



ORCHARD PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY REPORT

February 2012

REMEMBER
IF SCHOOLS
ARE CLOSED
DUE TO
INCLEMENT
WEATHER,
ALL OTHER
ACTIVITIES,
INCLUDING
SPORTS
PRACTICES,
CO-
CURRICULARS
AND
COMMUNITY
EDUCATION
CLASSES WILL
ALSO BE
CANCELED.

ORCHARD PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL HOSTS THINK PINK DANCE

February 10, 2012 the Orchard Park Middle School student council hosted a Think Pink Dance for cancer awareness. All of the proceeds are going to Roswell. The idea was student driven and came to life with help from Middle School teachers and the Middle School PTO.

Sixth grader Emma Tryon came to Assistant Principal Kimberly Cirillo with an idea she wanted to raise money and promote cancer awareness. Her friend's brother recently had died of cancer so she wanted to bring attention to this issue and raise money for Roswell. They went to Student Council and decided to hold a Think Pink Dance.

The dance was planned and advertised by the Middle School students. A committee was developed to make posters to advertise the event. Tickets were sold for \$2.00 each. Middle School students Morgan Jones, Alyssa Piniewski and Amber Piniewski made pens, wallets, bracelets, purses and flowers out of duct tape and sold them for between \$1-\$2 dollars to help raise money for Roswell.

The girls raised \$200 to be donated, quite an accomplishment. Community members also got involved Cappelli's donated \$250 and The Big Tree Inn donated \$250 for this great cause. These donations along with the proceeds from the dance itself add up to a significant donation of \$1060 from these Middle School students.

This was a great opportunity for these students to draw attention to an issue they felt was important. By coming together they got their school community and local community involved and standing behind them in order to help them make a difference.



Middle School girls enjoying the Think Pink Dance. Pictured from the left is Taylor Addeo, Katie Luchowski, Bailey Saskowski, Elizabeth Visco, Nocolé Legler, Porscha Colville, Madelyn Rominger and Monae Pouiot.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COLUMN



One of the goals of the newly adopted CDEP for the Orchard Park Central School District states, that the District will ensure that our students have a safe learning environment.

In order to ensure this happens the Co-Curricular Behavior Eligibility Policy has been changed. The policy now states that the school Code of Conduct rules apply to students involved in after school activities as well as during the school day, participants in co-curricular programs will be held accountable for involvement with illegal drugs or alcohol while taking part in school clubs, student government, music, drama, intramurals, athletics and other student-centered activities designated by the Superintendent.

Any student suspected and then verified to be in possession of, under the influence, or found to be selling or distributing illegal drugs, inhalants, steroids, or alcohol will be immediately suspended and potentially dismissed from the activity after meeting with their school building principal and or other administrative staff as appropriate.

These standards of expectation are in effect at all times, which includes violation on school property, at school related functions, and in the community at large. The main difference between this and the past policy is that students will be held accountable for the actions anywhere within the community, not just on school grounds.

We hope that this change in policy will provide students with a safe and healthy living and learning environment.

OLWEUS TRAINING CONTINUES FOR DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Orchard Park Central School District has implemented the Olweus anti-bullying program. All district employees participate in Olweus training. When new employees are hired additional training sessions are added so all employees have an understanding of the program. The newest employees got their feet wet in the Olweus program last Wednesday February 15, 2012 in an all-day Olweus training session taught by the schools Certified Olweus Trainers.

The training taught participants the different roles that can be played when a bullying situation occurs. The list includes; students who bully, followers, supporters, passive supporters, disengaged onlookers, possible defenders, defenders, and the student who is being bullied. The Olweus program is different than most as it focuses more of its efforts on the majority of the children. The majority are typically the bystanders. The program encourages them not just to be a bystander and to do something. Depending on the situation if they feel comfortable the students can step in and say something to the student who is engaging in bullying behavior, they can help the student being bullied get out of the situation or they can tell an adult what is happening.

One of the keys to the Olweus program is to be consistent. The consequences of student's actions need to stay the same. Student's positive actions will be consistently rewarded and negative actions will be consistently punished. The employees of the district are given a short list of what to do in order to do an on-the-spot intervention. The list includes; stopping the bullying, supporting the student who has been bullied, naming the bullying behavior and referring to school rules, engaging the bystanders, imposing immediate and appropriate consequences, and taking steps to ensure the bullied student will be protected from future bullying.

The Olweus program is a research based program that has worked well for schools in Norway, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Washington State and California. This spring the Orchard Park School District will be administering a survey to the students to see if the level of bullying has decreased since the initial bullying survey was taken by students before the program had been implemented in the spring of 2010.



Three of Orchard Park Central School District's Certified Olweus trainers. Pictured from the left Terrence Tryon, Lisa Tryon, and Lisa Krueger.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS DO THEIR PART TO HELP THE COMMUNITY

February 3rd, the first Friday in February, has been designated as the "S.J. Starr Memorial Children's Charity Day." Orchard Park Middle School was once again involved in this special one-day event.

Educators Totally Committed (ETC) was started in the Ken-Ton School District in 1988 by English and theatre teacher, S.J. Starr (Mrs. Syndi Buscaglia's late father), and math teacher, Stephen Ash. For the past 24 years, they have been participating in a Sleep-out for the Homeless that has raised in excess of \$600,000. A few years ago, they went to the United Nations to ask them to designate the first Friday in February as a Worldwide School Day (Children's Charity Day) to help people in need. Our school was the first participant in this project in the United States. It has now spread to many schools in Western New York.

The goal of Children's Charity Day is to show people that we as individuals CAN make a difference. We can't end poverty or stop all wars or fix the environment, but we can let our little corner of the world be a place where people show that they care.

French author Moliere once said, "Every good act is charity. A man's true wealth hereafter is the good that he does in this world to his fellows" The staff and students at OPMS have decided that good works is of value to us as people. We believe that the world is just a little bit wealthier in spirit because these actions.



Sixth grader, Nicole Haseley making Valentine's Day Cards for seniors with the Andromeda Base.



Pictured from left to right Samantha Lagoda and Jordan Spencer 6th grade students working on their Valentine's for seniors.

PETITIONS FOR CANDIDACY ON THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AVAILABLE

Petitions for qualified candidates seeking election to the Orchard Park Central School District Board of Education will be available beginning February 28, 2012 in the office of the District Clerk, 3330 Baker Road, Orchard Park.

To be a qualified candidate for the Board of Education you must be a resident of the district for at least one year prior to the election, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, able to read and write, and cannot be an employee of the district.

Two of the terms on the seven-member board are up for election. Each term is for three years, July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2015. Candidates must obtain at least 73 valid signatures, which represents two percent of last year's total vote count. Petitions are due in the office of the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2012.

Public voting on the budget is Tuesday, May 15, 2012, from 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium of the Orchard Park High School. For easy access to the Gymnasium use the Freeman Road entrance.

For more information, please contact the District Clerk at 209-6280.

IMPORTANT ELA TESTING REMINDERS

Please update your school calendar. ELA Testing for grades 3-8 will occur in April. Grades 3-8 will be doing ELA testing on April 17th, 18th and 19th. Grades 3-8 Math Testing will be April 25th, 26th and 27th.

ELLICOTT AND EGGERT'S 5TH GRADERS GRADUATE FROM THE D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

Monday January 23, 2012 and Monday January 30, 2012 Eggert Road Elementary and Ellicott Road Elementary's 5th grade students graduated from the D.A.R.E. program respectively. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. The students completed the 13 week program in which officers, Patrick Fitzgerald and Leonard Govenettio came into the 5th grade classrooms and spoke to students about important issues they will face including drugs, peer pressure and friendships. The program focuses on self-esteem, communication skills, decision making and positive alternatives to using drugs and resorting to violence.

It was obvious throughout the graduation ceremony that students had taken the message the D.A.R.E. officers had given them to heart. One student from each of the 5th grade classes read an essay that they had written about what they had learned during the D.A.R.E. program. From Eggert; Cassandra Brzezowski, Nikola Crngarov, Brendan Kearns, Julia Krause and Madeline Ventura were chosen to speak. From Ellicott; Matt Cavanaugh, Madeline Feldman, Zachary Goodman, Hannah Iqbal and Lillie Schaffer were chosen. The students spoke about the negative effects of doing drugs along with other important life lessons like choosing a good group of friends. They each ended their essays with a pledge to avoid drugs and other destructive decisions throughout their lives.

Amelia Segal News 4 Meteorologist was the guest speaker at the D.A.R.E. graduation. She spoke about how she had planned to be a meteorologist from the time that she had been in Middle School. If she had allowed drugs to get in her way she would have never been able to accomplish her life goals. She encouraged students to stay focused and not to let drugs get in their way in order to succeed.

Congratulations to the Eggert and Ellicott 5th graders on joining the 11,000 students who have successfully graduated from the Orchard Park D.A.R.E. program.



Pictured above are Eggert Elementary's student speakers; Cassandra Brzezowski, Nikola Crngarov, Brendan Kearns, Julia Krause, Madeline and Madeline Ventura with D.A.R.E. officer Patrick Fitzgerald.



Ellicott Elementary's D.A.R.E. graduation pictured are student speakers; Hannah Iqbal, Zachary Goodman, Madeline Feldman, Matt Cavanaugh, and Lillie Schaffer and D.A.R.E. officer Patrick Fitzgerald.

MR. REBMAN'S 8TH GRADE STUDENTS RESEARCH THEIR OWN FAMILY HISTORIES

Students in Mr. Rebman's Social Studies classes researched their family trees during the winter break. This project gave students a chance to research their family backgrounds and find interesting family facts.

Mr. Rebman had asked students to do this research as a culmination of their unit on immigration.



Pictured above Thomas Muscarella and Alexander Preiss, 8th graders who had found new information about their families through this project.

America and was forced to go to Canada because he couldn't get in to Ellis Island. Tyler Díaz found he was a member of Spanish royalty.

The students enjoyed this opportunity to research their own family histories and relate that to what they learn about in school. It was exciting for them to realize the roles their families played in the history of our country and the world.



Pictured above from left to right Emily Geiger, Tyler Diaz, and Benjamin Jankowski standing in front of the relative

they could to develop a family tree and to record or video that relative for future reference.

Many students found that they had lineages that traced back to the earliest history of America. Thomas Muscarella found that one of his ancestors was on Marco Polo's voyage. Alexander Preiss found that his grandmother who lived in Poland had to flee when the Nazis took over. Ben Jankowski found that his relative was a German soldier forced to spy for the French during WWI. Emily Geiger found her maternal grandfather had tuberculosis when he came to

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR CREATES HANDBOOK DESIGN

Orchard Park High School Senior Tyler Popiela designed the 2012-2013 Orchard Park High School curriculum handbook cover. Tyler's design was selected by school administrators out of almost 50 different designs that had been created by the students. Each of the principals at the high school were faced with the difficult task of choosing several of their favorite designs and then coming together to choose just one winner.

Students in Mr. Angelo Daluisio's Graphic Communications class were given an ungraded assignment to create the future handbook design. Tyler used the program InDesign to create the winning design.

STAP Comm offered a \$50 prize to the student that created the winning design. Tyler received the check and a copy of the 2012-2013 curriculum handbook on Tuesday January 17, 2012. Mr. Angelo Daluisio, technology education teacher, was very proud of the excellent designs that his students created including Tyler and his winning design.



Pictured above High School House III Principal Ruth Kartalis and Senior Curriculum Handbook cover designer Tyler Popiela

DECA STUDENTS IMPRESS AT REGION 12 COMPETITION



The Orchard Park High School chapter of DECA attended the Region 12 competition. Of the 30 Orchard Park students that competed at this event 21 qualified for the State Competition.

The Region 12 competition was held January 8, 2012. Students competed in various business-related contests and returned to Orchard Park with a total of 21 students qualifying to compete at the State Career Conference/Competition in March.

Congratulations to all who participated especially those qualifying for the state competition: Keenan Hoover and Andrew Pohlman 1st place in the Financial Services Team Event, Kendall Franz 1st place in Apparel & Accessories, Liam Hoover for 1st place in Decision-Making-Marketing, Hannah Rauch

Pictured above are all the students who participated in the Region 12 Competition

1st place in Decision-Making-Human Resources, Sydney Wawrzyniak 1st place in Principles of Business Management, Kirsten Biddle 1st place in Principles of Hospitality & Tourism, Ryan Balas and Tyler Popiela 2nd place in Financial Services Team Event, Laurie Beth Koller 2nd place in Food Marketing, Linday Ardu 2nd place in Human Resources Management, Sam Gura 3rd place in Principles of Marketing, Shannon Robinson 4th place in Retail Merchandising, Sarah Weber and Kirsten Putnam for 4th place in Buying & Merchandising, Amanda Sixt within the top 4 in Job Interview, Jessica Barone, 4th place in Quick Serve Restaurant Management, Stephanie Faslino 6th place in Automotive Service Marketing, Amy Olejniczak 6th place in Apparel & Accessories, Emily Hahn 7th place in Visual Advertising and Erin Sixt 8th place in Principles of Business Managements.

The Orchard Park Central School District is extremely proud of the DECA students' many accomplishments. We wish them the best of luck in the State Career Conference/Competition in March!

BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS SEEN MULTIPLE MUSICAL PERFORMANCES AT RECENT MEETINGS

The Middle School Music Department serenaded the Board of Education Members with their instruments. Pictured to the left is Benjamin Jankowski, Sean Campbell, Zachary Gdowski and Sam Mangino.



Pictured to the left South Davis "Harmonaires" harmonizing for the Board of Education.



THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS PRESENTED THEIR 5TH GRADE PLAYS AND OPERETTAS



Pictured to the left the drummers in Eggert Elementary's production of "The Jungle Book"
In the bottom row; Brianna Scutt, Collin Wong, Nick Jemiolo. The second row; Alex Vendura, Shane Starinsky, Katie Manley, Samantha Detwiler, Ryan Lacki, and Cole Blodgett. Third Row; Charlie Bernard, Rocco Weiss, Joli Messinger, and Sarah Hanlon. The fourth row; Josh Jankowski, Colden Heywood and Jarrett Brock.

Pictured to the right South Davis principal Christine Rassow rehearsing her role in the production of "Go West".



Pictured below are Grandpa Woods and Jessica from Windom Elementary's production of Pinocchio also know as Hunter Lobur Cummins and Madigan Humiston.



Pictured below are Windom Elementary students during dress rehearsal for their production of Pinocchio.



Pictured to the left Ellicott Elementary students in costume before their dress rehearsal for their production of "The 100 Year Snooze"

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Pictured above is the 2011-2012 Board of Education. Standing from left to right are; Rachel Baksa, David Nielsen, Donna Omar, and Sean Wittman. Seated from left to right; Carla Marrazzo, Vice - President Natalie Schaffer and Board of Education President Alfred McClymonds

Board of Education Meeting Schedule

March 13, 2012, March 27, 2012, April 3, 2012

May 1, 2012, May 15, 2012, June 12, 2012

**Don't Forget to Like Orchard Park
Central School
District on Facebook!**

OVER 60? CALL FOR YOUR GOLD CARD TODAY

Gold Cards entitle district residents age 60 and over to half-price admission to district-sponsored events such as plays, musicals, operettas and home games. If you or someone you know is age 60 or older and is interested in obtaining a Gold Card, please call 209-6222.

ORCHARD PARK SENIOR BEN JOHNSON SIGNED AT FORDHAM

Orchard Park high school senior Ben Johnson has received a full scholarship to Fordham University to play football. The Orchard Park School District congratulates Ben for his impressive accomplishment.

Ben will attend Fordham this fall and expects to play as a wide receiver. The head coach is thrilled to have him. Ben is very excited not only to continue playing football but to be a part of the beautiful campus and being surrounded by the quality people that he met when visiting.

Ben has had a long history playing football. He began playing Little Loop when he was just six years old. Since then he continued up to the varsity level, ending his high school football career as offensive M.V.P. at the State Championship game.

Ben has hopes of a future career in either Biology as a radiologist or in Business. Ben currently has a 93 GPA and scored almost a 1200 on his SATs. His favorite class is Economics. He plans to focus on his schooling when he attends Fordham, in order to fully take advantage of this great opportunity he has received.



Pictured from left to right David Hack Orchard Park Athletic Director, High School Senior Ben Johnson and Varsity Football Coach Gene Tundo.

COACH GENE TUNDO WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS FOR THE QUAKERS IMPRESSIVE 2011 SEASON

This year Gene Tundo has won his second football state championship in four years. This is an impressive accomplishment for Tundo and the varsity football team.

Gene Tundo has been coaching varsity football and working in the District since 1981. He has coached lacrosse and wrestling along with football. Throughout his many years of service he has won two state football championships.



Gene Tundo pictured with one of his many award from the 2011 Fall Season



Some of Gene Tundo's Impressive Awards

The championship won this past fall has earned Tundo many awards; he has won the prestigious Minute Man Award from the National Guard, the Coach of the Year Award from the New York State Coaches Association, the Buffalo Bills High School Coach of the Year Award, and the The Joe Foyle Award from the Western New York Coaches Association.

The Orchard Park Central School District congratulates Coach Tundo and the varsity football team on their accomplishments this past season and looks forward to more great seasons to come.

Orchard Park Central Schools Board of Education

3330 Baker Road • Orchard Park, New York 14127

Editor: Julianne Heinen

www.opschools.org

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Resident

2012

EG – Eggert Elementary
EL – Ellicott Elementary
SD – South Davis Elementary
WE – Windom Elementary
MS – Middle School
HS – High School

March

1...WE PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
5-9...HS Yearbook Sales
6...District Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m., Off-Site
7...EG PTO Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
7...SD PTO Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
8...SD Science Night, 6-8 p.m.
9...MS Grade 6 Activity Night, 7-9 p.m.
9...WE Family Dance, 6-8:30 p.m.
10...ECMEA Elementary All-County Concert, 1 p.m., Off-Site
12...HS STAP-Comm Meeting, 7 p.m.
13...EL PTO Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
13...Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., District Office - Baker Building
14...HS College Night for Juniors
14...MS PTO Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
14-15...EL Book Fair
14...Project Know Parent Orientation, 7 p.m., SD
15...EG Shamrock Night, 6-8 p.m.
15-17...HS Musical, 7 p.m.
16-17...ECMEA Junior High All-County Festival, Concert 1 p.m. Saturday, Off-Site

18...HS Musical, 2:30 p.m.
19...Superintendent's Conference Day, No Student Attendance
21-28...EG Active 8 Kids Program
22...HS Blood Drive, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
22...EG/SD Project Know Girl's Night, 7 p.m., SD
22...EG/SD Project Know Boy's Night, 7 p.m., EG
22...Quaker Athletic Booster Club Meeting, 7 p.m., Athletic Office
23-24...ECMEA Senior High All-County Festival, Concert 1 p.m. Saturday, Off-Site
23...EL Chocolate Sale Pick-up
26...MS 5th & 6th Grade Choral Festival, 2:30 p.m.
26...HS PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.
27...HS Bald for Bucks
27...WE Niagara Candy Pick-Up, 3-7 p.m.
27...Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., District Office - Baker Building
28...HS Advanced Placement Information Night
29...NFIEC Career Fair, Off-Site
29...EL/WE Project Know Girl's Night, 7 p.m., WE
29...EL/WE Project Know Boy's Night, 7 p.m., EL
30...SD Family Fun Night, 5:30-8 p.m.

Sign Up To Stay Informed Ed-Alert

In an effort to keep the school community informed, the Orchard Park Central School District uses Ed Alert on our website. Ed Alert is a service that provides parents, students, faculty/staff and community members the opportunity to receive emails and/or text messages on school-related information. The District uses the system to keep subscribers informed of school closings, early dismissals, event cancellations and other important information. If you would like to receive announcements and communications, you can opt-in by doing the following:

1. Visit the District's website: www.opschools.org
2. Click "Ed Alert" under "Quick Links" on the main page.
3. Fill in your information using all lowercase letters for your email address.
4. Subscribe to the email list appropriate for you.
5. Be sure to click the "sign me up" button.

The Community Report is a publication of the Orchard Park Central School District. It is published twelve times per year and mailed home three times per year.

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Contributors: *Matthew McGarrity*

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