



# Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School

Monthly Newsletter

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

Volume 7 3rd Issue



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**WE HERE AT ORISKANY JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
WISH YOU AND YOURS A MAGICAL HOLIDAY  
SEASON!!**



# Principal's Message



Dear Students, Parents, and Families,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving break with their families. November was an incredible month at the Jr./Sr. High School. On November 8th, we proudly welcomed six new students into our local chapter of the National Honor Society. Later in the month, I had the honor of attending the Student of the Month dinner hosted by the Optimist Club of Whitestown on November 20th, where seniors Jullian Jalowiec, Maggie Tylutki, and Jessica Zyskowski were recognized for their achievements.

Winter varsity sports started on November 18th. Our Varsity Mohawk Valley Jugglers Hockey Team kicked off Oriskany's first home game of the season last Tuesday at the Aud. Registration for modified sports opens on Friday, December 6th, with the first practice scheduled for January 6th. I'm excited to watch our student-athletes compete on the court, ice, and track throughout the season.

Looking ahead, December promises to be a busy and festive month. On Sunday, December 8th, I'm excited to attend Christmas in the Nettles, where several student clubs will volunteer to support this wonderful community event. On Thursday, December 12th, we will host our Jr./Sr. High School concert from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Our students have been practicing tirelessly, and we hope the performance fills everyone with holiday cheer.

Additionally, the Oriskany Language Club and PTA are organizing a movie night for elementary school students on Friday, December 13th, from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the High School Auditorium. Students will enjoy a showing of *The Grinch*, along with a juice box, bagged chips, and a printed photo with Santa, courtesy of the Yearbook Club. Tickets are \$7 per student.

Thank you for your continued support of our students. Wishing you a joyful holiday season filled with time spent with family and friends!



ORISKANY PROUD

Sincerely,



Andrew K Kennedy  
Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School Principal





Did You Know...

December:

- 4th- National Cookie Day
- 6th- Mitten Tree Day
- 10th- Nobel Prize Day
- 11th- Gingerbread House Day
- 17th- Wright Brothers Day
- 21st- World Peace Day
- 26th- National Candy Cane Day
- 30th- Bacon Day



December...

- 10th- BOE Meeting @ 6pm
- 12th- Winter Concert @7pm
- 19th- Winter Concert Snow Date
- 20th- Progress Reports Mailed
- 21st- First Day of Winter
- 23rd-31st- Winter Recess



Order Your  
**YEARBOOK**



[jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com)



**Poinsettia Pick Up**

**From Ski & Snowboard Club Fundraiser**

Now until December 15th

**@ River Road Farm and Greenhouse**





## Oriskany Central School's First Marking Period Honor Roll 2024-2025

### Highest Honor Roll: 94.5-100.0

- Grade 12: Kate Dellers, Brienne Eldred, Ishaal Mirza, Erika Reid, Gianna Santucci, Jack Tagliaferri, Jessica Zyskowski
- Grade 11: Jessica Beckwith, Edward Wright
- Grade 10: Brynne Russum, Ashley Zyskowski
- Grade 9: Lilliana Ciotti, Nicholas Citriniti, Audrina Gulisano, Troy Gu, Landon Volz
- Grade 8: Gavin Bronk, Isabella Hart
- Grade 7: Carter Charles, Vito LoCaccio, Nolan Opperman, Olivia Petronella, Greyson Ruiz, Tanner True, Liam Ty-lutki

### High Honor Roll: 89.50-94.49

- Grade 12: Ryan Birt, Leah Denison, Nathan Domenico, Addison Fabbio, Sean Graziano, Henry Inserra, Vincent Jones, Chelsea Mason, Michael Smithling, Maggie Ty-lutki
- Grade 11: Jazmin Barnes, Alexia Birt, Justin Fisher, Corinne Looney, Braelyn Oehler
- Grade 10: Danica Dame, Charles Golden, Tayton Kimball, Darcie Klein, Logan Neal, Alexis Roman, Lance Smith III
- Grade 9: Nathan Gulisano, Nicholas Koenig, Chase Larson, Collin Opperman, Madeline Powers
- Grade 8: Giada Baker, McKenzie Benoit, Peyton Dame, Wyatt Davis, Caroline Gulick, Sophia Judycki, Jacob Kent, Camryn LoRusso, Isabella McCloskey, Lilly O'Dell, Ceci Piersma
- Grade 7: Brayden Anderson, Madeline Babcock, Khilee Camerota, Landon Christopher, Vanessa Fleegeer, Audrianna Granato, Samuel Sperling, Emma Stewart, Aaliyah Zurek

### Honor Roll: 84.00-89.49

- Grade 12: Emerson Appler, Gavin Franz, Nicholas Hays, Raelin Johnston, Chase Koenig, Thomas Maher, Jeffrey Phillips, Brandon Poirier, Angelo Soullas, Brian Terchowicz, , Emelia Ulrich, Jimmie Velez III
- Grade 11: Nadia Chmut, Matthew Dibble, Matthew Kernan, Gavin LaForest, Brayden LaGasse, Gabryella Manella, Savannah Schultz, Nicholas Swald, Tyler Tamburino, Ethan Zarnoch-Riley
- Grade 10: Broderick Anderson, Peyton Buehler, Kaylee Corey, Delilah Chase, Joseph Iacovissi, Adilyn Jamieson-Rothdiener, Ryan Kilmartin, Dean Koenig, Matthew LoCash Izabella Miller, Aiden Pysnik, Danika Sykes, Carter Usyk
- Grade 9: Jewels Bewick, Robert Duff Jr., Kirill Kasperovich, Arianna Kernan, Kaelyn Mayo, Mia Shwamle, Isabella Smith, KhaiLee Worn
- Grade 8: Mya Avery, Giavana Calderon, Joseph Day, Cohen Kraeger, Emily Poissant, Trenton Pryor, Remedy Wilson
- Grade 7: Meika Butenhoff, Matthew Dousharm, Laila Greenfield, Lily Hessler, Cole Lasher, Vincent Meeker, Ava Napolis, Frederick Smith III, Taren Urtz, Brylie VanVechten



# Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Career and Technical Education HONOR ROLL

## 1st Marking Period 2024-2025

### HIGH HONOR 90-100

Jazmin Barnes, Jessica Beckwith, Ryan Birt, Leah Denison, Addison Fabbio, Ashlee Kowiatek, Chelsea Mason, Gianna Santucci, Michael Smithling, Angelo Soullas, Nicholas Swald

### HONOR ROLL 85-89

Eric Babcock, Hayden Eaton, Raelin Johnston, Brandon Poirier,  
Savannah Schultz,

### HONORABLE MENTION 80-84

Cameron Post





SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
March 8, 2025	February 21, 2025	February 25, 2025
May 3, 2025	April 18, 2025	April 22, 2025
June 7, 2025	May 22, 2025	May 27, 2025

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
April 5, 2025	February 28, 2025	March 16, 2025
June 14, 2025	May 9, 2025	May 26, 2025





## News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...



# How to Apply for Federal Student Financial Aid

Financial aid is available from the federal and state governments and your college. This includes Pell Grants, Work-Study, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, and Federal Student Loans.

### Before You Apply

#### Get Your StudentAid.gov account.

- Dependent students require at least one parent to also have a StudentAid.gov Account (FSA ID) in order to complete and electronically sign the FAFSA and other federal student aid documents.
- Get it before you sit down to do the FAFSA.
- Visit [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) and click "Create Account."

#### Check your eligibility

Go to [studentaid.gov/aid-estimator](http://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator) to use the **Federal Student Aid Estimator** for an estimate of your federal aid eligibility.

### Complete the FAFSA

- Go to [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) and navigate to the **FAFSA® Form** to start applying for FAFSA.
- To fill out the FAFSA, you and your contributor(s) must have all of the required materials to submit your application.
- The FAFSA form applies to a single academic year. That means you need to submit a new FAFSA form each year you're applying for aid.

### Apply for the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

- If you're a NYS resident and include a NY school on your FAFSA, you should also apply for NYS aid online by using the NYS resident link on the FAFSA Submission Confirmation page.
- You must apply for TAP and complete or renew the FAFSA every year.
- You can apply directly at [www.tap.hesc.ny.gov/totw](http://www.tap.hesc.ny.gov/totw)

### Gather These Materials

- For both students and parents:
  - Drivers License.
  - Social Security Number.
  - Tax returns from two years prior to the FAFSA application year.
  - Records of other untaxed income, such as child support received, veterans' benefits, or military allowances.
  - Email address.

### What's Next?

- You will receive an email notice when your FAFSA has been processed and your FAFSA Submission Summary is available for review. Be sure to log into your account to verify all of your information is set.
- Be sure to respond to any questions or requests for more information by the deadline indicated or you could lose your eligibility for financial aid.

### Important Reminders

- Find out the financial aid deadlines at your college.
- Apply for financial aid every year.
- Don't pay for financial aid information that you can get for free. Visit [hesc.ny.gov](http://hesc.ny.gov) for more information.
- Attend financial aid workshops to learn more about programs and completing applications. Check with your high school counselor and visit [hesc.ny.gov](http://hesc.ny.gov)



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## News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...



### How to Apply for TAP and Other NYS Student Financial Aid

Financial aid comes primarily from the federal government, state government and/or your college.

**Visit [hesc.ny.gov/pay](http://hesc.ny.gov/pay) for a complete list of NYS financial aid programs.**

#### TAP

The New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) provides tuition awards to eligible students attending a college or university located in New York State.

Because TAP is a grant, it does not have to be paid back.

#### To be Eligible for TAP You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Meet family income limits of \$125,000 or less.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree at an approved postsecondary institution in NYS.

#### Award Amount

- Up to \$5,665 annually, as determined by factors including:
  - Family net taxable income.
  - Tuition charged by your college.
  - Other family members enrolled in college.

#### How to Apply

- From the FAFSA confirmation page, follow the Apply Now link for New York state-based financial aid.
- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/tap](http://hesc.ny.gov/tap) for eligibility criteria, application deadlines, and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](http://hesc.ny.gov/dream)

#### Excelsior Scholarship

The Excelsior Scholarship, in combination with other student financial aid, allows eligible New York State students to attend a SUNY or CUNY college tuition-free.

#### To be Eligible for the Excelsior Scholarship You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Meet family income limits of \$125,000 or less.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree at a SUNY or CUNY college.
- Be enrolled in at least 12 credits per term and complete 30 credits each year successively.
- Be on track to complete an associates degree in two consecutive years or bachelors degree in four consecutive years.
- Agree to live in NYS for the length of time the award was received.

Visit [hesc.ny.gov/excelsior](http://hesc.ny.gov/excelsior) for full eligibility details.

#### How to Apply

- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/excelsior](http://hesc.ny.gov/excelsior) for application deadlines and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](http://hesc.ny.gov/dream)







## News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...



### Enhanced Tuition Awards

The Enhanced Tuition Awards program provides tuition awards to students attending a participating private college located in New York State.

#### To be Eligible for Enhanced Tuition Awards You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Meet family income limits of \$125,000 or less.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree at a participating private college located in NYS.
- Be enrolled in at least 12 credits per term and complete 30 credits each year successively.
- Be on track to complete an associates degree in two consecutive years or bachelors degree in four consecutive years.
- After completing your degree, you must live in NYS for the length of time the award was received.

Visit [hesc.ny.gov/eta](https://hesc.ny.gov/eta) for full eligibility details.

#### Award Amount

- Up to \$6,000 annually through the combination of your TAP award, ETA award and a match from your private college.

#### How to Apply

- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/eta](https://hesc.ny.gov/eta) for application deadlines and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](https://hesc.ny.gov/dream)

### After Applying, What's Next?

- Check your email and HESC account frequently for updates regarding your application status.
- Respond to any questions or requests for additional information by the deadline indicated.

### STEM Scholarship

The NYS Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Incentive Program provides full tuition awards to students attending a SUNY or CUNY college or university in New York State.

#### To be Eligible for the STEM Scholarship You Must

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Be ranked in the top 10 percent of your high school graduating class.
- Pursue an undergraduate degree in STEM at a SUNY or CUNY college or university.
- Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher.
- Agree to live and work in NYS in an approved STEM occupation for five years after college.

Visit [hesc.ny.gov/stem](https://hesc.ny.gov/stem) for full eligibility details.

#### Award Amount

- Up to the annual SUNY resident undergraduate tuition rate.

#### How to Apply

- Visit [hesc.ny.gov/stem](https://hesc.ny.gov/stem) for application deadlines and a link to the application.

If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](https://hesc.ny.gov/dream)



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## NEW YORK FINANCIAL AID CHECKLIST

Follow these steps in your senior year of high school to apply for financial aid. Deadlines vary so complete the steps when you can, even if it's passed the suggested timing.

### PREPARE

#### SEPTEMBER

**Make college list**

Work with your advisor/counselor to identify and apply to at least one [financially safer school](#) – a college that you're likely to be accepted to and able to afford.

**Create FSA ID**

Username and password that all students and their parent(s) must create to start the FAFSA.

- Watch [How to Create a Username & Password \(FSA ID\)](#)
- Create an FSA ID at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)

### APPLY

#### OCTOBER – DECEMBER

**Submit FAFSA  
or NYS DREAM  
Act Application**

Available by December 1, 2024, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required by all colleges, universities, and technical programs for eligible students to apply for financial aid. The NYS DREAM Act Application allows undocumented and other eligible students to apply for NY state and institutional aid.

- Watch [FAFSA Overview](#)
- Collect information needed using the [FAFSA/TAP Checklist](#)
- Fill out and submit your FAFSA at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) and NYS DREAM Act Application at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](https://hesc.ny.gov/dream)

**Submit CSS  
Profile**

Required by some private colleges for students to apply for financial aid directly from the college.

- Visit [cssprofile.collegeboard.org](https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org) to see if your college(s) require the CSS Profile and to submit the application
- Collect information needed using the [CSS Profile Checklist](#)

**Submit NYS  
TAP Application**

The NYS TAP Application is required in order to receive any NYS TAP funds and other NYS scholarships.

- Visit [tap.hesc.ny.gov/totw/](http://tap.hesc.ny.gov/totw/) to apply, or link directly to the TAP application from your FAFSA submission page.

# FOLLOW UP

## JANUARY - FEBRUARY

**Review FAFSA  
Submission  
Summary (FSS)**

The FSS becomes available shortly after you submit the FAFSA. It summarizes the information you reported on it, includes your Student Aid Index (SAI), and flags issues with your FAFSA that must be resolved.

**Complete  
verification**

If you're selected for verification, a process colleges use to ensure the information reported on your FAFSA is correct, you're required to provide the requested documents in order to receive financial aid.

- See our [Verification Handout](#)

# DECIDE

## MARCH - MAY

**Review financial  
aid offers**

Aid offers show you the amount of financial aid you will receive if you attend a specific college. Compare all offers before deciding where to attend college.

- Use the [College Cost Calculator](#) to compare your offers and estimate your indirect costs

**Pay tuition  
deposit**

A non-refundable down payment required by most 4-year colleges and universities to hold your spot at the college, due by May 1.

- See our [Tuition Deposit Handout](#) for more information



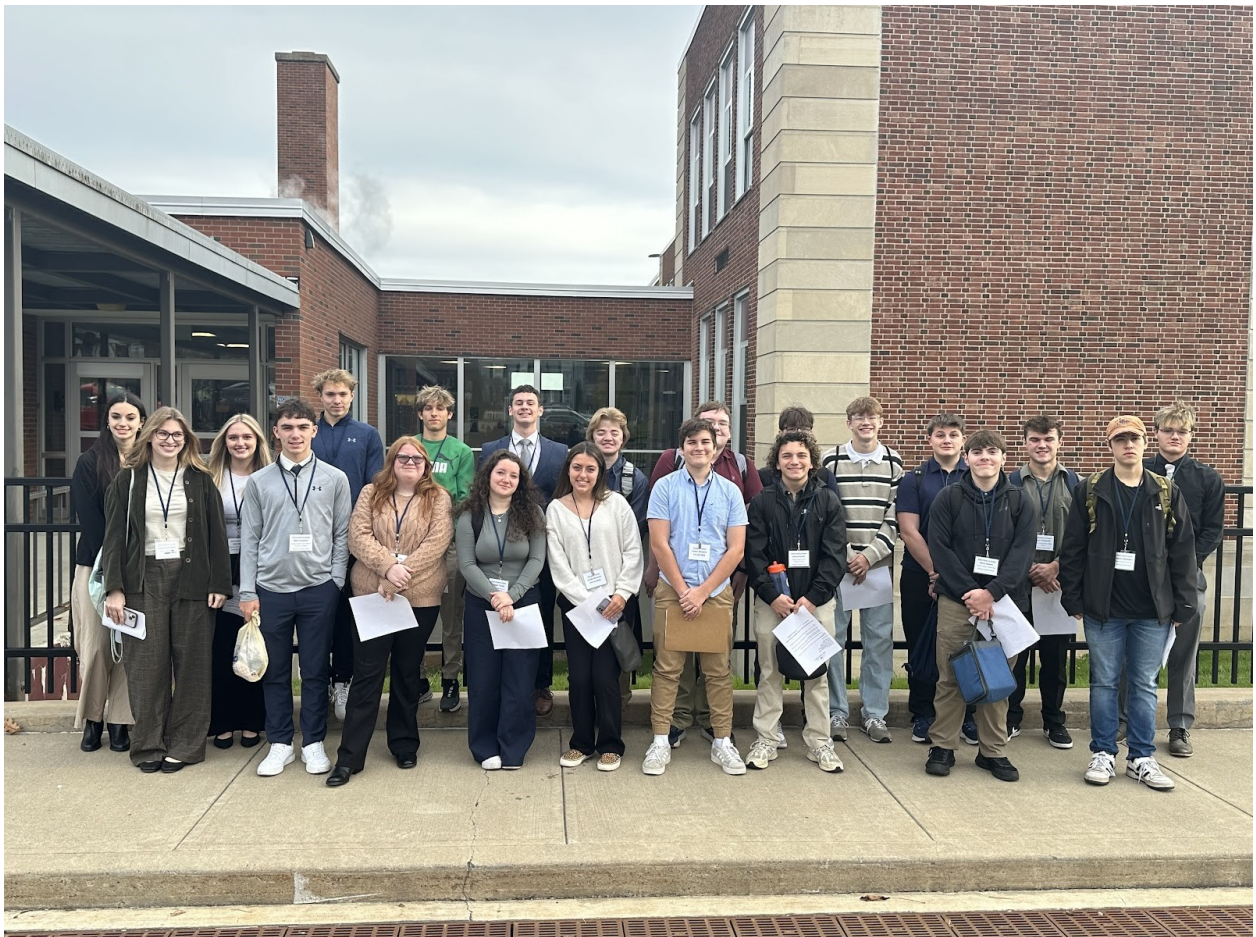
Scan or go to  
[uaspire.org/NYChecklist](http://uaspire.org/NYChecklist)  
to view online



News From the Office of Counseling and Career Services...

## Senior Shadowing

On Thursday, November 14, 2024, Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School had a job shadowing event. Approximately 25 students from the Senior Class were provided a job shadowing experience. Students were placed with about 20 business place employers across the Mohawk Valley. Students visited some of the following locations; Bouton Physical Therapy, K&A Radiologic Technology Services, Air Force Research Laboratory, First Source Federal Credit Union, Clinton Auto, The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy, Collins Aerospace, Mohawk Valley Community College, Innovare Advancement Center, Utica National Insurance Company, Mercy Flight Central, and Wynn Hospital. A job shadowing experience is literally spending time “in the shadow” of a person performing his or her job functions. It’s typically a day-long workplace visit with an individual working in a position, career or industry of interest to you. The OHM BOCES - School and Business Alliance (SABA) worked with the Office of Counseling and Career Services and the Oriskany Transportation Department to provide this opportunity for our students.





## \$\$\$\$\$ Scholarship Opportunities \$\$\$\$\$

Do you need money in your pocket for school?

Are you a graduating **senior** and plan to continue your education at a trade or technical school, a college, or in the military?

The **Oriskany Retirees' Organization** can help!

Scholarships for future teachers are available.

The **Future Teacher Scholarship** is a shared scholarship with the Oriskany Alumni Association and is worth \$750.

There are also scholarships for other fields of study from O.R.O. The **Oriskany Scholarship** is worth \$375.

Please visit the **guidance office** for applications.

# Winter Concert



*Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School*

*Winter Concert*

*December 12, 2024*

*Starts at 7:00 PM*



# Student SPOTLIGHT



## Seniors Honored as Students of the Month..

### ...by Whitestown Optimist Club

On Wednesday November 20th, three Oriskany students were honored at the Elks Lodge for the Optimists Club of Whitestown's Student of the Month Program. The three students were Jullian Jalowiec, Maggie Tylutki & Jessica Zyskowski. These students were chosen based on their academic standing, participation in school activities, community service/volunteering and for taking on leadership roles in their school & community.

Congratulations Jullian, Maggie & Jessica!



# This Happened...

## Future Business Leaders of America



*Congratulations to our Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members ; Nathan Domenico, Sean Graziano, Nick Hays, Thomas Maher, Emerson Appler, Addison Judycki, Gianna Santucci, and Brian Terchowicz for attending the Fall District Meeting at Herkimer College on November 13. The members participated in three workshops, placed 3rd in the "Battle of the Best" chapter challenge, and first place in the NYS FBLA coin collection fundraiser.*



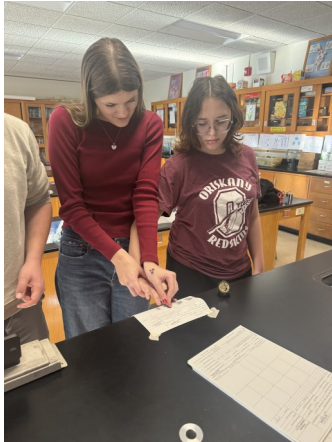
Students from Mrs. Musacchio's Business Entrepreneurship class went on a field trip to the Oneida Community Mansion House in Sherrill today to tour the exhibits on the Rise and Fall of Oneida Limited. The tour goes along with their unit on the Gilded Age entrepreneurs and businesses. The era describes rapid industrialization and large, powerful entrepreneurs and corporations.



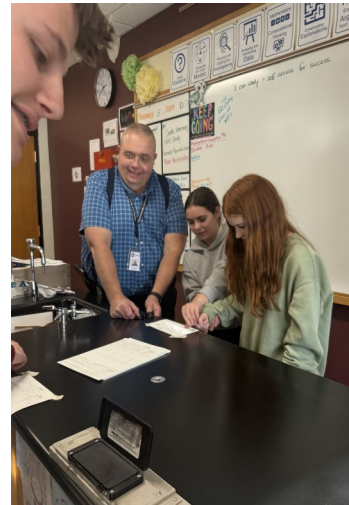


# This Happened...

## Science Club



Officer Szmurlo teaches science club members about fingerprinting.



## TATF

On 11/19 TATF students volunteered to build beds for the local Sleep in Heavenly Peace chapter. Students sanded boards and dipped frames so beds could be built for local children. Since its inception the local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace has built and donated beds and bedding to over 2000 local children. There is an ongoing need for beds and bedding. On December 21 volunteers will deliver beds during the holiday "Deck the Beds" event. If you would like to donate your time or bedding please check out [www.shpbeds.org](http://www.shpbeds.org) for more information.



# This Happened...

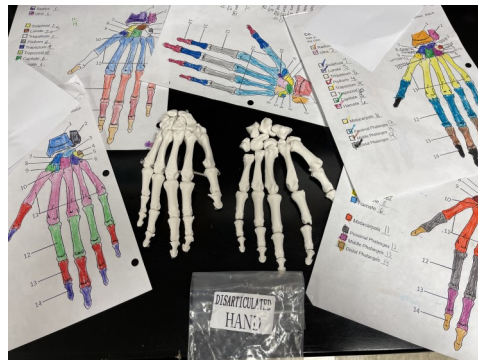
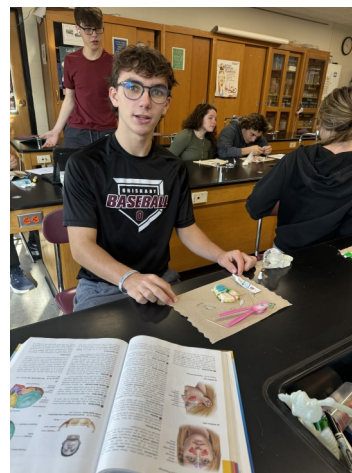
## A & P Classes



Anatomy and Physiology students demonstrate different types of wounds and practice suturing on bananas as they learn about tissues.



Anatomy & Physiology students study the skeletal system with skull cookie decorating, x-rays, and bones.



*Hello December*



**Bingo's Birthday Month**

**Car Donation Month**

**National Pear Month**

**Safe Toys & Gifts Month**

**Universal Human Rights Month**

**Worldwide Food Service Safety Month**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!**