

## SUPERINTENDENT'S BRIEF Dr. Genelle Morris

Volume 3 Issue #4 I May 2025

#### A Message from Dr. Morris:

Dear Husky Community,

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the school year. The dedication of our students, staff, and families continues to inspire me, and I am grateful to be part of such a dynamic and supportive school community.

This year, we have made great strides in enhancing student learning, expanding support services, and strengthening our partnerships with families and the broader Olean community. Our students continue to shine in countless ways, from academic achievements to athletic and artistic excellence. I want to sincerely thank our educators and staff who work tirelessly to create an engaging, inclusive, and nurturing environment for all students.

Looking ahead, our district remains committed to ensuring that every student has access to high-quality educational opportunities that prepare them for success beyond the classroom. Our district is actively engaged in curriculum enhancements, staff professional development, and initiatives focused on student well-being. We also continue to advocate for the resources necessary to support our schools and maintain the programs that make Olean a place of excellence.

I encourage families to stay involved by attending school events, engaging in discussions about district initiatives, and providing feedback that helps shape the future of our schools. Your partnership is invaluable, and we will continue to provide the best possible educational experience for all students.

-Dr. Genelle Morris 💐



www.oleanschools.org



PAGE 2

## **Proposed Code of Conduct Updates for 2025–2026:**

On April 28th, Olean City School District hosted a Family Forum to review proposed changes to the 2025–2026 Code of Conduct. Key updates include:

- Students may only use school-issued laptops or iPads—personal devices like tablets or personal laptops will no longer be allowed during the school day.
- Corporal punishment and physical restraints are now addressed in separate sections for clarity.
- Visitor procedures have been updated to reflect the district's use of the Raptor system.
- A new discipline flow chart was introduced for Olean Intermediate-Middle School.

Parents shared helpful feedback, including questions about smartwatches, visitor vs. volunteer procedures, and the inclusion of parent notification in the discipline matrix. A productive discussion also took place regarding the district's physical restraint policies. We appreciate everyone who attended and contributed to the conversation. Your input helps bring improvements to our schools.







PAGE 3

# **OHS Juniors Visit Pitt-Bradford:**

College visits are in full swing at Olean High School! Recently, Mrs. O'Dell organized a campus tour of the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford for a group of juniors. Students experienced a guided tour of the campus, learned about college life, and enjoyed lunch in the dining hall. The visit offered a valuable glimpse into life after high school and helped students begin thinking about their future plans. Thank you to Pitt-Bradford for the warm welcome and to Mrs. Bay for assisting as a chaperone!





PAGE 4

#### **OHS Students Attend Women in Sports Day at SBU:**

On Tuesday, April 8, thirty Olean High School students participated in Women in Sports Day at St. Bonaventure University. Students had the chance to try up to three sports alongside Bonaventure student-athletes, including basketball, volleyball, softball, lacrosse, soccer, rugby, tennis, swimming, cross country, disc golf, e-sports, and Y-Care. Thank you to St. Bonaventure for hosting such an inspiring and interactive event!





PAGE 5

# Spring Break Celebration at Washington West:

On April 11th, Washington West was full of energy and excitement as students celebrated at the annual Spring Break Party! Our Husky Pups danced, laughed, and hula-hooped into vacation mode, filling the building with smiles and school spirit. Making it an excellent way to kick off the break.





PAGE 6

## **OIMS Quartley Assembly:**





PAGE 7

#### Farm to School Launches First Elementary Taste Test:

April marked an exciting milestone for the Farm to School program as Mr. Kenyon hosted the very first elementary-level Taste Test event at Washington West Elementary School. Students and staff were invited to sample a fresh, nutritious combination of hummus topped with pea shoots and sunflower shoots, served on crunchy pita chips. This hands-on tasting experience supported April's Harvest of the Month theme: greens, and gave students a chance to try something new. The response from students was overwhelmingly positive. Many not only tried the sample but returned for seconds—and even thirds!









PAGE 8

#### **Students Dig Into Learning at Canticle Farm:**

Students from Mrs. Graves' and Mrs. Niece's classes visited Canticle Farm on 4/28, working alongside Mr. Kenyon from the Farm to School program. Their work helped fulfill requirements for their Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) certificates. Students dug a trench for composting, burying old spinach to speed up the composting process and deter critters. They also sorted potatoes to prepare them for planting and helped clear plants and weeds in the farm's high tunnel as it transitions to a new crop. Thanks to Max and Stephanie at Canticle Farm for the valuable experience!







PAGE 9

## **OHS Students Visit Eldred World War II Museum:**

On April 24th, Miss Wolfgang's 11th-grade U.S. History students recently visited the Eldred World War II Museum. During the trip, students explored artifacts, exhibits, and personal stories that deepened their understanding of the war's impact. The museum, known for its extensive collection of artifacts and firsthand accounts, offered students a unique, hands-on look at one of the most pivotal periods in world history. We thank the Eldred WWII Museum for welcoming our students and

providing a meaningful educational experience.





Remember, Memorial Day is Monday, May 26th. So No School.



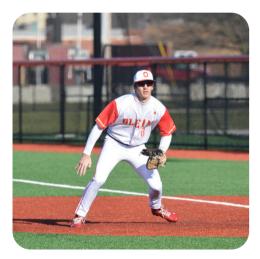


PAGE 10

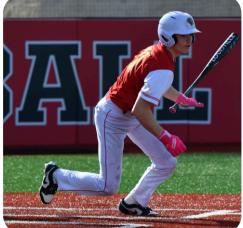
## **Spring Sports 2025:**









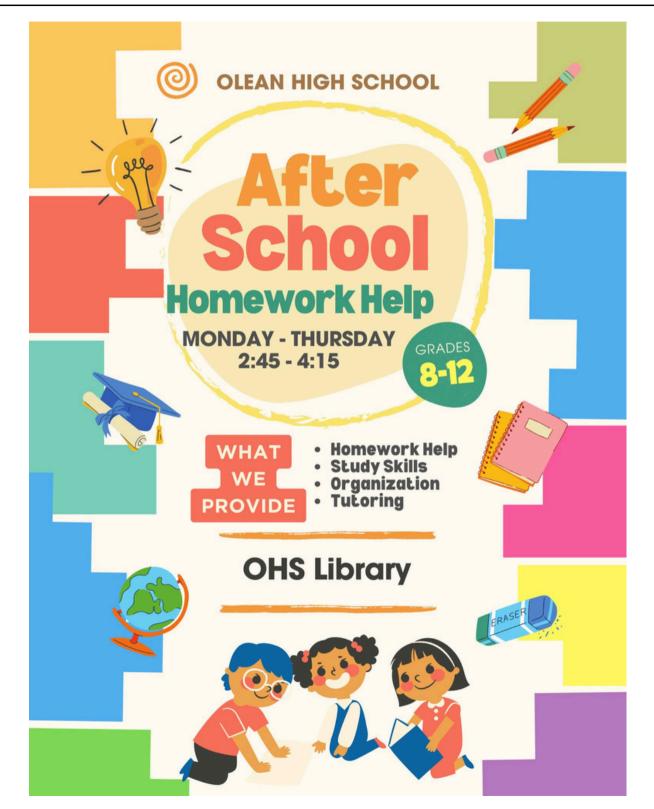








PAGE 11





PAGE 11



To vote, you must be a registered voter in the Olean City School District. For information on how to register, please contact Jackie Reed at 716-375-8018. Mave questions? Email us at <u>capitalproject@oleanschools.org</u>



PAGE 12

#### Blake Kinnaird Reaches New Heights in Pole Vault:

Senior track and field athlete Blake Kinnaird continues to make his mark at Olean High School. During the meet against Falconer on April 22, Blake cleared an impressive 13 feet in the pole vault, securing first place in the event. This outstanding performance not only earned him a victory at the meet but also moved him up on Olean's prestigious Top 10 Pole Vault list. Blake is now tied for 4th place among the best pole vaulters in Olean history!







# **Coffee with the superintendent:**

You are invited to the next Coffee with the Superintendent

• Tuesday, May 13th, 2025, from 7:30 am to 8:30, EV, Library

#### **Future Coffee Dates:**

• No more for the 2024-2025 School Year

If you're interested in attending,

please pre-register by emailing O'Brien Dailey,

OCSD Media, Brand & Communication Specialist: odailey@oleanschools.org

#### JOIN US FOR

#### COFFEE WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT



Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our district. Let's keep moving forward together with Husky pride, purpose, and perseverance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Genelle Morris

Superintendent Olean City School District