

A Newsletter from Onalaska High School

December 2024

# **Highlights**

Band Concert	Dec. 2
Sleigh Ride Concert	Dec. 13
Winter Choral Concert	Dec. 16
Holiday Break	Dec. 23 – Jan. 1

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The 38th annual Onalaska Show Choir Classic will be held on Friday, January 10 and Saturday, January 11.

Concert Choirs will compete as well on Friday, January 10 at First Lutheran Church on Main Street in Onalaska.

The Onalaska High School show choirs along with the middle school show choir will also perform. It is a weekend not to be missed!

# Important Dates

Winter Band Concert	December 2 7:30 PM
Sleigh Ride Concert	
Winter Choral Concert	
Holiday Break – No School	Monday, December 23 - Wednesday, January 1
Show Choir Classic	Friday, January 10 and Saturday, January 11
First Semester Finals	January 15 – 17
Early Dismissal	Friday, January 17 – 11:50 AM
	Monday, January 20



# **Changes in Student Information**

If you have any changes throughout the year in your child's information, please contact our Pupil Services office at 783-4610.

This information would include:

- address/phone number
- parent/guardian information
- emergency contacts
- health issues
- email address

#### FAMILY SCHOOL LIAISON

In recognition of the importance in supporting the *whole* child (e.g. students' physical and mental health, their social and emotional learning along with their academic growth), the School District of Onalaska has a Family School Liaison position. My name is Carrie Werkheiser and as the Family School Liaison for the School District of Onalaska, my role is to collaborate with families in effort to support overall student success. Services may include collaboration, consultation, home visits, and/or information and referral to community resources and agencies. If you are interested in learning more about community resources to assist with student or family needs (e.g., food, housing, healthcare, human services, clothing, etc.), feel free to contact me.

Carrie Werkheiser, Family School Liaison, School District of Onalaska, 608-779-1959.

#### A note to families from Kerry Johnson, Director of School Nutrition.

Please reference our <u>School Nutrition policy</u> for information on our program including unpaid meal balances. If you believe, you may qualify for free or reduced meals, please contact the school nutrition office at 608-783-6251 to receive an application.

To those that regularly dine with us, thank you for your patronage. For others, we welcome the opportunity to serve you "the best meal deal in town."

Nutrition Policy: https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/ona/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CLWMPN5BB5A5



### 2024 Sleigh Ride Concert

Onalaska High School Hilltopper and Express Show Choirs

When: Friday, December 13, 2024; 7:30 PM

Where: Claude C. Deck Performing Arts Center

Onalaska High School

Adults \$6.00 Admission:

> Seniors & Students \$5.00 Maximum family rate \$20.00 General Admission Seating

Parents, students, family and the community are invited to experience this wonderful holiday tradition featuring several solos and ensembles in addition to the competition shows.

### Mark your Calendar for Special Holiday **Events**

Monday, December 2 Winter Band Concert, 7:30 PM --- OHS Performing Arts Center

Monday, December 16 Vocal Music Winter Concert, 7:30 PM ---OHS Performing Arts Center. Includes: Men's Choir, Women's Choir, Select Women's Choir, Concert Choir



If you are interested in following what is happening in the School District of Onalaska, check us out on Facebook.



School District of Onalaska, WI

237 2nd Ave S, Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650



The School District of Onalaska follows the Wisconsin Childhood Communicable Diseases table when determining if a child shall be excluded from school due to illness. If fever is 99.9°F/37.8°C or higher, please do **not** send your child to school. When symptoms of possible communicable diseases are present, a child may be excluded based on district RN determination (i.e.: fevers, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.)

#### **Parent Liaison Information**

✓ Liked ▼

The role of Parent Liaison was created through the Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative (WSPEI) to aid in the support of families with children or adolescents who have special needs.

The Parent Liaison for the Onalaska School District is:

> Vicky Shanley 214 15th Ave N, Onalaska 608-317-0275

vickyshanley@outlook.com

If you are the parent of a child with special needs, please contact Vicky if you have any questions about the special education process.

# Final Exams Scheduled for January 15 – 17

Soon after your holiday break will be  $1^{st}$  Semester Finals. This year they are scheduled for January 15 - 17, 2025. They conclude on Friday, January 17 at 11:50 AM with *Early Dismissal* unless you have a test to make up in the afternoon.

Students will **not** be required to attend their study/commons hour during final exams. The commons area will be made available and supervised for study time.

The normal bus schedule will not change except for Friday, January 17, at 11:50 AM. Lunch will <u>not</u> be served on January 17.

In case of inclement weather, the final exam schedule would be bumped ahead one day.

We encourage students to plan ahead and begin their studying.

Wednesday, January 15		Thursday, January 16		Friday, January 17	
1 <sup>st</sup> Hour –	8:15-9:45	2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour –	8:15-9:45	7 <sup>th</sup> Hour –	8:15 - 9:45
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour –	10:30 - 12:00	4 <sup>th</sup> Hour –	10:30 - 12:00	8 <sup>th</sup> Hour –	10:20 - 11:50
Lunch	12:00-1:00	Lunch	12:00-1:00	Make up exa	ms - 1:00 - 2:30
5 <sup>th</sup> Hour –	1:00-2:30	6 <sup>th</sup> Hour –	1:00-2:30		



# **Holiday School Schedule**

Please make note of the holiday schedule beginning December 23 through January 1, school resumes on Thursday, January 2. January includes an early dismissal day on January 17<sup>th</sup> and no school on January 20<sup>th</sup> for Staff Development.





The staff at Onalaska High School would like to wish everyone a healthy and prosperous New Year!



## Giving Thanks for Onalaska School Staff

Are you looking for a way to honor those in the Onalaska School District who had a positive impact on your child's life during the upcoming holiday season? The Onalaska Education Foundation (OEF) would like you to join us in recognizing these individuals for all they have done.

Giving Thanks for Onalaska School Staff is a tribute program that allows community members to recognize the amazing people in Onalaska schools – public and private. By making a donation to the Onalaska Education Foundation, you can celebrate our excellent teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians, bus drivers, administrators, coaches, school nurses, school counselors, school food service staff, or any school staff you wish to honor. The Foundation provides funds for innovative educational programs or creative projects that will help inspire both teachers and students to achieve educational excellence.

With each donation, the honored school staff member will receive a certificate of thanks. If you wish, the certificate will include your name and a personal message. You may also remain anonymous. We will notify the person honored of your gift to the foundation without disclosing the amount.

All tax-deductible donations, large or small, are welcomed and appreciated. With your support, we can continue to make a difference!

You may nominate someone using the link below or visiting the Onalaska Education Foundation website (<a href="mailto:onalaskafoundation.org">onalaskafoundation.org</a>). Look under "Events." Then click on "Giving Thanks for Onalaska School Staff."

The program closes December 13, 2024.

#### **Nomination Form**

Thank you, Onalaska Education Foundation, Inc.



Visit the Onalaska Education Foundation website (Onalaskafoundation.org), under "Events," find "Giving Thanks for Onalaska School Staff."

Use the link to the Google Form on the page to recognize the school staff member of your choice.



# FREDDY'S FOOTNOTES



New at OHS this year is a class period called **Engage.** Students have the opportunity to sign up for a wide variety of clubs or activities throughout the year hosted by OHS staff. Engage will occur 2 times a month and students can select different Engage activities each time or stick with what they have previously done. We hope that Engage will help strengthen our community at OHS and help students and staff find common connections outside of the classroom.





















# December 2024 Students of the Month

Every month students who meet specific criteria are nominated by departments and voted on by the entire staff.

The STUDENT OF THE MONTH honor goes to the student in each grade level who receives the most votes. The STUDENT OF THE MONTH receives a plaque, certificate, and publicity in the local newspaper.

Criteria for nomination includes: long term academic effort and achievement: a high degree of life skills – respect, responsibility, teamwork, integrity, and initiative – demonstrated on a regular basis; and involvement in co-curricular activities.

# Freshmen Class Student of the Month: Zachary Hamman Nominees:

Ali Abidi Esmay Baldwin Wylder Burch Josephine Duckworth Grosch Cali Duncan Grover Andrew Madison-Storey Soukjai Xiong

# Junior Class Student of the Month: Elizabeth Matz

#### Nominees:

Julianna Ball Julia Denker Kaarina Dunn Elijah Fernandes Isabelle Her Elyse Keister Atlas Schwaab Sophia Shilts Cherry Vang

# Sophomore Class Student of the Month: Leo Pedersen Nominees:

Benusa Tsion
McKenna Butenhoff
Colin Camp
Moira Dowd
Latrell McBride
Elle Pierre
Olivia Pray
Curry Yang

# Senior Class Student of the Month: Mallory Meighan

#### **Nominees:**

Andrew Hatcher Eddie Hughes Alexa Larson Selphie Lee Scarlett Seidel Brian Weng



Zachary Hamman Freshman



Leo Pedersen Sophomore



Elizabeth Matz Junior



Mallory Meighan Senior

# Freddy Extra Effort Award ...

December



Calix Vang Freshman



Nicklaus Vue Sophomore



Maurice Holeyfield Junior



Brian Weng Senior

This award is given to a student who works above and beyond what is expected while displaying positive leadership and school spirit.

Four winners per month from each grade are chosen by the academic departments. The award is sponsored by the staff and is dedicated to promoting student success and school pride.

The FREDDY EXTRA EFFORT AWARD winners will receive a certificate, a gift from the staff and recognition in the Community Life.



### FREDDY'S FOOTNOTES



### School District of Onalaska World Language Department

LE DÉPARTEMENT DES LANGUES ÉTRANGÈRES • DEPARTAMENTO DE IDIOMAS DEL MU DECEMBER 2024 • DÉCEMBRE 2024 • DICIEMRE 2024



Mr. Brian Wopat vopbr@onalaskaschools.com

WORLD LANGUAGE TEAM



**Mr. Devin Pettys** petde@onalaskaschools.com



Mrs. Rebecca Chaouki chare@onalaskaschools.com



Mrs. Valerie Mumm-Jansen mumva@onalaskaschools.com



Mrs. Victoria Carter carvi@onalaskaschools.com



**Mr. Andy Beckstrom** becan@onalaskaschools.com



**Mrs. Jennifer Garves** 





#### N FACT CHECK



**MYTH:** Some programs are able to teach people world language in a matter of days or weeks, so there is no reason why language learning should take a long time.

**REALITY:** There is a great difference between the conversational phrases taught by short-term language programs and the high-level academic fluency needed to succeed in school, college, and the high skills job market. The conversational phrases taught by short-term language programs limits what the speaker is able to do to basic situation.

#### New Members Inducted In The French & Spanish National Honor Societies

Onalaska High School World Language Program has two language national honor societies students can join: "La Société Honoraire de Français" (French National Honor Society) and "La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica-Capítulo Alhambra" (Spanish National Honor Society). Both are nationally recognized honor societies that promote the advancement of each society's language. The aim of these organizations is to promote high standards in scholarship, create enthusiasm for an understanding of French and Spanish civilization, and promote international friendship.

The induction ceremony for new members was held on Monday, October 21st after school in the Hilltopper Room. The ceremony was followed by cake and laughter.





# ONALASKA SCHOOLS FOOD PANTRY

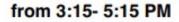
2024 - 25



The Onalaska Schools Food pantry is open to families with children in any Onalaska school (public, private, or home school) who need supplemental food staples.

Distributions are held on the first school Monday of each month throughout the school year at:

Onalaska Middle School, Door C Enter the north parking lot on 8th Ave. N.



# We have moved to OMS

Monthly updates and reminders will be posted on the Onalaska Schools Food Pantry Facebook page.

There is also information on the District website.

#### Distribution Dates for the remainder of this school year

- December 2
- · January 6
- February 3
- March 3
- April 7
- May 5
- June 2







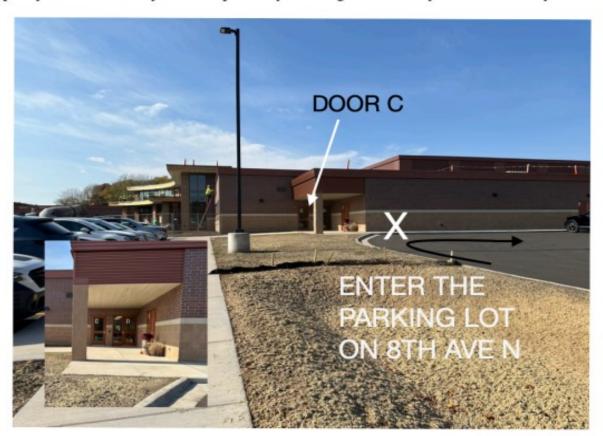
# Onalaska Schools Food Pantry is moving to Onalaska Middle School beginning December 2, 2024.

The Onalaska Schools Food pantry welcomes families with children in any Onalaska school (public, private, or home school) who need supplemental food staples.

Distributions will be held on the **first** school **Monday** of each **month** beginning in December and throughout the rest of the school year at OMS Door C on 8th Ave. N.

from 3:15-5:15

Enter the smaller parking lot by Door C and drive along the curb toward the X, where food pantry staff will check you in and provide you with groceries that you can load into your car.





### Onalaska High School Student Services

700 Wilson Street Onalaska, WI 54650 Phone: 608.783.4571

Fax: 608.783.2604

#### **Office Hours:**

Week Days: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm

Reach the Student Service Administrative
Assistants at: Melissa de Boer – Ext. 5034
Jennifer Morrison – Ext. 5029

#### Your High School Student Services Staff

Garrett Silker - Ext. 5032

silga@onalaskaschools.com

Serves students with last names beginning with A - Hr

#### Chrissy DeLong - Ext. 5030

delch@onalaskaschools.com

Serves students with last names beginning with Hs – Ra

#### John Horman - Ext. 5031

horjo@onalaskaschools.com

Serves students with last names beginning with Rb– Z

#### **Administrative Assistants**

Melissa de Boer- <u>debme@onalaskaschools.com</u> Jennifer Morrison - morje2@onalaskaschools.com

# CHECK OUT OUR WEBSJTE...

https://onalaskahighschool.onalaskaschools.com/student-services





# **Statewide Junior ACT Day for 2025**

All OHS Juniors test on March 11, 2025





#### **Upcoming ACT Dates and Deadlines**

Test Date	Register By	Late Registration (Additional Fee)
February 8, 2025	January 3	January 20
March 11, 2025		s required – stration required
April 5, 2025	February 28	March 16
June 14, 2025 at OHS	May 9	June 6
July 12, 2025	June 6	June 20

# **Important Dates**

Now - Dec 12 Junior STAR Conferences, schedule your conference with <u>pickAtime</u>

December 6 Counselors in classrooms discussing upcoming sophomore course registration

December 10 WTC Career Coach at OHS

December 13 Counselors collect upcoming sophomore course registration sheets

December 23-January 1 No School - Holiday Break

January 2 Counselors in classrooms discussing upcoming senior course registration

January 10 Counselors collect upcoming senior course registration sheets

January 14 WTC Career Coach at OHS

January 15-17 Finals Week

January 20 ACT Prep at OHS - Register in Student Services

January 24 Counselors in classrooms discussing upcoming junior course registration

January 27 Last day to drop a S2 class

January 28 College Goal Event OHS LMC 6-8 pm

January 31 Counselors collect upcoming junior course registration sheets



# Mental Health Counseling Services for Students



Hello Hilltoppers! My name is Caitlyn Snyder and I am a licensed therapist that is contracted through Peace of Mind Counseling. We are partnering with the

School District of Onalaska to provide full-time mental health and/or substance abuse counseling services at OHS. I am available to any students who may need some additional support. If you are interested in counseling services, reach out to your school counselor to discuss the referral process.

### **Mental Health Resources:**

https://sites.google.com/onalaskaschools.com/mental-health-resources/student-parent-family-caregiver-resources

### **ACT Updates**

The University of Wisconsin System has suspended the ACT requirement for all UW colleges and universities **through the 2026-2027 academic year.** Many other colleges have also waived the ACT requirement. A strong ACT score can still help with admission to college and scholarship placement. Since most schools are now "test optional", students can choose not to use a score if they are not pleased with it. Students will choose if they wish to include their ACT scores as part of their application. Visit the websites of your colleges for more information.

## **ACT Prep Course Options**

Preparing for the ACT can increase test scores to gain entry into the college of your choice and receive scholarships. There are several options that are available each year, which can help students prepare for this test.

- 1. All Juniors took a FREE practice ACT test on September 24. This retired ACT test was administered, timed and will be scored identically to an actual ACT. ACT will score this test, and provide students with sub scores, a composite score and most importantly an itemized list of correct answers compared to the student answers. Students can log into their Act Online Prep account at https://onlineprep.act.org/login to view their results, review their answers, identify content they need more review, use online tutorials, and take additional practice tests.
- 2. Onalaska High School will offer a 6-hour ACT Workshop on January 20, 2025 with Schoolhouse Educational Services. This program will emphasize specific test-taking strategies for each of the five ACT subjects, and costs approximately \$60 per student plus an optional \$20 workbook.
- 3. UW-L's Continuing Education office offers an ACT prep course costing \$199. Students will learn test-taking strategies, receive instruction in each of the four testing areas, and take a retired preand post-ACT test. Writing strategies to assist you in the essay part of the ACT test will also be provided. Visit https://www.uwlax.edu/gel/ypc/act-test-prep-online/ for more information.

### **College Application Tips & Help from UW Help!**

The University of Wisconsin System has developed a webpage for prospective applicants to use to prepare for their college applications. UW Ready:

https://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/admissionguidelines/uw-ready/ will assist applicants and their parents with the college application process. The application is at <a href="mailto:apply.wisconsin.edu">apply.wisconsin.edu</a>. Each admission office has its own priority dates or deadlines.

# Looking for a Job? Check out the OHS Jobs Board

#### **Students:**

Check out the Job Opportunities on the OHS website. Opportunities change, so check it often! https://onalaskahighschool.onalaskaschools.com/student-services/job-board

#### **Parents & Employers:**

Please submit employment opportunities for high schools to the Student Services Office for posting both online and on a bulletin board near our office. You can reach us at 608-783-4571 or by email at debme@onalaskaschools.com.

#### **WORK PERMITS ARE DONE ON-LINE ONLY**

Remember that students **under age 16** need a work permit. Work permits are completed by the parent online, and can be done 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Payment is made directly to the department through the application, using credit or debit card, or by ACH direct withdrawal. Go to <a href="https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/laborstandards/workpermit/">https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/laborstandards/workpermit/</a> for instructions and more information.

# **SCHOLARSHIPS for SENIORS**

Check out our on-line scholarship database, which is updated often:

https://onalaskahighschool.onalaskaschools.com/student-services/college-information/scholarships

This is your site for upcoming scholarship deadlines and information needed to be a
successful scholarship recipient. Continue to check this database for new arrivals!





**UGETCONNECTED!** - Many opportunities to participate in community service as a family, with friends, or by yourself. This organization matches volunteers with organizations in need. Visit <a href="https://www.ugetconnected.org/">https://www.ugetconnected.org/</a> and check it out!

www.ugetconnected.org

### Senior UW System Practice Placement Tests November 13-14 – during Resource

Many seniors planning to attend 4-year universities will be required to take a placement test this coming spring. These tests will be used to determine which level of coursework they can take during their first year of college. Depending on their scores, some students may pass into advanced courses while others may be required to take remedial coursework to build their skills. To give seniors an opportunity to see how they may score on this test, we are offering the University of Wisconsin system Early **Math and English** Placement Tools. This test is free, taken online, and provides immediate results. **Interested seniors should sign up in Student Services.** 

#### Seniors, It's Time to Apply to College!

Seniors are encouraged to begin applying to colleges and universities. Students should gather materials such as lists of activities, involvements, community service and recognitions, and letters of recommendation (if necessary) to make completing applications easier. It should be simple to find the application to your college on their website.

Regardless of the kind of school students plan on attending, it is very important to apply early. Technical college programs, especially, fill quickly on a first come first serve basis. Our goal is for ALL seniors going on to postsecondary education to have applications turned in and processed by Thanksgiving!

#### **Application Process:**

Once a student has completed their application, he or she should:

- 1. Request a transcript in person in OHS Student Services or fill out this form.
- 2. Include letters of recommendation, **IF necessary**. (Most schools do **NOT** require letters of recommendation.) 3. Include check for application fee unless paid online (no cash please).
- 4. Applications completed using online programs like the Common Application or Send Edu will request a High School counselor's email address. Transcripts for these applications are sent directly to colleges using these programs and do not require students to make transcript requests in person.
- 5. Counselors will complete requested information, and all application materials will be mailed out in a timely manner.

#### **College Bound Student Athletes**

Students who plan to compete in D1 or D2 athletics in college must register with the NCAA in order for you to be eligible to compete prior to enrollment this fall.

- 1. Log into his or her account at www.eligibilitycenter.org
- 2. Follow the directions on the page to register for the clearinghouse

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Wojta in room 105, or call 783-4571 Ext. 5105.



#### Juniors & Seniors- It's Time to Schedule Campus Visits:

Many colleges are now offering virtual visits as well as in-person visits. Go to your college's website for more information. While it's important to meet with admissions counselors and take the official campus tour, it's also helpful to take your own personal tour. Check out the places they don't show you, talk to a student in the student union about what they like about the school, as well as what they do not like about the school. Pick up a campus newspaper to see what's important to students and soak in the environment. If you don't feel like the school is a good fit, it may be a difficult place for you to find success. Refer to your Junior STAR Conference materials for more helpful tour information.

#### **Seniors & Juniors - Western Career Coach Meetings**

Our Western Technical College Career Coach will be available once a month in the Student Services Office, to meet with students about WTC options, application process, requirements, and more. Students who are interested in signing up to meet with our rep should stop and see Mrs. Morrison in Student Services, or talk to their counselor. The WTC rep will be at OHS on December 10 and January 14.



### **CIEE Looking for Host Families for International Students**



Study abroad and intercultural exchange organization, CIEE, is currently looking for volunteer host families for several high school exchange students coming to Western Wisconsin for the 24-25 school year. Their students will attend the high school

closest to their host family, and can take school transportation or carpool. Students speak very good English and have their own medical insurance and spending money to cover personal expenses. A host simply puts another plate on the table and welcomes the student as one of their own!

Volunteer host families come in all shapes and sizes; retired, single parents, couples with or without children of any age, etc. Interested parties can visit <a href="www.ciee.org/host">www.ciee.org/host</a> for more information or start a host family application at <a href="ciee.org/hostapply">ciee.org/hostapply</a>.

#### **Student Services Accepting Donations for Students**

The OHS Student Services office maintains a supply of items for students who need them throughout the school day. At this time, we are in need of the following items:

- gently used or new clothing such as leggings, sweatshirts, and t-shirts
- prepackaged healthy snacks

If you have any of these items you'd like to donate, you can drop them off at OHS and let them know your donation is for the Student Services Office. Thank you!

## **Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch?**

Any student who has participated in, or has younger siblings who have participated in the free or reduced lunch program should reapply each year, **even if they do not eat in the school cafeteria**. Many opportunities are available to students participating in this program such as fee waivers for tests, like the ACT, and scholarship/grant programs. OHS Counselors often confidentially inform students of these opportunities, but only know who is eligible based on this program.

Applications for the School District of Onalaska's Free and Reduced Lunch Program are available in the main office or online. Names of students participating in this program are kept confidential.

### 2024-2025 Assessments at OHS

The following is a schedule of assessments that will be given to each grade level at no cost to the student and families.

Freshmen \* Required Pre ACT April 1

Sophomores \* Required Pre ACT April 1

\* Required Forward Exam (Social Studies) April 9-10

Juniors \* Required State-wide ACT March 11

Seniors \* UW System Early Math & English Placement Practice Tests November 13-14

# Upcoming Opportunities

**Wisconsin American Legion Oratorical Contest**, Students in grades 9-12 eligible to participate https://wilegion.org/oratorical

The students start out by contacting their local Wisconsin American Legion Post. The Post will hold a contest – usually in December or January, the winner at the Post contest moves on to a County contest, usually in December or January. The winner of the County contest moves on to the District contest usually in January or February.

The winner of the District Contest moves on to the Regional contest scheduled on March 29, 2025 at Ripon College. The winners at the Regional level move on to the Finals contest the same day and the overall winner will go to the National Contest in Hillsdale, Michigan in May to compete for \$25,000 in scholarship. The winner of the Wisconsin contest receives a \$3000 scholarship.

#### **Sophomore Wisconsin Leadership Seminar**

June 13-15, 2025

Carroll University, Waukesha, WI

This high-energy weekend consists of team building, motivational speakers, community service, a college fair, panels of key leaders from industry, and endless leadership development opportunities. Onalaska High School can nominate one **sophomore** (to be 2025-26 junior) to attend this conference for FREE. Interested students can visit <a href="http://wils.us/">http://wils.us/</a> or see their counselor for more information. Students interested in being nominated should let their counselor know by December 6, 2024.

# Sophomore Leadership Conference with Wisconsin HOBY (Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Foundation)

June 20-22, 2025

Edgewood College, Madison WI

Cost: Approximately \$350

Wisconsin HOBY holds a three-day leadership conference for high school **sophomores** to be juniors (juniors in 2025-26). Over 100 sophomores from across the state participate in the seminar each year. It incorporates fun; innovative leadership activities that help prepare students to become effective, ethical leaders in their home, schools, workplace and community. This is also a great way for students to get to know others, network, and boost applications and/or resumes.

Contact your school counselor soon if you are interested in attending the HOBY Seminar as a limited number of sophomores can attend, and the deadline for your counselor to register students is December 6, 2024.



# Upcoming Opportunities

#### **Badger Boys & Badger Girls State**

Badger Boys State: June 8-14, 2025 at UW-Eau Claire, https://badgerboysstate.org/

Badger Girls State: June 15-20, 2025 at UW-Oshkosh, https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/oldalabgs

Who is Eligible: Juniors - Class of 2026

The American Legion of Wisconsin offers a program designed to simulate state and local government. Participants can run for offices ranging from local city council member to state legislator all the way to state governor. Students who chose not to run often get involved by helping with campaigns. The weeklong camp also includes many other fun activities such as time for discussions, athletics, a daily newspaper and musical performance.

With the generosity of the Onalaska American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary, OHS can send 2 girls and 2 boys to this event FREE of charge. Interviews of Badger Girl and Badger Boy candidates will be in January. Let Mrs. Anderson (OHS Social Studies teacher) or your school counselor know if you are interested by December 20, 2024.



#### What is it?

Program for low-to-moderate income Wisconsin households that covers remaining tuition after grants and scholarships

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Be a Wisconsin resident
- File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) first-year student and qualify for need-based Federal Pell Grant
- Live in on-campus housing
- · Enroll as a traditional, full-time, first-time,
- Must be attempting a first bachelor's degree

## Learn more at www.viterbo.edu/promise

Merit - \$10,000 to \$20,000/year

Alumni - \$1,000/year

Academic Programs (not all) - \$2,000/year

Athletic - Varies. Awarded via coach

Additional Scholarships - Varies. Students are considered for these scholarships if they apply to Viterbo before January 15.

Scholarship Competitions - Separate applications

- Nutrition Science Scholarship Nutrition Science major specific. Application deadline Jan. 12, 2025.
- Nightingale Nursing Scholarship Nursing major specific. Application deadline is Jan. 12, 2025.
- Health Science Scholarship Science or pre-health major specific. Application deadline is Jan. 15, 2025.



# **Self-Care for the Holidays**By Jennifer Comppen, JED Foundation



The holiday season is billed as a festive and joyful time of year to celebrate

However, for many, it can be overwhelming and even lead to feelings of loneliness, anxiety, or depression—
sometimes referred to as the "holiday blues."

The holiday blues are common, and although different from mental illness, should be taken seriously. There are many reasons why people might experience stress and sadness between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, including a lack of sleep and downtime, unrealistic expectations, financial stress, isolation and grief, and anxiety about the new year ahead. Fortunately, there are ways you can address these concerns and ensure that you are taking care of yourself during the holiday season.

#### Get Enough Sleep, Schedule Downtime, and Nourish Yourself

A hectic holiday schedule, with frequent travel or many social obligations to fulfill, can lead to exhaustion and a lack of sleep, which increases stress. There can also be pressure to wrap things up at school or work during this time. Some people turn to unhealthy coping strategies, such as disordered eating or using substances, to handle these feelings, often making them worse.

It is always important to prioritize your emotional health and well-being. Remember to take time for self-care and ensure that you are getting enough sleep, exercise, and nutritious foods. It's okay to take a break from—or say no to—social gatherings, make time for hobbies you enjoy, and connect with what is most important to you about the holidays.

It is okay to trust yourself, set, and stick to boundaries that make sense for you.

#### Take a Break From Social Media and Set Realistic Expectations

Holidays are often seen as a cheerful time, which creates pressure for things to be "perfect" and leads to disappointment if they're not. It's especially easy to compare ourselves to others during this time as we scroll through social media and think other people's lives and families are perfect. We might assume everyone around us is happy, and we are the odd one out.

Being too connected to our phones, computers, and devices can put our brains on overload. Set boundaries for yourself to look at your phone less, and avoid screens before bedtime, so it's easier to fall asleep.

#### Slow Down and Breathe

It's easy to get sucked into multitasking when you have a lot of things to cross off your to-do list. Whether you're sipping your favorite hot beverage or folding laundry, try shifting your attention to just what you're doing at the moment. Getting grounded in where you are at any given time can help you feel less overwhelmed.

When we experience stress, we also sometimes hold our breath, meaning less oxygen gets to the brain. When you take the time to focus on your breathing, it sends a signal to your nervous system that everything is ok and that helps calm down any stress we're feeling. Check out breathing exercises you can use anytime.



#### Self-Care for the Holidays

Call a Loved One and Connect

By Jennifer Comppen, JED Foundation

If you're not able to spend time with loved ones for whatever reason—or you are spending time with your family, but wish you could be with your chosen family, remember that you can always connect with people over the phone. That can help you feel less alone if you're not close to your family or if spending time with them often leads to conflict.

Whether you are feeling isolated, stressed, or any other difficult emotion, keeping it bottled in only makes it worse. Being able to vent to a trusted friend or family member can help you calm down and get perspective. Instead of texting, connect by phone — hearing a familiar voice can be calming and comforting.

#### Acknowledge Your Grief

For people grieving the loss of a loved one, it can sometimes feel like the rest of the world has forgotten and moved on from something that was very painful for you. If it's your first holiday without them, these feelings can be incredibly strong.

If you are grieving this time of year, realize that the holidays may look different going forward. You may feel a variety of emotions—upset that your loved one is gone, guilty over a lack of "holiday cheer," a desire to continue old traditions or let them go. There is no right or wrong way to grieve or celebrate, and your grief matters whether you feel sad or find joy during this time.

#### Move Your Body

Movement gets the blood flowing and brings your attention to the present moment (instead of worrying about the past or future). It doesn't have to be a long run, but it should be something you enjoy, even if it's just dancing to your favorite playlist in your room.

#### Meditate

Taking the time to sit down and simply follow your breath can bring you into the moment and help you feel connected. Here are easy steps you can follow to meditate:

- Sit or lie down comfortably.
- Gently close your eyes.
- Don't try to control your breath; just let your breath flow naturally.
- Focus your attention on the breath, observing the inhalation and exhalation. If your mind wanders, simply bring it back to the breath.
- Spend 5 minutes with this practice.

Check out this gallery of <u>quided meditations</u> for an easy introduction to the practice.

Feelings of isolation, depression, and anxiety may come and go with the holiday season, but if you notice they intensify or persist after the holidays end, please reach out to a trusted adult or mental health professional for support.

#### *If you need help right now:*

- Text HOME to 741-741 for a free, confidential conversation with a trained counselor any time of day.
- Text or call 988 or use the chat function at 988lifeline.org.
- If this is a medical emergency or there is immediate danger of harm, call 911 and explain that you need support for a mental health crisis.









- 1. YOU ARE TOUGH
- 2. NO DRAMA...PERIOD
- 3. COMMITTED TO THE TASK Find a Way, Take Care of your People
- 4. ABOVE THE LINE DECISION MAKING 24-7-365
- 5. DO NOT BE A FENCE RIDER Decide and Move on





### Onalaska Hilltopper Athletic Booster Club



Page · Community · onaboosters · 782 like this

"Like" the Onalaska Booster Club Facebook page to get events and other information.

Follow Mr. Thiry @OnaActivities on Twitter for updates and results for Hilltopper Athletics.

Please subscribe to the Onalaska Booster Club YouTube Page for Home Event Streaming.

# Check Out The Onalaska Booster club website -

Onalaska - Team Home Onalaska Hilltoppers Sports

Check it out - onalaskahilltoppers.net

- \*Sport schedules continuously updated
- \*Link to join the Booster Club
- \*Link to become a sponsor
- \*Link to sign up your athlete for the upcoming season

Click the link to sign up now to get text updates for schedules & upcoming events: <a href="https://alerts.getvnn.com/">https://alerts.getvnn.com/</a>

Looking forward to a great school year supporting our student athletes!

# Students registering for athletics must have a current physical examination

on file in the athletic office before the student is authorized to participate in practice/tryouts. If your students' physical is outdated and you are struggling to make an appointment with your regular physician other options include:

Bronston Chiropractic - 1202 CTH PH Suite 100 -

Onalaska 608-781-2225

OR Neighborhood Family Clinics -

La Crosse - 1526 Rose Street - 608-781-9880 or

Onalaska - N5560 CTH ZM - 608-779-5323





## ONALASKA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC USER FEES

\$100.00 - (\$15.00) \$45.00 - (\$6.75)

**Cross Country** Dance **Swimming** Golf

**Gymnastics** Tennis

Track & Field

\$75.00 - (\$11.25) \$200.00 - (\$30.00)

Baseball Winter Guard

Basketball

Football

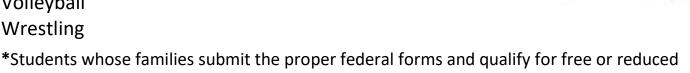
Lacrosse

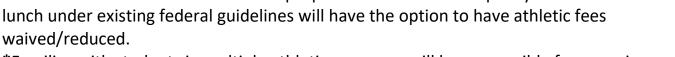
Ski & Snowboard \$250.00 - (\$37.50)

Soccer Hockey

Softball Volleyball

Wrestling





- \*Families with students in multiple athletic programs will be responsible for a maximum family fee of \$350.00 per year.
- \*Participation fees are to be paid prior to the first competition.
- \*Refunds of athletic user fees will be considered if a student/athlete voluntarily terminates or is terminated from an athletic activity prior to the third competition in that sport.
- \*All school owned athletic equipment **MUST** be returned before any refunds will be considered. All school owned athletic equipment must be returned at the end of the season or cost of equipment will be added to the student's school account.

Admission Charges for Athletic Events: Purchased through GoFan

Adults - \$6.00

Students (K-12) - \$4.00

Senior Citizens (62 or Older) - FREE

School Year Sport Passes – Adults \$70.00 / Students (K-12) \$30.00

Good for all OHS home events - **except** post season tournament events















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Search schools Sign



**Onalaska High School** 





### GoFan cashless ticket system.

The GoFan ticket system will continue to be used for all OHS events.

Electronic individual game tickets and athletic sports passes will be available for purchase at Onalaska High School's GoFan page link - <a href="https://gofan.co/app/school/WI17153">https://gofan.co/app/school/WI17153</a>.

- ☐ Activity Sports Passes purchased through GoFan.
  - Student Sports Pass optional \$30 for all home athletic events (Students K-12)
  - Adult Sports Pass optional \$70 for all home athletic events
  - NO PASS NEEDED Senior Citizen (62 or older) FREE
     Both Resident/Non-Resident FREE

Partnering together, the MVC Conference has decided to admit ALL Senior Citizens to Coulee Region sporting events for free starting this fall. (ALL MVC Conference Schools ONLY, Resident or Non-Resident) With proof of age (62 or older) No need for a ticket or pass, just a driver's license with proof of age for admittance.

Download the GoFan app and create an account https://gofan.co/app/school/WI17153



# **ACTIVITIES**



For Update Activities Information Go to: http://www/ohs/activities.html



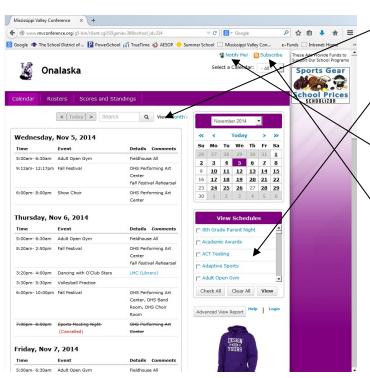
# **Calendar of Events**

To view the most updated schedules for any Mississippi Valley Conference team, use the MVC website at:

http://www.mvconference.org/g5bin/client.cgi?G5genie=39

This website not only has athletic events, but also all other events taking place in our school.

Once you click into a specific school, you can subscribe to a calendar or set up a "notify me" text reminder. This is located in the upper right corner of the website. All MVC sporting events go through this calendar and will give you the most up to date information possible.



When subscribing to a calendar, you can choose from Outlook, ICal or Google for your calendar.



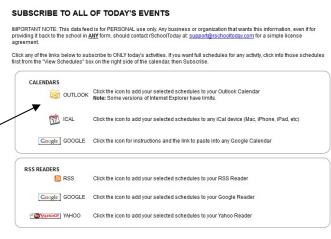
Select Onalaska High School

View the calendar by day, week, or month.

Select schedules you would like to view and see your own customized view.

Use the "Notify Me!" tab to set up text reminders.

"Subscribe" to set up a calendar that will update automatically with any changes that may occur.







# 2024-25 Mississippi Valley Conference Fall <u>Academic</u> All-Conference players

These terrific athletes are also terrific students. MVC honors these athletes for their athletic ability and academic performance during the fall sports season. To qualify, a student must earn a Varsity Athletic Letter <u>and</u> obtain a 3.5 GPA.

#### **ASL**

Liam Caulkins Michael DeMaira Matthew Masey Ying Kong Xiong Paul Yang

#### **Cross Country**

Adaryn Belanger Lewis Go Maya Hartman Matthew Jackson Chloe Koshollek Porter Mallady Eva McClung Sadie Peterson Amanuel Putz Francesca Vriens

#### Golf

Arlo White

Olivia Konrardy-Buchal Sydney Kranig Becka Mohr Finley Schams Natalie Tevis Rickie Tillotson

#### Football

Carter Beeler **Bodie Callaway Brendan Chenault Cameron Cornett Nolan Culpitt** Jackson Egan Vitaliano Figueroa Lucas Fillbach Carson Fink John Gobel Tyson Hughes Aiden Knopp Ian Kowal Mallory Meighan **Tristan Molling Grant Palmer** Jackson Palmer Nicholas Putz

# Luke Siegel Pierce Sommerfield Kaeson Stettler Jack Stoen Maximus Todd Ethan Topolski Yingkong Vang Phengsu Vang

Carson Zinnecker

#### Soccer

William Bakkestuen Aayush Daithankar **Gabriel Faure** Elijah Fernandes Carter Flasch Rilev Gansen Benjamin Hauser Alexander Hauser Zachary Imgrund Colton Klein Alton Larson **Donovan Lucksted** Vishnu Prakash Nolan Sullivan Vincent Thao Jonas Vinson **Ryan Vriens** Ethan Vue Benjamin Zimmer Connor Zywicki

#### **Swim**

Sofia Gerlach Elin Gilles McKenzie Runde Jillian Wise Elizabeth Witcik

#### **Tennis**

Anna Barth
Tsion Benusa
Caroline Clark
Isabella Cromheecke
Juliana Dunn
Kaarina Dunn
Claire Fortun
Shashi Getachew
Julia Hauser
Mara Klein
Zoie Loeffelholz
Jessica Mahlum
Levan Miller
Hanna O'Rourke
Abaigeal Sytsma

#### Volleyball

McKenzie Bauer
Kendall Carlson
Raelyn Cowley
Jenna Gansen
Emma Hayes
Kayla Ketelhut
Zoe Koonce-O'Kane
Isabella Malecek
Natalie Marso
Gwen Marso
Eliana Mascotti
Makena McGarry
Finley Walters
Madelyn Wilson





# Intramural Volleyball Champs



Congratulations to the intramural volleyball champions, Alex Greg, Phengsu Vang, Noah Thao, Paladin Vang, Kayce Buarapha, and Daniel Tran.

The OHS Intramural program is designed for those students who are not involved in a current season WIAA sport.

Fun, sportsmanship, and teamwork will be the emphasis as you compete for the championship intramural t-shirt bragging rights.

Students can now sign up through our new Engage program on a rotating basis. On days with intramural sports, the activity will continue after school until complete and can only be students not currently in a sport.

We will also have days that will be an open gym style Engage program where anyone is welcome to participate, as it will be similar to a PE class.

Get involved and sign up today!

# School Nutrition







#### ONALASKA HIGH SCHOOL MENU DECEMBER 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Line 1) Orange Chicken over Brown Rice Line 2) Meatball Sub /Mozzarella on a WG Hoagie Line 3) Same as Line 1 All lines: Stir Fry Veggies, Garden Bar Breakfast: Mini Bagels with Cream Cheese, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) Pork Camitas on a WG Soft Shell Line 2) Pizza Variety Line 3) Chicken Fajitas on a WG Soft Shell All Lines: Roasted Peppers and Onions, Carrot Coins, Garden Bar  Breakfast: French Toast, 2 sausage links, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) WG Popcorn Chicken Bowl with and Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Line 2) 2 WG Uncrustable P8&J' /WG Sun Chips Line 3) Same as Line 1 All Lines: Whole Kernel Corn and Garden Bar Breakfast: Uncrustable P8 & J, Yogurt , fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) Chicken Patty on a WG Bun Line 2) Crispy Fish sandwich with Cheese / WGBun Line 3) WG Mini com dogs All lines: Oven Fries and Garden Bar Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) WG Spaghetti and Plain Sauce with Cheese Line 2) WG French Bread with Soup Line 3) Chicken Ranch Wrap / WG Shell All lines: Green Beans and Garden Bar Breakfast: Breakfast Sandwich on a WG Biscuit, fruit, juice, milk
9 Line 1) Walking tacos with WG Chips Line 2) Bratwurst Line 3) Spicy chicken patty on WG Bun All lines: Baked beans and Garden Bar Breakfast: WG Cheese Quesadilla & Salsa, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) California Cheeseburger on a WG Bun (lettuce, onion, tomato on salad bar) Line 2) Turkeyl/Gravy on a WG Biscuit Line 3) Crispy Fish with cheese on a WG Bun All lines: Green Peas, Garden Bar Breakfast: WG Cracker, Cheese Omelet, Tri- Tater, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) WG Chicken and Waffles Line 2) Cheese omelet/ sausage,/ Muffin Line 3) WG Chicken and Waffles All Lines: Tater Tots and Garden Bar Breakfast: Uncrustable PB & J, Yogurt Cup, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) WG Mini Corn Dogs Line 2) WG Chicken Nuggets Line 3) 2 WG Uncrustable PB&J* All Lines: WG Mac & Cheese, and Garden Bar Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, fruit, juice. milk	Line 1) Meatball Sub on a WG Hoagie Line 2) Chicken Alfredo / WG Garlic Knot Breadstick Line 3) Chicken Patty on a WG Bun All Lines: Broccoli Spears and Garden Bar Breakfast Sandwich on a WG Biscuit, fruit, juice, milk
Line 1) BBQ Pulled Pork on a WG Bun Line 2) WG Spaghetti/ cheese/ Garlic Knot Line 3) Pizza Variety All lines: Carrot Coins, Garden Bar Breakfast: Sausage, WG Muffin, Tater Tots, fruit, juice, milk	Farm to School Harvest of the Month Line 1) WG Chicken Strips Line 2) Meatballs with Gravy Line 3) WG Chicken Strips All lines: Mashed polatoes/ WG Dinner Roll, Homemade Chocolate Beet Cake / Garden Bar Breakfast: WG Cheese Quesadilla & Salsa, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) WG Orange Chicken over Brown Rice Line 2) WG Grilled Cheese Sandwich/ Soup Line 3) WG Orange Chicken over Brown Rice All lines: Stir Fry Veggies, Garden Bar  Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1: Pork Camitas on a WG Soft Shell Line 2: Pizza Variety Line 3: Chicken Fajitas on a WG Soft Shell All Lines: Roasted Peppers and Onions, Carrot Coins, Garden Bar Breakfast: WG Mini Bagels / Cream Cheese, fruit, juice, milk	Line 1) WG Chicken and Waffles Line 2) California Cheeseburger on a WG Bun Line 3) WG Chicken and Waffles All Lines: Tater Tots and Garden Bar Breakfast: Sausage, WG Muffin, Tater Tots, fruit, juice, milk
No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
No School	No School		Menu is subject to change without notice	USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER  Fresh Garden Bar and milk choices available daily

Allergy Notice: Menu items may contain tree nuts, peanuts/nut products, wheat, fish, eggs, soy, and various legumes. Students with allergies should contact the School Nurse or School Nutrition Director prior to eating any foods served in the cafeteria



















Onalaska High School 700 Wilson Street Onalaska, WI 54650

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Welcome to OHS! Check out our website at: www.onalaskaschools.com









Graduation Date ...... Saturday, May 24, 2025 --- 1:00 PM

#### CONTACT

School phone # 608-783-4561 Student Services # 608-783-4571 School fax # 608-783-0102 Student Services fax# 608-783-2604 School voice mail 608-779-5760 School Hours: 7:45 AM – 2:50 PM

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The mission of the School
District of
Onalaska is to work together to ensure high levels of learning for all.

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