



# Oriskany

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 2025

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
**Gregory Cuthbertson**

SCHOOL BUSINESS EXECUTIVE  
**Michelle Tikalsky**

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS  
AND SUPPORT SERVICES  
**Catherine Mucurio**

JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
**Andrew Kennedy**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
**Thomas Meiss**

### Board Of Education

**Therese M. Hanna** President

**Louis Ciotti** Vice President

**Michelle Anderson**

**James P. Chase**

**Brian Judycki**

**Jeffrey Kraeger**

**Paul Piersma**

### Important Numbers

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
P: 315.768.2149  
F: 315.768.2137

JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
P: 315.768.2063  
F: 315.768.2046

DISTRICT OFFICE  
P: 315.768.2058  
F: 315.768.2057

ORISKANYCSD.ORG



Volume 46 · Issue 3

## National Honor Society INDUCTION

On November 8, Oriskany students Jessica Beckwith, Alexia Birt, Corinne Looney, Ishaal Mirza, Braelyn Oehler and Edward Wright were inducted into the Cum Laude Chapter of the National Honor Society at Oriskany Central School. To be eligible for membership consideration, students must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 90. They must actively participate in at least two extra-curricular activities and must meet high standards of leadership, service and character. These six new members are a great example of what it means to be Oriskany Proud! Congratulations to the new members.



## SENIOR JOB SHADOWING

On November 14, Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School held a job shadowing event. Approximately 25 students from the senior class were provided a job shadowing experience. Students were placed with about 20 business employers from across the Mohawk Valley.

Students visited some of the following locations; Bouton Physical Therapy, K&A Radiologic Technology Services, Air Force Research Laboratory, First Source Federal Credit Union, Clinton Auto, The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy, Collins Aerospace, Mohawk Valley Community College, Innovare Advancement Center, Utica National Insurance Company, Mercy Flight Central and Wynn Hospital.

A job shadowing experience entails spending time "in the shadow" of a person performing his or her job functions. It's typically a day-long workplace visit with an individual working in a position, career or industry of interest to a student. The Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES School and Business Alliance (SABA) worked with the Office of Counseling and Career Services and the Oriskany Transportation Department to provide this opportunity for our students.



Dear Oriskany CSD Community,

It is hard to believe that we are more than halfway through the 2024-25 school year. As we step into February, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable achievements of our students and staff. Included in this newsletter are just some of those achievements. I also want to share some exciting updates and important reminders for the months ahead.

### **Mascot Update**

On January 7, 2025 at a special board meeting, the Oriskany Central School District Board of Education approved the new logo and branding as the Oriskany Skyhawks. After careful and thoughtful consideration, a group of school stakeholders composed of staff, students and community members worked in conjunction with a company called SchoolMark to develop our new logo and branding. We are excited to reveal and showcase the new logo and wordmarks in this newsletter that will define a new era as the SKYHAWKS. Based on the feedback from our school community, we wanted a logo that represented the proud history of Oriskany and something that would capture the essence of our school community. We believe that we were able to do both with the new logo and branding. Inside this newsletter we have included our approved District logos for you to review. I would like to thank the District mascot committees for helping with this entire mascot change process. I would also like to thank the entire school community for your understanding and cooperation with this mandated change. Whether you were a Redskin or now a Skyhawk, we will always be Oriskany Proud!

### **Capital Project 2022**

We had a successful Capital Project 2022 with many upgrades to both buildings and a new transportation facility. I encourage you all to view our website to see many of the upgrades that took place with our project. You can view pictures of the major renovations by going to [www.oriskanycsd.org](http://www.oriskanycsd.org) under the Our District tab and clicking the Capital Project 2022 link.

### **Transportation Department Update**

As most of you know, we had a leadership change in the Transportation Department before the winter recess. Mr. Zachary Nicotera left the District for other employment. We thank Mr. Nicotera for his service to the District and we wish him well in his future endeavors. We also unfortunately had several bus drivers that left the District at the same time. As a result of these vacated positions, this has created a great challenge for the District. I personally want to thank our remaining bus drivers and monitors for the support and hard work that this department has shown since coming back from the winter recess. Starting after the February Mid-Winter Recess, Mr. Eric Taylor will be starting as the new transportation supervisor

for the District. Mr. Taylor comes to us with a wealth of experience and knowledge as a transportation supervisor and we are excited for him to join our team in Oriskany. As for bus drivers, we hope to find suitable replacements in the near future. If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a bus driver or substitute bus driver, please contact the District office for details.

Lastly, as we transition into the second semester of the school year and begin our budgeting process for the 2025-26 school year, we look at our programs, operations and opportunities for students and staff. Every budget year cycle is different and many times as we begin to build our budget we have many unknowns until the governor and legislature finalize the state budget.

One of the District's board-approved goals regarding fiscal responsibility states, ***Oriskany CSD is dedicated to maximizing its resources to efficiently and innovatively meet the goals and objectives of programs while reflecting the financial values of the community.*** We welcome any feedback or suggestions from the community as we always strive to improve and provide the best possible education for our students. We certainly appreciate the support that our community has shown for the District over the years and we look forward to not only maintaining our programs, but enhancing them in a variety of ways. As we get closer to finalizing the budget, we will share with you all relevant information and be transparent with our process and planning. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org](mailto:gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org) or call 315-768-2058. Thank you for making Oriskany a great place to live and learn!



**Gregory Cuthbertson**

**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

[gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org](mailto:gcuthbertson@oriskanycsd.org)

315.768.2054

# Pre-K/Kindergarten PARENT REGISTRATION

Registration for the pre-kindergarten program for four-year-olds and for kindergarten in the Oriskany Central School District for the 2025-2026 school year is underway.

## Eligibility:

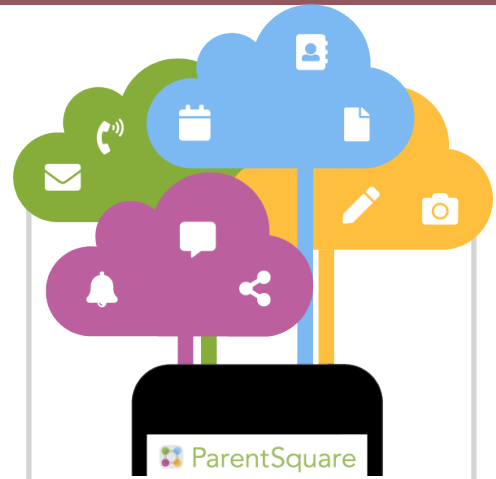
- Pre-kindergarten is open to all children residing in the Oriskany Central School District who will be four (4) years old on or before December 1, 2025.
- Kindergarten is open to all children residing in the Oriskany Central School District who will be five (5) years old on or before December 1, 2025.

Registration materials can be obtained from the N.A. Walbran Elementary School Main Office or District Registrar Tammy Vaughn, who is located at the Jr./Sr. high school. Registration packets must be returned with two (2) proofs of residency (ex. utility bill, mortgage statement, tax document, etc.) and proof of your child's age (ex. birth certificate). Please call 315-768-2065 if you need a packet mailed. Current Oriskany pre-K students will receive kindergarten registration packets through their pre-K classroom teacher.

All pre-kindergarten slots are assigned by lottery. If more registrations are received than the number of available slots for the program, then a lottery is held at the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, April 15. All applications and documents must be on file with the Registrar's Office by 4 p.m. on Friday, April 11 to be included in the placement lottery.

Thank you for taking an active role in your child(ren)'s education. Your involvement and partnership with the school plays a key role in the growth and development of your child!

The Oriskany Central School District will hold a Pre-K Parent Orientation on Tuesday, May 6 from 6-7 p.m. at N.A. Walbran Elementary School for all parents/guardians of eligible children entering pre-kindergarten for the 2025-26 school year. Incoming pre-kindergarten students are welcome to attend the orientation with their families. Tours of the school will be given to all families that attend.



## ParentSquare: Where Our Community Stays Connected!

The Oriskany Central School District is excited to take its community engagement to the next level with the addition of a ParentSquare Community Group.

The community group allows non-school age community members who do not currently have children enrolled in the Oriskany CSD to receive email and push notifications on all things happening in the District. Community members are able to self-register for notifications about afterschool activities, athletic, budget updates, PTA activities, community events, emergency closures and other communications that would benefit community members.

Community members who do not currently have children enrolled in the Oriskany CSD can join the ParentSquare Community Group by visiting [www.oriskanycsd.org/ps-community-group](http://www.oriskanycsd.org/ps-community-group) or by using the camera on your phone or tablet to scan the QR code below.





## HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Guardians and Families,

The second semester began on February 3, marking the official halfway point of the 2024-2025 school year! I am incredibly proud of the dedication and effort our students have shown so far. Notably, we achieved the highest number of students passing the first marking period in 17 years!

Our winter sports teams are thriving, and it's been exciting to watch our student-athletes compete on the court, track and ice over the past two months. Additionally, our modified girls and boys basketball teams have recently started competing, showcasing great potential. Looking ahead, varsity spring sports registration opens on February 17, with the season kicking off on March 17. Beyond athletics, our students have been actively participating in various clubs offered at the Jr./Sr. high school. I strongly encourage all students to engage in an extracurricular activity outside of their regular school day – there's truly something for everyone!

Mark your calendars for March 21 and 22 to support our students in this year's musical, "Shrek Jr." Performances are scheduled for Friday, March 21 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 22 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Our students have been working tirelessly to deliver an incredible show for the community. Additional details are available on the District website.

This month, our school counselors will begin scheduling courses for students in grades 8 through 11 for the 2025-2026 school year. If you would like to participate in your child's scheduling meeting, please contact the Office of Counseling and Career Services at 315-768-2065. The Course Description Guide, detailing all the courses offered for grades 9 through 12, is available on the District website. As always, if I can be of any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at 315-768-2063.

### ORISKANY PROUD

Best regards,

Andrew Kennedy



**Andrew Kennedy**  
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
akennedy@oriskanycsd.org

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians and Community Members,

I am proud of the growth that has been made so far this school year. School climate and culture plays an integral role in student success. The positive energy and attitude that students and staff bring to the building each day is inspiring.

Our monthly Positivity Project assemblies have been great experiences for our students to hear impactful messages. In November retired staff members from N.A. Walbran spoke about being grateful for the opportunity over their career to build lasting relationships and friendships. During the month of December, our focus was on kindness. January's assembly spotlight was former Oriskany student and current Utica University ice hockey player Shane Murphy presenting about perseverance; specifically, the journey of his educational and athletic career.

During the month of December, we began a mentoring program to provide students with trusted adults and additional connections at school. A special thank you to the staff at ICAN as they shared their Mobile Museum with us for our first afterschool program.

Students in grades 3-6 had the opportunity to participate in the NYS Computer Based Testing Simulation at the end of the month of January. This simulation is a great internal review for our school to verify that our technology infrastructure is prepared for NYS Testing in the spring. It also provides our students with valuable practice and exposure to the computer based testing format.

Best regards,

Tom Meiss



**Tom Meiss**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
tmeiss@oriskanycsd.org



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SKYHAWKS ATHLETICS

Dear Families and Community Members of Oriskany,

As we enter 2025 and reach the halfway point of winter sports, Oriskany Skyhawks Athletics thrives in numerous ways. While many school districts are losing programs and opportunities for children, Oriskany is committed to expanding its offerings and creating new opportunities.

In partnership with Westmoreland, our girls basketball team has brought together 11 players to participate across modified, JV and varsity levels. We are also excited to announce the addition of a wrestling program through a partnership with the New Hartford Central School District. For the first time in many years, we have established a second girls modified basketball team, comprising 20 players, only four of whom are from Westmoreland.

Once again, all of our fall varsity teams have been honored as Scholar-Athlete teams, which means that more than 75% of our roster maintained an average of 90 or above. Congratulations to our student-athletes and staff!

Oriskany continues to achieve success on the playing field. All of our winter programs are performing exceptionally well. The Oriskany/Westmoreland Lady Skyhawks basketball program's varsity team has been crowned Holiday Hoops Champions, while the JV Lady Skyhawks finished as runners-up. Our varsity girls have also been ranked in the state several times this season. Additionally, the varsity and JV boys basketball teams were runners-up in the Madison Holiday Tournament. The indoor track team is breaking school records and has had many athletes qualify for Sectionals after just one meet.

This winter, we have welcomed new coaches to our outstanding coaching staff: Marc Smith, who coaches the Boys Varsity Basketball Team; Jane Fahy, who coaches indoor track; and Mackenzie Buck, who coaches modified girls basketball. These coaches are alumni of Oriskany, and we are also thrilled to have former student teacher Sara Hovey coaching our girls varsity basketball team. They are all eager to contribute to our wonderful community.

Our winter JV and varsity sports, in partnership with the Varsity Club and Oriskany Sports Boosters, participated in the "More than Game" cancer fundraiser games this winter. All proceeds benefit Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital and Upstate Cancer Center. We are also raising funds for our own Sara Smith.

We remain committed to updating our equipment as we grow and succeed. The Oriskany Sports Boosters have generously donated a new shooting machine for our basketball program, a state-of-the-art tool that major colleges and professionals use nationwide. With a generous grant from the Wadas Foundation, we have purchased a new scorers' table for basketball featuring our new Skyhawks name, along with new outdoor batting cages for baseball and softball.

As we progress through 2025, we look forward to further enhancing the success and growth of our Oriskany Skyhawks Athletics programs.

We do not achieve this alone; we rely on the support of the families and the community of Oriskany.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Best regards,

Dave Buck



**Dave Buck**  
 DIRECTOR OF SKYHAWKS ATHLETICS  
 GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL COACH  
 dbuck@oriskanycsd.org



## FROM THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SUPPORT SERVICES

Dear Community Members,

We are excited to share the incredible opportunities our students are experiencing through the Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) program, offered in collaboration with the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES and Mohawk Valley Community College. This program plays a vital role in helping students explore their future options, ensuring they are well-prepared for life beyond high school.

Pre-ETS is a free program funded by Adult Career and Continuing Education Services - Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR). It provides students with essential support in identifying career interests, developing crucial employment-related soft skills, exploring post-secondary education options, and gaining valuable work experience. Most recently, our students participated in a Financial Reality experience, offering them hands-on learning in financial literacy and real-world decision-making.

Our staff remains dedicated to discovering and implementing new resources to support our secondary students in their transition from high school to post-secondary opportunities. We continuously seek ways to enhance our programs, ensuring students have access to the tools and experiences they need to succeed.

At the elementary level, we are prioritizing social-emotional support, recognizing the importance of building strong relationships with our students. Our team is actively exploring various strategies to nurture emotional well-being and foster a positive learning environment for all.

The Special Programs department oversees several key areas, including homeschooling, foster care, McKinney-Vento services and the English as a New Language (ENL) program. We are committed to supporting students and families in these areas to ensure they receive the resources and assistance they need. Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

We are grateful for the continued support of our community as we work together to empower our students and provide them with meaningful opportunities for growth and success.

Sincerely,

Catherine Mucurio



**Catherine Mucurio**  
 DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS  
 & SUPPORT SERVICES  
 cmucurio@oriskanycsd.org

## ELEMENTARY BAND, CHORUS HOST WINTER CONCERT

On December 17, the elementary band and chorus delighted the audience with their annual winter concert!

Under the direction of Mrs. Roberts and Mr. Shipp, the fourth grade band, fifth and sixth grade band, and elementary chorus presented a wonderful selection of festive songs.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Board of Education, administration, faculty and staff for their unwavering support of our music programs and concerts!



## Movie Night

On December 16, students from the Language Club partnered with the PTA to host an elementary school movie night. Upon arrival, students read Christmas books with high school students, made a craft or took pictures with and visited with Santa. Afterward, students enjoyed watching *The Grinch* and having a snack of popcorn and juice boxes.



## Mentor Program

On Wednesday, December 18, the mentor program offered its first afterschool activity. Faculty and staff had a great opportunity to interact with students participating in games in the cafeteria and gym.

A special thank you to ICAN for providing the Mobile Museum!

## POSITIVITY PROJECT

### November

On Thursday, November 21, N.A. Walbran Elementary celebrated some of its very own retirees. Students and staff got to hear from some of them about how thankful they are for the opportunity to have worked at Oriskany and about all the friends they made along the way. This tied into our theme of gratitude!

Students and Special Area classes were recognized for demonstrating gratitude and bravery. Officer Jeff Blovat distributes the positivity certificates to the recognized students each month.

### Special Area

Art:  
Library:  
Music:  
Physical Ed.:

### Homeroom Recognized

Ms. Gadbow (Pre-K)  
Mrs. Myers (First Grade)  
Mrs. Kraeger (Kindergarten)  
Mrs. Gray (First Grade)

### December

The character traits celebrated in December were kindness and self-control! Each grade level participated in a service project in December. During the assembly, a student from each grade had the chance to speak about what project they were collecting items for. Some included the Rome Humane Society, Sleep in Heavenly Peace and Project Pajamas.





## LANGUAGE CLUB WORKS WITH EASTERN STAR DAY CARE

Members of Language Club have been working alongside the staff at Eastern Star Day Care Center to introduce basic vocabulary within their language of study through the use of songs, stories and mini lessons. In December, students worked on colors and counting by decorating a Christmas tree at the center.



## TATF STUDENTS VOLUNTEER WITH SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

On November 19, TATF students volunteered to build beds for the local Sleep in Heavenly Peace chapter. Students sanded boards and dipped frames so beds could be built for local children.

Since its inception, the local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace has built and donated beds and bedding to more than 2,000 local children. On December 21, volunteers delivered beds during the holiday Deck the Beds event. There is an ongoing need for beds and bedding. If you would like to donate your time or bedding, please visit [www.shpbeds.org](http://www.shpbeds.org) for more information.



## JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL BAND AND CHORUS HOST WINTER CONCERT

On December 12, the Jr./Sr. high school band and chorus hosted their annual winter concert!

They have been diligently rehearsing since September and performed songs by Michael Story, James Swearingen, Ruth Morris Gray, Andy Beck, Pinkzebra Randall D. Standridge, Johnnie Vinson, Michael Sweeny and Ed Kiefer.

Great job to all!





## BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP STUDENTS VISIT ONEIDA COMMUNITY MANSION HOUSE



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

## FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA MEMBERS ATTEND FALL DISTRICT MEETING

Congratulations to Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members Nathan Domenico, Sean Graziano, Nick Hays, Thomas Maher, Emerson Appler, Addison Judycki, Gianna Santucci and Brian Terchowitz for attending the Fall District Meeting at Herkimer College on November 13. The members participated in three workshops, placed third in the Battle of the Best Chapter challenge, and won first place in the New York State FBLA coin collection fundraiser.

## *Susan Sciorilli* NAMED MASTER TEACHER

Congratulations to Susan Sciorilli on achieving the prestigious distinction of Master Teacher! Her unwavering dedication to science education and her innovative efforts to inspire students and colleagues alike are truly commendable.

Mrs. Sciorilli earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in biology and her Master of Science degree in teaching from SUNY Potsdam. She is certified to teach biology and chemistry in grades 7-12.

Mrs. Sciorilli began her teaching career in 1994 and has taught numerous courses, including Regents Living Environment/Biology, Regents Chemistry, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, Forensics, and Anatomy and Physiology at Oriskany Central School. Her research experience and teaching college level courses have helped her prepare students with a solid foundation in science. She is extremely proud of all her former students who followed their passion for science and have become successful in the fields of education, science and medicine.

Mrs. Sciorilli initiated and continues to advise Science Club and has brought many students to the Envirothon and Science Olympiad competitions, STEM and STEAM events, and Canal Clean Sweep days. While advising the Teen AIDS Task Force, the club has expanded to include multiple blood drives to save lives and earn scholarships, and volunteering with Sleep in Heavenly Peace and Wreaths Across America.

Mrs. Sciorilli enjoys spending time with her family, cooking, reading and gardening. She is looking forward to collaborating with Master Teachers to develop new ways to engage students and promote a passion for learning in the classroom in our ever-changing world.





## LANGUAGE CLUB STUDENTS ATTEND UTICA CITY FC GAME

On January 12, members of Language Club attended the Utica City FC soccer game against the Baltimore Blast. Members went down to the tunnel to high five and cheer on Utica City players during halftime and take on-field pictures with some of the players after the game.



## SOPHOMORES TOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

On October 30, members of the sophomore class had the opportunity to tour different local businesses. The students were divided into four career clusters. Each student was assigned into one of the career clusters based on a survey that they completed in English class. Students visited the following businesses: CNY Veterinary Medical Service, New York State Police, S.R. Sloan, Inc. and Indium Corporation. The Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES School and Business Alliance (SABA) worked with the Office of Counseling and Career Services to provide this opportunity to our students.

## ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY



# BRAIN ACTIVITY

Anatomy and Physiology students studied regions of the brain by making brain hats. Once completed, they wore the brain hats around the school and had faculty ask them questions to reinforce what they had learned. These brain hats were also incorporated into the brain assessment. Students also performed an autopsy on sheep brains where they located and identified brain traumas including hematomas, impalements, gunshot wounds and embolisms. They created a story of how they thought the trauma could have occurred, the region of the brain and how the damage would affect brain functions.



# Students of the Month

On November 20, three Oriskany students were recognized as part of the Optimist Club of Whitestown's Student of the Month Program.

The honorees – Jullian Jalowiec, Maggie Tylutki and Jessica Zyskowski – were selected for their outstanding academic performance, involvement in school activities, commitment to community service, and leadership contributions both in their school and community.

Congratulations to Jullian, Maggie and Jessica!







On November 22, TATF hosted a blood drive in the Jr./Sr. high school auditorium and had a great turnout!

There were 12 registered donors, including three first-time donors who were all juniors and seniors. First-time donors don't just represent extra units at the drive, they also represent lifetimes of potential future donations that we didn't have prior. Growing the donor base means that more patients will be able to receive needed blood transfusions.



# TATF HOSTS Blood Drive

The drive yielded 11 precious units of blood, including four type O units. O+ and O- blood types are the most in-demand and the first to run out in a shortage. Type O donors are needed to help patients facing life-threatening conditions and emergencies each day.

Each donation brings hope, saves lives and even helps seniors earn scholarships. We are currently two thirds of the way there to the first level of earning scholarships!

## STUDENTS ATTEND FINANCIAL REALITY CHECK AT MVCC

On December 19, several ninth and tenth grade students had an opportunity to attend Financial Reality Check: A Hands-On Money Management Simulation at Mohawk Valley Community College. They were provided an opportunity to experience what it is like to have an account at a financial institution, decide how to use their money, obtain a loan, manage debt and more. This was an eye-opening, exciting and fun way to build financial knowledge and skills.



## DRAMA CLUB HOSTS TALENT SHOW

On November 22, the Drama Club hosted a talent show at the Jr./Sr. high school. Acts included singing, guitar playing and a poetry reading, and the audience then voted for their favorites.

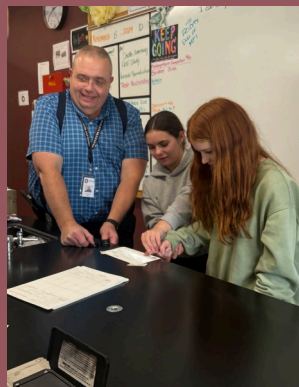
McKenzie Benoit was the grade 7-9 winner with her original poem "Family Issues," Wilbur Wright won the grade 10-12 category singing "Bag of Bones" by Mitski, and Ceci Piersma was crowned the grand champion after performing "Burn" from Hamilton.

Congratulations to all on excellent performances!



## FINGERPRINTING

Officer Szmurlo recently taught Science Club members about fingerprinting.





# Oriskany Central School District Unveils New Skyhawks Logo

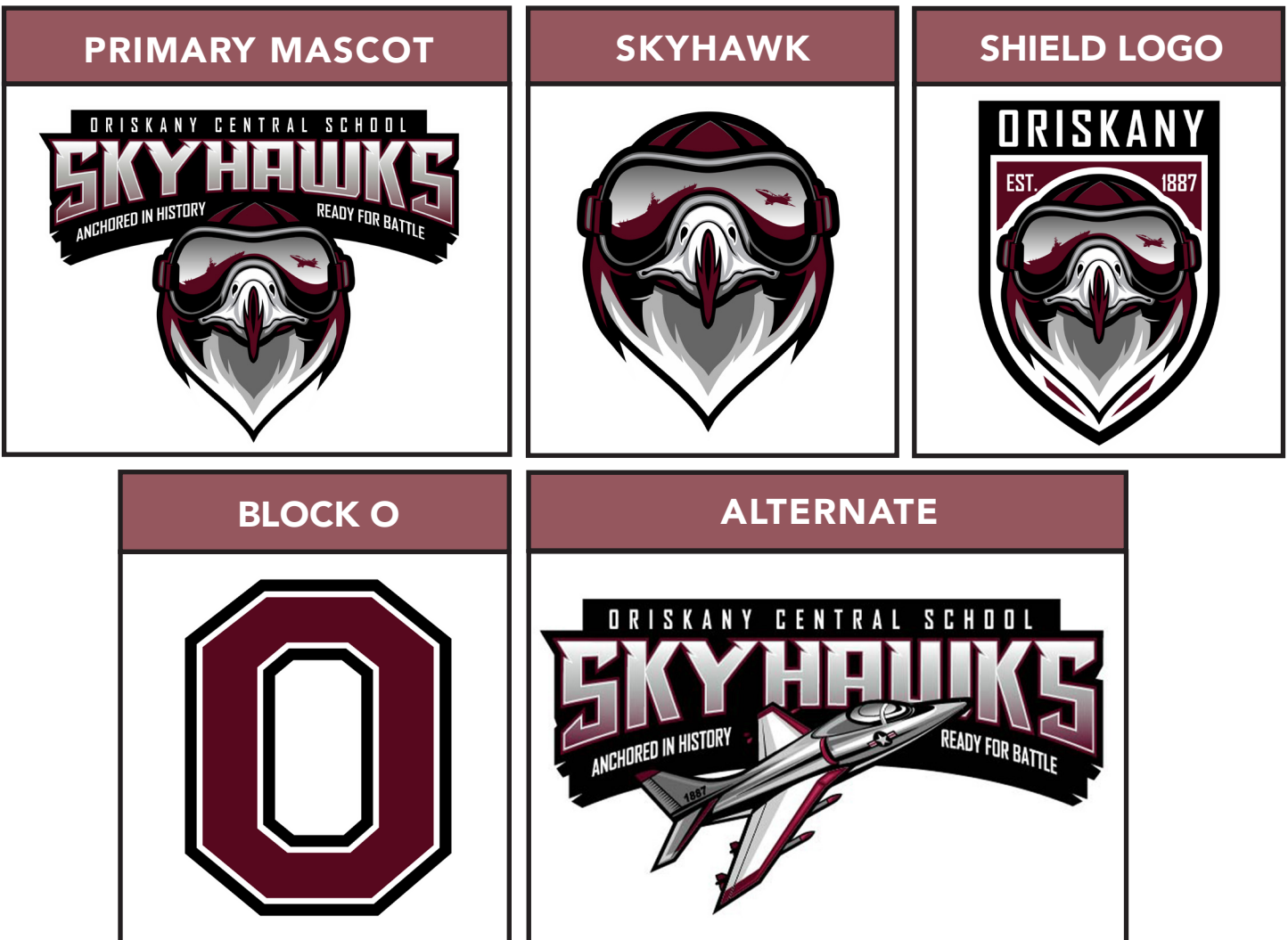
The Oriskany Central School District is proud to reveal the District's new logo featuring the Skyhawks mascot.

Students, staff and community members gathered at the Oriskany Jr./Sr. High School on February 7 for the official unveiling of the new logo, which features a hawk wearing aviation goggles and the tagline, "Anchored in history. Ready for battle." The logo pays homage to Oriskany's storied history with silhouettes of a Prototype A-4E Skyhawk and the USS Oriskany Naval aircraft carrier, which can be seen in the reflection of the hawk's aviation goggles.

The Oriskany CSD partnered with SchoolMark to create the new logo, which was carefully crafted after months of hard work and collaboration. The school community had the opportunity to weigh in on the process and offer feedback, answering questions such as what it means to be a Skyhawk at Oriskany Central School and what makes you most proud to be associated with the District. The new logo isn't just a symbol; it's a reflection of the Oriskany community, its history and dedication to excellence, and the bright future being built within the District.

The Skyhawk name, which was selected and announced at the end of the 2023-24 school year, pays homage to the village of Oriskany's role in American history dating back to the Revolutionary War, and the District's commitment to tradition. The Skyhawks mascot was selected with the help of a District mascot committee, community feedback and several votes among students and the community.

As the Oriskany CSD embraces its Oriskany Skyhawks era, the District looks forward to furthering its mission "to educate, engage, and empower students to excel in an ever-changing world."





## ORISKANY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1313 Utica Street  
Oriskany, NY 13424



### *Upcoming Events*

#### **FEBRUARY 17-21**

Mid-Winter Recess – NO SCHOOL

#### **MARCH 12**

Sports Information Night,  
6:00 p.m., HS Aud.

#### **MARCH 14**

Superintendent's Conference Day –  
NO SCHOOL

#### **MARCH 21**

TATF Blood Drive, Jr./Sr. High School  
Jr./Sr. High Musical, 7:00 p.m., HS Aud.

#### **MARCH 22**

Jr./Sr. High Musical,  
2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., HS Aud.

#### **APRIL 8-9**

NYS ELA CBT, Grades 7-8

#### **APRIL 9-10**

NYS ELA CBT, Grades 3-6

#### **APRIL 14**

NYSESLAT Speaking Begins  
Elementary PT Conferences/Early  
Dismissal, 11:30 a.m.

#### **APRIL 18-25**

Spring Recess – NO SCHOOL