



“Home, School and Community Educating for Life”



OHS Winter Weekend

It has been a long time since the First National Bank building, otherwise known as the Manny Hanny building, has witnessed as much excitement as it did on February 3rd. The Manny Hanny set the scene for this year's Olean High School Winter Weekend formal dance. The people of Olean have been long awaiting the rebirth of this building and its marble surroundings and old vaults added to the luster of the event. We hope that the community saw OHS students having a wonderful time at this formal and we hope it ignites others to host events in its decadent surroundings as well!



Kindness Counts!

Students and teachers at East View Elementary are encouraged to notice those around them that make them smile, and then send them a smile back!! They do this by filling out a form letting the person know what they did to make them smile. Each week we draw from the forms submitted and announce our “Sending Smiles” recipients on the announcements. They get to come to the office for a special treat and a picture!! Thank you too all of our sending smiles recipients for making East View a wonderful place to learn and grow together.



National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Washington West was proud to celebrate National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Our own Safety Patrol Officer keeps a watchful eye on our husky pups each and every day, and today – and all days – we thank Officer JR for his commitment to the pups in our pack!



Dear Husky Community,

Happy New Year! As we welcome 2024, I'm pleased to provide you with the first Superintendent's Brief of the year, sharing important updates and news from our school district. The start of a new year brings fresh opportunities and renewed energy. I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable winter break, ready to embrace the possibilities that lie ahead this year.

I'm happy to share that our students and educators are back in full swing, diving into the new year with enthusiasm and dedication. This month, we celebrated several student achievements, including welcoming new inductees into the National Honors Society and National Technical Honors Society. These scholars have academic achievements but a commitment to giving, serving, and making a meaningful contribution to our community and beyond.

Several of our students will attend the Ivy League Model United Nations Conference at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia from January 25-28. We are so proud of these students for many reasons. Still, their impressive performances over the last few years have given them qualifications that led to their earning a scholarship through UPenn toward their attendance there. Thank you to our fantastic Model United Nations Advisor, Marie Rakus, for her work with our students, and we can't wait to hear how they excelled on the national stage!

With the winter season upon us, please be mindful of weather-related updates. In inclement weather, we will promptly communicate any school closures or delays. The safety of our students and staff is our utmost priority. We remind everyone to dress warmly, especially on cold, blustery days. Our buildings have hats and gloves to hand out to students who might need them. Please contact our schools if you require warm clothing for students, such as coats and sweaters. We can connect you with Operation Warm Hearts, an Olean foundation that provides children with new clothing and needed accessories.

We value the input and involvement of our school community. I'd like you to please be on the lookout for upcoming opportunities to participate in forums, meetings, and events that contribute to the growth and development of our district. Your engagement is crucial to our success. To draw upon a quote by Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

As we navigate the new year, we look forward to implementing exciting initiatives and working towards our goals for continuous improvement. Your support and collaboration are instrumental in shaping the future success of our school district.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the success of our students. Wishing you a fantastic start to 2024!

Sincerely,
Dr. Genelle Morris
Olean City School District Superintendent

Welcome to Olean City School District!

Support Staff:

Teacher Aides:



Welcome Amy Macaluso!

Ms. Macaluso will be a Fourth Grade Special Education Teacher at Olean Intermediate Middle School, likes hiking, soccer, snowboarding, traveling and country music. She is a graduate from Mattituck Jr./Sr. High School and Columbia University, Teachers College. In her spare time she likes reading,

playing soccer and cooking. She is excited to meet her students and watch their progress this year!



Danielle Borja



Madelyn Senn



Mallory Doxey



Tanya McCarthy

Tenure:



Caroline Bremner
– Music Tenure



Laurie Marsfelder
– Reading Tenure



Audrey Watson
– Elementary
Tenure



Jenny Bilotta
– Business
Administrator Tenure



Michael Martel
– Director of
Technology Tenure

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Missing a “few” might not seem like a big deal, but “a day here and a day there” can add up to a substantial amount of opportunity lost.

If your Child Misses...	That Equals...	Which Is...	Over 13 School Years that's...
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years of school
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of school
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Almost 8 years of school

How about just being late? Surely that won't affect my child's learning?

But only missing...	That Equals...	Which Is....	Over 13 School Years that's...
10 Minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Almost 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ of a year
20 Minutes per day	1hr and 40 Min per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly one year
30 Minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Almost 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

Source: Ontario Special Needs, Tweeted August 2019

Everyday matters, routine matters. Having a healthy routine that includes regular attendance is important to a child's success.

If you have a concern, please contact your child's school.



15 Year Milestone

Jodi Mallery
Keyboard Specialist

Jodi began her career with Olean City School District on September 2, 2008, as a 1:1 Aide, Teacher Aide, Test Lab Coordinator and is now a Keyboard Specialist. During her 15 years with the district, she has worked in the Elementary school, OIMS and the High School buildings. Jodi was raised in Hinsdale but is now raising her family in Olean. She has been married for 19 years to her husband, Don. They have three amazing boys (Tyler, Dawson, and David) that she is very proud of. They also have two dogs (Leo and Zayla) and two cats (Midnight and Oreo).

30 Year Milestone

Kathy Searles
Olean High School
Resource Room Aide



Kathy began her career with the Olean City School District in the Fall of 1991 as a substitute teacher and, soon after, began working in the Special Friends program. In January 2003 she was appointed to the position of Resource Room Aide in the High School, and she still holds the same position. Children of various ages have been a part of her life for over thirty years and have been a constant source of laughter and pride in their accomplishments.



15 Year Milestone

Mark Hayman
Shipping & Receiving

Mark began his career with Olean City School District on September 2, 2008, as a cook in the Olean High School. Mark later went on to become a Kitchen Manager and now works in the District Shipping & Receiving Department. He enjoys the students and his co-workers. Mark stated that going full-time in his current Shipping & Receiving position is the best move he has ever made. He really enjoys working for the school district.

DECA Regional Competition Alfred State College



On December 20, 2023, Olean High School's DECA chapter participated at Alfred State College for a Regional DECA competition. This competition consisted of students not only from Olean but from Hornell, Salamanca, and Whitesville. This special event had several business leaders that served as judges, faculty members, DECA Advisors, student volunteers, and several business education students.

Olean had the most members attend this event with 21 outstanding business students. Each student took a 100-question marketing exam and then performed a business role play showing their business knowledge. Eight students advanced onto the next level competing at the DECA's State Competition which is held in Rochester, NY on March 6th, 7th, and 8th.

Olean students, Rose Scordo, Heartly Phipps, Sullivan Hoffman and Lilli Khettry placed in the Top 4 overall!

Good Luck to Michael Bader, Adrian Bohdanowycz, Tyler Camp, Sullivan Hoffman, Lilli Khettry, Ava Moran, Heartly Phipps, and Rose Scordo as they have begun preparing for their State Competition!

Family Engagement News



It is hard to believe but Spring is just around the corner! This year seems to be flying right by! January held many opportunities for families to get involved with the school including multiple sports/games, the National Honor Society Induction and Dinner (96% attendance!), SoloFest, a Board of Education meeting, a Parent Night for Special Education, and some great events at the elementary schools. East View Elementary had their annual Bingo for Books at Raymour & Flannigan where about 25 families attended, and a great turn out for the parents to learn about Title I Reading programs. Washington West hosted a Pop Open a Good Book night at the school where about 45 students and their families came in to hang out in their pjs and read, a good turn out for their Title I Reading Parent meeting, and of course then there was the Family Skate Day at the Recreation Center where about 125 families participated in an afternoon of ice skating and family fun!

February is a short month as the students are off from school from February 17th through February 25th, returning to school on Monday February 26th, but we managed to schedule a few family engagement activities. This would include sports/games, and East View's Superhero Dance on February 9th. Look for Parent Square messages soon! Also, February 5th-9th was National School Counselors' Week. We are proud of all our School Counselors for their hard work and dedication to the students and families in our Community!

March is starting to look bright for parents and families to get involved! Of course, we have our sports/games, the All County Music Festivals on March 1st and 2nd, and again on March 15th and 16th, plus the OIMS (grades 4 & 5) Concert on March 27th. East View will have their Family Fun Skate at the Recreation Center on March 18th, so watch for messages about this exciting event, and Washington West is planning a Bingo for Books event so keep your eye out for more information! The OCSD, along with Parent Network are also having one more Parent Meeting on SDI (Specifically Designed Instruction), in person, at the PLC on March 20th, and who can forget Kindergarten screenings at East View and Washington West. More information will be coming on each event but mark your calendars now!

Also, a heads up for Juniors & Seniors with disabilities: We are having a Parent/Student Night to assist you with filling out your ACCESS-VR paperwork, on April 17th at 6:00 PM at the PLC. More information will be sent home to students who have not yet completed this.

Don't forget that Spring break begins on March 29th and goes through April 7th with school resuming on Monday April 8th! Please try to plan accordingly as attendance is extremely important for all students, even our Pre-schoolers! Remember that Chronic Absences (10%) significantly impacts reading ability by grade 3, success in middle school and the ability to graduate!

Did you know that there are plenty of resources available on our website? Just go to oleanschools.org and under the Community Schools you will find the Family Engagement Page. Here you will find plenty of resources and we will continue to update these. There is also a calendar of events that includes both things through the school and a section for events out in the community for families to participate in! As January was National Human Trafficking Month, there is a great resource for Families on Child Trafficking to read up on. Believe me, it will surprise you! There is also a great zoom training listed for parents with students on the Autism Spectrum! Continue to drive safe and stay warm while we wait for the good weather to finally get here!

If you know of an event in the community and don't see it listed there, feel free to contact Cindi Rhoades at (716) 375-8031 or crhoades@oleanschools.org and fill her in!

News From OHS

National Honor Society Inductees



In a proud ceremony held at The Pulaski Club in Olean on January 5, twenty-four exceptional students were recently 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.

Front row (L-R)

Aaron Samuel, Lydia Hammer, Spencer Greenstein, Kashtian App, Emma Edwards, Molly DeRose, Sofia Rucinski, Kady Malloy, Ava Borer, Autumn Cassford

Back row (L-R)

Michael Bader, Jackson Gonzalez, Evan Snyder, Jayden Marvin, Luca Quinn, Maxim Windus, Bianca Simons, Payton Reynolds, Blake Kinnaird, Brennan Kielar, Sullivan Hoffman, Cavan Boutillette, Brenden Bailey

(Missing: Jon Pryzbyla)



Les Tours Eiffels en crackers pour la fête de Noël

For our Christmas celebration, French Club students engaged themselves in an Eiffel Tower making contest with graham crackers. As luck would have it, by the next day, one of the towers turned into Stonehenge. Students also delighted in dipping many delights into our chocolate and cheese fondu. Fondu comes from the French verb “fondre” which means to melt.



Class Comp

The Olean High School SAC held a Cozy Class Competition on December 21, 2023. Following 6th period, students had the chance to choose which community building activity to participate in. Students could join in a volleyball or cornhole tournament or if they were feeling crafty they could meet others in the cafeteria for arts and crafts. Interested in Esports? There was a Mario Kart Tournament held as well. Uno, board games, chess, D&D? We had that as well! Just feel like watching a movie and comparing the big stage to this year's musical selection? We offered the movie Elf in the aud! Spirits were very high and seemed to bring everyone a little closer just before the winter break. The event was a huge success and was a great way to increase the attendance on the last day before Winter break. SAC hopes this becomes a new OHS tradition to wrap up the calendar year!



Boys Swim Team Honors Teachers

Senior members of the Olean High School Boys Swim Team honored a teacher that has made a positive impact and difference in their lives. Not only do these students respect them as their teachers, they also look up to them as their mentors.

The students gave their mentors a shirt and a card telling them why they were selected.

Pictured below from L-R are players Lucas Peterson-Volz, Josh Sisson, David Ruszkowski, Dawson Mallery.

Behind the players are teachers, Dan Brown, Jen Mathieson, Marie Rakus, and Les DeGolier.

Thanks again teachers for being positive role models for our student-athletes.



National Technical Honor Society Award Recipients

Congratulations to local CTE students from the CTE Center at Olean who were recently inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.

The National Technical Honor Society is an educational non-profit that exists to honor, recognize, and empower students and teachers in Career & Technical Education. As the honor society for Career & Technical Education, NTHS serves over 100,000 active members annually in both secondary and postsecondary chapters across the country.

Since its founding in 1984, nearly 1 million students have become NTHS alumni. NTHS honors the achievements of top CTE students, provides close to \$300,000 in scholarships annually, and strives to help connect education and industry to build a highly skilled workforce. Pictured here are students Lucas Peterson-Volz and Lexi Benjamin.

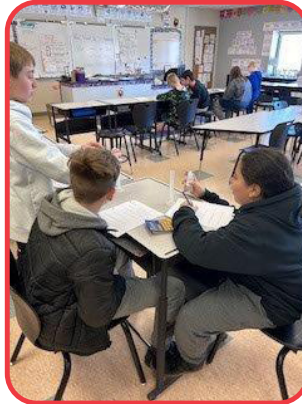


More Winter Weekend Fun

Olean High School Winter Weekend Assembly included our award-winning cheerleaders, band, table surfing, and various other games. SAC did a great job planning and hosting this event.



News From OIMS



Super Scientists at Work!

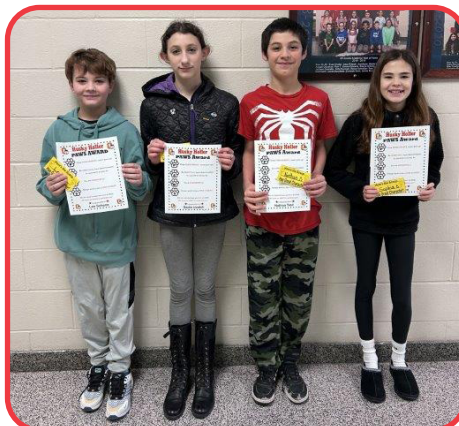
The 6th grade students at OIMS have been exploring the properties of matter through a variety of hands-on experiments and learning activities!



Door Decoration Contest

A little late, but the winner of the OIMS Door Decorating Contest of 2023 was Room 133, Mrs. Wilber.

The classroom will be able to display the most sought after trophy until next year's contest!

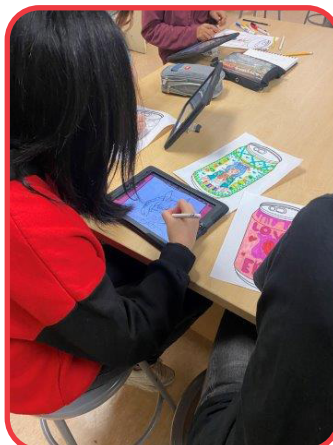


Character Counts!

The 6th grade students at OIMS continue to display positive character traits and each month have a grade level celebration! Congratulations to this month's winners for showing cooperation!

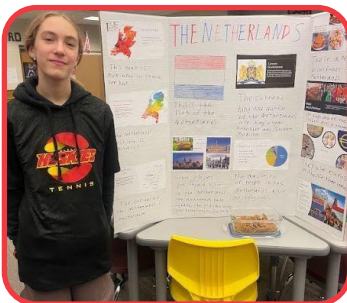
Art Foundation

Recently The Olean Schools Foundation generously donated Apple Pencils and a set of charging stations to Ms. Cawley's art room! 7th grade students spent a lot of time learning how to properly use the pencils and a drawing app to create their own beverage cans. Thank you so much for awarding us this grant!





World Fair

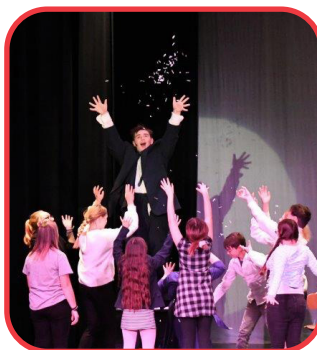


The 7th grade Study Skills and Geography classes hosted a "World Fair" in the OIMS library at the end of January. Both here and in class, students presented their country research projects to their fellow classmates and the community. For this final project, students were able to apply their topics learned in study skills as well as geography to assist them in their research and learning about these countries, the people, and environments. Students also enjoyed sharing the foods, music, and cultures of their research countries.



Elf the Musical

On December 15 and 16, Olean students presented Elf the Musical. The show had approximately 60 students involved as actors, pit musicians, stage crew, tech designers, costume managers, and set painters. The cast consisted of students in grades 4 – 12. A few students were veterans, but for the majority, this was their first musical production. The show brought out an audience of almost 600 people!



6th Grade Ukuleles

The middle school is so lucky to have an abundance of ukuleles! Mrs. Stein's 6th grade music classes have been learning to play songs, scales, chords, and different strumming patterns on the ukulele. This is one of their favorite units of the semester!



Washington West Elementary School



SLIDING into the NEW YEAR

In thanks to the Washington West PTO, our husky pups and families were invited to an afternoon on the ice at the Olean Rec Center. Spending time together in the halls of WW is great, but seeing our students, staff, and families skating into the new year was TONS of FUN!



Researching Roundup

These third-grade husky pups spent time researching legendary creatures. Together with their peers, they created research related posters. Their effort and excitement over their learning was remarkable!



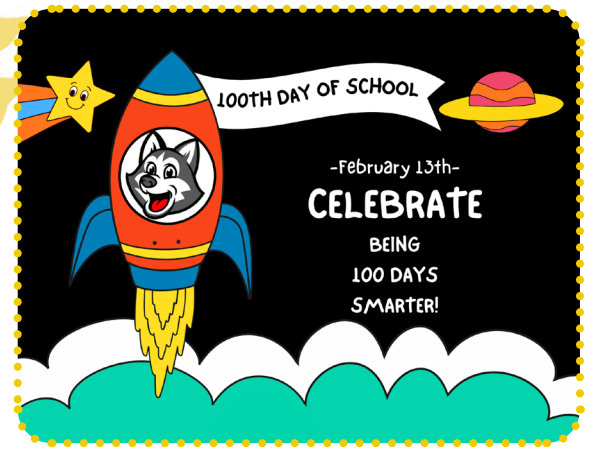
World Changers

Our husky pups have BIG DREAMS. In honoring and celebrating the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., our students reflected on their own dreams and aspirations. They're Beginning with the End in Mind and establishing both school-based and personal goals.



Fine Motor Fun

Washington West husky pups get weekly practice with our certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA). This month was lots of fun as they worked their finger muscles to fill socks with some rice. Focus and fine motor fun was a target for this pack of pups!



100th DAY of SCHOOL

We're looking forward to celebrating our 100th day here in the halls of WW! This year, we're hiding 100 husky pups around the halls for our students and staff to find. Will we make it to 100?



Leaders of the Pack

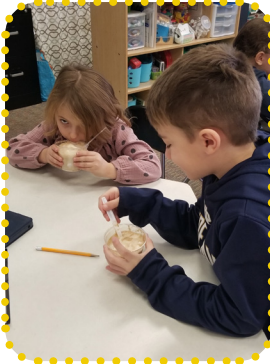
Each month, our husky pups await to see if they are selected as LEADERS of the PACK! Through their hard work and effort filling up their LEADER boards, the students are entered into a raffle for their very own Pup Pal. These husky pups are the most recent recipients of the coveted title "LEADER of the PACK!"



Follow your Husky Pups on Twitter @OleanWW

Olean City School District Newsletter

East View Elementary School



Exploring States of Matter

Students in 2nd grade have been having fun learning about the states of matter and changing states of matter. Students read, wrote, hypothesized, observed, and experimented with making ice cream in a bag, gasses in balloons, and root beer floats during this unit of study.



Book Bingo

Students and families of East View Husky Pups spent an evening playing Book Bingo!! Raymour and Flannigan sponsored the event by opening up their store and providing popcorn and water for the event. They also donated two gift certificates to two lucky winners AND a \$400 check to our East View PTO! Our amazing East View Reading teachers hosted the event which brought in a great crowd. So many kids left the event with so many books in hand – and the store was full of smiles and laughs. Thank you, parents for bringing your kiddos out to the event and thank you to Raymour and Flannigan for being such an amazing partner in education for East View Elementary!!

Follow our school on twitter @OleanEastView

February 2024 - March 2024



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

410 W. Sullivan St.

Olean, NY 14760

www.oleanschools.org

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EE Cookie

Each year Mr. Perry's JCC History classes take part in a cookie project. For this project students decide on a topic or event in US history and create a baked good to represent the event. They then bring in their cookie, show it to the class, and then give a presentation on why that event was significant to American History. Often students bring extra cookies for their classmates, which they appreciate! This year Emma Edwards did her presentation on the Underground Railroad. Emma baked nine different cookies each representing different quilts sewn by individuals along the Underground Railroad. Each quilt contained a unique "code" which the conductors of the Underground Railroad could decipher these codes to guide them in their search towards America's promise of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" in the North.

Sullivan Hoffman chose to salute veterans and the greatest generation through his project. Sullivan created his cookie depicting the insignia of the 101st Airborne Division. For his presentation he described the unit's role in Operation Overlord. The 101st made the D-Day invasion of Normandy successful by parachuting in behind enemy lines using the cover of dark. They then disrupted Nazi communication and hindered Nazi reinforcements from reaching the beaches.

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