



# SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEF

Dr. Genelle Morris

VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 5 | March 2024

## A Message from Dr. Morris:

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

As we continue through the promising month of March, I would like to share some exciting updates and initiatives across our school district.



### *Continuing to Prioritize Safety and Security: Our Utmost Commitment*

Considering recent events, I want to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the safety and security of all students and staff within our schools. We continuously strive to maintain a nurturing environment where everyone feels safe, valued, and supported. To that end, we have continued our safety protocols and procedures, conducted regular drills and examinations of our safety plans, and enhanced our partnerships with law enforcement and community agencies. We will remain vigilant in our efforts to uphold the highest safety standards throughout our district.

### *Introducing the New Husky Huddle: A Platform for Unity and Engagement*

I am pleased to introduce the latest addition to our school community - the Husky Huddle! This innovative platform aims to foster a sense of unity and engagement among students, faculty, and families. Through the Husky Huddle, we will provide a space for open communication, collaboration, and celebration of our collective achievements. Whether sharing success stories, announcing upcoming events, or seeking feedback, the Husky Huddle will serve as a vital hub for our community.

### *Please tune into our discussion!*

You can find the Husky Huddle at our website: <https://www.oleanschools.org>. You can also subscribe to our podcast on Apple, Spotify, and many other podcast platforms.





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## A Message from Dr. Morris (continued):

Looking Ahead: Developing a New Budget for the Future

One of our primary objectives in the next months will be presenting a new budget for the upcoming school year. This process requires careful consideration of various factors, including our strategic plan, student needs, resource allocation, and community priorities. We are committed to maintaining fiscal responsibility while ensuring our schools have the resources to provide a high-quality education for all students. Your input and feedback will be invaluable as we work together to shape the future of our district.

In closing, I want to thank each member of our school community for their ongoing support and dedication. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence and create a learning environment where every student can thrive.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Genelle Morris*  
Superintendent  
Olean City School District

## Homework Solutions for OHS students:

Let us help you solve your homework problems. Open and available to all Olean High School students.



### Homework Solutions

ROOM 238  
2:45PM-4:15PM

LET US HELP YOU SOLVE YOUR  
HOMEWORK PROBLEMS!  
SCIENCE – MATH  
ENGLISH – HISTORY

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!



SNACKS, DRINKS, WEEKLY ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES!

[www.oleanschools.org](http://www.oleanschools.org)



## Harold Dutton Spotlight Award:

During the month of February, the following students were awarded the Harold Dutton Student Spotlight Award:

- Lokesh Anumalasetty
- Legend Fisher
- Isreal Greene
- Maison Hirliman
- Rosco Klute
- Joe Mest
- Megan Morgan
- Cali Weber

*Congrats!*



Individuals who received the February Harold Dutton Award were seen doing the right thing, showing good character, performing well in school or other positive actions are recognized for living up to a model set by former district employee, Mr. Harold Dutton.



### Celebrating the 100th Day of School:

Tuesday, February 13th marked the 100th Day of School and to celebrate, our Husky Pups dressed to be 100-years-old.





## National Honor Society Induction Ceremony:

In a recent ceremony held at The Pulaski Club in Olean, twenty-four exceptional students were inducted into the prestigious National Honor Society (NHS). These students have demonstrated not only academic excellence but also a commitment to leadership, service, and character.

Requirements for NHS induction include: maintaining a minimum overall academic average of 90 throughout their high school career, participating in school clubs/activities, volunteering for community-related events, and submission of a reference letter that highlights their character.

The induction ceremony, attended by faculty, parents, and fellow students, highlighted the accomplishments and virtues of each inductee.

The National Honor Society is a nationwide organization that recognizes and promotes outstanding high school students. Membership is a testament to a student's commitment to academic achievement and community involvement.

The inductees have not only excelled academically but have also made significant contributions to the school community through various service projects and leadership initiatives.





### OIMS Character Ed Assembly:

The Olean Intermediate Middle School held a Character Education Assembly on January 26th, recognizing Huskies for displaying the character trait, "COOPERATION!" SAC members discussed COOPERATION and the "No One Eats Alone" campaign. The Girls Varsity Basketball Team spoke about the importance of displaying COOPERATION on a sports team. The assembly wrapped up with recognizing Huskies that have been displaying COOPERATION in the halls of OIMS!





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## Universal Pre-K Visit & Registration Nights:

We are inviting all families with young Husky Pups to register for Universal Pre-K next year. Children are eligible for Olean's Universal Pre-K program if they are Olean City School District residents and will be 4 years old by December 1, 2024 (but not yet 5 years old). Classrooms are available at East View Elementary, Washington West Elementary, and the Olean Head Start Center.

The 2024-25 Universal Pre-K Registration form will be posted online beginning Monday, March 25th, at <https://www.oleanschools.org/registration>. Paper copies of the form will be provided at the Visit and Registration Night. Registration forms are due by Friday, April 12th. Registrations received after that date will be accepted based on availability. Families do not need to bring any documentation to the Visit and Registration Night. Please contact Jen Mahar, Director of Special Programs, at 716-375-8039 or [jmahar@oleanschools.org](mailto:jmahar@oleanschools.org) for more information.

# Universal Pre-K

## 2024-25 Visit and Registration Night

**East View Elementary**  
Tuesday, March 26th 5:30-6:30 PM  
Please enter at the Bus Circle Doors using the parking lot off Alder Street.

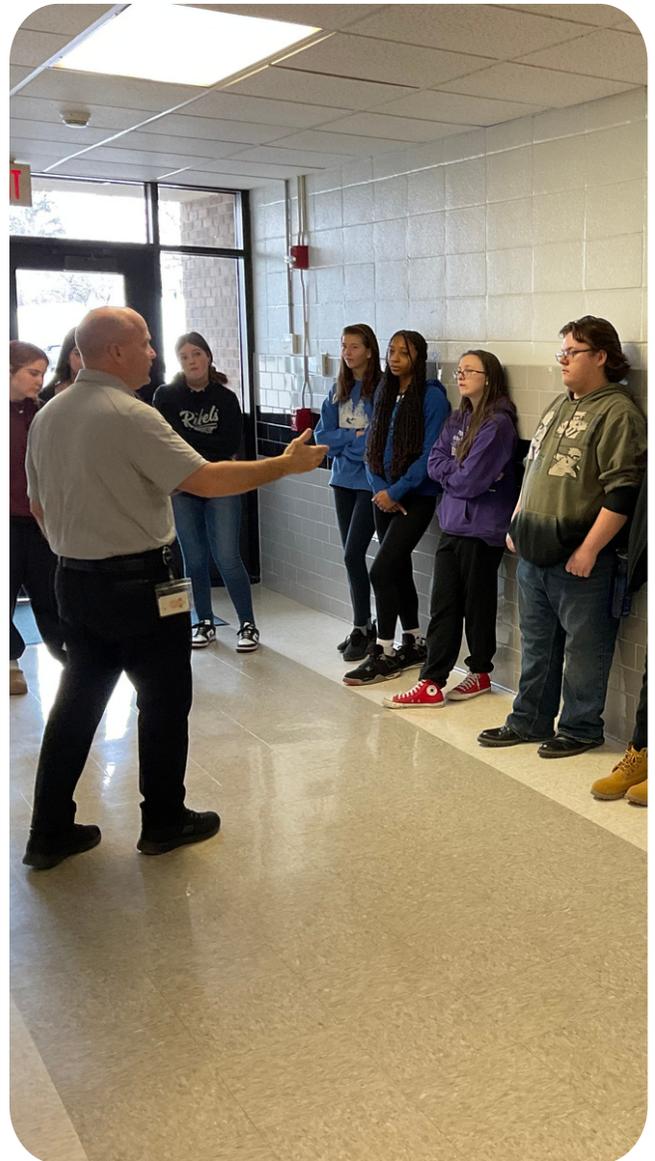
**Washington West Elementary**  
Wednesday, March 27th 5:30-6:30 PM  
Please enter at Door "E" using the parking lot at the back of the building off North 15th Street.

Families are invited to visit the Universal Pre-K classrooms at our schools to learn more about our program and begin the registration process. Children are welcome but not required to attend. Please see below for more information.



## February is National CTE Month:

In recognition of February being National Career & Technical Education Month, Olean High School Sophomores visited the Olean Career & Technical Education (CTE) Center to learn about all the potential opportunities available for their future education.





### Poetry Out Loud:

On February 15th, at Buffalo State College, Riti Anumalasetty and Rose Scordo competed at the regional competition of Poetry Out Loud. Congratulations to Rose who won first place. She will be competing at the state competition in New York City in March.



*Congrats!*



### Spring Break Reminder:

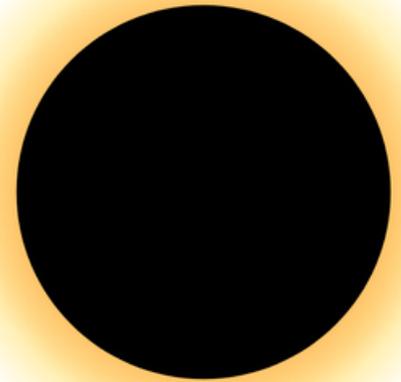
There is no school Friday, March 29th - Friday, April 5th.





## Total Eclipse Preparation:

On April 8, a total eclipse is expected to draw crowds from around the country to Western New York. The National Weather Service predicts that there will be a partial eclipse in the Olean area, which will commence at 2:04 PM, a partial eclipse at 3:18 PM, lasting about three minutes, and conclude around 4:45 PM. Given the timing of this event, which would coincide with our regular dismissal times, we are planning for an early dismissal on April 8 for students, categorizing this as an “Emergency” closing day.



Students will receive breakfast, a packed lunch, and some instruction that day. That day, we will also distribute the safety glasses we purchased for our students to view the event safely.

### Student early release dismissal times for April 8, 2024 are as follows:

- East View – 11:00am
- Washington West – 11:00am
- OIMS – 11:25am
- OHS – 11:20am

## The Husky Huddle:

On February 14th, Dr. Genelle Morris released the first episode of her new podcast, “The Husky Huddle.” Dr. Morris will have guest visitors on her podcast discussing all the great things happening within the Olean City School District.

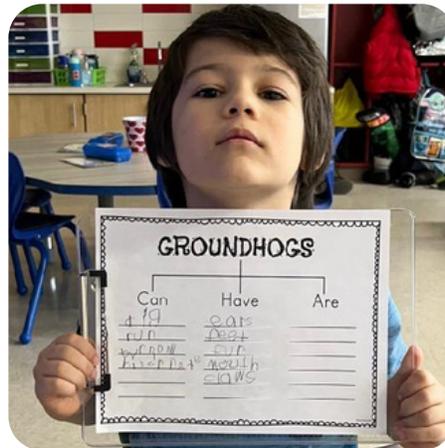
Tune in to “The Husky Huddle” by checking out the Superintendent tab on the OCSD website.





## Celebrating Groundhog Day:

These Husky Pups helped make some predictions about the groundhog giving us an early Spring. After learning all about what groundhogs can do, it was all about seeing whether or not the big guy saw his shadow! Springtime - here we come!



## Boys Swim Team:

Senior members of the Olean High School Boys Swim Team pose with their mentors. The students gave their mentors a shirt and a card telling them why they were selected.





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### OHS Winter Assembly:





## OHS Winter Dance:





## CCMTA All-County Elementary Chorus:

Congratulations to the following Huskies that participated in the CCMTA All-County Elementary Chorus Festival at Allegany-Limestone: Nathaniel Lee, Emma Martial, Stella Austin, Ellie Tyler, Ally Adamski, Owen Talbot, Daks Perry, Nikolette Foster and Amirrea Neamon!



## Board of Education Candidate Nominating Petitions Available:

The election of members of the Board will be held to fill two (2) at-large positions on the board for a five (5) year terms commencing on July 1, 2024, and terminating on June 30, 2029. The terms of Ira Katzenstein and Alan Peters expire on June 30, 2024. To qualify for membership on the school board, an individual:

- Must be able to read and write;
- Must be a qualified voter of the district; that is, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age or older, and not adjudged to be an incompetent;
- Must be and have been a resident (but need not be a taxpayer) of the district for a continuous and uninterrupted period of at least one year immediately before the election;
- May not have been removed from any school district office within the preceding year;
- May not reside with another member of the same school board as a member of the same family;
- Candidates may not be a current employee of the school;
- May not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office.

If you are interested in obtaining a nominating petition, please contact the District Clerk at 375-8018. Petition must be signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified voters of the District, shall state the residence of each signer, and must be filed in the District Clerk's Office, 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean, NY no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 1, 2024.



## Coffee and Conversation with Dr. Morris:

The March 19th Coffee & Conversation with Dr. Morris was a success!

You are invited to the next Coffee Session with the Superintendent scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2024 from 7:30am to 8:30am at the Olean Intermediate Middle School. If you are interested in attending, please pre-register by emailing Melissa Biddle, OCSD Public Relations Specialist at [mbiddle@oleanschools.org](mailto:mbiddle@oleanschools.org).



## Stay in Touch:

Stay in touch by signing up to receive my digital Superintendent Briefs. Please click on the link provided in the initial facebook posting regarding this issue of the brief. If you have news you would like to potentially be included in an upcoming edition of the Superintendent's Brief, please email our Public Relations Specialist at [communications@oleanschools.org](mailto:communications@oleanschools.org). As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at [huskystrong@oleanschools.org](mailto:huskystrong@oleanschools.org)

- *Dr. Genelle Morris*

