



ORCHARD PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY REPORT

June/July 2013

In This Issue...

*Page 1.....Laptops for
Zambia*

*Page 2....Superintendent's
Message*

*Page 3....Teachers Selected for
Summer Seminars*

*Page 3...Author Visits
Windom*

Page 4....Energy Update

Page 4...New Instruments

*Page 5....Veteran Speaks To
MS Students*

*Page 5...Lindsay Matthews
Memorial Scholarship
Run*

*Page 6....Images From
Around the District*

*Page 7....Images From
Around the District*

Page 8...News In Athletics

Page 8...Alumni Update

*Page 9...Congratulations
Spring Athletes!*

Page 10...Art Splash 2013

Middle School Student Collects Laptops for Students in Zambia

Bryce Shively, a 7th grade student at the Orchard Park Middle School, collected laptops for students attending five different schools in Zambia, Africa.

Bryce decided to do this because of a work connection his father made. Dr. Chris Shively, Bryce's dad, is a professor at Buffalo State and works with Dr. Hibajene Shandomo and Dr. Sherri Weber. Dr. Shandomo and Dr. Weber took 15 Buffalo State pre-service teachers to 5 different schools in Lusaka, Zambia. The number of students in the classes varies based on the individual Zambian school but there can be 30 – 70 students in a single classroom. These schools do not have the resources to provide many computers for their students to use. Bryce decided to collect used laptops that are no longer being used to be donated to the classrooms.

Bryce and his father planned to revamp the computers that have been donated and install a program called Edubuntu on the machines. This operating system contains a number of free educationally



Pictured above is 7th grader Bryce Shively with one of the laptops he collected for the Zambian students.

based software programs that the Zambian students will be able to use including Firefox, which is a web browser.

Bryce did this as a Spectrum project and created a MS TV commercial that went on the Orchard Park Middle School announcements in order to get the word out. He was hoping to collect five to ten laptops to send with Dr. Shandomo and Dr. Weber. He collected the laptops through June 6th. Bryce ended up collecting seven laptops to send.



Superintendent's Column

By Matt McGarrity, Superintendent of Schools

As always, the end of the school year was an extremely busy time for all of us. I would like to thank our faculty and staff for their continued dedication, our Orchard Park students for working hard on exams, final projects and activities through the end of the year and our community members for supporting us.

I would like to congratulate the 2013 Orchard Park Central School District retirees. We will miss your knowledge and commitment to our District, but we wish you continued happiness in your well-deserved retirement. Congratulations to: Special Education teacher, Linda Heusler after 27.8 years of service to our District, Elementary teacher, Mika Pelgrin after 27.9 years, Physical Education teacher, Kim Kaul after 33 years, Social Studies teacher, Dave Rebmann after 41 years of service, Elementary teacher, Linda Boglioli after 21.7 years of service, Elementary teacher Ann Pfohl after 14.5 years of service, Elementary teacher, Mary Sullivan after 32.5 years of service, Senior Clerk Typist, Rosemary Heintz after 34 years of service, Senior Clerk Typist, Martha Vargo after 27.25 years of service, Teacher Aide, Florence Georger after 7.25 years, School Monitor, Irene Hariaczyi after 23.25 years, Custodian, David Wagner after 39 years, Bus Attendant, Deborah Ellsworth after 12.75

years, Bus Driver, Michael Kamm after 17.25 years, Bus Driver, Norreen Marshall after 21 years, and Teacher Aide, Diane Olewine after 31 years. Combined, this is over 411 years of service and dedication to our District. You will all be missed.

Congratulations also goes out to those who received tenure during the 2012-2013 School Year. Congratulations to Middle School Principal, David Lilleck, who received his tenure in September of 2012, Middle School Assistant Principal Jeffrey Dolce, who received his tenure in March of 2013, Foreign Language teacher, Patrick Neveu, who received his tenure in June 2013, and Elementary teacher Tara Zimmerman, who received her tenure in June of 2013.

I would like to thank the Orchard Park Central School District community for coming out in support of the Orchard Park Central School District Budget and Bus purchase plan presented to voters for consideration on May 21. The budget passed with 1,562 yes votes and 844 no votes. Our Bus Proposition passed with 1,647 yes votes and 747 no votes. The bus proposition was similar to propositions passed over the last eight years and has no additional tax impact.

We were very fortunate to have six candidates, Mr. Anthony Agnello, Dr. Christopher Shively, Mr. Dwight Mateer, Mrs. Donna Omar, Dr. Christine Gray Tinnesz, and Mrs. Natalie Schaffer running for three seats on the Orchard Park Central School District Board of Education. Mrs. Natalie Schaffer and Mr. Anthony Agnello were each elected to serve three year terms and Mrs. Donna Omar was elected

to fill the remaining two years of Alfred McClymonds' unfinished term.

I would also like to thank our Orchard Park Central School District community, along with our Orchard Park community, for your patience and support as we relocate our Administrative Offices and the Transportation Department onto a combined campus. As you may recall, in May of 2011 district residents passed a project proposition approving the purchase and renovation of property/facility located at 2240 Southwestern Blvd. In the summer of 2012 the district began the work of implementing the Long-Range Plan for the Consolidation of Education and Support Facilities. The Administrative Offices have been located at 3330 Baker Road and the Transportation Department has been located behind the Middle School in the Village. We are relocating to one centralized location at 2240 Southwestern Blvd. (at the corner of Angle Rd. and Southwestern Blvd.). We are looking forward to the benefits of the move including improving the safety for children, parents, and community members in and around the middle school and we will now have a safe, secure and adequate space to park our buses.

While most of administrative offices have already moved, the special education department will relocate over the summer. All district phone numbers will remain the same.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope you have a restful and safe summer.

Teachers Selected for Summer Seminars

Three Orchard Park teachers have been selected for National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminars. Kathy Holmes will study at Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School in the Midwest. Sue Chudy and Rachelle Francis will study at *Inventing America: Lowell and the Industrial Revolution*.



Pictured above are the teachers selected for the prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminars: Kathy Holmes, Sue Chudy and Rachelle Francis.

Kathy Holmes will have an opportunity to study at the one-week summer workshop that will study Frank Lloyd Wright and his development of the Prairie School inspired by the Midwestern landscape. This was a significant shift in American history and showed how the nation was changing and its architecture was becoming its own. Ms. Holmes will have an opportunity to work with a variety of scholars and educators to explore this period of time and architecture. After her week studying in Iowa, she will be able to bring back her knowledge of this subject to share with her students.

Sue Chudy and Rachelle Francis will be studying at a one-week workshop on *Lowell and the Industrial Revolution*, in Lowell Massachusetts. This six-day (Sunday night through Friday) residential teacher workshop uses the rich resources of Lowell National Historical Park, Old Sturbridge Village, and Concord, MA, museums and historic sites to offer learning experiences to the participants.

The Orchard Park School District is thrilled that these teachers have an opportunity to enhance their knowledge; therefore, enhancing the knowledge of their students.

Award Winning Author Visits Windom Elementary

On Tuesday May 21, 2013 local award winning author, Jan Siebold, visited Windom Elementary. Jan was born in Buffalo and credits her parents and grandparents for instilling in her a love of books, reading and writing.



Pictured is Jan Siebold speaking to Windom Elementary third grade students.

After obtaining her undergraduate degree from SUNY Fredonia and the University de Besanson, France, Jan received her Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Buffalo. She was an elementary school librarian for over 30 years.

"I love bringing kids and books together," says Jan. "Books can show us what is possible in the world. They can help us to shape the stories of our own lives."

Jan's career as an author began when she attended a writing seminar at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. After the seminar she began to write articles for newspapers and educational journals. Her first book for children, *Rope Burn*, was published in 1998.

Jan lives with her husband, Jim, in East Aurora, New York. Since her retirement from the East Aurora schools she has written chapters for two books which were published by the American Library Association. Jan was also a contributing author for the WNED Teacher's Guide which accompanies the documentary film *Elbert Hubbard ... An American Original*. She enjoys hiking, biking, snowshoeing and "doing time" with a good book.



Energy Update

By: Tom Schaner, Energy Education Specialist

If you were to walk into any of the schools in Orchard Park before the student day begins, you would notice that the hall lighting is at a reduced level, with ample light for safe passage. This is one indication of the district-wide energy initiative being implemented by all the staff. Behind the scenes, boiler temperatures are being optimized, ventilation is scheduled to reflect occupancy, and a myriad of other energy-saving steps are occurring on a daily basis.

So what are the fruits of all of our district employees efforts? What follows is a breakdown of energy costs our district did not have to pay for, energy (cost avoidance) this year that can be directly related to behavioral and systemic changes we have made within the district this year. Every

employee, student, and taxpayer can take pride in the fact that we can collectively affect energy savings at this level while maintaining an outstanding educational environment.

Cost Avoidance Summary 2012-2013 School Year Thru April

<i>Building Name</i>	<i>What we Paid in Past</i>	<i>This Year's Cost</i>	<i>Cost Avoidance \$</i>	<i>Cost Avoidance %</i>
Windom	\$63,590.89	\$51,216.50	\$12,374.39	19.45%
Ellicott	\$64,369.41	\$53,117.19	\$11,252.22	17.48%
OPHS	\$234,794.02	\$196,320.24	\$38,473.78	16.38%
Eggert	\$64,377.80	\$55,060.82	\$9,316.98	14.47%
South Davis	\$42,083.04	\$36,600.58	\$5,482.46	13.02%
OPMS	\$168,859.07	\$152,281.03	\$16,578.04	9.81%
District Office	\$44,316.15	\$40,968.74	\$3,347.41	7.55%
Total	\$682,390.38	\$585,565.10	\$96,825.28	14.19%

New Instruments Purchased

Thanks to a terrific joint effort by the school district and two very supportive groups, a number of much needed musical instruments have been purchased this year. Some have already started to arrive, so it's very exciting to the students and teachers in the Orchard Park Central Schools Music Department. The Orchard Park Music Boosters, led by President, Janet Jahnke and the Orchard Park Alumni Association, led by Joan Litwin, teamed up to join the O.P. District, to the tune of \$60,000 to buy instruments to help replace some of the aged instruments that have, unfortunately, outlived the ability to be repaired.

This is the fourth time a collaboration similar to this has been achieved over the last twenty years. District Music Coordinator Chris Revett, along with Assistant Superintendent for Business Jeff Petrus, helped put the "package" together, then after ascertaining the most pressing needs in the six buildings, prioritized a bid that went out to music vendors. Revett said "It's been a few years since we have had any money available for equipment (instruments), so this is a terrific shot in the arm for

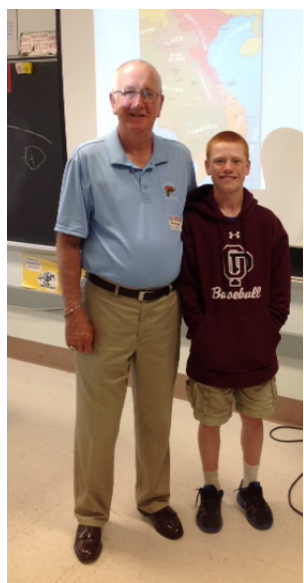


Orchard Park Alumni Association, Orchard Park Music Boosters, Orchard Park Students, Taylor Heywood and Jake Youngman and Mr. Revett, pictured with the new instruments.

the students in the OP Music program."

Purchased were a number of string basses, cellos, violas, tubas, euphoniums, bass clarinets, a xylophone, a set of marching drums for the Middle School, a vibraphone, a marimba, and some add-on uniforms. A giant "Thank You" goes out to the O.P. Music Boosters, the O.P. Alumni Association and the School District!

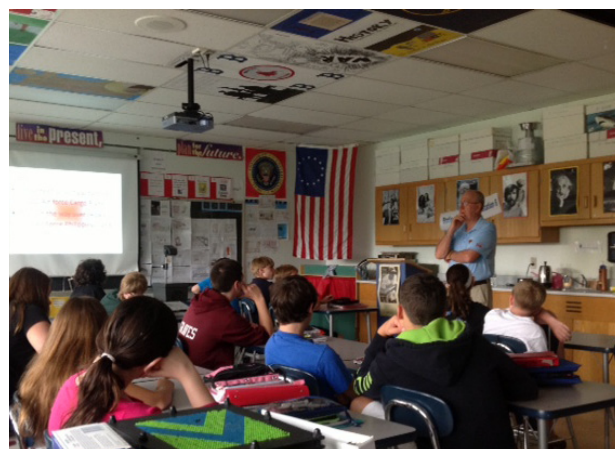
Veteran Speaks to Middle School Students on Voyager Base



Veteran Gene Gavigan pictured with his 8th grade grandson Patrick Gavigan.

Mr. Gene Gavigan spoke to Al Jafarjian's 8th grade students on Tuesday, May 28th. Mr. Gavigan volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was there from 1966-67.

He served at the Phu Loi Army Airfield Base and drove a truck in convoys to supply our troops there. He courageously shared his story with the Voyager Base 8th graders on Tuesday, May 28 during all 5 classes. He did a great job.



Gene Gavigan sharing his story with the 8th grade students in Mr. Jafarjian's class.

Today, Gene is active with the Pathfinders, an organization of several Vietnam War Veterans who assist other Veterans at the VA hospital.

Third Annual Lindsay Matthews Memorial Scholarship Run

The third annual Lindsay Matthews Memorial Scholarship 5K Run and 1-Mile Walk will take place at 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 21 at the Orchard Park Sports Complex, located at 6909 Milestrip Road in Orchard Park. The 5K race is sanctioned by the USATF (USA Track & Field), and a special half-mile "Kids Fun Run" will also take place for children age 10 and under.

All proceeds will benefit the Lindsay Matthews Memorial Scholarship, which is given annually to two graduating Orchard Park High School seniors who show the same characteristics that the late Lindsay Matthews treasured. The event is being organized by Lindsay's family.

Lindsay was a 2007 graduate of Orchard Park High School and was in her second year studying speech pathology at SUNY Geneseo when she was killed in a tragic accident in November 2008. Though she was a talented athlete at both Orchard Park and SUNY Geneseo, Lindsay is fondly remembered by her family as well as the entire Orchard Park community and beyond for her caring and compassionate nature and her tireless commitment to helping children. She

worked for the Boys & Girls Club in Orchard Park and volunteered her time for TOPSoccer, a community-based training and team placement program for young athletes with disabilities.

With the help of the Orchard Park community, Lindsay's family established the Lindsay Matthews Memorial Scholarship in order to preserve her memory and inspire the same selflessness among young adults that Lindsay embodied in life.

Registration for the 5K is \$20 before July 1 (\$25 beginning July 2 up to the day of the race), \$15 for students, and \$8 for children age 10 and under. Registration for the 1-mile walk is \$15 and registration is \$8 for the Kids Fun Run. Participants may register by mail or online by visiting www.lindsaymatthewsrun.com. Registration will also take place from 8 to 9:30 a.m. the day of the race.

The first 400 participants to register will receive a T-shirt and food, music, door prizes, and awards will be provided at a post-race event at the Orchard Park Soccer Complex. For more information on the race and the scholarship, visit www.lindsaymatthewsrun.com.

Images From Around the District



Middle School student Adele Eagan rides the zipline during Project Adventure at the Orchard Park Middle School.



Pictured above are Middle School and High School students at the Shadow Day luncheon. The students have an opportunity to shadow adults who work in fields that they may potentially be interested in for their own careers.



Mary Kolodziejczak's class wrote letters to the national magazine, Bird Watching, in the fall of the past school year and the magazine published the students letters. Pictured above is Mrs. Kolodziejczak's class holding their copies of the magazine.



Pictured above are Jill Schurr's 2nd grade students during their performance called Character Matters. Pictured are: Sally O'Donnell as Momma Bear; Alex Borden as Papa Bear; Joseph Bertola as Baby Bear; Maggie Kelly as Goldilocks and Dylan Evans as the Prince.



On Friday May 31st, students from OPHS in Mr. Tom Zintek's photography I & II classes, showcased their work on Elmwood in Buffalo, NY. The Gallery is called 1045 Gallery for the Arts and the building is an old church converted into an art studio/gallery. The photography was excellent as each photo was a little bit different from the others. The photographs were shot for the classes throughout the year, with focus on good exposure and excellent photo composition. Students from the classes choose their best work from the current school year and professionally matted the artwork. Many came out to support the student's efforts including parents and teachers.



Bagpiper, Dr. Tom Callaghan and drummer, Sal Agnello spoke to fifth graders as part of Rachelle Francis' Guest Musician program. Every year she brings in musicians to demonstrate to the children different ways that music enriches our lives, even after one has finished school.

Images From Around the District



Pictured above are Middle School students practicing an Evacuation Drill. Everyone evacuated the building and relocated to different safe evacuation sites throughout the village.



Pictured above are Payton Logan, Mickey Gocella, Anthony Miller and Dylan Jurek, Mrs. La Penta's students, on Dinosaur Day. The students were digging for dinosaur bones and then attempting to re-assemble the bones to replicate how they would have been in the actual dinosaur.



Pictured above, newly re-elected Board of Education member Donna Omar takes her oath of office to serve the remainder of Mr. McClymonds' unfinished term at the June 11th Board meeting. At the July 1st Board meeting, Natalie Schaffer and Anthony Agnello also took their oaths of office to serve their three year



Pictured above are some of the actors in the Prom Crash simulation that happened the Friday before the Prom. Pictured are Samantha Shaffner, Thomas Stephen, Kristen Stadelmaier, Leah Berst and Jessica Sanna.



South Davis principal, Christine Rassow, speaks highly of South Davis teachers Mary Sullivan and Ann Pfohl at the District Retirement Ceremony held this June.



Windom Elementary donated personal care items to Friends of Night People. Pictured in the top row are: Olivia Hughes, Emery Baun, Hannah Flynn, Julia Saskowski, Joseph Pasinski, Alexander Seifert, Joshua Minor, and Bryce Schreiner. Pictured in the bottom row are: Donovan Hamm, Aurora MacDonald, Matthew Baksa, Gabrielle Zwifka, Connor Heer and Maya Bellus.

News In Athletics

Seniors Sign Letters Of Intent

Orchard Park seniors Christopher Sanfilippo and Ralph Pagliei both signed letters of intent to play football. Chris plans to play football at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Ralph will play football at the University of Mount Union.

The seniors signed their letters of intent at a signing ceremony at the Orchard Park High School. The ceremony was attended by both of the boys' families, Varsity Football Coach, Gene Tundo, High School Principal, Jon Wolf, and Athletic Director, Dave Hack.



Pictured above are Athletic Director, David Hack, Senior Chris Sanfilippo, Coach Gene Tundo, Senior Ralph Pagliei and High School Principal Jon Wolf at the signing ceremony.

As a freshman Chris played JV football

with Coach Senn. He was captain and was awarded Defensive MVP. During his sophomore year, Chris continued his success with the JV team and was awarded Player of the Year, one of the team's highest honors. During his sophomore season he was pulled up to the Varsity level during playoffs. During his next two years playing Varsity, Chris played defensive line and fullback. At the end of his senior year he received many awards including: All WNY Academic Team, Pit Bull Award, Unsung Player of Section VI, along with the Maroon Key Award.

Ralph began playing Varsity football in his junior year of high school and began starting in his senior year as a wide receiver. This past season he had 49 receptions for 586 yards and 5 touchdowns. He not only plays football but Ralph has also played Varsity Lacrosse his sophomore, junior and senior years and he was a starter at attack during his senior year.

Both of these seniors are amazing athletes and impressive students. They are both looking forward to furthering their education while continuing to play the sport they love. Chris, the son of Charles and Debra Sanfilippo, will go on to study at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Ralph, the son of Ken and Mary Pagliei, will go on to study education at The University of Mount Union.



Jon Wolf, Orchard Park High School principal, presents Varsity Lacrosse Coach Gene Tundo with a proclamation from the Erie County Legislature congratulating Coach Tundo on 500 lacrosse wins, a very impressive accomplishment.

Alumni Update

The class of 1973 will be holding its 40th High School Reunion the weekend of August 9th and 10th, 2013. On the afternoon of Friday, August 9th, there will be a golf outing followed by a mixer at the Byrd House in the Village of Orchard Park. Saturday, August 10th, will be the main event of the weekend at the Buffalo Ski Club in West Falls. It will include dinner, drinks and music. The dress is casual. For more information please visit the community page at www.opschools.org.

The class of 1963 will celebrate their 50th Reunion on Saturday, July 27, 2013 from 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Armor Inn. The Armor Inn is located at 5381 Abbott Road in Hamburg. The cost is \$37 each and \$45 at the door. Please contact John Markulis at 716-432-1589 if you have any questions or contact him via email at colonelm@verizon.net. Information will also be available on the community page of www.opschools.org.

There will be a Multi-Class Reunion held on Friday, July 26, 2013 at the Orchard Park American Legion. It is for classes 1961-1970. It begins at 7 p.m. and the cost is \$15 at the door.

Congratulations Spring Athletes!

Congratulations to the following Orchard Park High School and Middle School athletes for their hard work, sportsmanship and achievements during the Spring 2013 season. Thanks also to the coaches, Quaker Athletics Booster Club, parents and the community for their continued support.

INDIVIDUAL STATE QUALIFIERS:

BOYS TENNIS (DOUBLES)

August Bruno & Thomas Baldinger

Coach Terry McMahon

Asst Coach Mike Graffeo

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS:

VARSITY BOYS LACROSSE

ECIC Division I Champions

Section VI Class A Champions

Coach Gene Tundo

Asst Coach Larry Catalano

VARSITY BOYS TENNIS

ECIC Division I Champions

Coach Terry McMahon

Asst Coach Mike Graffeo

NYSPHSAA SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS:

BASEBALL

GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE

BOYS VARSITY TENNIS

BOYS VARSITY TRACK & FIELD

GIRLS VARSITY TRACK & FIELD

SECTION VI ALL WESTERN NEW YORK SCHOLAR ATHLETES:

BOYS VARSITY GOLF – David Lawton

SENIOR AWARDS:

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Mitchell Wilson (FB, LAX)

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Jillian Michael (BkBall)

QABC MALE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Anthony Cimorelli, III

QABC FEMALE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Courtney Hartnett

MALE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Anthony Cimorelli, III

FEMALE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Christine Breindel

ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP AWARD

Jacob Eneix and Maryellen Devic

MAYOR'S AWARD

Austin Goltz and Chelsea Lepore

SUPERVISOR'S AWARD

Brian Arcara and Shannon Smith

ALL ACADEMIC ATHLETIC TEAM:

Alexa Ditonto, Kevin Donohue, Philip Fancher, Karli Hollins, Cassidy

Kozub, Kiley Ransbury, Melissa Stoj, Melissa Vaughn

MAROON KEY: (Varsity MVP)

BASEBALL

Thomas LaCongo

BOYS LACROSSE

John Januszkiewicz and Mitchell Wilson

GIRLS LACROSSE

Chelsea Lepore and Emily Markarian

SOFTBALL

Carly Loffredo

BOYS TENNIS

August Bruno

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Jacob Eneix (track) and Dawson Hillis (field)

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Rami Major (track) and Alexa Hillis (field)

QUAKER ATHLETICS MVP: (JV & Modified MVP)

JV BASEBALL

Martin Hackford

JV BOYS LACROSSE

John Crowley

JV GIRLS LACROSSE

Sydney Potenza

JV SOFTBALL

Sarah Kubik

MOD B BASEBALL

Troy Banks

MOD B BOYS LACROSSE

William Joseph Cooley

MOD B GIRLS LACROSSE

Kristen Zablonksi

MOD B SOFTBALL

Samantha Frappa

MOD B BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Michael Totaro (track) and Daniel Kubik (field)

MOD B GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Megan Filipski (track) and Erin O'Rourke (field)

ArtSplash

This year ArtSplash, the all-district art exhibit, was held from Friday, May 17th until Friday, May 31st. It was held at Key Bank at 4191 North Buffalo Road in Orchard Park.

ArtSplash provides an opportunity for our students in elementary, middle and high school to showcase their talents and passion for creativity in an authentic presentation. It is a true collaboration between the school district and the community. We are very proud of our students and our outstanding art teachers who help and guide students to realize their creative potential regardless of their career aspirations. Displayed on this page are some of the impressive pieces of artwork shown at ArtSplash.



After Vincent Van Gogh
By: Kiley Stoj
Grade 9



Spotted Leopard
By: Haley Walek
Grade 10



Ellen DeGeneres
By: Maggie Slomka
Grade 8



Abstract Tree
By: Mary Hanlon
Grade 3



Heart/Light
By: Corinne Christopherson
Grade 12



Fish on Fire
By: Sean Jones
Grade 5



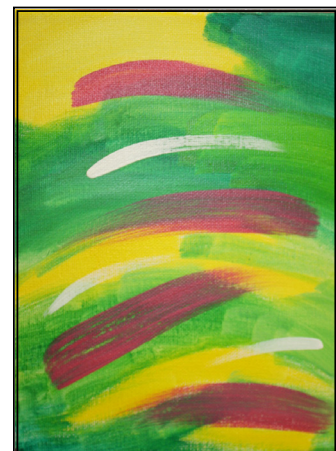
After Claude Monet
By: Emily Hahn
Grade 10



Cityscape
By: Kayla Moorehead
Grade 2



After Odilon Redon
By: Eva Kocieniewski
Grade 12



Abstract
By: Abbey Black
Grade 5