Brianna Summers	Timothy G. Serwinowski Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000
Christopher Labonte	Walter P. Sy, M.D. Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Alaa Aljibouri	Wegman's Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Theresa Bork	Wegman's Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Melissa DiVirgilio	Wegman's Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Daniel Hooley	Wegman's Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Kassandra Martinelli	Wegman's Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Natalie Paar	Wegman's Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Brianna Summers	Wegman's Scholarship	\$1,500/4 yrs
Olivia Keller	2017 Community All Star Award	plaque

North Tonawanda High School Students Exposed to First Responder Careers

Students at North Tonawanda High School recently spent some time with area first responders. The High School counselors organized the event known as First Responder Day on April 27th. "Many of our students show great interest in the Health/Science and Law Enforcement career fields," says Career Center Mentor Lori Graves. "We thought it would be a great hands-on way to display the different careers. It will also let them know what they have to do to prepare for those careers after graduation."

Representatives from the following organizations participated in the event: North Tonawanda Fire Department, North Tonawanda Police Department, Niagara County Sheriff's Department, New York State Troopers, Niagara Falls Air Force Medical Evacuation Unit, Army National Guard, United States Border Patrol, the Coast Guard and the FBI.

"We have been very fortunate that everyone was willing to come out to participate in this today," says Mrs. Graves. "The students are asking many questions and that is what we want. Hopefully it will entice them to get into some of these careers after graduation. Some of them they can do right out of high school. Some of them require you to get 60 hours at a college to go into them or take an exam for it through civil service. What a rewarding job it could be. Every one of these is helping somebody else. We are trying to educate the kids as much as possible what is available to them."



Emily Ford, Isabel Deschamps, Border Patrol Agent Amanda Cali, and Counseling Office Intern Emily Nelson.

North Tonawanda High School

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2017

Victoria Abousaid
Alaa Aljibouri
Austin Allgrim
Salina Alvarado
Andrew Ambrusko
Gerald Amrhein IV
Zachary Archibald
Alexis Ash
Sara Barmann
Morgan Barone
Shelby Bartlett
Tyler Beasock
Gabriella Bednarski
Amanda Belmona
Mariah Bergquist
Maya Bernstein
Marah Blaser
Nathaniel Blaszcak
John Bluff
Oksana Blyashuk
Hunter Bolam
Theresa Bork
Paula Brant
Tyler Brochey
Danielle Brosius
Noah Bukowski
Savanna Bunker
Jason Busby
Zackary Busch
Steven Calamita
Vincenzo Cappello
Tyler Carlson
Griffin Carson
Brandon Casterline
Jonathan Cipolla
Jacob Codelia
Maxwell Cohn
Alexis Conrad
Christopher Cook
Tyler Cosentino
Coty Cowell

Matthew Craft
David Cramer
Zachary Crimi
Victoria Cromwell
Colin Croop
Elizabeth Croop
Grace Croop
Alexander Cutler
Ashtyn Czajka
Owen Davignon
Maria Davis
Joseph Dawes
Jessica Dean
Rion DeBellaistre
Nicole Decker
Sarah Deering
Matthew DiBernardo
Kayla Disorbo
Ryan DiTillio
Jordan DiVirgilio
Melissa DiVirgilio
Karina Dolan
Emily Dominczak
Ryan Doohan
Rebecca Dotterweich
Joseph Dotterweich Jr.
Hailey Drake
Jahon Drake
Amanda Dreier
Madison Dudas
LouAnn Durfey
Audrey Edel
Emily Edel
Shawn-Joseph Edin
Aryan Ellis
Jeremy Englert
Justin Englert
Rory Farkas
Joshua Farnsworth
Caleb Fesmire
Olivia Finley

Joshua Fisher
Meghan Fisher
Sean Fisher
Lauren Flanagan
Andrew Flegal
Dylan Folger
Emily Forkey
Jordan Fox-Stoddard
Stephanie Fritzke
Brooke Galus
Madeline Gampp
Nathan Garber
Mitchell Garner
Matthew Garrison
Edward Gath
Alexis Gervase
Catrina Giambelluca
Abigail Giambra
Emma Gillebaard
Maia Gioeli
Kayla Glennon
Sofia Granto
Brian Green
Marea Grose
Taylor Grosskopf
Joshua Hacker
Madeline Hakes
Sean Hall
Savannah Haner
Samantha Hanes
Zackery Harju
Aaron Harms
Arkell Harris Jr.
Hayleann Haudricourt
Colin Hebeler
Olivia Hecei
Brandon Heinrich
Sarah Heverin
Gabrielle Hickey
Austin Hinze
Amanda Holler

Daniel Hooley
Brittany Hoover
Andrew Horn
Madison Hotaling
Ivan Ilyenko
William Ingraham
Margaret Ivanova
Kristy Jank
Suriya Jayasinghe
Jarrett Jemison
Emily Jenkins
Alex Johnson
Alexis Johnson
Irene Johnson
Brandon Juliano
Emily Kaczor
Nicholas Kagelmacher
Alicia Karski
Olivia Keller
Thomas Kelly
Hannah Kessel
Rebecca Kiblin
Georgia Kijowski
Joseph Kish
Benjamin Kolbe
Andrei Kozak
Cierra Kress
Jenna Krull
Kerstin Kubiak
Ronald Kuntz Jr.
Lindsey Kutlak
Antonio LaBarbera
Christopher Labonte
Ryan Lamanna
Andrew Lang
Ethan Lapine
Braeden Leeds
Matthew Lewis
Garrett Liebrich
Meghan Livesay
Craig Long II

ool Graduating Class of 2017

7 • 10:00AM • ARTPARK

Ashley Lorch
Gavin Lynch
Tzephaniah Maccabees
Joseph Manzella
Rocco Manzella
Julia Marohn
Christopher Martin
Shannon Martin
Kassandra Martinelli
Adam McCabe
Emily McClinsey
Victoria McCumber
Aidan McMahon
Sean McManus
Aislinn McNamara
Brooke Meranto
Caitlin Messana
Julie Milbrand
Patrick Milbrand
Joseph Militello
Brandon Miller
Madeline Miller
Anthony Minardi
Alyssa Mitchell
Ethan Mixon
Madison Montgomery
Sydney Montgomery
Austin Moretto
Alexander Morgan
Zachary Mors
Veysal Mukhtasimov
Emma Myers
Lindsay Neilson
Emilee Norgren
Emily O'Connor
Liam O'Connor
Scott O'Connor
Sean O'Shei
Bryanica Oddo
Kaylee Omahen
Michael Orlowski

Adrianna Paar
Natalie Paar
Oliver Pace
Christopher Pauline Jr.
Amanda Pawelczak
Wesley Payne
Michael Pellien
Alison Pendergast
Jessica Perez
Luke Perkins
Daniel Piazza
Samuel Pritchard
Alexander Quinn
Kacey Quinn
Casey Quintern
Quinn Raider
Collin Rambler
Jacob Riley
Lauren Riley
Natalie Ringler
Isaiah Rios
Joseph Roeser
Jaxin Romanow
Nicholas Rosky
Robert Rozicki
Michael Russell
Joseph Russell Jr.
Madison Rutter-Ryndak
Antonia Ryskalczyk
Jessica Sammarco
Dillon Sanchez
Jessica Sass
Spencer Scalise
Alexander Scalzo
Sydney Schafer
Alana Scherer
Lyra Schmidt
Bryce Schmigel
Leann Schneider
Tristian Scricco
Erika Seal

Lauren Selover
Ashlea Senft
Kyle Severino
Rachel Shanor
Amber Sherwood
Gabiell Shucraft
Zachary Simcoe
Alphonzo Sims Jr.
Grace Smith
Jessica Smith
Daniel Smolka
Furtuna Sopi
Emily St. Cyr
Ronald Staton
Autumn Steele
Destiny Steele
Danielle Stefanski
Natalie Stroupe
Andriy Sukhov
Emily Sullivan
Brianna Summers
Brenden Talarczyk
Emily Taylor
Morgan Taylor
Sebastian Taylor
Monique Tipton
Matthew Titterington
Austin Tober
Jonathan Torres
Breanna Trinci
Vincent Tripi
Dmitriy Tupchik
Brandon Tylec
Kendra Valentic
Engelica VanHoff
Jacob VanVolkenburg
Kaila Veach
Katherine Vendetta
David Vorobey
Jason Vorobey
Brandon Wade

Leah Warren
Ashlyn Watson
Daniel Weglarski
Collin Welker
Ashley Wesolowski
Madeline West
Shane Whipple
Joshua Wiedeman
Nicole Wilkinson
Jenna Willard
Bradley Wolf
Aaron Wood
Zachary Woodard
Brian Wudyka
Katelyn Yager
Dylan Yuen
Ashley Zaino
Ethan Zapp
Kenneth Zehler
Ryan Zimmerman
Nina Zulawski

Spruce Students Dig Earth Day

Students in Mrs. Dexheimer's Kindergarten class were eager to celebrate "Earth Day" while returning to school after their Easter Break. The children were excited to dig into the dirt and start planting their marigold and pumpkin plants with Grandma Gloria Ditursi. They are wondering which plant will sprout first!



Addalynn Berry, Ryan Webb, Grandma Gloria Ditursi and Maximus Glurich.

Meadow Elementary Students Get a Peek Into Chocolate Making

Students from Meadow Elementary recently got an inside look on how the delicious chocolate concoctions at Platter's Chocolates are made. Teacher Jody Slipko and her class received a tour and learned some interesting information about chocolate making from John DiGuseppe, Vice President of Business Development.

At the end of the tour the students were like kids in a candy store - literally, as they enjoyed chocolates and ice cream at their new facility.



(LtoR) John DiGuseppe talking to students Dylan Froelich, Emily Peace, Addie Graff, Madison Cox, Amelia Marohn, Aysia Marohn, Ciera Stewart and Evie Harroun.



Dylan Froelich, Eric Lake and Aiden Hergert Register.

US Border Patrol Academy Exposes North Tonawanda Students to History and Careers

The Social Studies class taught by Peter Fezer, recently got an up-close look at the history of some branches of the federal government and exposure to possible careers. It was all part of the US Border Patrol's Citizens Academy.

Border Patrol Agent Kevin Radke initially came in to talk to Mr. Fezer's class and when he mentioned the Academy, Mr. Fezer thought it would be a great opportunity for his students. "I think it is very important that the students learn about the men and women who protect our country and afford them the freedoms and safety that they have. I am very passionate about that. I also thought many of them are at a stage in their lives where they are thinking of careers and this might be a good fit for some of them."

Agent Radke says they have been running this Academy since 2011 and just completed their ninth class. "We usually hold it for six weeks for one night that runs three hours. It's to promote our See Something, Say Something campaign and is designed to provide members of the community with an inside look into daily operations of securing the border."

Mr. Fezer said he enjoyed the experience and learned a lot about the duties of not only the US Border Patrol, but many of the agencies they work with like the Canadian Royal Mounted Police, the CIA and ICE. "I was able to participate in exercises like searching a car for drugs, patrolling the river looking for signs of illegal entry or activity, using a tazer and pepper spray and taking part in an active shooter demonstration at a shooting range. I thought it was fantastic. It was very hands-on and I think sometimes students respond better to learning experiences like that. I know one of my students, who took the course with me, was definitely interested. I have six students that will be taking part this month and the great thing is that it does not cost a dime. It's a great opportunity for anyone who is interested in learning what these brave men and women do."

Agent Radke says for the Border Patrol it is a great opportunity to show people what they do. "Outreach programs such as the Citizens Academy seek to promote cooperation, collaboration and understanding with border residents. We are committed to fostering a positive relationship within the communities we live and serve."



(LtoR) Agent Radke, Peter Fezer, Tony Rizzo (North Tonawanda Staff member), student Jason Busby, Agent Estrada and Agent Twigg.

Graduation Class Earns More Than \$102,000 in Scholarships!

What an impressive bunch of seniors we have! The Class of 2017 earned more than \$102,000 in scholarship awards from local businesses and families! We could not be prouder!

Students In NT's ENL Classes Get to Experience Local History

English as a New Language (ENL) teachers Mr. Chris Heyer and Miss Alicia Bellingham were able to expose their students to a couple of field trips this year that highlighted our local history.

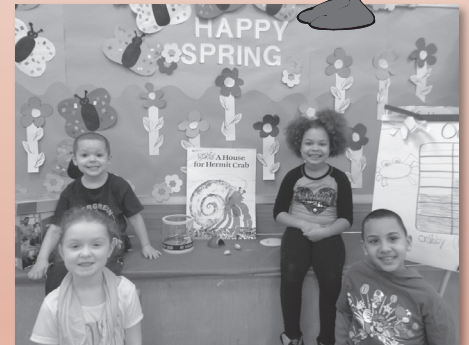
The students, who hail from such places as: Puerto Rico, China, Japan, Chile, Austria, Spain, Belarus, Finland, Kurdistan and Germany started the school year with a trip to Theodore Roosevelt's Inauguration site, the Ansley Wilcox Mansion, located on Delaware Avenue in downtown Buffalo. The visit coincided with the 2016 presidential election and the students learned about Buffalo's important role in the 1901 inauguration after President William McKinley was shot on the grounds of the Pan-American Exposition at the Temple of Music in Buffalo and later died of his wounds. The students also visited City Hall to enjoy the beautiful view from the Art Deco building's 32nd floor observation deck.

This past spring, the students visited Murphy's Orchard in Newfane. The landmark farm was an important last stop on the Underground Railroad. Students viewed the creek where the brave individuals followed to escape and viewed the secret door in the barn floor that was used to hide hundreds who were seeking refuge in Canada. "The trip allowed for contemplation about some refugee students who have walked through the halls of our school in the recent past with comparative stories of desperation and hope," says Mr. Heyer. "We felt that both of these trips provided a new perspective of the American political and cultural mosaic for students visiting and living in North Tonawanda."



Spruce Students Get Some Crabby Friends

Mrs. Dexheimer's kindergarten class was excited about returning to school after Easter vacation and eager to meet their new class pets, two active hermit crabs! The crabs, "Sandy" and "Bubbles" were easily integrated into their curriculum of math, writing and the reading of *A House for Hermit Crab* by Eric Carle.



Back row (LtoR) Henry Stevens and Paige Hill.
Front Row (LtoR) Molly Pennell and Mateo Rosa.



5k Run Huge Success

Students and their families turned out on May 6th for the district's Fifth Annual 5K Run and One Mile Family Fun Walk. A great time was had by all!



Congratulations Romeon Alriche!

Congratulations go to Drake's Romeon Alriche for receiving the Building Up Grades Award.

The award is from the Girls and Boys Club and Kiwanis for fantastic, academic improvement. He also was recognized at the Deerwood Golf Course in front of his family and North Tonawanda staff members. Romeon also received a week at summer camp for his efforts!

We could not be more proud!



Teacher Annette Beutel, Mr. and Mrs. Alriche, Milene Alriche, John Evans, Romeon Alriche, and North Tonawanda Executive Director of Educational Services, Patrick Holesko.

Drake Elementary School Engages in Some March Madness

Over the past seven years Physical Education teacher, Rob Keohane, has hosted his own version of March Madness at Drake Elementary School. "I do it in conjunction with the NCAA Championships and we do a whole basketball unit," he says. "At the end of the unit we have the 6th grade girls play against each other and the 6th grade boys play against one another. It's a huge event and the students make up their own t-shirts in Art class and wear them to the game. It's a big group project."

There is one game that is held during the day and then another one that is held at night at the Middle School with a huge attendance of parents and grandparents. "It was great," says Coach Keohane. "The students had a lot of fun and it gave them a chance to play at the school where they will be attending next year."



Boys Team: FRONT ROW: Jacob Lynch, William Fritzke, Ian Pasiak, Aiden Kramer, Jeremiah Lopez, Christopher Ott. SECOND ROW: Nathan Hartman, Brandon Hawkins, Jack Porter, Jack Mineo, Charles Maier, Connor Gibson, Tyler Richeal, Benjamin Cabantog.



Girls Team: FRONT ROW: Madison Bouley, Cloe Block. SECOND ROW: Madison Downey, Olivia Fleming, Kylie Karan-miller, Carly Seamon.

Health and Wellness Fair Has Huge Turnout at North Tonawanda Middle School

The North Tonawanda Middle School recently hosted the North Tonawanda City School District's Health Department's Health and Wellness Fair.

The event was open to all students, parents and community members to interact with local vendors, take part in free services such as haircuts, manicures, face painting and yoga classes. The North Tonawanda Police Department was offered free child car seat safety checks. And several food trucks were parked outside the school so patrons could enjoy some yummy treats.



North Tonawanda High School students Jenna Cooper, Katrina Russell and Miranda Hakes talk to Sherry Walsh from the Erie County SPCA and Maddie, one of the dogs available for adoption.



North Tonawanda Middle School student Nick DiBesco gets a free haircut.

North Tonawanda Celebrates Students' College Choices on National College Signing Day

College-bound seniors were recognized by their counselors, administrators, teachers and their peers for National College Signing Day at the North Tonawanda High School recently.

The day was started by former First Lady, Michelle Obama, as part of her "Reach Higher" initiative and encourages high school students to take charge of their future by furthering their education after high school. School counselor Melissa Giles says, "Last year was the first year we did this and it went so wonderfully as far as promoting continuing education. Not only is it a great chance for the kids to celebrate and brag about where they are going to college, it has a lot of impact on the underclassmen and can be very motivating."

"We are here to celebrate our seniors and promote them going to college," says School Counselor Lynn Wright. "They are moving forward to their next adventure. We have them write their name and where they are going to school and hang it up. We are giving away prom tickets, raffling off college paraphernalia, North Tonawanda High School apparel, gift cards for Mighty Taco, McDonalds, Little Caesars and other vendors. We are really proud of them."

Career Center Mentor Lori Graves says this day is also a celebration for the counselors as well. "It is a very rewarding career to be working with high school students. Examining their interests, abilities and personal qualities to help them be successful. It is wonderful to be able to explore and identify career paths and goals with the students and then see them all set to graduate and start on their new journey of life. It is so exciting!"



School Counselors Mrs. Jennifer Kupiec, Mr. Robert Derrett, Nicole Hamilton, Mrs. Lori Graves, Mrs. Jennifer John, Mrs. Lynn Wright, Mrs. Melissa Giles and Emily Nelson.

Drake Families Show Up To Mingle and Boogie

The Friends of Drake first family dance was a huge success! One hundred and seventy-five families showed up to event on May 25th at the Sweeney Hose and spent several hours introducing themselves to staff and each other, enjoying pizza and wings and hitting the dance floor and photo booth.

"Our hopes were to draw in more families so that they could form friendships and become further involved in the school setting as well," says Drake Principal Katie Smith. "The Friends of Drake specifically wanted to draw in our kindergarten families to get them to join Friends of Drake and get to know one another before the students even come to school."

The event was a huge hit with much feedback about how much fun everyone had dancing, the photo booth, the balloon display and the food. "Many of the families were able to form connections that they probably would not have made before," says Mrs. Smith. "It was the best attended event we have ever had besides our theme baskets."



The Jamulla Family.

Autumn and Rebecca Deschamps.



Juliana McCormick, Miranda Darone, Penni Jamulla.



NORTH TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOLS

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North Tonawanda, NY 14120

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Vision Statement

To develop a nationally
recognized school
system focused on:

A collaborative
environment that fosters
the academic, emotional
and social growth of
each student through
quality and purposeful
educational experiences.

Students becoming
independent, productive
and globally competitive
citizens. Instilling the
belief that each student is
invaluable.

Composting has come to Ohio Elementary School!

In a collaborative effort between teachers and parents, students are learning the benefits of composting while running a compost program at school. Students are now collecting leftover apple cores, banana peels, and other fruit and vegetable scraps during their lunch. At the end of lunch periods, student volunteers empty the scraps into the new compost tumblers that the Ohio Parent Association generously funded. Fifth and sixth grade students assembled the four new compost tumblers during their block time. In addition, fifth grade students have been visiting students in Kindergarten through second grade to teach them the do's and don'ts of composting. In the spring, finished compost will be added to our school garden to improve the health of our soil and plants.

Compost Assembly



Cierra Williams and Skyla Behrens work on assembling the compost lid.

Compost Training



Mr. Genco's fifth grade students prepare to teach Mrs. Sequin's first graders the ABC's of lunch composting.

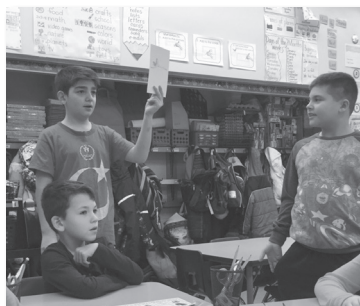
Composting In Action



Natalie Caccamise, Brody Sparks, and Meredith Shaver bring the lunch compost buckets out to the compost tumblers.



Aidan Lettieri and Mason Scott assemble the compost handle mechanism.



Jasur Badalov shows students in Mrs. Mahoney's class a picture of a food item that can be added to the school compost.



Brody opens the compost tumbler lid while Natalie and Meredith prepare to empty the lunch scraps.

North Tonawanda District Art Show Highlights Students' Creativity

When North Tonawanda CSD budget voters hit the polls May 16th they were treated with a visual feast. The District's art teachers put up an incredible display of art from their students for community members to admire.

One of the students, Emily, said she enjoyed showing off her creativity. "My favorite piece is a fish mobile we worked on." Teacher Melinda Wright says she was thrilled at how crowded the show was. "I just love how many people are here. We have such a mixture of everything, painting, ceramics and that all the grade levels come together is really nice. I think it was a great thing having it tonight because people who wouldn't normally come out for an art show get to see it." Sixth grader Jack says that art is great. "I love to do it in my free time. I love to draw with pencil or pen."



Alyssa Oddo with her display.



Emily Francis shows off her self-portrait.



Wyatt Kuebler in front of his architecture drawing.



Jack Yackamovich in front of his piece of art.