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OCSD Celebrates from Afar

The conclusion of the 2019-20 school year was unlike any other. The Oriskany Central School District willingly adapted to the ever-changing safety protocols related to the pandemic, and was able to celebrate the accomplishments of its students with socially distanced variations of the usual end-of-year festivities.

Although it was certainly unconventional, these modified celebrations proved to be well attended, well received and very appreciated by students and their families.

The pandemic cut the pre-K school year short, the hard work of Mrs. Graziadei and Mrs. Franz made it possible for the students to have a personalized graduation celebration while wearing their caps and gowns.

Each student was given an individual time to come to the elementary school and receive their graduation certificate from their teachers.

On June 15, Oriskany CSD sixth graders and their families were able to drive through the bus loop at the elementary school and get out to take a photo with their sixth grade teachers. Students were able to make the best of the situation with the help of their teachers, Mr. Janes, Mrs. Commisso and Mrs. Lekki-Tomaino.

Each student received a t-shirt and their recognition sign as well as a goody bag, and traveled around the entirety of the bus loop upon their exit to wave and beep goodbye to the rest of N.A. Walbran's staff before heading off to enjoy their summer and starting their journey in seventh grade.

On June 16, elementary students and families came together for a goodbye parade, led by fire trucks, that took them around the N.A. Walbran bus loop to wave and beep goodbye to their favorite teachers.

Students were able to say one last socially distanced goodbye to the N.A. Walbran staff before heading off to enjoy the summer.

June 18, Oriskany CSD filmed a virtual graduation ceremony with the class of 2020 in front of the Jr./Sr. High School.

The shoot consisted of nearly all traditional graduation aspects, done in individual segments using social distancing and minimizing contact with one another. Students were able to do a photoshoot with a professional photographer, walk across the "stage" and take photos with their families out in front of the school.



Supply Lists Available Online Now!
Supply lists for all grades and classes can be found on our District website by visiting www.oriskanycsd.org/supplylists



Greetings Parents, Guardians and Community Members,



Dear Parents, Guardians, Families, Students and Community Members:

I hope each of you have had an opportunity to enjoy the summer months spending time with family, friends and loved ones during these unknown and challenging times. Drawing strength, support and maintaining a sense of well-being, health and balance with one another is essential during this time of COVID-19.

Knowingly, this is a very trying and unusual time for all of us. Finding and sharing our inner-strength, reaching out to those in need and caring compassionately for one another, in the most trying and stressful of times, is awe-inspiring. In this time of crisis, we must continue to dig deep within ourselves and lift our heads high to survive and thrive in these incredibly challenging circumstances. Our Oriskany community is strong, passionate and resilient.

For our Oriskany families, and many other families across the nation, back to school planning will look different this year than it has in previous years. Our school will have new policies, procedures and safety practices in place to help assist in preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, while continuing to maintain learning opportunities for all of our students. Additionally, coming back to school this fall will require schools and families to continue working, communicating and collaborating together, frequently, during these challenging times.

Understanding this - The Oriskany Central School District has made, and may be making, additional changes to our policies and operations contingent upon any new guidance from The Center for Disease Control (CDC), The Department of Health (DOH) and any new executive state and/or federal mandates issued. Considering this guidance, there are several important goals to keep in mind:

Supporting Learning - The Oriskany Central School District has selected a model where students will be attending school on an A/B hybrid schedule; meaning students will be attending school for live instruction, in the classroom, for a portion of the school week, while the remainder of the school week will be taught remotely, through the use of technology when students are not on campus.

We are continuing to work on providing the opportunity for families with siblings living in the same address to attend school together in the same group A or group B hybrid. We will need to maintain smaller group sizes to remain in accordance with safety and social distancing guidelines.

- *Please know, multiple scenarios were considered when creating a plan for students to come back to school in a more traditional format, but was ruled out because it was not possible or feasible given the social distancing requirements in classrooms and on our school buses. We were not able to accommodate a more traditional reentry to school and adhere to the reopening parameters outlined by New York State.*

Mandatory teaching and learning requirements include: providing clear opportunities for equitable instruction for all students, ensuring continuity of learning regardless of the instructional model used, providing standards-based instruction and ensuring substantive daily interaction between teachers and students.

To allow for schools and districts to adapt to complications caused by the pandemic, certain flexibilities will be authorized, including: flexible student/staff ratio in prekindergarten, extended time for pre-

kindergarten and kindergarten screening to be completed, flexibility with the 180 minutes per week Unit of Study requirement, flexibility in the delivery of physical education, allowance for a blend of hands-on and virtual science laboratory experiences and when appropriate, districts and charters may utilize remote or virtual work-based learning experiences for CTE and CDOS programs.

Safety Protocols - We will perform health checks and screenings, per Department of Health (DOH) guidance, and recognize signs and symptoms of illness in students and staff, develop plans to maximize social distancing, develop plans to manage and isolate ill persons until they can be sent home, instruct students and staff in proper hand and respiratory hygiene, require wearing appropriate face coverings and develop cleaning and disinfection procedures for the school in accordance with CDC and DOH guidance.

Each school building will be cleaned every day and high use surfaces like desks, door handles, hand rails, tables and bus seats will be sanitized multiple times throughout the day. Deep cleanings by our custodial staff, performed on Wednesdays and over the weekend, will be more extensive and will additionally include areas that students and staff do not normally touch.

Special Education - The Oriskany Central School District is required to provide: a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those providing special education and services, meaningful parental engagement regarding the provision of services to their child, collaboration between the Committee on Preschool Special Education/Committee on Special Education (CPSE/CSE) and program providers representing the variety of settings where students are served, access to the necessary instructional and technological supports to meet the unique needs of students and documentation of programs, services and communications with parents.

We will consider in-person services a priority for high-need students and preschool students with disabilities whenever possible and consider contingency plans developed by the CPSE/CSE to address remote learning needs in the event of intermittent or extended school closures. To best meet the needs of our families, and to be in compliance with safety guidelines, the District will be providing virtual CSE and CPSE meetings. On an individual basis, the district will consider in-person meetings, at the request of the family.

Buildings and Grounds/Facilities - We will promote social distancing while maintaining existing safety requirements designed to protect students. To accomplish this, the Oriskany Central School District will expand their physical footprint and change the way we utilize space in each of the classrooms by advertising and posting signage in the hallways, the cafeteria, gymnasiums and other common meeting areas.

Nutrition - We will meet all requirements to provide all enrolled students with access to school meals each school day whether school is in-person or remote, address all applicable health and safety guidelines and ensure compliance with Child Nutrition Program requirements.

Transportation - Services will be provided to all students with consistency and equity. Our District will be required to: perform regular school bus disinfection measures, train students and school bus staff regarding social distancing on the bus, at stops, and at unloading times and train students and staff regarding the wearing of masks. Both students and drivers will wear masks and social distance on the bus. Our District will continue to provide transportation to homeless students, students in foster care, those who attend religious, independent or charter schools and students with disabilities.



Social Emotional Well Being - As school and district personnel adapt to environments that result in substantially less time spent interacting in-person, ensuring intentional and meaningful inclusion of social emotional learning (SEL) across all aspects of operating strategies is critical to support the well-being and success of students, staff and families. Along with physical health and well-being, the Oriskany Central School District will also prioritize social emotional well-being – not at the expense of academics, but in order to create the mental, social and emotional space for academic learning to occur.

Technology - Adequate access to a computing device and high-speed broadband is essential for educational equity. We will determine the level of access all students and teachers have in their places of residence, to the extent practicable, address the need to provide devices and internet access to students and teachers who currently do not have sufficient access and provide multiple ways for students to participate in learning and demonstrate their mastery of the learning standards in remote and hybrid instructional models.

The District will provide instruction on using technology and IT support for students, teachers and families and provide professional development for teachers and leaders on designing effective online/remote learning experiences.

Attendance of Students - We will develop a mechanism to collect and report daily teacher student engagement or attendance. A procedure will be developed to make daily contact with students in remote or hybrid settings. School policies and procedures must focus on the academic concerns of lost instructional time and address absences before students fall behind in school. The District will use a variety of creative methods to reach out to students and their families who have not engaged in distance learning. The District will be required to report 180 days of attendance for the 2020-2021 school year for all in-person and remote learning.

Please Note - Student schedules and school day operations could change based upon any new guidance updates given to us throughout the school year. We will do our best to communicate any and all of those changes as quickly as possible and to the best of our ability. Additionally, it is important that you check the District website frequently for updates and/or contact the District Office, your building Principals, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction or me, should you have any additional questions or concerns throughout these unprecedented times. We are here to help and assist you in any way possible as we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mrs. Melissa Lowell – Director of Curriculum and Instruction
mlowell@oriskanycsd.org

Mr. Jamie Grimshaw – Jr./Sr. High School Principal
jgrimshaw@oriskanycsd.org

Mr. Mark Ranieri – N.A. Walbran Elementary Principal
mranieri@oriskanycsd.org

And, please, kindly, remember to take care of yourself, your family and your loved ones first. Reach out to others when you need support. Do not hesitate to reach out to our school support staff should you need additional assistance or guidance during these difficult times.

As you go about your day, no matter how difficult, have confidence in your ability to draw on your inner strength and support systems. We will persevere!

Be safe, be well and be strong.

Respectfully,
Timothy J. Gaffney

Superintendent of Schools
Oriskany Central School District
tgaffney@oriskanycsd.org

Oriskany Earns Silver Medal in “America’s Best High Schools”

Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School has been awarded a silver medal by U.S. News and World Report. The U.S. News rankings include data on more than 24,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia.



Schools were awarded gold, silver or bronze medals based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college. Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School is ranked 3,687th in the National Rankings, 323rd out of 1,217 within New York state and sixth within Utica, NY metro area high schools.

To produce the rankings, U.S. News and World Report based its methodology on the key principle that a great high school educates all students from different social and economic backgrounds, exposing them to challenging coursework on the path to graduation. According to U.S. News & World Report, the highest ranked U.S. public schools are those whose attendees demonstrated outstanding outcomes above expectations in math and reading state assessments, passed a diverse array of college-level exams and graduated in high proportions. U.S. News ranked approximately 17,790 public high schools out of more than 24,000 reviewed, by summing their weighted scores across six indicators of school quality, then computing for each school a single zero to 100 overall score reflective of performance across these metrics.

“Receiving this recognition from the U.S. News and World Report is a tremendous honor and is a tribute to our educators pre-K through grade twelve who work as a team to provide our students with outstanding learning opportunities,” said Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mr. Grimshaw.

“The efforts from staff along with the dedication of our students and families is what makes an award like this possible and I am extremely proud to be a part of this tradition.”



Dear Parents, Students, and Families of N.A. Walbran Elementary,

I am so excited to be joining the Oriskany team as the new building Principal at N.A. Walbran Elementary School! My official start date was July 13, and I have been working throughout the summer to get to know our N.A. Walbran families and prepare for the new school year. Most recently, I served as the Dean of Students at Perry Junior High School in the New Hartford Central School District. Prior to that, I served the Rome City School District as an instructional coach and an elementary special education teacher.

It goes without saying that this time in public education is an uncertain one for students, parents, and teachers. The N.A. Walbran staff and I will stay in good communication with families to continue to provide a high-quality education for our students. Thank you in advance for your flexibility, patience and support.

I would like to first and foremost extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated elementary faculty and staff. They have been working hard over the summer to prepare for our "new normal" in terms of daily instruction and dedicating time and energy in order to refine how to best reach students both virtually as well as in-person, socially distanced. As always, our N.A. Walbran teachers and staff have gone above and beyond in order to provide the best possible instruction for all students. Pre-K through grade two classrooms are the recipients of beautiful new Promethean Boards to facilitate interactive instruction. We are also excited to have two sections of our new, full-day pre-K program ready for our little ones this fall, and to introduce them to a love of learning that we hope will last a lifetime!

Thanks are in order for our team of custodians who have taken great pride in preparing our school for the fall by removing desks to allow for social distancing, thorough cleaning, installing several new water bottle stations and hand sanitizer pumps in the hallways and keeping our building running smoothly. In particular, we would like to recognize our custodian Mr. Tim Lee, who retired this September and dedicated many years to the well-being and upkeep of N.A. Walbran Elementary school. Mr. Lee, you will be greatly missed.

Last, but certainly not least, we are grateful to our administrative assistant, Mrs. Valerie Schmadel, for her hard work over the summer helping to keep everything running smoothly for our students. Teachers, staff and parents are continually grateful for Mrs. Schmadel's dedication.

As always, if I may be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 315-768-2137. I look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

Mark J. Ranieri

Elementary School Principal



Hello Students, Parents/Guardians and Community Members:

I hope you are having a safe and enjoyable summer vacation. We have been wrapping up the 2019-20 school year and looking forward to a fresh start in 2020. With many variables regarding the 2020-21 school year still to be determined, we are continuing to prepare to partner with you to have the best experience possible this year!

Staff has been busy this summer participating in a variety of professional development opportunities, many that are focused on how we continue to improve our effectiveness as educators in this very uncertain return to learning in the 2020-21 school year. There have been several offerings to help improve our ability to teach remotely should the need arise again and also additional strategies to utilize technology effectively. We have also been working on strategies to continuously provide a strong social/emotional support system for our students when they return.

Aside from keeping the outside of our buildings and grounds beautiful, classrooms, hallways and common areas have once again been thoroughly cleaned and prepared for the return of students by our outstanding maintenance team. All classrooms have been completely emptied and cleaned and desks have been thoroughly sanitized in preparation for the eventual return of our students. We are striving to ensure the safety and health of our students and staff is our top priority when they are able to physically be back in school together.

On the instructional front, we have been busy with some new staff hires and are extremely excited about the new additions to several of our departments in the building. We are also very excited that our Learning Center will be in year two of existence as demand grew throughout the 2019-20 school year. We are also in the process of installing 10 new Promethean Boards in several classrooms in the building. These boards provide increased ability for interactive instructional measures when delivering material to our students and allows them to continually increase their comfort level utilizing technology in the classroom.

As we move into the 2020-21 school year, we are hoping to have students back on campus and to provide as many traditional activities as possible.

We are committed to ensuring that our students leave Oriskany Central School District with the skills needed to be college and career successful. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Jamie Grimshaw
Jr/Sr HS Principal



Oriskany Central School's Fourth Marking Period Honor Roll 2019-2020

Highest Honor Roll: 94.5-100.0

Grade 12
Steven Armstrong
Savannah Austin
Katie Bowers
Lea Colangelo
Kara Daskiewich
Colton Davis
Ryan Fish
Joshua Macera
Erin Mason
Taylor Reid
Ainsley Sawyer
Jaden Sharlow
Lauren Stokes
Sofia Tagliaferri
Joshua Thompson

Grade 11
Nathan Corrigan
Ashley Cronizer
Samantha DeFabio
Valentin Gergi
Lacey Gruet
Kegan Kraeger
Madison Lisberg
Isabella Pepe
Lucas Sciorilli
Trevor Tamburino
Christian Uvino
James Whittaker

Grade 10
Arianna Armstrong
Harsh Bhavsar
Ashley Burnop
Alexander Burrows
Jordyn Carlo
Madeline Denison
Nicholas DeRiso
Emily Frank
Kaley Hamm
Kourtney Hines
Alexis Lasher
Tyler Macera
Patrick Maher
Emily Miller
Emily Moulton
Eric Noga
Ashley Reid
Janae Reid
Jason Reid
Isabella Romano
Ryan Shackett
Gianna Welker
Anna Zumbrun

Grade 9
Olivia Balfé
Karsten Bates
Kaylee Burnop
David Cronauer
Rachel Daskiewich
Ryan Donohue
Sydney Hight
Gabrielle Koenig
Mya Melvin
Jenna Palmiotto
Payton Smith

Juliet Tagliaferri
Jack Tamburino
Crispin Velardi
Joshua Zyskowski

Grade 8
Skyler Albin
Javante Brill-Rollins
Kaelyn Buehler
Jake Burrows
Darryn Danielski
Anna Kasperovich
Gabriel Kent
Anthony Kernan
Gannon Lisberg
Seth Marenic
Brooke Matys
Madelyn Race
Derek Rieben
Alivia Rizzo
Katie Saladin
Noah Sciorilli
Kylie Thierry
Megan Wright
Arnold Zumbrun

Grade 7
Kate Dellers
Nathan Domenico
Brienne Eldred
Jared Filey
Gavin Franz
Collin Hessler
Jullian Jalowiec
Thomas Maher
Thomas Murphy
Erika Reid
Jack Tagliaferri
Maggie Tylutki
Jessica Zyskowski

High Honor Roll: 89.50-94.49

Grade 12
Julia Bates
Elizabeth Battle
Mackenzie Buck
Alyssa Cassevah
Lauren Domenico
Aeron Hamm
Angelina Hays
John Maher III
Hunter Pratt

Grade 11
Brooklyn Baye
Jake Fall
Andrew Pysnik
Makinsey Schriver
Phelan Shannon
Cara Waterman

Grade 10
Zachary Combs
Nicholas Cortese
Faith Doyle
Emmanuela Gergi
Robert Richie
Paris Welker
Sophia Zinicola

Grade 9
Jordyn Coleman
Carmelle Cooper
Miranda Foss

Grade 8
Rachelle Cooper
Kaelyn Fabbio
Daniel Kraus
Matthew Matys
Paige Mazur
Briannah Wishart
Kyla Zabek

Grade 7
Guilianna Ameduri
Emerson Appler
Ryan Birt
Leah Denison
Sean Graziano
Nicholas Hays
Chase Koenig
Joshua Lee
Gianna Santucci
David Zinicola Jr.

Honor Roll: 84.00-89.49

Grade 12
Jash Bhavsar
Connor Broadbent
Ethan Burrows
Dominick Cosimeno
Matthew Gregg
Brayden Hemming
Ryan Jock
Sophia Santucci
Giovani Silvestri

Grade 11
Lincoln Armstrong
Samantha Bordiuk
Ryan Coleman
Aiden Fabbio
Gianni Falatico
Jaden Oshel
Bianca Sebastian
Ryan Smoulcey
Fabian Speciale

Grade 10
Caleb Eldred
Alivia Franz
Avery Roberts
Ty Zizzi

Grade 9
Hannah Edwards
Owen Fall
Julianna Jones
Christopher Morgan
Aolani Roberts
Justin Rosinski
Jacob Usyk
Jakob Van Etten

Grade 8
McKenzie Frank
Peyton Hemming
Gavin Howd
Katelyn Shams
Ryan Skinner
Sadie Spears

FamilyID Athletic Registration!

The fall sports season will begin shortly and by New York State Education Law, students participating in sports are required to have a yearly physical and complete an updated Athletic Health History Form.

Oriskany is excited to continue offering the convenience of online athletic registration through FamilyID. For instruction on how to register your child for an upcoming athletic team, please visit www.oriskanycsd.org/FamilyID. Online Registration for Fall JV and Varsity sport participants is currently open.

The only hard copy documentation that parents will need to provide the school with is the updated physical. Even if you chose to upload the physical onto your FamilyID account, the school will still require a hard copy for record keeping purposes. This documentation may be dropped off at the high school nurse's office Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Please be sure to check with our Director of Athletics, Mr. Kevin Jones, regarding any questions you may have in support of our high school athletic programs. Changes in athletic practices and procedures may occur due to the coronavirus pandemic, CDC, DOH and SED guidelines. Mr. Jones can be reached at kjones@oriskanycsd.org.

MySchoolBucks

The Oriskany Central School District now offers MySchoolBucks, a convenient online service that allows you to securely pay for your student's meals online using your credit/debit card or electronic check.

You can:

- Set Up Automatic Recurring Payments
- Track & Review Meal History
- Create Low Balance Alerts
- Make Payments with the Mobile App
- And More...

Sign up now!

- Registering for your FREE account is easy,
- go to <https://www.MySchoolBucks.com>.
- Create a secure account and never worry again about sending cash or checks with your student(s) to school again!

The Oriskany Central School District encourages everyone to use MySchool Bucks, especially as we start the 2020-2021 school year with a hybrid schedule.



Have a Smartphone?
Get the
MySchoolBucks
Mobile App for iPhone
and Android.



Congratulations Class of 2020!

We wish the Oriskany Senior High School Class of 2020 the very best as they enter college, the military and the workforce.

The Class of 2020 Virtual Commencement Ceremony was held on June 26, 2020 and was recorded on the front lawn of Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School on June 18, 2020. The ceremony included remarks from Superintendent Timothy Gaffney, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Jamie Grimshaw, Salutatorian, Angelina Hays and Valedictorian, Kara Daskiewich.

Our 2020 graduates will be attending the following colleges and institutions:

Binghamton University	Emerson College	SUNY Polytechnic Institute
Cazenovia College	Hilbert College	SUNY Polytechnic Institute/
Clarkson University	Mohawk Valley Community College	St. Elizabeth's College of Nursing
Colgate College	Northwest Lineman College	University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Cornell University	SUNY Canton	Utica College
Community College of Baltimore County	SUNY Cortland	Wilkes University

Our graduates will pursue the following areas of study and interest in the next year:

Accounting, Athletics, Behavioral Health, Biology, Business Administration, Business Economics, Childhood Education, Cognitive Neuroscience, Communications/Digital & Media Art, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Creative Writing, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Electrical Service Technician, Engineering, Engineering and Management, Fitness, Graphic Design, Hearing and Speech Science, Health Science, Lineman, Mechanical Engineering, Nursing, Nutritional Sciences/Pre-Med, Photography/Graphic Design, Physics/Economics and Veterinary Technology. There are two graduates who will be serving our Nation by enlisting in the United States Marine Corps and several others who will be entering the workforce.



Oriskany Graduation 2020: Virtual and Traditional

Graduation, like many other aspects of the 2019-20 school year, was impacted by COVID-19. Our virtual graduation was filmed on June 18 in the front of the Jr./Sr. High School building in an attempt to keep with as much tradition as possible. The event was streamed on our website and also aired on WUTR TV on June 26. Through all of the preparation of our senior advisors, facilities staff and building staff, we were able to provide a memorable experience and production for our seniors and their families to enjoy.

Special thanks to Mr. Anthony Macera who put together a wonderful video of our seniors that encapsulated many of their experiences here at Oriskany CSD dating all the way back to their elementary years. The video can be found on our website. A second thank you to Mr. Bill Keeler who filmed, edited and produced the virtual graduation video and provided us with the opportunity to have it aired on network television.

On July 19, we were able to provide our seniors with a final send off in the form of a somewhat traditional graduation ceremony that took place on our beautiful football field. Due to the Governor's mandates, each senior was allowed to bring two guests as we all socially distanced through a ceremony that included the traditional speeches from the valedictorian and salutatorian as well as singing of both the Oriskany Alma Mater and the National Anthem. Friends and family members who were not able to attend were able to see the event live streamed on the district website.



New Staff Spotlight



Jessica Bates – High School Math Teacher

Ms. Bates is excited to be a part of the Oriskany School District as a high school math teacher, and to help her students achieve greatness. She received her bachelor's degree in mathematics/ adolescence education from

Utica College. Having completed her fieldwork observation hours at Oriskany CSD, Ms. Bates loved the close-knit environment and is very excited to begin her career at Oriskany CSD and to join in on the effort of helping each student to succeed.



Kevin Jones – Athletic Director

Mr. Jones is very excited to begin engaging and working with the Oriskany Central School District as the new Athletic Director. A graduate of Camden high school, Mr. Jones received a degree in sports management from SUNY Brockport, and completed

his master's degree in athletic administration in 2020. With a vision to make athletics in the District an environment where student athletes can learn, compete and grow, Mr. Jones is eager to assist in representing the great community of Oriskany.



Brittany Brown – Ready 4 Kindergarten (R4K) Family School Navigator

Ms. Brown is very excited to begin working with the Oriskany Central School District as the new R4K Family School Navigator. She graduated from SUNY Oneonta with a

bachelor's degree in child and family studies, and is currently a graduate student at Cazenovia College, studying mental health counseling. Being very passionate about helping others, Ms. Brown is excited to begin working with the families, school and community resources in helping Oriskany CSD children become as successful as they can possibly be.



Mark Ranieri – N.A. Walbran Principal

Mr. Ranieri is very excited to begin his tenure as the new principal at the N.A. Walbran Elementary School. Originally from Syracuse, Mr. Ranieri attended the State University of New York at Geneseo, earning a bachelor's degree in political science. He received

his master's degree from Le Moyne College in inclusive childhood education; obtaining teaching certification in grades Pre-K-6 in elementary and special education. Mr. Ranieri began his teaching career as a special education teacher for the Rome City School District at the elementary level and most recently served as the Dean of Students at Ralph W. Perry Junior High School in the New Hartford Central School District. He and his wife, Nina, are the proud parents of five children. Mr. Ranieri is looking forward to becoming a part of the Oriskany Central School District family.



Stacey Caruso – Fifth and Sixth Grade ELA Teacher

Ms. Caruso is excited to join the Oriskany family as an elementary school ELA teacher. She received her associate's degree in liberal science for elementary education at Mohawk

Valley Community College and then went on to complete her bachelor's degree in elementary education at Oneonta State. Most recently, Ms. Caruso was a Pre-K teaching assistant at Notre Dame elementary school. A mother to three children of her own, she enjoys most seeing her students succeed. Ms. Caruso is eager to join the inviting and welcoming community of Oriskany elementary school educators.



Stacey Sommer – High School English Teacher

Ms. Sommer is thrilled to be a part of the Oriskany School District as a high school English teacher. Having been teaching for 17 years, Ms. Sommer received her bachelor's degree in English/secondary education from Mount St. Mary College and went

on to receive her master's degree in literacy from SUNY Cortland. Being an avid reader and writer growing up, Ms. Sommer became a teacher wanting to open up the avenue of possibilities to others. She loves that Oriskany CSD prides itself on innovation and growth while supporting all students, and is looking forward to being a part of the small, close-knit community.



Amanda George – High School Special Education Teacher

Ms. George is excited to be a part of the Oriskany School District as a high school special education teacher. She received her bachelor's degree in adolescence education

and then went on to complete her master's degree in adolescence special education from Binghamton University. Most recently, Ms. George was an English teacher at Roxbury Central School. Having chosen to be a teacher due to her love of helping children to explore and learn, Ms. George loves the small school atmosphere at Oriskany CSD and cannot wait to develop relationships with both her students and the staff.



Brittany Zayas – Elementary Special Education Teacher

Ms. Zayas is excited to begin the next chapter of her educational career in the Oriskany Central School District as an elementary school special education teacher. She currently resides in Utica with her

husband, two children and dog. Ms. Zayas received a bachelor's degree in liberal studies with a concentration in early childhood and childhood education. She received her master's degree in special education from Niagara University. Most recently, Ms. Zayas was a special education teacher providing in-home early intervention services to children ages 0-3 through Upstate Cerebral Palsy. Next to her love of teaching is her love of being a mom, and she looks forward to being a part of the close-knit Oriskany family and District.



Summer Academic Enrichment Program

The changes in programming caused by the COVID-19 pandemic continued into the summer months as the state announced they would not be providing a traditional summer school program. The Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School partnered with the Oriskany Public Library to offer students the opportunity to fill in some academic gaps that were attributed to the shift to remote instruction midway through the school year. Certified teachers in English, math and social Studies worked with students in a small, socially distanced setting to provide the in-person format that has been absent since the middle of March. Student's benefitted from having direct attention from teachers who addressed the areas of need and were able to help provide a stronger foundation necessary for effective instruction in September. For the second year in a row, the district provided transportation to any student who needed it.

Summer Student Employment Program

As we navigate this very unusual time, some things, including our summer student employment program, remain the same. Each summer, the Oriskany Central School District provides employment opportunities to several of our students. The positions are available in the areas of maintenance, technology and business office operations.

Each of these opportunities provide students with experiences that allow them to grow and mature. To begin, students are asked to complete the Oriskany employment and Civil Service applications. Then, once a student is hired, he/she must complete all of the appropriate onboarding materials. This gives the students valuable and hands-on life experience for future employment. Once students begin working, they are made aware of District expectations and many times are given the autonomy to perform various tasks, thereby helping to develop their sense of self. The Oriskany Central School District is proud to invest in our students and we appreciate the support of the Oriskany Board of Education with this program.

**Dear Parent/Guardian:**

Children need healthy meals to learn. Your school district offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$1.25** and lunch costs **\$2.75**. Your child(ren) may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York state who are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals at no charge.

- 1. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?** No, complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to your child's school.
- 2. WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS?** All children in households receiving benefits from **SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations** or **TANF**, can get free meals regardless of your income. Categorical eligibility for free meal benefits is extended to all children in a household when the application lists an Assistance Program's case number for any household member. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Households with children who are categorically eligible through an Other Source Categorically Eligible designation, as defined by law, may be eligible for free benefits and should contact the SFA for assistance in receiving benefits.
- 3. CAN FOSTER CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?** Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court, are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income. Foster children may also be included as a member of the foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for benefits for other children. Including children in foster care as household members may help other children in the household qualify for benefits. If non-foster children in a foster family are not eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits, an eligible foster child will still receive free benefits.
- 4. CAN HOMELESS, RUNAWAY, AND MIGRANT CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?** Yes, children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call 315-738-0848 to see if they qualify.
- 5. WHO CAN GET REDUCED PRICE MEALS?** Your children may be approved as reduced price eligible if your household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Chart, shown on this letter. Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals and snacks served through the Afterschool Snack Program at no charge.
- 6. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS?** Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call 315-738-0848 if you have questions.
- 7. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT ANOTHER ONE?** Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for up to the first 30 operating days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
- 8. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILD(REN) GET FREE MEALS?** Children in households participation in WIC *may* be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out a Free/Reduced Price Meal Application.
- 9. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?** Yes, and we may also ask you to send written proof.
- 10. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER?** Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free or reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- 11. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION?** You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling 315-738-0848.
- 12. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
- 13. WHO SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.
- 14. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME?** List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1,000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1,000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
- 15. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE INCLUDE OUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE AS INCOME?** If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
- 16. MY SPOUSE IS DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE. IS HIS/HER COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME?** No, if the combat pay is received in addition to his/her basic pay because of his/her deployment and it wasn't received before he/she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.
- 17. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP, ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR?** To find out how to apply for **SNAP** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call **1-800-342-3009**.

**2020-2021 Income Eligibility Guidelines
For Free And Reduced Price Meals Or Free Milk**

REDUCED PRICE ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART

Total Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 23,606	\$ 1,968	\$ 984	\$ 908	\$ 454
2	\$ 31,894	\$ 2,658	\$ 1,329	\$ 1,227	\$ 614
3	\$ 40,182	\$ 3,349	\$ 1,675	\$ 1,546	\$ 773
4	\$ 48,470	\$ 4,040	\$ 2,020	\$ 1,865	\$ 933
5	\$ 56,758	\$ 4,730	\$ 2,365	\$ 2,183	\$ 1,092
6	\$ 65,046	\$ 5,421	\$ 2,711	\$ 2,502	\$ 1,251
7	\$ 73,334	\$ 6,112	\$ 3,056	\$ 2,821	\$ 1,411
8	\$ 81,622	\$ 6,802	\$ 3,401	\$ 3,140	\$ 1,570
*Each Add'l person add	\$ 8,288	\$ 691	\$ 346	\$ 319	\$ 160

HOW TO APPLY: To get free or reduced price meals for your children carefully complete one application following the instructions for your household and return it to the designated office listed on the application. If you now receive SNAP, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) for any children or participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the application must include the children's names, the household SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. All children should be listed on the same application. If you do not list a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number for any household member, the application must include the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member, and how often it is received and where it comes from. It must include the signature of an adult household member and the last four digits of that adult's social security number or check the box if the adult does not have a social security number. **An application for free and reduced price benefits cannot be approved unless complete eligibility information is submitted, as indicated on the application and in the instructions.** Contact your local Department of Social Services for your SNAP or TANF case number or complete the income portion of the application. No application is necessary if the household was notified by the SFA their children have been directly certified. If the household is not sure if their children have been directly certified, the household should contact the school.

REPORTING CHANGES: The benefits that you are approved for at the time of application are effective for the entire school year and up to 30 operating days into the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first). You no longer need to report changes for an increase in income or decrease in household size, or if you no longer receive SNAP.

INCOME EXCLUSIONS: The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development (Block Grant) Fund should not be considered as income for this program.

REDUCED PRICE ELIGIBLE STUDENTS: Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals and snacks served through the Afterschool Snack Program at no charge.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability.

MEAL SERVICE TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES: Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to children with a disability which may restrict their diet. A student with a disability is defined in 7CFR Part 15b.3 of Federal regulations, as one who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual, a record of such an impairment or being regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include but are not limited to: functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working. You must request meal modifications from the school and provide the school with medical statement from a State licensed healthcare professional. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information, as there is specific information that the medical statement must contain.

CONFIDENTIALITY: The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the release of students names and eligibility status, without parent/guardian consent, to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of federal education programs such as Title I and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which are United States Department of Education programs used to determine areas such as the allocation of funds to schools, to evaluate socioeconomic status of the school's attendance area, and to assess educational progress. Information may also be released to State health or State education programs administered by the State agency or local education agency, provided the State or local education agency administers the program, and federal State or local nutrition programs similar to the National School Lunch Program. Additionally, all information contained in the free and reduced price application may be released to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or Child Nutrition Act (CNA); including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, the Special Milk Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC); the Comptroller General of the United States for audit purposes, and federal, State or local law enforcement officials investigating alleged violation of the programs under the NSLA or CNA.

REAPPLICATION: You may apply for benefits any time during the school year. Also, if you are not eligible now, but during the school year become unemployed, have a decrease in household income, or an increase in family size you may request and complete an application at the time.

The disclosure of eligibility information not specifically authorized by the NSLA requires a written consent statement from the parent/guardian. We will let you know when your application is approved or denied.

Sincerely,

Kate Dorr, RDN, MBA
OHM BOCES School Food Service Director

Date Withdrew _____

Attachment Va F ___ R ___ D ___

2020-2021 Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals/Milk

To apply for free and reduced price meals for your children, read the instructions on the back, complete **only one** form for your household, sign your name and **return it to the Oriskany Central School District**. Call 315-738-0848 if you need help. Additional names may be listed on a separate paper.

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

Student Name	School	Grade/Teacher	Foster Child	Homeless, Migrant, Runaway
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Benefits:

If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. **Skip to Part 4, and sign the application.**

IF ELIGIBLE, **MUST** PROVIDE CASE OR FOOD STAMP NUMBER

Name: _____ CASE# _____

3. Report all income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'yes' to step 2)

All Household Members (including yourself and all children that have income).

List all Household members not listed in Step 1 (including yourself) **even if they do not receive income**. For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total income for each source in whole dollars only. If they do not receive income from any other source, write '0'. If you enter '0' or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report.

Name of household member <i>LIST EVERYONE EMPLOYED OR NOT</i>	Earnings from work before deductions <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Child Support, Alimony <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Pensions, Retirement Payments <i>Amount / How Often</i>	Other Income, Social Security <i>Amount / How Often</i>	No Income
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total Household Members (Children and Adults) Last Four Digits of Social Security Number: XXX-XX-_____
I do not have a SS#

*When completing section 3, an adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SS#), or mark the "I do not have a SS# box" before the application can be approved.

4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application before it can be approved.

I certify (promise) that all of the information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given so the school will get federal funds; the school officials may verify the information and if I purposely give false information, I may be prosecuted under applicable State and federal laws, and my children may lose meal benefits.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email Address: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

5. Ethnicity and Race are optional; responding to this section does not affect your child(ren)'s eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (Check one or more): American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Island White

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE — FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application)
Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12

SNAP/TANF/Foster
 Income Household: Total Household Income/How Often: _____ Household Size: _____
 Free Meals Reduced Price Meals Denied/Paid
Signature of Reviewing Official _____ Date Notice Sent: _____



N.A. Walbran Pre-K to be Full-day Beginning in September

The 2020-21 school year will bring an exciting change for our pre-K students at N.A. Walbran Elementary School.

Beginning in September, our pre-K program will consist of two full-day sections. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our littlest folks to have a strong, well-structured introduction to elementary school. To be eligible, a child must turn 4 by December 1, 2020. Transportation will be provided, as well as breakfast and lunch. Please see our district website to apply.

Should you have any questions regarding our Pre-K program, please contact Mr. Mark Ranieri, our N.A. Walbran building Principal for additional information or updates.

Notices

Child Care/Alternate Transportation Request

If your child/children will be picked up or dropped off regularly at a location other than their home, please send a letter to the Transportation Supervisor. This letter needs to be done every school year and should be received no later than one week prior to school opening. If you have any questions, please call the Transportation Supervisor at 315.768.2060.

Annual Asbestos Notification

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1987 (AHERA), a copy of the Oriskany Central School building inspection report and management plan is available for review during business hours by appointment. Please contact Mark Santomassino at 315.768.2058 if you need to set up an appointment or if you have any questions. Last year, Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES performed the 6 month inspection in April of 2019, as per AHERA.

Pesticide Notification

The Oriskany Central School District uses current Integrated Pest Management practices to reduce the use of pesticides in our buildings and on our grounds. It may be necessary, however, to use pesticides periodically during the year.

New York State law requires that schools maintain a list of staff and parents who wish to receive written notice 48 hours prior to a pesticide application at their school facility. If you wish to be included on this notification list or for further information regarding the pesticide program, please contact Mark Santomassino at 315.768.2023.