



October 2023 – November 2023

Volume 20, Issue 2

“Home, School and Community Educating for Life”

OPENING DAY at OCSD



The Olean City School District Faculty celebrated the Opening Day of the 2023-24 School Year with two very special guests sharing an inspirational message to all staff. Brian Martin, second grade teacher at East View Elementary, and “Ted Lasso” portrayed by Tim Kolasinski, OHS Physical Education Teacher, touched our husky hearts with words of wisdom for the new school year.

As with any new school year, there will be new opportunities and new challenges. The first piece of wisdom was “You are not alone.” Brian and “Ted” explained that “Even in our toughest moments, none of us are alone.”

The second piece of wisdom was “Be Curious, Not Judgmental.” Brian and “Ted” encouraged us to understand that connecting with people around us helps reduce judgmental opinions that become toxic in our hearts. We were encouraged to “Ask 5 Questions and Give 5 Compliments” every day in order to connect with those around us and to build a school family.

And finally, the last piece of wisdom was “Believe.” “To believe in yourself, and to believe in one another, that’s fundamental to being alive.” Brian and “Ted” encouraged us to Believe in Believe as we start the new school year. Throughout the presentation, Brian told stories about our staff and how they make a difference in the lives of students.

The Husky Family was then provided lunch on the front lawn of OHS. Several small businesses from the community were part of the magic that made Opening Day for the 2023-24 School Year so memorable. They were Angee’s Restaurant, Mandy’s Flowers, Reid’s Food Barn, Jim’s Park & Shop, and Caya’s Canopies. Upon returning to school buildings, teachers and principals were provided Believe signs, in Olean Husky colors of yellow and red, to display in classrooms as a reminder to Believe.

Congratulations on Retirement!



Please join us in congratulating Mr. Jerry Trietley on his retirement from the Olean City School District. Mr. Trietley has served in education for over 30 years, 18 which he has spent at the Olean Intermediate Middle School. His contributions to the students, faculty, staff, administration, and the Olean community are to be commended. Congratulations Mr. Trietley!

Husky Window Wrap



A special shout out to the CA BOCES design and print shop for their recent completion of our new window wrap! This is Husky Territory!



Dear School Community,

As the leaves begin to change and the air takes on a crisp, autumnal feel, it is my pleasure to welcome you to this edition of our newsletter. This month, we have many exciting updates and events to share with you.

A Season of Learning

October is a month of transition in many ways. Students have settled into their routines, and teachers are delving deeper into the curriculum. It's a time of growth and exploration, both academically and personally. We encourage parents and guardians to stay engaged in their child's education, ask questions, and participate in school activities whenever possible. Together, we can provide a nurturing environment for our students to thrive.

Proposal Number One—Statewide Ballot Constitutional Amendment on Repeal of Debt Ceiling for Small City School Districts

I would like to bring to your attention the upcoming Constitutional Amendment vote on November 7, 2023. The proposed amendment to Article 8, section 4 of the Constitution removes the special constitutional debt limitation now placed on small city school districts so that they will be treated the same as all other school districts.

This November 7, a **YES** vote will allow small city school districts to operate under the same debt limit as all other non-city school districts in New York State. Currently, small city districts are limited to a 5% debt ceiling rather than the 10% debt ceiling all other non-city school districts operate under law.

Many of New York's 57 small city school districts must break up needed construction and improvement projects into a series of small projects spread over many years to remain under their debt limit. A 10% debt limit will allow such projects of larger scope and scale to be completed sooner with better financial efficiency.

The small cities, such as Olean, were named in the NYS Constitution in 1951 as a way to give control and responsibility for their fiscal affairs. This 5% limit is the lowest included in the Constitution or in Statute and now, in 2023, does the opposite, limits a small city district's ability to control their fiscal affairs.

Voter approval of the proposed constitutional amendment would not give small city schools special treatment—it would allow them to have the same debt limit as their suburban and rural counterparts.

A YES vote will not raise your taxes.

This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for impactful change for small city school districts such as Olean. Replacement of the 5% constitutional debt ceiling for small city school districts with a 10% statutory limit is essential to the continued integrity of our urban school infrastructure. Approval of this referendum will be a small but important step toward treating small city schools fairly and toward putting them on an equal footing with their peers serving suburban and rural communities. Failure to approve the referendum will impair the quality of small city programs and facilities to the great detriment of their students for many years to come. This referendum deserves your full and enthusiastic support.

Fall Extracurricular Activities

Our extracurricular programs are in full swing, offering students opportunities to explore their passions beyond the classroom. Whether it's sports, clubs, or creative arts, we encourage students to get involved and make the most of their school experience.

Celebrating Belonging in Our Schools

October is also National Bullying Prevention Month, which serves as a reminder of our commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all. We encourage parents, students, and staff to engage in conversations about belonging, respect, kindness, and acceptance. Together, we can create a school community that celebrates diversity and stands against bullying in all its forms.

Upcoming Events

Stay tuned for further details and updates on our website and social media channels.

As we enter this beautiful and transformative season, there will be many opportunities for growth, learning, and community-building. I want to express my gratitude to the entire school community for your dedication, resilience, and support. Together, we will make this school year a memorable and successful one for our students.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to your school's administration or to me directly.

Wishing you a wonderful October filled with learning, growth, and moments of joy.

Sincerely,
Dr. Genelle Morris
Superintendent
Olean City Schools

Welcome to Olean City School District!



A familiar face in the Olean City School District for many years is now serving as the new principal at Olean Intermediate Middle School.

Mrs. DiCerbo has been a teacher, an instructional coach and an assistant principal in the district serving for over 23 years. Mrs. DiCerbo has had an opportunity to circulate through several different buildings during her tenure here at Olean. Mrs. DiCerbo is looking forward to helping the district with their new strategic plan and getting the students excited about learning again. Mrs. DiCerbo lives in Olean with her husband and two children.



Hello Huskies! I am Jennifer Palaszynska-Mellott and I am honored to have been given the opportunity to help lead OHS forward as your High School Assistant Principal. I am a native of West Seneca, NY and have been in the field of education in both the classroom and school leadership since 2004. I believe that every student has the ability to succeed if they are willing to put in the work to help themselves. Further I believe that every student has an obligation to do so in order to do their part for the community by developing themselves into informed and engaged citizens. I hold it to be true that students, families, teachers, and school leaders must all work together to enable students to succeed. The system does not work as it should if one of those pillars is missing. Education is my second career. I am currently a Colonel in the US Army Reserves and have had a military career spanning over 30 years including time in the Regular Army and the NY Army National Guard. My Army career, which includes combat engagements in Afghanistan, has shaped my priorities and approach both personally and professionally. I very much looks forward to continue to bring my experience and talents to the Olean community.



Hello!

I am Dr. Michael Irizarry and I'm very excited to be joining the Olean City School District as your new Assistant Superintendent of Academic Services. Within the first couple of weeks, I could tell that Olean is an exceptional place to be.

Before this role, I taught Math for nine years at Maryvale Middle School and then worked as an administrator at Pioneer Schools for about 12 years. During that time, I held five different roles ranging from an assistant principal to Acting Assistant Superintendent.

Not only do I enjoy my work here at Olean, supporting Human Resources and Academics, but I also look forward to spending time supporting students and staff at various extracurricular activities and learning more about the culture of the school district and local community.

I live in Marilla with my wife, Laura, and two children, Dominic and Brianna. They, too, were eager to spend time with me in Olean meeting the Husky mascot, checking out my office, and meeting some of the staff!

Thank you for allowing me this unique opportunity to serve the Olean community!

Regards,

Dr. Michael Irizarry



Hello families and community members! I am Richard DiMartino and am happy to be taking on a new role in the district as an assistant principal. Thank you for welcoming me to the pack as I step into my newest role with the red and gold.

While watching sports would likely be my top hobby, I am also an avid nature enthusiast and simply enjoy being outdoors. Outside the school day, I truly enjoy spending time with family.

I began my career as a Physical Education teacher at Bolivar-Richburg Elementary School. Shortly after, I was fortunate to become a PE teacher at Olean Intermediate-Middle School - the building I've called home ever since. I am proud to be able to continue my career in Olean as a part of this pack. I look forward to working and growing alongside our amazing staff and supporting each husky in the whole of our district.

Have a great day.

GO HUSKIES!

Rich

Welcome to Olean City School District!



Welcome Chris Auman!

Mr. Auman will be teaching 4th Grade at OIMS,

likes the Steelers, and is a graduate of Cuba-Rushford & SUNY Fredonia. In his spare time Mr. Auman enjoys hiking, skiing, kayaking and spending time with his dog. He is excited about getting to see all the new faces!



Welcome Andrea Fidoruko!

Ms. Fidoruko will be a Resource Room Teacher at OIMS,

likes sunshine, Mexican food, bulldogs, and is a graduate of Allegany Central & Kent State University. In her spare time she likes to shop, sit in the sun, and meet up with friends. She is excited about meeting new kids and their families!



Welcome Luke Penston!

Mr. Penston will be teaching General Music

at OIMS, likes cooking, carpentry, painting, camping, scenic drives, museums, his family, music, and is a graduate of Olean High School & SUNY Oneonta. In his spare time he writes and records music, builds music instruments, organizes audio cables and hangs with his family. He is excited about the ability, or privilege, to provide a solid foundation for our city's future musicians!



Welcome Heather Billings!

Ms. Billings will be a School Counselor at OHS,

likes seeing new places and spending time with her family, and is a graduate from Allegany-Limestone & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she enjoys traveling with her family, reading and listening to music. She is excited about being part of the district, helping students and staff from a new position!

Welcome Breanna Bump!

Ms. Bump will be teaching 7th Grade English at OIMS,

likes to spend time with her family and her cats, listening to true crime podcasts, and is a graduate from Cuba-Rushford & SUNY Fredonia. In her spare time Ms. Bump loves to read books and go on walks. She is excited to show students that reading can be fun!



Welcome Jamie Gaylor!

Ms. Gaylor will be teaching 5th Grade 15:1:1

at OIMS, likes coffee, and is a graduate of Olean High School, Jamestown Community College & SUNY Fredonia. In her spare time she likes spending time with her spouse and children, boating and camping. She is excited to be a part of the "pack", being supported, and working with like-minded student-centered staff.



Welcome McKenzie Powell!

Ms. Powell will be teaching 4th

Grade ELA/SS at OIMS, likes the beach and is a graduate of Portville Central School & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she loves spending time with her nephews. She is excited to have a team to collaborate with!



Welcome Susan Boyle!

Mx. Boyle will be teaching High School and

4th Grade Orchestra, likes animated TV shows such as Adventure Time and American Dad, Italian food, painting, and is a graduate from Olathe East High School in Olathe, KS & Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. In their spare time they enjoy hiking, cooking with their partner, Thomas, and spending time with their cat, Clove! It has always been their dream to be an orchestra teacher and they are incredibly excited to have their start here in Olean!



Welcome Nicole Conroy!

Ms. Conroy will be a School Counselor at OIMS,

likes chocolate, sunshine, walking her dogs, and is a graduate of Allegany Central & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family, hiking, golfing, skiing and traveling. She is looking forward to meeting her new students and is excited to be a part of the Husky pack!



Welcome Andrea Niece!

Ms. Niece will be teaching 7th Grade 15:1:1 at

OIMS, likes sour candy, indoor plants, and is a graduate of Genesee Valley Central & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she likes spending time with her two active young boys and family activities. She is excited about collaborating with a new team and teaching ONE grade level!



Welcome Christian Ambrosioni!

Mr. Ambrosioni will be teaching Spanish/ESL at

OIMS and OHS, likes music, motorcycles, travel, and is a graduate from McKinley in Buffalo, NY & Buffalo State University. In his spare time he plays piano for Christ United Methodist Church. He is excited about teaching!



Welcome to Olean City School District!



Welcome Mary Filjones!
Ms. Filjones will be teaching Social Studies

– Global II and US History 8 at OHS, likes to spend time with her three children, biking, camping, gardening & anything outdoors, and is a graduate from Allegany-Limestone, University at Buffalo & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she likes to read, cook and travel. She is excited to join the Huskies and cannot wait to get to know the students and the school community!

Welcome April Hayes!

Ms. Hayes will be a School Counselor at OHS,



likes to read, walk, watch Marvel moves, spend time with her 3 kids & pets, and is a graduate from Salamanca High School & Penn State (BS) and St. Bonaventure University (MSED). In her spare time she likes to watch her kids play sports and root for the Packers. She is excited about joining the Olean community and building positive relationships with her students and wants to help guide them to positive futures!

Welcome Nadia Kohler!

Ms. Kohler will be teaching Spanish 3, 4 at OHS, likes to

watch a good movie, go for a walk, go to the beach and is a graduate from “Colegio

Labastida” in Mexico, Public Health College in Mexico & Grand Canyon University. In her spare time she likes to cook. She is excited to share her language and culture in a fun learning experience with all of her students!



Welcome Emma Kostenbader!
Ms.

Kostenbader will be teaching Business at OHS, likes

country music, finding good places to watch the sunrise, soccer, Bonnies basketball, and is a graduate from Bayonne High School & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she likes to read fiction novels, walk the trails and drive around on the back roads. She is excited about being able to create value in education far beyond just being in the classroom!

Welcome Cole Lapi!

Mr. Lapi will be teaching Math at OHS, likes playing soccer, spending time outdoors, and is a graduate from Ellicottville Central & University at Buffalo. In his spare time he enjoys hanging out with his two brothers. He is excited about coming back and continuing to build relationships in the community.



Welcome Lisa Macaluso!
Ms.

Macaluso will be teaching 8:1:1 at OHS, likes



mountains, oceans, hiking, gardening and is a graduate from Ward Melville HS in Long Island, NY & Teachers College Columbia University. In her spare time she likes to walk, hike, garden, cook, travel, visit family and friends. She is excited about the ability to assist and partake in the successes of students and her colleagues!



Welcome Ethan McKeone!
Mr. McKeone will be teaching Math at OHS, likes

sour candy, hedgehogs, books, thunderstorms, the outdoors, art, music, and is a graduate from Coudersport High School & St. Bonaventure University. In his spare time he enjoys playing and coaching soccer, volleyball, video games, reading and skateboarding. He is excited to meet a new group of students at OHS!

Welcome Ashlyn Schuman!

Ms. Schuman will be teaching Art at OHS, likes music ultimate

frisbee, art, and is a graduate from Allegany-Limestone & SUNY New Paltz. In her spare time she spends time hiking, playing guitar and working out. She is excited to share her passion for art and hopes that it encourages students to enjoy what art has to offer!

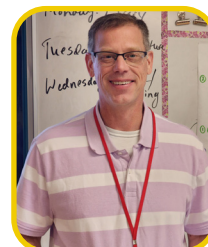


Welcome Elaine Snyder!
Ms. Snyder will be teaching English 8, 9 at OHS, likes reading,

movies, hiking, writing, spending time with animals, plant knowledge/foraging, and is a graduate from Olean High School & Empire State College. In her spare time she does all of the above! She is excited to work with a stellar English department and amazing teaching staff at OHS!

Welcome Mike Thompson!
Mr.

Thompson will be teaching ELA 8 at OHS, likes food, friends, family, Christmas, volunteering, bowling, poetry, writing, and is a graduate from Southwestern High School, Buffalo State (undergrad) & SUNY Fredonia (grad). In his spare time he likes to run, exercise, kayak, fish, camp, travel, read, DIY projects and learn new SWD 7-12 classes and certification. He is excited about teaching 8th grade/co-teaching!



Welcome Hannah Aiello!

Ms. Aiello will be teaching 1st Grade at East View, likes



traveling, family, reading, and is a graduate from Olean High School & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she likes to spend time with family, friends and her kitten. She can't wait to be at East View because the teachers there are inspiring!

WELCOME TO THE TEAM



Welcome to Olean City School District!



Welcome Sabrina Chase!
Ms. Chase will be teaching 3rd Grade at East View, likes

to travel, sunsets, reading, ice cream, and graduated from Franklinville & Houghton College. In her spare time she rides horses and shuffles kids to different practices. She is excited to work in a local district with great students and staff!

Welcome Darla Kent!

Ms. Kent will be the Supervising Occupational Therapist at East View and

Washington West, likes watching sports (GO Bills! Go Bonnies!), antique shopping and spending time with family and is a graduate from Cattaraugus Little Valley and SUNY JCC (AAS), Utica College (BS/MS) & Gannon University (Doctoral). In her spare time she likes to read and repurpose and revive antiques/furniture. With thanks to the supporting administration, she is excited to see our elementary teachers and students in general education classes receive OT supports that are desperately needed. Also, promoting proper cognitive, physical, and emotional skill development with ALL students helping to bridge the learning gaps widened by the pandemic.



Welcome Jon Meeder!
Mr. Meeder will be an ENL teacher at East View

and Washington West, likes learning about new cultures, teaching people of all ages and backgrounds, encouraging others and making them smile, and graduated from Ellicottville Central School, Cedarville University & SUNY at Buffalo. In his spare time he spends as much time as possible with his family, watching Bills games, playing sports and volunteering at his church. He is excited to come back to his roots in Cattaraugus County!

Welcome Kim Clifford!

Ms. Clifford will be teaching 2nd Grade at Washington West, likes going to concerts, exploring the area, watching movies, being with family, and graduated from Starkville High School in Starkville, MS & Mississippi State University. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her husband, being an empty nester, exploring our beautiful area, traveling abroad and listening to Dave Matthews Band. She is excited about learning new ideas about curriculum along with a team that genuinely cares about the well-being of others!



Welcome Kelly Layman-Mohr!

Ms. Layman-Mohr will be an 8:1:1 Special Education teacher at Washington West, likes to enjoy the outdoors in warm weather, and graduated



from Olean High School & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she enjoys reading and spending time with family and friends. She is excited about working with the students and meeting new staff!



Welcome Hannah Forrest!
Ms. Forrest will be a district-wide Speech Language

Pathologist, likes traveling, spending time with friends and family, and graduated from Olean High School & St. Bonaventure University. In her spare time she volunteers in the local community and films weddings. She is excited to be able to be a part of the community she grew up in and being able to make a difference in the student's lives!

Welcome Michelle Dzuroff!

Ms. Dzuroff will be a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant at East View, likes wax melts, coffee, candy, and is a graduate from Portville Central School & Jamestown Community College. In her spare time she likes to camp and fish. She is excited to reach out to more children to assist them in being successful!



Welcome Emma Fox!

Ms. Fox will be a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant at Washington West, likes boating, camping,



hiking, occupational therapy, and graduated from Port Allegany High School and Jamestown Community College. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her dog and her boyfriend, Nolan. She is excited to be a part of this new program and help as many students as possible!



Welcome Shawna Lowe!
Ms. Lowe will be a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant

at East View, likes camping, hiking, and is a graduate from Portville Central School & Jamestown Community College. In her spare time she enjoys going on hikes and taking pictures. She is excited about getting to help the students grow!

Welcome Shannon Yonker!

Ms. Yonker is a new Teaching Assistant at OHS and will be focused on support for Junior and Senior students attending BOCES, likes going to Florida in the winter, soaking up the sunshine, going to the beach, and is a graduate of Allegany-Limestone & Finger Lakes Community College. In her spare time she likes spending time with her family and their 3 German shepherds.



WELCOME TO THE TEAM



Welcome to Olean City School District!

Support Staff:

Teacher Aides:



Megan Bailey



Tori Beck



Lisa Carpenter



Gregory Eaton



Danice Galloway



Andrew Greene



Elisabeth Jaques



Carley Learn



Elizabeth Manning



Jordan Reiss

Food Service:



Candy Blossom



Sonita Coates



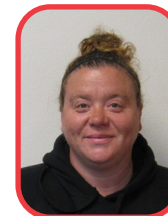
Tammy Goldberg



Nicole Herbert



Tracy Mesler



Trisha Olmstead



Kate Wesley



Susan Wilson



Erin Young

Cleaners:



Matthew Sisson



Tyler Webster

Registered Nurses:



Lisa Cousins



Wendy Krulish

Custodian:



Don Carpenter

Keyboard Specialist:



Jodi Mallery

Records, Receiving & Inventory.



Tina Turek

Sports Complex Lights



The lights at the new Sports Complex at OIMS were installed a few weeks ago!



Good News from Olean Schools Foundation

GRANT SPOTLIGHT

In August of 2022, Mrs. Christine Gabler, After-School STEM Teacher, applied for a grant to expand the Olean City School District Soapbox Derby team; a Superstock and Master division car kits. The Foundation was pleased to award Mrs. Gabler the grant, along with Cricut to design vinyl designs for the cars. Building the cars from the wheels up requires commitment by the students as well as the opportunity to learn technology skills, science, engineering processes, and interacting with community manufacturing companies.

In June of 2023, the students, along with Team Leader and OHS Technology teacher, Scott Rucinski, raced in the All-American Soapbox Derby event in Jamestown, NY. The team will continue to use the cars in future races. The Soapbox Derby program in the Olean area is led by Director, Bob Sherburne, and is funded by Cattaraugus Allegany County Dream It Do It. Thank you to all involved for expanding, enriching and inspiring young minds.



*Olean Schools Foundation is a 501-c3, comprised of an all-volunteer board.
Our mission is to fund new and innovative programs implemented by
Olean City School district teachers to enhance the education of our students.
To learn more about us, visit OleanSchools.org*



LOOKING BACK...

2023 Grants

- * Camp Huskies
- * Mad Scientist
- * No One Eats Alone
- * OIMS Washington Trip
- * STEM Soapbox Grant
- * Thoughtful Thursdays T-shirts
- * Thoughtful Thursdays Program
- * Unified Sports

WHAT'S NEXT?

Cattaraugus Gives, an online
24- hour fundraising event:
11/28/23

Wall of Honor Nominations Deadline:
12/31/23

Husky Pride



No matter the day, our husky pack shows their husky pride through and through! We love the red and gold and bring that spirit and energy to school with us - every day! Way to be amazing Husky Role Models!

School Board Recognition Week

The New York State School Boards Association recognizes October 16-20 as School Board Recognition Week. This is a time to promote awareness and understanding of the important work performed by local school boards. Public schools form the bedrock of our communities and our country. Democracy thrives with educated citizens capable of critical thinking and civil discourse. And it is our local school boards who are ultimately responsible for student success.

It takes strong schools to build a strong community, and these men and women devote countless hours to making sure our schools are helping every child learn at a higher level. They make tough decisions every month and spend many hours studying education issues and regulations in order to provide the kind of accountability our community stakeholders expect.

School board members give the Olean City School District citizens a voice in education decision-making. Their contribution is a year-round commitment and we thank them for their dedicated service.

The members serving our district are as follows:

*Julio Fuentes, President
Kelly Keller, Vice President
Ricky Bee
Daniel Farnham
Lee Filbert*

*Mary Hirsch-Schena
Ira Katzenstein
Alan Peters
Kevin Stevens*

News From OHS

8th Grade Science

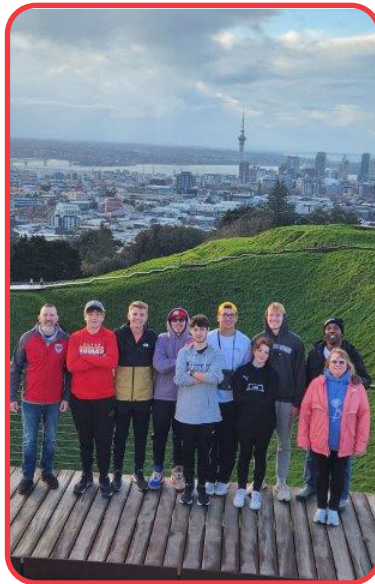



8th grade science is learning to analyze and interpret audiogram data to help inform their decisions on how to protect their hearing. They discovered that listening to headphones on full volume (120 dB) is risky behavior and can lead to hearing loss. In fact, the threshold of pain is at 130 dB, just 10 decibels past headphones at max volume. Let's turn those headphones down Huskies, and protect our ears!

Student Travels Abroad



This past July, 21 students and multiple adults traveled to New Zealand and Australia with a surprise stop to LA and a quick tour of Hollywood. It was an epic journey across the Pacific Ocean to the land down under.





DONATE 

**BRING YOUR EMPTY CANS
AND BOTTLES TO THE
ALLEGANY BEVERAGE
REDEMPTION CENTER
(ACROSS FROM BONAS)**

**ASK TO DONATE THE
FUNDS TO CORRIE
BURDICK'S ACCOUNT**

**FUNDS GO DIRECTLY TO
CORRIE BURDICK'S ONGOING
FIGHT WITH OVARIAN CANCER**

**MS. BURDICK IS A
WASHINGTON WEST ART
TEACHER WITH AN
AMAZING SPIRIT AND KIND
SOUL, AND IS LOVED BY
MANY**



Z-Club to Raise Money for the Pink Pumpkin Project

The month of October is a busy and exciting one for the students at Olean High School. The school's Z-Club is hosting a bake sale from October 23rd - 27th to raise money for the Pink Pumpkin Project.

The high school's Student Activity Council is also hosting a jar wars event. Students will participate in a coin collection on Wednesday's during lunch periods. Classes will compete against one another to raise money for the Pink Pumpkin project as well.

Helping One of Our Own

On Monday, October 16th, there will be a Pink Out Volleyball Game in the Olean High School gymnasium against Cuba Rushford. The JV game will begin at 6:00pm and the Varsity game will begin at 7:30pm.

The volleyball team has received over thirty basket donations for the event! Tickets for the baskets can be purchased at the game or by contacting Coach Acierno at Washington West. All proceeds will go directly to Washington West Art Teacher, Corrie Burdick, and her fight against Ovarian Cancer.



Homecoming 2023 – A Huge Success!

Olean High School's Student Activity Counsel held their homecoming dance on September 22nd, 2023, at the high school's gymnasium. The theme for the dance was disco, which encouraged a lot of people to dress up in sparkles and bright colors to fit the theme. Approximately 400 people were in attendance, which marks the largest homecoming dance Olean has held in the past few years! The students also elected a homecoming court which consisted of royalty that was made up of all females. The students enjoyed sweet treats and listened to music with their friends throughout the night. We would like to thank the Student Activities Council, the teachers, and staff who made Homecoming such a great success this past weekend. We had close to 400 students attend the dance. What a great evening!



Family Engagement News

Welcome to Fall! The leaves are changing, the air is getting cooler and before we know it, the snow will be falling, and the holidays will be upon us. Speaking of holidays, the Olean City School District will be once again hosting the Community Schools Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday November 18th from 12 PM to 2 PM at the OHS cafeteria. This is free to all Olean residents. More information will be sent home on ParentSquare to students and their families, closer to the dinner date, but we wanted to make sure all residents in Olean were aware of this exciting and tasty event!

A great big thank you goes out to all the community services in the area and all the families that participated in our big Welcome Back Event on September 9th at the OIMS track. Even the rain couldn't keep our Huskies from having some family fun that day. The RAM clinic that weekend also served about 350 people from our community! It was a great weekend and hopefully all your needs were met, and you had a great time!

On August 29th Olean High School had a very successful and fun filled 8th Grade Student & Family Orientation. 77% of our 8th graders came in for a night of information, a chance to find all their classes and pick up/drop off supplies and enjoy a great dinner with family and staff. We are hoping to make this an annual event and my goal is to get all families to participate!

Attention Parents of Seniors with a disability (IEP or 504): SAVE THE DATE: October 18th from 6-7 PM at the Student Registration Office (PLC) located at 402 North 7th Street in Olean. We will be having a Juniors/Seniors & Parent ACCES-VR Night. More information will be sent home to eligible students/families.

Attention SENIORS and parents: OHS is pleased to bring back our in-person Parent and Senior Financial Aid Night! This important and informative event will take place on Tuesday October 3rd 2023 in the OHS cafeteria. A Financial Aid advisor will be present to help you navigate the Financial Aid process required for college. We hope to see you all there!

Parent Resources: Don't forget that there is a new Family Engagement area on our School Website under Community Schools where you can find lots of information. We have also added information to the Parent Square Family Resources specific to each building so if you haven't joined your respective group, try it out! It will include both school and community activities as well. You will also find a calendar for family events and a community events page! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cindi Rhoades, Family Engagement Counselor at crhoades@oleanschools.org, (716) 375-8031 or send a message through ParentSquare!

News From OIMS



Game Day Welcome at OIMS!

Varsity cheerleaders, football players and the percussion section of the BAND welcomed OIMS students to school the day of our Homecoming game this fall!



Designing Ceiling Tiles

A new batch of 7th graders are completing their ceiling tiles to leave their mark on OIMS!



New Rugs at OIMS

A huge THANK YOU to Sports Locker! New rugs in our foyer at OIMS look great and are a welcoming update!



New Murals

Murals painted by Art teacher, Ms. Cawley, over the summer decorate our Guidance Office and Principal's Office walls at OIMS.

Washington West Elementary School



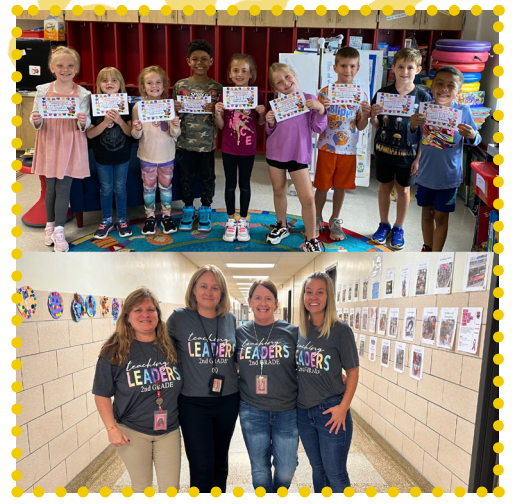
An Apple a Day

For the past 10+ years, our PK pups have spent their first weeks of school learning all about APPLES! To close out their experience, they get to make applesauce and share it with their friends. Their work was certainly tasty!



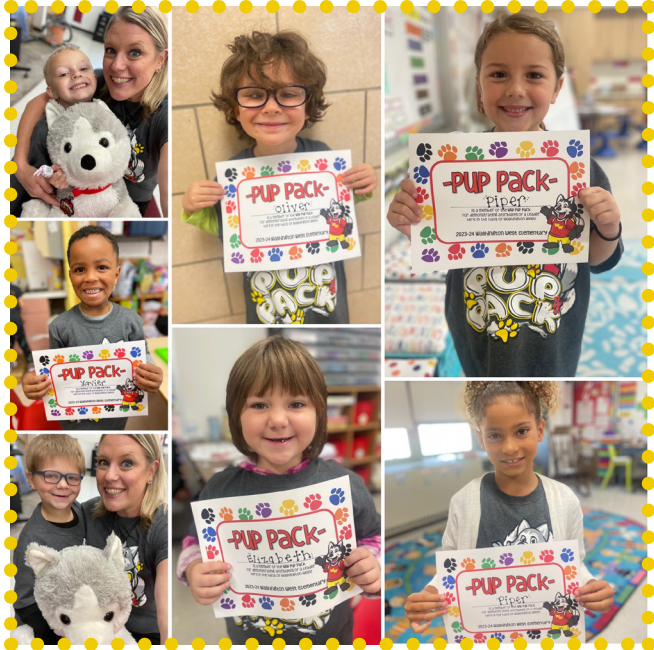
Readers + Leaders

Here in the halls of Washington West, we're always celebrating our love of reading, and in third grade, these husky pups got a chance to highlight their favorite books - and even dress the part of the main character! What a way to bring books to life!



Leaders Here in Our Halls:

Not only are we building future leaders in our halls, we're teaching them, too! Check out these husky pups that have shown positive behavior in our first weeks of school, and this team of teachers who helped them get there!



PUP PACK

Every other week, we're honoring pups in our pack that continue to exude attributes of a LEADER - perseverance, effort, kindness, resiliency - and MORE! These husky pups were the first members of the 2023-24 PUP PACK. Looking forward to many more celebrations - all year long!



First Days of FUN

The first days of school are filled with a lot of fun and excitement - and learning, too! These husky pups and faculty and staff continued to show why Washington West is simply the best. We BELIEVE it is going to be one great school year!

Follow your Husky Pups on Twitter @OleanWW

East View Elementary School



Rockin' Start at East View Elementary

We are off to a Rockin' start at East View Elementary and that was evident on the first day back for students!! We rolled out the red carpet and gave our students Rock Star Treatment!! They enjoyed the "live music" and had their pictures taken in the photo booth before entering to begin their first day!! EAST VIEW ROCKS!

Geography in Real Time

Students in Mrs. Caya and Ms. Keis' class have been practicing how to use maps in a kickoff to our geography unit. After learning to use a compass to navigate our way, we planned a route using Google Maps. We followed the route to find our way to the amazing new mural at War Vets Park where the artists were kind enough to take a break from their hard work to answer questions about time and funding of the mural, as well as the message behind it. We are so grateful for their willingness to brighten our day and our community!



Music at East View Elementary



Pre-K is exploring all of our first concepts in music: listening to directions, moving safely, and echo-singing. Pre-K music classes often reinforce what is being learned in the classroom as well so we are doing a lot of songs about colors. We have been using colorful scarves with movement and singing activities, as well as labeling colors in different books, like Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

Kindergarten has been introduced to all the of the voices inside of us: sing, speak, whisper, shout and think! We have been practicing these each week with songs like "1,2,3,4, 5 – Once I Caught a Fish Alive" and "You've Got to Sing!" – ask your child to sing, speak, whisper, shout, or think one of these songs at home. We have also practiced the difference between moving safely in self-space and shared space. In chorus, we have practiced being "parrots" to help us echo-sing with songs like "Down by the Bay". We'll start prepping for our winter concert soon! (December 14th at 1:45pm at Eastview)

this with our song "Welcome Back to School." In chorus, we have been reviewing our echo-singing, as well as practicing proper singing technique with our "head voice" – ask your child to sing the "Bluebird" song and demonstrate how to use a head voice on the highest part of the song. Our winter concert preparation will also begin soon! (December 15th at 1:45 pm at East View)

2nd and 3rd graders have reviewed beat versus rhythm. They can demonstrate the difference between both with the songs "Engine, Engine" (2nd) or "Obwisana". (3rd) We have also practiced journaling in our Listening Logs with our first song, the US national anthem. 3rd Graders are looking forward to starting recorders this year. 2nd and 3rd grade students will have their chorus concert in the spring.

Follow our school on twitter @OleanEastView

October 2023 - November 2023



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

410 W. Sullivan St.

Olean, NY 14760

www.oleanschools.org

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Free College Applications

Beginning Monday, October 16th, and ending Sunday, October 29th, students can apply to up to five SUNY campuses with no application fee! This includes all campuses, no matter which application vehicle the student uses. Details are available here: www.suny.edu/apply

For a list of New York State Private Colleges participating in the Free college applications visit this link <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/.../nys-colleges-waiving...>

Please remember that students can submit their application during this time, but supplemental materials such as transcripts and letters of recommendation can be submitted after Free Application Week.



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mission Statement:

The Olean City School District is a student-centered community of excellence in which all members are challenged to learn, achieve, contribute, and innovate.

Vision Statement:

- The Olean City School District will support excellence by holding everyone to high standards in academics, character, extracurriculars, and service.
- Our district will uphold a culture of acceptance, inclusion, and equity for all, while embracing the diversity of our community. We will create and foster a safe and positive climate for our students, staff and families that is adaptive for the ever-changing needs of society.
- Our students will graduate future-focused, engaged, resilient, and prepared to achieve their goals.
- Our staff will be learner-centered, innovative, inquisitive, professional, and committed to student success.
- Our families will be engaged, collaborative partners in academic success for all.

Guiding Principles:

A commitment to fostering:

- A respectful, safe, and welcoming environment
- Embracing diversity
- Continuous improvement
- Academic excellence and lifelong learning
- Honesty, integrity, responsibility, and accountability
- Student potential and achievement

Strategic Plan Action Steps:

- Create and Support a Positive Culture
- Maximize Success for All
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Progressive and Enriching Learning for All Students
- Engaging Parental and Community Involvement

www.oleanschools.org