



# Oriskany

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 2023

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
**Gregory Cuthbertson**

SCHOOL BUSINESS EXECUTIVE  
**Michelle Tikalsky**

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS  
AND SUPPORT SERVICES  
**Denise Mazza**

JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
**Andrew Kennedy**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
**Catherine Mucurio**

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JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
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Volume 46 · Issue 1

## CLASS OF 2023 Commencement

On June 23, the Oriskany Central School District held its class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony, where 36 students became high school graduates. The ceremony was held in the Keith T. Davis Gymnasium.

To open the ceremony, Gabrielle Koenig led the National Anthem while Juliet Tagliaferri followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Remarks were made by Superintendent Timothy Gaffney, and the recognition of awards was presented by Principal Andrew Kennedy. The salutatory address was given by Arnold Zumbrun and the valedictory address was given by Ryan Donohue.

During the ceremony, supporters of the class of 2023 watched as graduates received recognition for their hard work and dedication in addition to their long-awaited high school diplomas.

The Oriskany CSD is proud of each and every graduate for their perseverance and determination to graduate, and wishes them the best in their future endeavors!



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# SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

**Dear Parents, Guardians, Families and Community Members,**

Please allow me the opportunity to introduce myself to the Oriskany Central School community. My name is Gregory Cuthbertson, and I am honored to be the new Superintendent of Schools and serve this great District. I look forward to getting to know the Oriskany community, students, families and the team of professionals who support our mission to educate, engage and empower students to excel in an ever-changing world.

I would like to tell you a little bit about myself. First and foremost, I am a husband and father. My wife Amber and I have two children, Jaxon and Alexa (we call her Lulu), and we currently live in Sauquoit. I have been in public education for over 23 years, serving as a teacher, coach and principal. Most recently, I served as the pre-K-12 principal of the Poland Central School District for the past nine years. Before that, I was a teacher and coach in the Rome City School District. My educational background includes a bachelor's in education, a master's in education and Certificates of Advanced Studies from SUNY Cortland.

As I begin my tenure at Oriskany, I would like the school community to know that students and learning will always be at the forefront of any decision that I make. I deeply believe in providing a quality and comprehensive education for all students. Even with the District's many strengths, a transition of leadership presents an opportunity for positive change and for the District to be even better in the coming years. It is my goal to continue to build upon the strong foundation and success of the District while creating new innovative opportunities for our students to explore their interests and find their true passions. I am looking forward to the work ahead.

Oriskany is not only known for its academic excellence and extracurricular programs, but its personal attention and positive relationships between students and staff. I am committed to building relationships with all school stakeholders and developing a learning community that is inclusive and dedicated to a culture that supports continuous improvement. While serving as your Superintendent of Schools, I plan to be accessible to all stakeholders and maintain an open door communication practice. I encourage and welcome any questions, comments or concerns you have about our schools and can be reached directly at [gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org](mailto:gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org).

Finally, I would like to congratulate Mr. Gaffney on his retirement and thank him for his service to the Oriskany District over the last six years. I wish him well in his future endeavors.

Respectfully,

Gregory Cuthbertson



**Gregory Cuthbertson**

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

[gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org](mailto:gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org)

315.768.2058

## Congratulations *Retirees!*

**Lisa Balzano**  
SPANISH TEACHER

**Kristen Bowers**  
ELEMENTARY TEACHER

**Harriett Ellinger**  
BUS DRIVER

**Timothy Gaffney**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Carl Graziadei**  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

**Kathy Graziadei**  
ELEMENTARY TEACHER

**Kay Kraeger**  
BUS DRIVER

**Albert Lacombe**  
BUS DRIVER

**Linda Marcinkowski**  
MUSIC TEACHER

**Vivian Pratt**  
FOOD SERVICE SUPERVISOR

**Denai Ray**  
TEACHER AIDE

**Al Salisbury**  
BUS DRIVER/DISPATCHER

**Deondra Seamon**  
ELEMENTARY TEACHER

**Debra Sharrow**  
BUS DRIVER

Thank you for your dedicated service to the Oriskany Central School District!

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

**Dear Oriskany Community Members, Families, Board of Education, Staff, Faculty and Students,**

As I write my final communication to you, transitioning into retirement, I wanted to take the opportunity to say – **Thank you**, for everything.

I have included in this correspondence some excerpts from my final retiree newsletter writing, as I feel they apply to the Oriskany Community as well – in heart, in mind and in spirit. Forever, I will be grateful.

It starts like this....

Over the Memorial Day weekend, I found my way out to Cape Cod, Massachusetts, one of my favorite places to go. I packed the usual essentials, a few pairs of shorts, some T-shirts that probably should have met their maker a long time ago, a couple pairs of walking shoes (moccasins), a hoodie and a baseball cap. I left my starched button down shirt, pressed slacks, sports jacket and tie behind. Those I left resting at home for another day and another time.

Saturday morning, I ventured out to the local coffee establishment, sitting outside on the patio watching the boats resting on the blue ocean waters, thinking about nothing and yet everything at the same time. School, of course, came to mind. When do we really ever stop thinking about school as a reflective practice and ourselves as life-long servant leaders to the profession? It's engrained in our way of life – and proudly so.

But isn't that the way it should be? You teach, you model, you introduce and you practice so those that come after you carry the torch – and the torch continues to burn brightly after you've long set it on fire. It brings gladness and joy to my heart.

As community members, family members, employees of the District (faculty and staff), Board of Education and students, I hope your hearts are full of gladness and joy. They should be. Please know, all of us carry a piece of that torch that continues to burn brightly today. Alone, we do so little. Together, I believe, we can achieve the immeasurable. We can accomplish the impossible.

**Dear Oriskany Community** - I wanted to begin by thanking you for your kindness, generosity and open hearts and arms. Thank you for, "taking me in," and welcoming me to your community. Thank you for making me feel like I always belonged. Thank you for introducing me to Oriskany and the hidden gem that it is.

**Dear Oriskany Parents and Guardians** - Thank you for always modeling and demonstrating, through deeds, actions and kindness, what Oriskany Pride is. You are the best of teachers that I continue to learn from. Thank you for that gift. It is something I will hold on to and cherish dearly.

**Dear Oriskany Faculty, Staff and Board of Education** - Thank you for your dedication, passion, compassion and genuine love for our students, families and community members. It is not only seen and heard, but inexplicitly felt in every athletic crowd cheer, performance applause and every community event that supports a student, family member or community member. Please know, you are the sunshine that brightens the day of every student. You are so powerful and mighty, combined with the courage, wisdom, reflection, thoughtfulness and care so delicately needed for our students.

**Dear Oriskany Students** - Thank you for reminding me of your youthful imagination, unbridled energy, courage and lack of fear, playfulness and exuberance, innocence and inquisitiveness. I wanted you to know I continue to learn so much from you. You make me a better person and a better human being.

Thank you for the initial spark of what is to become Oriskany Pride. Carry it proudly.

To all - I will be forever grateful for wisdom, guidance and belief in the power and meaning of education.

As you know, we enter this profession because of our love and belief in students, all students, from every walk of life. We believe and proudly open our hearts and welcome all of them with love and appreciation for the gifts, talents and creative energies they get to share with us. Is there anything better? No, I believe not. I have been blessed.

I am excited for retirement. Thirty years in education was a wonderful run. All of the things we have done and accomplished and all of the hearts and souls we have touched along the way. It's immensely overpowering. Thank you so much for taking me on this journey.

What an honor and a privilege to be gifted with the opportunity to end my career in Oriskany. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of that. I will always carry a piece of Oriskany with me – wherever that may be, whatever that may be. It's going to be exciting to find out.

Never in closing, thank you for your beautiful spirit.

As one chapter concludes. Another one begins.  
I wish everyone the best.

On an end note –

I finished my coffee at the local coffee establishment in Cape Cod. The boats remained sitting quietly on the blue ocean waters undisturbed and I...

*...walked the ocean beach where the water meets the sand thinking about nothing and everything at the same time. And, eventually school and our students entered into the thought process. Because that's what we do as educators and lifelong learners, we think about what we do and who we love.*

Be well, be safe and be kind.

Sincerely,

*Timothy Gaffney*



**Timothy J. Gaffney**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
tgaffney@oriskanycsd.org  
315.768.2058

## MESSAGES FROM THE PRINCIPALS

Dear Parents, Guardians and Families,

Welcome back to another exciting year at the Jr./Sr. high school! I hope this letter finds you rejuvenated and ready to embark on a journey of growth, learning and success. As we get together once again, I want to extend a warm welcome to our returning students and families, as well as those who are joining us for the first time.

I am honored to serve as your principal at the Jr./Sr. high school for a second year. It is with great enthusiasm and dedication that I embrace this role, working alongside our exceptional educators, staff and parents to provide an enriching experience for all of our students.

At Oriskany, we are dedicated to educate, engage and empower students to excel in an ever-changing world. We work hard to cultivate an environment where every student feels encouraged to challenge themselves and achieve their goals. We believe in fostering a love for learning and promoting critical thinking.

This year, we will build upon our strong foundation of academic excellence and character development. I am happy to announce we are adding new advanced placement classes and dual enrollment classes to our course catalog. We will also further integrate technology into our classrooms to promote innovative teaching practices. Additionally, we will continue to prioritize social-emotional learning, ensuring our students receive the necessary support to navigate challenges, build resilience and maintain a positive mental well-being.

As we embark on this new school year, let us remember that each day presents an opportunity for growth, discovery and making a difference. Together, we can create a learning environment that fosters curiosity, nurtures creativity and celebrates diversity. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the Oriskany Central School District.

As always, if I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 315.768.2063.

**ORISKANY PROUD**

All my best,

**Andrew  
Kennedy**

JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL



Dear Oriskany Families,

We are excited to welcome everyone back for the 2023-24 school year! As always, our educational journey this past year was amazing and we are looking forward to another fabulous year. We had a productive summer here at N.A. Walbran Elementary. We hosted a summer Technology Camp for students in grades four through six that focused on a variety of STEAM activities. We achieved this through hands-on learning experiences such as Lego robotics, Wonder Dash Robots, Spheros and a variety of building challenges.

While all this was going on, our maintenance crews worked diligently to clean and prepare classrooms, including preparations for our upcoming Capital Project that will take place this year. Our faculty members had the opportunity to attend training sessions to prepare for new initiatives/curriculum and some took the time to dive deep and expand on their current practices.

This year, we are excited to announce our space theme of "Reach for the Stars," courtesy of our elementary student council members, as we work to continue to build positive social-emotional learning experiences for our students and set high academic expectations. We began a new program this past year, "The Zones of Regulation," to assist us with building the self-regulation skills of students as well as re-implementing the Positivity Project to focus on character trait education. The Positivity Project has been a great addition to the school, allowing us to have monthly assemblies and targeted activities and speakers for the school community. These new pieces in conjunction with continuing to follow "The Walbran Way" have allowed us to create a more focused social-emotional continuum for our school community.

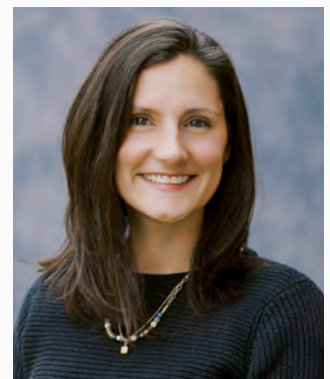
We will be able to showcase some of our hard work and new initiatives at our Back-to-School Night, which is scheduled for the evening of September 14, 2023. We encourage you to follow our District webpage and two affiliated Facebook pages, "Oriskany Central School" and our PTA at "NA Walbran Elementary," to remain as up to date as possible on upcoming events.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back and having a terrific school year!

Sincerely,

**Catherine  
Mucurio**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL



# CLASS OFFICER

## Donation

The 2023 senior class officers generously donated the remainder of their class balance (\$345) to the Oriskany Alumni Association. The Oriskany Alumni Association will use the money for scholarships for the 2024 senior class.



# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Bricks

On June 14, the Oriskany Alumni Association dedicated 13 new memorial bricks on the walkway in front of the school. That makes a total of 374 bricks that have been installed over the last 12 years. The bricks are installed every May and dedicated at the annual scholarship night.





### *Emily Closinski*

#### **Kindergarten Teacher**

Emily Closinski is excited to join the Oriskany CSD team to teach kindergarten. Emily was a teacher in the Camden Central School District for seven years and was also a teacher in the Herkimer BOCES extended school year program.

Emily studied at Utica University where she earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and education, and her master's degree in students with disabilities. Emily has also received certifications in early childhood, childhood education: birth through sixth grade and students with disabilities: birth through sixth grade.

In her free time, Emily enjoys reading, tending to her house plants, engaging in home improvement projects and spending time with her family and friends. She is excited to have the opportunity to work in a great school and tight-knit community!

### *Kristen Davidson*

#### **Spanish/ELL Teacher**

Kristen Davidson is thrilled to share her passion for language and culture with her new students as she joins the Oriskany Central School District for the 2023-24 school year. Over the years, Kristen has spent time teaching for the South Lewis Central School District and the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES.

Kristen attended SUNY Fredonia where she earned her bachelor's degree in adolescent education: Spanish. She earned her master's degree in English as a second language (ESL) and special education from George Washington University. Kristen also earned her certification in adolescent education: Spanish and is working toward her reciprocity certification for ESL.

Kristen enjoys traveling, singing, baking and spending time with her pet. Kristen currently juggles a busy schedule, working seven days a week, and looks forward to a time when she can spend her free time helping animals in need.



### *Katie Rieben*

#### **Fourth Grade Teacher**

Katie Rieben is an Oriskany alumna and is excited to join the District as a fourth grade teacher. Katie has a passion for education and developing young minds, and looks forward to meeting her new students.

Katie attended Utica University where she earned her bachelor's degree in psychology child life, early childhood and childhood education. She also earned her master's degree in special education from Utica University and looks forward to implementing her knowledge in the classroom.



### *Emma Rogers*

#### **Special Education Teacher**

Emma Rogers, an Oriskany CSD graduate, is excited to continue working at Oriskany as the new special education teacher. She earned two bachelor's degrees from SUNY Potsdam in literature/writing and adolescent education, and is currently finishing her master's degree in special education from SUNY Plattsburgh.

In her free time, Emma enjoys cooking, spending time with family and friends and walking her dogs. She is thrilled to continue working at Oriskany and building strong connections with students, faculty and the community.



## Jake Shipp

### Music Teacher

Jake Shipp is very enthusiastic about joining the Oriskany Central School District as the newest music teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Jake grew up locally and has helped direct productions such as "The Addams Family" at Whitesboro High School.

Jake earned his bachelor's degree in music education with a minor in psychology from SUNY Fredonia and attended Mt. Markham high school. His knowledge of the local area will serve him well during his time at Oriskany.

Jake is very happy to be a part of the Oriskany family and looks forward to meeting his students and encouraging them to grow as both individuals and performers.



## Tina Tefft

### Bus Driver

The Oriskany CSD is excited to announce Tina Tefft as our newest bus driver for the 2023-24 school year. Tina has nearly 15 years of experience as a bus driver and is thrilled to meet the students and families of Oriskany.



## Andy Thompson

### Interim Transportation Supervisor

The Oriskany Central School District is proud to welcome Andy Thompson as our Interim Transportation Supervisor. Andy has over 40 years of experience as a bus driver and looks forward to sharing his time and knowledge with the Oriskany CSD.

Andy recently retired from the Rome City School District as the transportation supervisor. Oriskany CSD is grateful to Andy for sharing his talents as we search for a permanent transportation supervisor.

## Welcome New Board of Education Member

### Mr. Jeffrey Kraeger

Jeffrey Kraeger is proud to have been elected as the newest member of the Oriskany Central School District's Board of Education. Jeffrey has been a resident of Oriskany for 42 years and looks forward to serving the District throughout his time on the Board.

Jeffrey is employed by Trenton Technology Inc. in Utica as the director of information and technology. He previously worked as a software engineer at IBM in Endicott, NY. He earned his bachelor's degree from SUNY Polytechnic Institute in computer science.



During Jeffrey's time away from work, he enjoys serving on the Oriskany Little League Board and spending time with his four children.

# STUDENT COUNCIL Awards

The Jr./Sr. High School Student Council Award Ceremony was held on June 13 in the Keith T. Davis Gymnasium. Teachers nominated students in two categories for every course offered at the Jr./Sr. high school. The two categories were Academic Achievement and Classroom Citizenship.



The criteria for the Academic Achievement Award is determined by a student's academic improvement, high average, academic effort to achieve, willingness to seek help from teachers and a passion for the subject.

The criteria for the Classroom Citizenship award includes characteristics such as motivation, attendance, encouraging achievement among classmates and/or positive classroom behavior.



# Congrats Kate!

To honor Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, CLASS (Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools) held its second annual National Poster Contest in April. The theme was "Reflecting Harmony in our Community." It was the first time that the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Chinese program participated in the event. Four students from Mrs. Chang's classes submitted artwork. One student, Kate Dellers from Oriskany High School, won an honorable mention award.



Kate wanted to "capture different ethnicities as well as the Chinese characters and flags" with her poster.

There were more than 100 students across the Nation who participated in the contest.





## ORISKANY CENTRAL SCHOOL *Awards & Scholarship Breakfast*

On June 10, the Oriskany Central School District held its Annual Awards and Scholarship Breakfast. The Breakfast was held to honor seniors who were awarded scholarships for their hard work and dedication to their education in high school, and preparation for their continued education.

The District announced more than 50 scholarship awards from Oriskany CSD supporters and the District itself. The District is thankful for all the individuals and organizations who have taken the initiative to recognize and support our future leaders with these awards and scholarships.



# Positivity Project

This year, we reintroduced the Positivity Project into our daily routines at N.A Walbran. This program focuses on helping America's youth build stronger relationships by recognizing the character strengths in themselves and others. We incorporated character education into not only the classroom, but the entire school community. Students were able to showcase their successes through assemblies, watching monthly speakers and participating in activities.

During the month of May, students received certificates and were recognized for their positive referrals. May's positivity traits were: Fairness, Appreciation of Beauty and Purpose.

During the month of June, students were recognized for the following positivity characteristics: Enthusiasm and Leadership. High School Student Council Officers, Kaelyn Buehler, Mya Melvin and Juliet Tagliaferri, spoke to the students at N.A. Walbran about their leadership roles and how to be involved at the high school.



## PRE-K MOVING UP CEREMONY

Each year, N.A. Walbran celebrates the littlest members of our community at our Pre-Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony. This year was extra special as we said goodbye to our long time pre-K teacher, Mrs. Kathy Graziadei. In preparation for the Ceremony, the students worked hard to perform a few musical numbers for their families. During the Ceremony, students received a moving-up certificate to celebrate their achievement of graduating to kindergarten!



# SIXTH GRADE CLASS TRIP!

During June, the sixth grade class had a busy month with fun activities. On June 12, students went on their annual class trip to Niagara Falls where they rode the Maid of the Mist and experienced the Cave of the Winds.

On June 15, students enjoyed "fun stations" during P.E. Day and bowled at the King Pin Lanes during the final week of school.

We wish the sixth graders good luck as they leave elementary school and enter the Jr./Sr. High School.



## P.E. Day

On June 15, students at N.A. Walbran participated in P.E. Day activities. Students competed at six different stations and received snow cones provided by the PTA. The Physical Education Department would like to thank everyone who made this event a success!

# Moving Up Ceremony

Each year, our sixth grade students are treated to a few special events to celebrate their achievement of completing their elementary education. Those events include an annual bowling trip, a class trip to Niagara Falls and a Moving Up Ceremony! This year, 38 students graduated to the Jr./Sr. high school.

We look forward to seeing all their accomplishments as they continue in their educational journey.



# SENIOR *trip*

On May 4 and 5, the senior class went on a class trip to Boston and Salem, Massachusetts. The class toured Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, the New England Aquarium, Fenway Park and even went on a Duck Tour in Boston. They then explored Salem and went to the Witch Museum. On their way home, they stopped at Six Flags New England for an exciting mix of action packed rides and crowd pleasing shows and attractions.



# Spring CONCERT

On June 12, the Oriskany Central School District held a Jr./Sr. High School Spring Concert. The students played their instruments and the choruses sang in harmony. The choruses were conducted by Mrs. Gutowski and the concert band was conducted by Mrs. Roberts.

The District is proud of the commitment and dedication students in the band and choruses displayed and wishes them the best as they continue their education or turn over a new leaf.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

As we bid farewell to our 2022-23 graduating student-athletes and welcome our returning and new student-athletes, I would like to reflect on a few accomplishments from the 2023 spring sports season. A few highlights from the season include a student-athlete on the golf team shooting a 33 in a match, a softball pitcher breaking the career strike-out record and the track team winning against tough competition. Additionally, our baseball team won sectionals and was a runner-up in regionals, and all of our varsity spring sports teams earned the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) Scholar-Athlete award. We wish our seniors the best of luck in the next chapter of their lives, we know they are ready for it.

During the start of the varsity baseball season, it was slow, but quickly turned around causing the team to be the most dominant and balanced team in Class D. The baseball program was under the command of first-year Head Coach Eric Enos, who was assisted by his son and Oriskany alumni Matt Enos. The teams' collaboration throughout the season earned the Class D sectional title and runner-up at the state regional tournament. The team was welcomed home after winning the NYSPHSAA Sectionals with an escort by the Oriskany Police and Fire Departments from Exit 32 near Cider St., through the Village of Oriskany, to the high school.

Junior Gavin Howd shot a 33 at the Westmoreland Golf Course this season and became one of five golfers representing Oriskany at the Regional Golf Tournament. Gavin honored Oriskany CSD by making it to the second round of the state competition.

Senior softball pitcher Juliet Tagliaferri broke the all-time strike-out record with 315 strike-outs. Juliet's record shattered the previous which was held by Jennifer Buehler at 268 strike-outs.

An ongoing goal of athletics is to have all of our teams earn the Scholar-Athlete award. To receive the Scholar-Athlete award, the team's average GPA for 75% of the roster must be greater than or equal to 90.00. For the sixth consecutive sports season, all of our varsity teams have earned the Scholar-Athlete award. Our school will earn the School of Distinction status by having 100% of its varsity teams qualify for and receive the Scholar-Athlete team award during their respective sports seasons. This will be the second year in a row that Oriskany Central School has earned this prestigious award.

During the month of June, seniors Juliet Tagliaferri and Jack Tamburino were honored as student-athletes at the SRC arena in Syracuse by NYSPHSAA Section III for having the highest GPAs of Oriskany student-athletes.

Another accomplishment for the Oriskany Athletic Department and student-athletes was having our own Kaelyn Buehler sit on the NYSPHSAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). The SAAC was developed to give student-athletes a voice within the NYSPHSAA. Over the course of the school year, the committee discussed topics relevant to high school student-athletes and developed ways to maintain a positive athletic experience. Each committee member is expected to exemplify leadership while providing feedback on NYSPHSAA special programs, including but not limited to, Scholar-Athletes, Sportsmanship, Life of an Athlete, Student Leadership and Community Service. Congratulations Kaelyn and thank you for representing the Oriskany Athletic Department.

The NYSPHSAA has added a new spectator regulation to the NYSPHSAA guidelines that follows spectator regulation. The Oriskany CSD abides by these regulations and has included them in the athletic handbook. For more information, please visit the NYSPHSAA handbook at [https://nysphsaa.org/documents/2022/2/15/NYSPHSAA\\_Handbook\\_002.pdf](https://nysphsaa.org/documents/2022/2/15/NYSPHSAA_Handbook_002.pdf).

As we look forward to the start of fall sports and welcoming back our returning and our new student-athletes, please see the following links for important dates and information:

Registration for fall sports will begin July 19 for varsity and July 28 for modified. Registration can be found at <https://hello.familyid.com>. Game and Practice schedules can be found at <https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/77>.

As I return for my third year as the Director of Athletics, I hope to continue to cultivate Oriskany Pride and strive toward developing successful student-athletes. I also want to thank the student-athletes, parents, community members and faculty and staff for their continued support of our athletic programs.

Thank you,

### **Dave Buck**

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR  
[dbuck@oriskanycsd.org](mailto:dbuck@oriskanycsd.org)



FROM THE OFFICE OF  
*Special Programs & Support Services*



**Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, Grandparents and Community Members,**

Congratulations to our 2023 graduates, we wish you well with your new adventures, in college or the workforce. Thank you to Marshall Dalencourt of ACCES-VR for assisting our students to achieve their college and career goals with guidance, support and financial grants. Congratulations to the students who earned their HSED in the 2022-23 school year!

Welcome back to Oriskany Central School for a new academic year, 2023-24! For families who are new to Oriskany, welcome to our "family." We welcome Ms. Emma Rogers to our Special Programs team; Emma will be teaching at the Jr./Sr. high school and remotely with the alternative high school.

Our summer has been busy with preparations for an exciting year ahead. Our goals for the new year are to extend our programs into community connections and look for disability awareness activities and information throughout the year. Additionally, we will continue our outreach to all families in and out of District programs to participate in OCS extracurricular school activities.

As we continue to navigate the post-COVID-19 instructional world, a group of K-12 general education teachers, special education teachers and a social worker participated in a summer book study for "Help for Billy." This group prepared for a difficult but amazing journey building resiliency and hope from strong connections with caring adults and students, using trauma-informed strategies in our classrooms.

At the elementary school, we are creating a "Therapy Suite" to facilitate our integrated therapy group model. Speech therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy will collaborate on scheduling and integration. In addition to individual sessions, students will work on multiple therapeutic goals at one time, increasing their time in the classroom and gaining skills for success.

Grades three through six will be implementing Sunday Essentials as a Rtl Tier II intervention. The Sunday System Essentials Program is

a proven multisensory phonics instruction, implemented in general education classrooms to help quickly identify those students who could benefit from reading intervention. These 20 minute lessons will be implemented during scheduled Rtl time.

Both the elementary and Jr./Sr. high schools are shifting to a six-day cycle. This will also shift in students' Individual Education Program (IEP) services. Daily recommended services will continue, but be reflected on the IEP 6/6 days. If a service is proportional, please look for information in the mail to accurately reflect the service recommendations.

Additionally, our Rtl Teams will experience some shifts. Our kindergarten through six instructional support teams will be facilitated by Mrs. Stephanie McLaughlin, school psychologist, and the seven through 12 team will continue to be facilitated by Ms. Claudette Cronauer. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child's programs, please first reach out to their classroom teacher/school counselor and then case manager for 504/CSE students. Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Mucurio and I are always available.

CSE & 504 Annual Review meetings will continue to be held in the month of your child's birthday at the site of their program, if available. I look forward to an amazing year.

Thank you,

**Denise C. Mazza**

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS &  
 SUPPORT SERVICES  
 dmazza@oriskanycsd.org  
 315.768.2058



## FOOD SERVICE INFORMATION

The Child Nutrition Programs are operated in each building by the OHM BOCES School Food Service team. We are pleased to announce that in the 2023-24 school year, we will be operating under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) -- meaning all meals are FREE to all students!

The OHM BOCES strives to provide students with tasty, nutritious, fresh, foods that appeal to students and the school community. We have continually exceeded federal and state guidelines for all required nutrients and increased our offerings of fresh fruit and vegetables. Farm to School items and programming are improving our students' connections to fresh food and resources. The menu balances student preference, commodity foods, and locally sourced foods that are fresh, fun and encourage students to explore new flavors and new preparations.

Each student has their own meal account with an assigned pin number. Please be sure to help your children learn their numbers, especially if they are new participants. You can also use this account to make payments for a la carte items; checks made out to OHM BOCES Food Service, or online prepayments (ezschoolpay.com) are preferable, though cash in a labeled envelope is also an option.

**Because we are operating under CEP this year, families do not need to fill out free/reduced meal applications. However, it is helpful to your school if you complete the income collection form available at [ezmealapp.com](http://ezmealapp.com). PDFs and hard copies are also available. Eligible families may qualify for benefits such as waived test fees.**

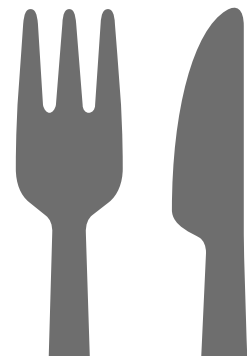
While complete meals are FREE, single items like milk will still be charged to student accounts. Milk this year will be \$0.75. Other a la carte items such as frozen yogurt, baked chips and whole grain cookies will be available for purchase most days in the school cafeterias. Prices on those items range from \$0.75-\$2.00. There is no charging of a la carte items, meaning students must have a positive account balance or cash in hand in order to purchase.

Please sign up for an [ezschoolpay.com](http://ezschoolpay.com) account! This is an excellent way to monitor your children's meals and a la carte purchases. These accounts are free to set up and use, and you can even set up email reminders for when a balance gets low! If you choose to use them for prepayment, a small fee is incurred with each transaction.

Please don't hesitate to contact us!

### **Kate Dorr**

School Food Service Director/Registered Dietitian  
[kdorr@oneida-boces.org](mailto:kdorr@oneida-boces.org)  
315.738.0848







Oneida • Herkimer • Madison

**BOCES**

**CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION**  
*Honor Roll*

**Third Marking Period Honor Roll 2022-2023**

**HIGH HONOR ROLL**  
(90-100)

Skylar Albin  
Sydney Hight  
Daniel Kraus  
Lauren Kraus  
Mya Melvin  
Justin Rosinski  
Christopher Sebastian  
James Shamis  
Juliet Tagliaferri  
Alexandria Wlock

**HONOR ROLL**  
(85-89)

Wyatt Carter  
Dellon Hammers  
Mark Malinowski Jr.  
Ryan Mayo  
Ryan Skinner  
Kylie Thierry  
Jakob Van Etten

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
(80-84)

Julianna Jones  
Natalie Rieben  
Jake Spears

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(80-84)

Wyatt Carter  
Daniel Kraus  
Mark Malinowski Jr.  
Natalie Rieben  
James Shamis  
Jake Spears

# HONOR ROLL

## Third Marking Period Honor Roll 2022-2023

### *Highest Honor Roll* 94.5-100.0

<b>GRADE 12</b>	Olivia Balfe, Jessalyn Birt, Chase Bureau, Kaylee Burnop, Rachel Daskiewich, Ryan Donohue, Sydney Hight, Gabrielle Koenig, Jenna Palmiotto, Payton Smith, Juliet Tagliaferri, Jack Tamburino, Arnold Zumbun, Joshua Zyskowski
<b>GRADE 11</b>	Kaelyn Fabbio, Madelyn Race, Alivia Rizzo, Katie Saladin, Noah Sciorilli, Briannah Wishart, Megan Wright
<b>GRADE 10</b>	Kate Dellers, Brienne Eldred, Erika Reid, Jack Tagliaferri, Jessica Zyskowski
<b>GRADE 9</b>	Ishaal Mirza, Braelyn Oehler, Edward Wright
<b>GRADE 8</b>	Ashley Zyskowski
<b>GRADE 7</b>	Lilliana Ciotti, Nicholas Citriniti, Troy Gu, Audrina Gulisano, Arianna Kernan, Nicholas Koenig, Chase Larson, Collin Opperman

### *High Honor Roll* 89.50-94.49

<b>GRADE 12</b>	Karsten Bates, David Cronauer, Mya Melvin, Aolani Roberts, Justin Rosinski, Chloe Seamans, Shawn Williamson
<b>GRADE 11</b>	Skylar Albin, Kaelyn Buehler, Jake Burrows, Anna Kasperovich, Anthony Kernan, Lauren Kraus, Gannon Lisberg, Alexandria Wlock
<b>GRADE 10</b>	Leah Denison, Gavin Franz, Sean Graziano, Jullian Jalowiec, Chase Koenig, Thomas Maher, Jeffrey Phillips Jr., Gianna Santucci, Brian Terchowicz
<b>GRADE 9</b>	Jessica Beckwith, Alexia Birt, Corinne Looney
<b>GRADE 8</b>	Kaylee Corey, Danica Dame, Matthew LoCash, Olivia Richard-LaShure, Alexis Roman, Lance Smith III, Holly VanPatten
<b>GRADE 7</b>	Gianna Detrick, Nathan Gulisano, Kirill Kasperovich, Mckenzie Kronafel, Isabella Smith, Landon Volz, KhaiLee Worn

### *Honor Roll* 84.00-89.49

<b>GRADE 12</b>	Jordyn Coleman, Miranda Foss, Dellon Hammers, Julianna Jones, Magdalena Serrano, James Shamis, Jacob Usyk, Jakob Van Etten
<b>GRADE 11</b>	Javante Brill-Rollins, McKenzie Frank, Peyton Hemming, Gavin Howd, Daniel Kraus, Jayden Luton, Brooke Matys, Paige Mazur, Briana Measheaw, Noah Napolis, Christopher Sebastian, Katelyn Shamis, Kylie Thierry, Kyla Zabeck
<b>GRADE 10</b>	Emerson Appler, Ryan Birt, Nathan Domenico, Nicholas Hays, Collin Hessler, Henry Interra, Addison Judycki, Angelina Occhipinti, Maggie Tylutki
<b>GRADE 9</b>	Justin Fisher, Matthew Kernan, Bryana Manella, Gabryella Manella, Tyler Tamburino, Ethan Zarnoch-Riley
<b>GRADE 8</b>	Broderick Anderson, Colin Brough, Peyton Buehler, Delilah Chase, Emma Combs, Charles Golden, Darcie Klein, Adilyn Jamieson-Rothdiener, Dean Koenig, Darien McGallian, Vincent Paiz, Aiden Pysnik, Brynne Russum, Carter Usyk
<b>GRADE 7</b>	Ashlynn Andrews, Jewels Bewick, Robert Duff Jr., Kaelyn Mayo, Madeline Powers, Mia Shwamle, Jayden Twang

## Fourth Marking Period Honor Roll 2022-2023

### *Highest Honor Roll* 94.5-100.0

<b>GRADE 12</b>	Olivia Balfe, Karsten Bates, Chase Bureau, Kaylee Burnop, Rachel Daskiewich, Ryan Donohue, Gabrielle Koenig, Jenna Palmiotto, Payton Smith, Juliet Tagliaferri, Jack Tamburino, Arnold Zumbun
<b>GRADE 11</b>	Jake Burrows, Kaelyn Fabbio, Lauren Kraus, Gannon Lisberg, Madelyn Race, Alivia Rizzo, Katie Saladin, Briannah Wishart, Megan Wright
<b>GRADE 10</b>	Kate Dellers, Brienne Eldred, Sean Graziano, Erika Reid, Jack Tagliaferri, Jessica Zyskowski
<b>GRADE 9</b>	Jessica Beckwith, Alexia Birt, Ishaal Mirza, Braelyn Oehler, Edward Wright
<b>GRADE 8</b>	Alexis Roman, Ashley Zyskowski
<b>GRADE 7</b>	Lilliana Ciotti, Nicholas Citriniti, Gianna Detrick, Troy Gu, Audrina Gulisano, Nathan Gulisano, Chase Larson, Collin Opperman

### *High Honor Roll* 89.50-94.49

<b>GRADE 12</b>	Jessalyn Birt, David Cronauer, Sydney Hight, Julianna Jones, Mya Melvin, Justin Rosinski, Shawn Williamson, Joshua Zyskowski
<b>GRADE 11</b>	Kaelyn Buehler, McKenzie Frank, Anna Kasperovich, Anthony Kernan, Noah Napolis, Noah Sciorilli, Katelyn Shamis
<b>GRADE 10</b>	Gavin Franz, Henry Inserra, Chase Koenig, Thomas Maher, Jeffrey Phillips Jr., Gianna Santucci, Brian Terchowicz
<b>GRADE 9</b>	Jazmin Barnes, Matthew Kernan, Corinne Looney, Ethan Zarnoch-Riley
<b>GRADE 8</b>	Kaylee Corey, Danica Dame, Charles Golden, Benjamin Leigh, Olivia Richard-LaShure, Brynne Russum, Lance Smith III, Holly VanPatten
<b>GRADE 7</b>	Robert Duff Jr., Kirill Kasperovich, Arianna Kernan, Nicholas Koenig, Isabella Smith, Landon Volz, KhaiLee Worn

### *Honor Roll* 84.00-89.49

<b>GRADE 12</b>	Jordyn Coleman, Miranda Foss, Chloe Seamans, Jacob Usyk, Mason Vancourt
<b>GRADE 11</b>	Skylar Albin, Javante Brill-Rollins, Elijah Hanna, Peyton Hemming, Daniel Kraus, Brooke Matys, Paige Mazur, Briana Measheaw, Derek Rieben, Christopher Sebastian, Alexandria Wlock, Kyla Zabek
<b>GRADE 10</b>	Eric Babcock, Leah Denison, Nathan Domenico, Addison Fabbio, Nicholas Hays, Jullian Jalowiec, Addison Judycki, Angelina Occhipinti, Maggie Tylutki
<b>GRADE 9</b>	John Babcock, Justin Fisher, Jamyson Kelly, Brayden LaGasse, Bryana Manella, Gabryella Manella, Cameron Post, Audrina Snogles, Nicholas Swald, Tyler Tamburino, Elizabeth Wright
<b>GRADE 8</b>	Colin Brough, Peyton Buehler, Seth Carneal, Delilah Chase, Emma Combs, Ryalee Cushman, Ryan Kilmartin, Darcie Klein, Dean Koenig, Matthew LoCash, Darien McGallian, Vincent Paiz, Aiden Pysnik, Carter Usyk
<b>GRADE 7</b>	Ashlynn Andrews, Jewels Bewick, Aleah Deeley, Kaelyn Mayo, Madeline Powers, Mia Shwamle, Jayden Twang



## ORISKANY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1313 Utica Street  
Oriskany, NY 13424

# Memorial Day

The Village of Oriskany held its Memorial Day Service on May 29 at the Trinkaus Park. Oriskany students Jazmin Barnes, Jessica Beckwith, Tara Calderon and Angelina Occhipinti were chosen to take part in the service and sang "The Star-Spangled Banner."

During the Service, Isabella Hart read the "Gettysburg Address," Gabrielle Koenig sang "America the Beautiful," Ceci Piersma read "In Flanders Fields" and Arnold Zumbrun gave a speech on what Memorial Day means to him. Village Deputy Paul Rieben thanked the students for taking the time to remember those that lost their lives for this great country.

